

Wyre Self Guided Trails: Nicky Nook and Barnacre Moor

Start Point

At the Post Office in the centre of the village of Scorton, approximately 2 miles North of Garstang. Post Code: PR3 1AU
OS Grid Reference: SD 5021 4883

Distance / Time

12 km (7.5 miles)
3.5-5 hours

Maps

OS Landranger 102 (1:50000) or OS Explorer OL41 (1:25000)

Terrain

Terrain Grade: Hard

The route follows roads, farm tracks, fields, footpaths. The terrain is hilly, with a steep climb up Nicky Nook. There are stiles, gates and steps, and paths can be wet and muddy after rain. There may be animals in the fields and farmyards. Dogs should be kept on a short lead at all times.

THIS WALK IS NOT SUITABLE FOR TRAMPER VEHICLES

About this walk

This route takes in one of the popular vantage points near Scorton (Nicky Nook) which, though modest in height, offers splendid views over Lancashire's coastal plain, Morecambe Bay and beyond to the Lakeland fells. On a really clear day it is possible to see the Isle of Man and the Great Orme on the North Wales coast.

Route Description

1. SD 5021 4883 Stand with your back to the post office, then walk across the road, slightly right up Snowhill Lane. The lane soon crosses a bridge over the M6 Motorway, climbing gently until it enters woodland and then reaches the entrance to Wyresdale Park. Turn right, continuing up Snowhill Lane, to the T junction where it meets Higher Lane.
2. SD 5117 4896 Take the kissing gate opposite and follow the steep path uphill, through another kissing gate, for about 1Km (0.6 miles) to the trig point on Nicky Nook.
3. SD 5197 4855 From the trig point go straight ahead downhill and through a gate in a dry stone wall (do not follow the path veering off to the right). Follow the path past a stone tower, then steeply downhill towards a gap in the trees ahead, past a small green water-works building, to where it joins a farm track leading out onto a wider track at a kissing gate.
4. SD 5268 4908 Turn left along this track, through two farm gates, until it reaches a lane. Turn right down the lane towards Fell End Farm. Avoid going through the

farmyard by going through a gate on the right about 50m before the farmyard, then bear slightly left to a gate about 50m beyond the far end of the farm buildings. Go through the gate and continue straight ahead onto a farm track, turn right and follow this to a pedestrian gate on the left.

5. SD 5296 4930 Go through the gate and turn right following the grassy path over the brow of the hill, through two gates and on, downhill, to where the path joins a wall on the left, and then to a finger post just before a farm gate into a walled enclosure.
(NB Here there is the option to take an alternative route back to Scorton which is shorter, and avoids a second climb – See '**Alternative Route**' below)
6. SD 5343 4901 Go through the enclosure via the pair of farm gates, then through a third gate, and follow the path to the lay-by at Grizedale Bridge.
7. SD 5356 4910 Turn Right (south) along Delph Lane, uphill, to locate a gated farm track on the right just past the roadway entrance signposted "Barnacre and Grizedale Reservoirs (United Utilities)". Access the farm track via a stile next to the field gate and follow this, passing through two pedestrian gates, past some aerials on the left, to the crossing of four tracks.
8. SD 5301 4732 Turn right at the crossing and follow the track for about 400m, over a stone stile (or use the gate) and straight past Moor House (on the right), ignoring the lane on the left. Continue along the grassy track which turns sharp right after 120m, through a pedestrian gate and follows the right hand field boundary for a further 130m before turning sharp left in front of a field gate. Continue with the field boundary on your right, over two more stiles past a small wood on the right. The path turns sharp right (sign posted Burns Farm). Follow the track, through a gate, then leading into Burns farmyard.
9. SD 5172 4725 At the yard turn right and follow the track through the farm buildings to the junction with a lane. Turn right onto the lane then left shortly after. Go straight on, past the covered reservoir and over a stile at the edge of a wood. Cross the stream gully beyond, to a stile in a fence corner.
10. SD 5149 4755 Go across the field, heading slightly left of the fence on your right, to a kissing gate at the edge of the next wood.
11. SD 5123 4775 Follow the path straight down the steep bank and cross the footbridge.
12. SD 5112 4778 Continue straight ahead across a meadow, then bear left and uphill onto Higher Lane. Turn right onto the lane and continue for about 200m to a gate on the left just past the buildings. Go through the gate and head diagonally across the field to go through another gate. Head towards the right hand side of the small electricity substation to a gate alighting onto Tithe Barn Lane. Turn left and follow the road, which winds downhill, under the M6 motorway to the junction with Gubberford Lane. At the junction turn right into Scorton.

Alternative Route – an alternative centre section of the walk which avoids a second climb!

- A. SD 5343 4901 At the finger post near point 6, turn right (in the direction of 'Holme Wood') down some stone steps and cross the stream by the wooden bridge. Continue along a section of boardwalk and through a gate into Holme Wood. Follow the path for about 750m beside Grizedale Brook over sections of boardwalk and over a bridge, to a gate. Continue through the gate with a dry-stone wall on the left, until the path joins a wide track at a pedestrian gate. Grizedale Reservoir is now visible on the left.

- B. SD 5271 4873 Turn left and follow the track past the reservoir, through a gate near the dam, and downhill through the wooded valley to a farm gate and stile next to the brook. Do not continue to follow the brook, instead cross the stile on the right of the gate into the meadow beyond – now continue from Point 12 of the main route.

If you need to speak to someone about this route or report a problem use the following Wyre Council contacts:

Website: Wyre.gov.uk

Address: Civic Centre, Breck Road, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancashire, FY6 7PU

Telephone: 01253 891000

E-mail: mailroom@wyre.gov.uk

