





LANCASHIRE

Outstanding Circular Walks


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guides

Crook o'Lune

Start	Crook o'Lune	GPS waypoints <div><div> SD 521 648</div><div> SD 532 655</div><div> SD 538 649</div><div> SD 531 648</div></div>
Distance	3¾ miles (6km)	
Height gain	115 feet (35m)	
Approximate time	2 hours	
Parking	Crook o'Lune picnic site	
Route terrain	Riverside pastures, former railway trackbed	
Ordnance Survey maps	Landranger 97 (Kendal & Morecambe), Explorer OL41 (Forest of Bowland & Ribblesdale)	

A straightforward and easy walk along riverside pastures with a better than average chance in summer of seeing a kingfisher, sand martins, goosander, Canada geese, greylag geese, oystercatcher and leaping fish.

 From the edge of the car park there is a splendid view over the Lune towards Ingleborough, one painted by J M W Turner. From this viewpoint, bear right down a sloping pathway (ignore the nearby steps), and, at the bottom turn left across an old viaduct onto the trackbed of the former

Lancaster to Wennington railway line, now part of the River Lune Millennium Park. Cross the viaduct, and continue a short distance farther to a path on the right, which heads through a gate and then curves immediately right beside a wall to a narrow footbridge immediately below the viaduct.

The 'Turner' view, Crook o'Lune







but is now more dilapidated. It curves to the right across the moor, accompanied by an indistinct grassy path. When the ruined wall meets a more substantial

version, keep an eye open for a through-stile on the right, just above a wall corner. Cross the stile and turn immediately left through a gate.

Descend beside the wall, and follow it as it bears left to a ladder-stile and gate. Go left, and immediately right, over a step-stile, descending alongside a wall, heading for Wycoller, which can be seen enclosed by trees in the valley below, and may well have been the view which inspired Charlotte Brontë to write:





‘Even when within a very short distance of the manor-house, you could see nothing of it, so thick and dark grew the timber of the gloomy wood about it.’

As you reach lower ground, pass through a gated stile (waymarked) and left across a field towards Copy House Farm **D**. Walk up to the farm, and pass to the right of the farmhouse, walking out on its access track. A few strides farther on, at a wall corner, go through a gap and descend beside a wall. At the bottom of the field, almost rejoin the outward route, but rather than cross a small bridge, go left along a surfaced path that eventually rejoins the outward route near Wycoller Hall. Now simply retrace the outward route to go back to the car park.

The 'Clam' bridge, Wycoller, a scheduled ancient monument






Bowland Knotts

Start	Cross of Greet Bridge	GPS waypoints <div> SD 702 590</div> <div> SD 727 605</div> <div> SD 693 612</div> <div> SD 682 608</div>
Distance	7¼ miles (11.7km)	
Height gain	1,195 feet (365m)	
Approximate time	4 hours	
Parking	Off-road parking at start	
Route terrain	Moorland paths, often wet; road walking to finish (no dogs)	
Ordnance Survey maps	Landrangers 98 (Wensleydale and Upper Wharfedale) and 103 (Blackburn and Burnley), Explorer OL41 (Forest of Bowland and Ribblesdale)	


Craggy Bowland Knotts, a line of low gritstone crags, lie in an area of Lancashire that few walkers will immediately recognise. For a quiet day of far-reaching views, rugged walking and a sense of freedom, this circuit, in spite of a long stretch of downhill road walking to finish, can hardly be bettered.



Darwen Moor

Start	Roddlesworth Information Centre	GPS waypoints
Distance	4 miles (6.4km)	 SD 665 215
Height gain	755 feet (230m)	 SD 674 222
Approximate time	2½ hours	 SD 675 211
Parking	Car park near information centre	
Route terrain	Moorland, farmland	
Ordnance Survey maps	Landranger 103 (Blackburn & Burnley), Explorer 287 (West Pennine Moors)	

The right to roam has been enjoyed on the Darwen Moors for more than 100 years, long before the better-known episode in the Peak District in the 1930s. After a long struggle, spearheaded by the Ashton family, rights of access over the moors were transferred to the Darwen Corporation in 1896. What was actually happening back then was the re-establishment of rights of access that had existed for centuries, when local people would cross the moors on their way to work in the mills and collieries that existed here. The erosion of these rights in favour of ‘sporting’ interests caused resentment and was not forgotten.

 From the car park cross a bus turning area and then the road. Go through gates to reach a footpath sign in 35 yards. Here, go right, following

the ‘Woods and Water Trail’. The path descends steadily to a cross-path. Turn right here on a broad path – still the ‘Woods and Water Trail’ – then after

220 yards branch right at a fork onto a gently rising path. Gradually curve to the right and climb a little more steeply, with open fields on the left, finally emerging at a road. Go left for 220 yards.

Go right, up a walled track that forms part of the Witton Weavers’ Way. Keep forward at a crossroads then descend steeply with a section of old paving towards Earnsdale Reservoir. Cross the dam and swing left at

Darwen Tower



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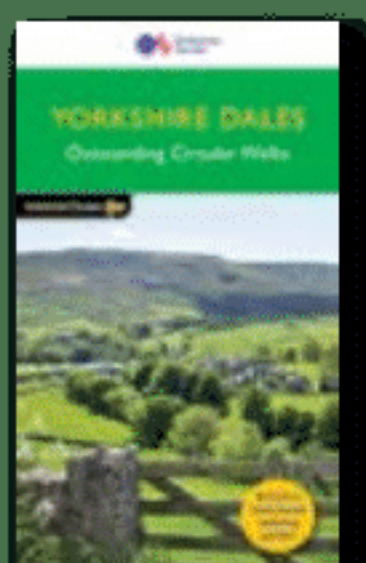
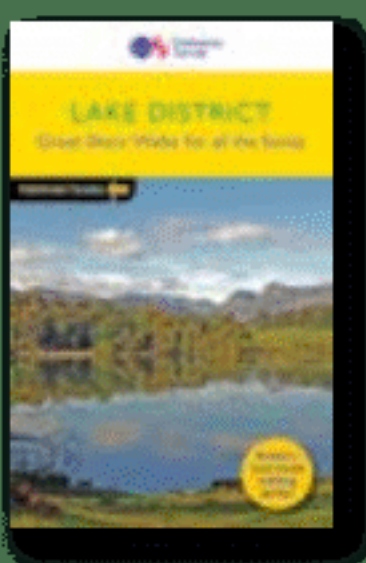
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