

riverbank for a short distance then leaves it to cross the field to a gate into Holme Lane. **33** Turn left and walk down the lane, with glimpses of Holme Hall and its gardens ahead and to your right. **34** At the junction after Holme Grange and before Lumford Cottages, turn left over Holme Bridge, a narrow packhorse bridge with cutwaters. **35** On reaching the A6, turn right and follow the near pavement for 700 yards, passing the entrance to Riverside Business Park on your right partway along. **36** Just after the entrance to Deepdale Business Park on your left, go through a gap in the wall by a gate on your right and follow the path beyond. **37** This leads via a gate and a narrow path to a road with houses on either side. **38** Cross over and take another narrow path that leads between gardens to a stile into open fields above the river. **39** Follow the obvious path along the contour above the river over a series of gates and stiles, descending and climbing a side valley above a weir at the end of Ashford Lake. **40** The path runs close to the river for a stretch, with glimpses of Ashford Hall through the trees, then bears left to a gate by the A6 as you approach Ashford-in-the-Water. **41** Turn right along The Dukes Drive (gated at each end) and cross two bridges before meeting the A6020. **42** Cross over onto the B6465 and walk past the end of Betty Lane. **43** Turn left at the Ashford Arms and walk along Church Street, passing the Bulls Head and Aisseford Tea Room on your right. **44** After passing the church, turn left in front of the gates to the Riverside House Hotel, and cross the Sheepwash Bridge. **45** Cross the A6 carefully and turn right along the pavement, ignoring the driveway and footpath ahead of you. **46** After 300 yards, turn left along the road signposted to Sheldon. **47** After a further 300 yards, when the road bends left, take the path on the right, which joins the riverbank beyond a second gate (ignore the path up the hill to the left). **48** Follow the path alongside the river to a farm gate on a slight rise beyond a meander, then descend slightly to a second gateway. **49** Turn left up the side-valley, away from the river, along the edge of a field with woodland on your left. **50** Cross a stile by a gate into the wood and follow the path up the bottom of the wooded valley. **51** When the valley divides, take the rocky left-hand valley, with a cave

entrance to the left. **52** Towards the top of the valley there is a steep little climb by a cave entrance on the left, before you reach a gate into fields at the top of the wood. **53** Walk up the valley then go through a squeeze-stile to the left of a gate and walk out to the road, passing to the left of Sheldon's small water treatment works. **54** On reaching the road, turn right past Lower Farm on your right and Woodbine Farm on your left. **55** At the beginning of the village houses, before a barn conversion called "The Byre", turn left along a track with a public footpath finger-post. **56** Pass a small stone barn on the right and follow the wall ahead; climb a stile with a sign to Magpie Mine and continue along the wall. **57** After another wall-stile, bear slightly left (aiming just to the right of the visible chimney and engine house of Magpie Mine) to a further stile. **58** Follow the wall on your left to yet another stile on your left. **59** Follow the path across the field towards Magpie Mine. **60** Cross a wall-stile into the mine surrounds and walk down to the engine house. **61** When you are ready to continue, turn your back on the engine house and chimney and walk to the right of the circular powder-house. **62** In the far corner, go through a gate. **63** Cross the field to a four-way finger-post, where you turn right to a stile in the wall on your right. **64** Bear left to a projecting corner of the wall on the left. **65** Follow the wall to a gate into a walled lane, which descends to the road in Kirk Dale. **66** Cross the road and go through the gate opposite, climbing to a belt of trees at the top of the field. **67** Go through the trees to a stile by a gate, and turn right over a wall-stile. **68** Turn half-left and cross the field diagonally to a finger-post by the opposite fence. **69** Follow the fence to a wooden stile on the right, indicated by a tin footpath sign nailed to a tree. **70** Cross the top of the next field to a wall-stile in the opposite corner. **71** Aim for the narrower, right-hand of two gaps in the wall visible at the far side of the next field, within which you will find a wooden stile. **72** Continue in the same direction beyond to a wall-stile, and then, still on the same line and with Bolehill Farm visible away to your right, cross the last field to a stile into the road, to the left of a gateway. **73** Turn right along the road, back to the entrance drive to Bolehill Farm.

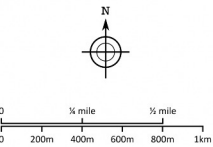
Self Catering Cottages

Traditional stone cottages arranged around a tranquil courtyard, set within 20 acres of the Peak District National Park – 2 miles from the centre of Bakewell.

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Magpie Mine is the only Peak District lead mine with a significant proportion of its buildings still standing, including the Cornish-style engine house of 1869. The mine, which stands at the meeting of three lead-bearing veins, was first recorded in 1795, had its heyday in the 19th century and finally ceased operation in the 1950s. It is now in the care of the Peak District Mines Historical Society and is surrounded by an area of access land where metallophyte plants such as Wild Pansy grow on former spoil heaps, where their tolerance of the toxic metals in the soil allows them to compete against usually more vigorous plants.



The upper end of **Lathkill Dale**, below Monyash, is a dry valley lined with limestone crags. Rare flowers, including Jacob's Ladder, the county flower of Derbyshire, grow here. Jacob's Ladder flowers from late May through June.



Sheepwash Bridge is said to be among the most photographed bridges in the country. An attached sheepfold dates from the days before modern chemical dips when sheep were washed in the River Wye. Trout abound in the crystal waters.



Lathkill Head Cave is normally dry, the river rising from springs lower down the valley. However, in wet weather a substantial stream emerges. The low passages beyond the entrance are strictly the domain of experienced cavers.



Despite its natural appearance, the **Tufa Dam** is thought to have been built by fishermen in the 1930s. Tufa is a porous rock created when dissolved calcium carbonate in lime-rich water is deposited on moss.

Dippers (*Cinclus cinclus*) are a common sight along the rivers Wye and Lathkill. The species is unique among passerines (perching birds) in that it can dive and swim underwater. It feeds on invertebrates such as caddisflies and mayfly larvae that it finds among the stones of the riverbed. It has several adaptations to its unusual feeding method, including solid bones rather than hollow to reduce buoyancy, and high levels of haemoglobin in its blood to store more oxygen, allowing it to remain underwater for longer.



Holme Bridge is a fine example of a packhorse bridge, spanning the River Wye above Bakewell. It dates from 1664 and is a Grade I listed building. Packhorse bridges offer a reminder of the days before canals, railways and lorries, when bulky goods such as salt were carried by trains of pack ponies on long-established routes across the country. Packhorse bridges are typically narrow, with low parapets (or none at all) to avoid fouling the panniers carried by the laden animals. Many, as here, have triangular pedestrian refuges extending above the cutwaters between the spans.



Bakewell is the largest town wholly within the Peak District National Park. Its attractions including its Grade I listed bridge and parish church, and of course the eponymous Bakewell Pudding, which can be sampled at several competing outlets.

six country walks from



Bolehill Farm
HOLIDAY COTTAGES



To the Lathkil Hotel, Over Haddon

1¾ miles (one way): Easy

A short, one-way stroll across the fields to Over Haddon to visit the Lathkil Hotel. Return via the same route.

Allow 45 minutes each way. Wet grass and mud after rain.

1 Follow the entrance drive out to the road and turn left. **2** Fifty yards beyond the entrance to Melbourne Farm (on your right), take the footpath over the stile to the right. **3** Aim for the right-hand end of a line of trees in the far corner of the field ahead. **4** After a wall-stile, continue in the same direction diagonally across the second field to a similar stile in the far left-hand corner. **5** Follow the field edge for a short distance, then cross a stile in the wall on your left. **6** Cut the corner of the field to another wall-stile to the left of a cattle trough. **7** Continue in a similar direction, diagonally across the field, to across a broken wall near the bottom. **8** Bear slightly left to a stile in the wall on your right, then follow the wall down to the road. **9** Turn left towards the village.

Unless heading for the Lathkil Hotel, to continue with your chosen walk, switch to the appropriate directions at this point.

10 For the Lathkil Hotel, turn right into Main Street. **11** At the triangle by the car park and public conveniences, turn left along the main village street. **12** Turn right into Wellgate Lane and follow it past the the village pump, beyond which the road bends left and climbs to the Lathkil Hotel.

Magpie Mine & Sheldon

4¼ miles (3¼ miles if omitting Sheldon): Fairly easy

A walk over Bolehill to the historic remains of Magpie Mine, with an optional extension to the village of Sheldon and its pub.

Allow 2 hours. May be muddy after rain; some (optional) road walking on the return journey. Refreshments at the Cock & Pullet, Sheldon (after 2 miles).

1 For a possible private short-cut to the footpath over Bolehill, ask at reception. Otherwise, walk down the entrance drive to the road and turn left. **2** Fifty yards beyond the entrance to Melbourne Farm (on your right), take the footpath over the stile on your left. **3** Bear half-left to a wall-stile marked by a waymark post. **4** Continue in the same direction to a wooden stile in a crossing wall. **5** Still on the same line, cross the third field to a wall-stile by a line of trees, to the right of a farm gate. **6** Cut across the top of the next field to a stile opposite. **7** Beyond this, follow the fence on your left then bear right at a finger-post across the field, aiming for the end of a belt of trees. **8** Cross two stiles in the corner of the next field and then, having passed through the belt of trees, head down the slope to the road at the bottom of the valley (Kirk Dale) below.

*For the **Ashford & Sheldon** walk, jump to step **9**, below.*

9 Otherwise, cross over, go through a gate and follow a walled track up the opposite side of the valley. **10** At the end of the walled section, go through a hand-gate, and follow the wall on your right with the buildings of Magpie Mine ahead of you, then head half-right to a gate and squeeze-stile by some hawthorn trees. **11** Beyond the wall, bear left to a four-way finger-post in the middle of the field. **12** Turn left to a hand-gate and continue across former spoil-heaps and disturbed ground, passing to the left of a round building (the former powder-house, built 1840), to reach the engine house and chimney of Magpie Mine. **13** *Having examined the mine buildings, if you are omitting the loop to Sheldon, return to the four-way finger-post, turn right and skip to step 28.* Otherwise, to continue to Sheldon and the Cock & Pullet, turn your back on the engine house and chimney and follow a path along the dry-stone wall on the left, keeping well to the left of the round powder-house. **14** Cross a wall-stile in the far left-hand corner of the mine surround and head slightly left across the field ahead, aiming for the far left-hand corner. **15** After a further stile, cross the next field in a similar direction, to reach a hand-gate into a walled track near the far corner. **16** Turn right (ignoring the footpath signposted ahead of you) between the walls. **17** At the end of this walled section, continue along the track ahead of you, with a wall on your right. **18** Beyond a gateway, leave the track and walk diagonally left across a small field to a gate and stile in the corner by some corrugated-iron barns. **19** Bear left across a narrow field to another stile, and cross the bottom of another small field to a further stile. **20** Follow the short walled path beyond, out to the road in Sheldon village. **21** Turn right and walk down the village street to the Cock & Pullet. **22** Continue down the village street then, after the last of the houses (a stone barn conversion on your right called “The Byre”), turn right along a track with a public footpath finger-post. **23** Pass a small stone barn on the right and follow the wall ahead; climb a stile with a sign to Magpie Mine and continue along the wall. **24** After another wall-stile, bear slightly left (aiming just to the right of the visible chimney and engine house of Magpie Mine) to a further stile. **25** Follow the wall on your left to yet another stile on your left. **26** Turn left (*not* towards the mine buildings, unless you wish to pay them a second visit) and follow the wall on your left to a stile between a water trough (right) and a gap in the wall (left). **27** Proceed beyond to the junction of paths at the four-way finger-post you encountered earlier. **28** Keep straight on to a squeeze-stile and gate in the wall on your right. Just beyond the stile, to the right, notice the opening of a mineshaft capped with concrete sleepers. **29** Bear left to a projecting corner of the wall on your left. **30** Here you have a choice: if you prefer to retrace your steps but avoid some road-walking, follow your outward route down the green lane to Kirk Dale and back over Bolehill. If you prefer not to tread old ground, turn right to the corner of the field. **31** Cross the next field to a stile in the far corner, next to a gate and tree. **32** Turn left along the road, and keep right at the turning to Ashford. **33** After quarter of a mile, ignore a byway on the right, to reach a T-junction after a further quarter-mile. **34** Turn left along the B5055 for a few hundred yards, then turn left up the driveway of Bolehill Farm.

Ashford & Sheldon

5¾ miles: Moderate

A walk down into Ashford-in-the-Water with glorious views on the way down, followed by a riverside and woodland return to Sheldon and then back via Magpie Mine.

Allow 3 hours. One significant descent and ascent. May be muddy in places. Refreshments in Ashford (2½ miles) or at the Cock & Pullet, Sheldon (4½ miles).

Follow steps **1** to **8** of the **Magpie Mine & Sheldon** walk, above.

9 Turn right down the public road at the bottom of the Kirk Dale valley. **10** Shortly after a turning on the left (signposted “Sheldon ¾”), take the lane on the right (marked “Unsuitable for heavy goods vehicles”). Pass a footpath on your right and ignore a gateway on your left, following the road as it curves to the right above the wooded dale-side. **11** Beyond the end of the wood, continue to a right-hand bend, where a path heads off left through a hand-gate. **12** Follow this path downhill, passing to the right of a telecommunications mast. **13** On reaching a house at the top of a drive, drop off down the slope to the left, to the left of an old quarry. **14** When you meet a wall, turn right and exit the driveway through a gate to the A6. **15** To visit Ashford-in-the-Water, cross the A6 and the Sheepwash Bridge opposite, and turn right. The pubs and tea-room are beyond the church. **16** On returning to the Sheepwash Bridge, cross the A6 and turn right along the pavement.

Now follow steps **46–73** of the **Bakewell, Ashford & Sheldon** route, below. From step **66** onwards you will find yourself retracing your outward route back to Bolehill Farm.

Over Haddon & Lathkill Dale

4¾ miles: Moderate

A visit to Over Haddon and a taste of glorious Lathkill Dale.

Allow 2–3 hours. One significant descent into, and climb out of, Lathkill Dale. Some road walking at the end. May be muddy in places after rain, and occasionally rocky in Lathkill Dale. Refreshments at the Lathkil Hotel, Over Haddon (after 1¼ miles).

Follow steps **1–9** of the directions **To the Lathkil Hotel, Over Haddon**, above.

10 Turn right into Main Street. **11** Pass the car park entrance and bear right at the triangle, downhill along the no-through road (Dale Road). **12** Follow the road downhill, round a series of bends, until you reach Lathkill Lodge, above the clapper bridge over the River Lathkill (sometimes dry at this point). **13** Turn right and follow the track up the dale, through the gate to the right of the old mill building. **14** Pass a series of weirs (and some mine entrances to your right) before reaching the remains of an aqueduct. **15** Continue along the riverside path, passing a footbridge leading to the ruins of Bateman’s House on the opposite bank. **16** Beyond a weir you go through a gate into an

open field at the bottom of a side-dale (Mill Dale) on the right. After a second gate, turn right (just before some millstones beside the path) to leave the river via a footpath along a wall (though a brief diversion ahead to the Tufa Dam and back is recommended). **17** Follow the path up Mill Dale. **18** When the path hairpins to the left, follow it round to a gate below a limestone crag and continue up the mossy, rocky valley to a further gate. **19** Follow the walled green lane beyond, passing to the right of Mill Farm and thence along the drive and out to the road. **20** Take a few steps to your left, then take a footpath on the right. **21** Aim to the right of a wood in the large field ahead of you, beyond which walk parallel to the right-hand wall to reach the B5055 road opposite a farm. **22** Turn right along the B-road. **23** Continue along the main road beyond a junction with a green lane on the left and the turning to Over Haddon on the right. **24** Pass a layby on the left, then carry on along the B-road after a triangle where the road from Sheldon joins from the left. **25** About 300 yards beyond this junction, turn left up the driveway to Bolehill Farm.

Lathkill Dale & Monyash

9 miles: Fairly strenuous

Field paths via Over Haddon to the glorious limestone valley of Lathkill Dale. After a lunch stop in Monyash, the return is across fields visiting the atmospheric remains of Magpie Mine.

Allow 4–5 hours. One short steep ascent towards the end. Wet grass and mud may be encountered after rain, and the upper reaches of Lathkill Dale are rocky and uneven in places. Refreshments at the Lathkil Hotel (just off-route, 1¼ miles) or in Monyash (5½ miles).

Follow steps **1–9** of the directions **To the Lathkil Hotel, Over Haddon**, above.

10 Turn right into Main Street. **11** Pass the car park entrance and bear right at the triangle, downhill along the no-through road (Dale Road). **12** Follow the road downhill, round a series of bends, until you reach Lathkill Lodge, above the clapper bridge over the River Lathkill (sometimes dry at this point). **13** Turn right and follow the track up the dale, through the gate to the right of the old mill building. **14** Pass a series of weirs (and some mine entrances to your right) before reaching the remains of an aqueduct. **15** Continue along the riverside path, passing a footbridge leading to the ruins of Bateman’s House on the opposite bank. **16** Beyond a weir you go through a gate into an open field at the bottom of a side-dale to the right. Continue through a second gate and proceed along the river, passing the “tufa dam” waterfall on your left. **17** Continue below impressive limestone crags on your right until you eventually reach another footpath at the bottom of Cales Dale on the opposite bank. **18** Stay on the right-hand side of the river (which, depending on the season, will not last out for much longer) and continue along the main dale. **19** When a side-dale (Ricklow Dale) joins from the right, keep along the main dale bottom, passing the mouth of Lathkill Head Cave (which is usually dry) on your left. **20** At or just above the cave, cross to the left-hand side of the dale

bottom and follow the obvious path up the now dry valley. **21** Beyond a squeeze-stile the dale becomes more enclosed and rocky, before passing the constriction and becoming easier once more. **22** After two gates the dale broadens and become shallower and grassier, until you finally reach the road by some public toilets. **23** Turn left and walk up the road, past a campsite on the right, into Monyash. **24** As you approach the church, turn left up some steps into a corner of the churchyard and walk round to the left of the church building. **25** Exit the churchyard in the far corner via a squeeze-stile to the right of a gate into a track. **26** Opposite the first house on the left, turn right into the quaintly named Icky Picky Lane. Beyond a barn, walk out to Rakes Road with the village pond on your right. **27** Turn right and follow Rakes Road to the village green and, beyond it, the Bulls Head and adjacent Old Smithy Tearoom. **28** To continue, carry straight on along Chapel Street (signposted to Flagg and Sheldon) and pass the Methodist Chapel on your right. **29** At the end of the village, turn right, signposted to Sheldon. **30** Ignoring paths to left and right, pass a small wood and, shortly, some farm buildings on your left. **31** Not long after the entrance to Nursery Fields Farm, at the top of the slope, turn left through a squeeze-stile onto a footpath. **32** Aim for the far right-hand corner of the first field, where you turn right through a gateway. **33** Walk parallel to the right-hand wall to a step-stile and continue to a gate in a field corner beyond, below a trig point at the top of the rake (a line of former mineshafts) away to your left. **34** Bear slightly left to meet a long straight wall, which you follow towards a line of trees on the horizon. **35** Towards the end of the last field, leave the wall to head slightly right to a wall-stile. **36** Cut the corner of the next field to another wall-stile into the trees. **37** Exit the trees over a crumbling wall and follow the field edge ahead to meet a road. **38** Turn right along the road, and bear right at the junction with the road to Sheldon, past a concrete-line dewpond in the field on your right. **39** At the bottom of the dip, turn left over a stile next to gate into a farm track. **40** Pass another dewpond on your right and cross to the far corner of the field beyond. **41** Cross a tumbledown wall and follow the grassy path across the field to the left of some trees, heading slightly left of the engine house and chimney of Magpie Mine. **42** Cross a stile at a projecting wall corner, and follow the path beyond directly towards the complex of mine buildings. **43** A hand-gate leads into the permissive area surrounding Magpie Mine. Walk behind the engine house then turn left. **44** Once you have finished exploring the mine buildings, walk to the right of the circular powder-house in front of the engine house.

Now follow steps **62–73** of the **Bakewell, Ashford & Sheldon** route, below.



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Bakewell, Ashford & Sheldon

9 miles: Fairly strenuous

Field paths via Over Haddon to the historic town of Bakewell, returning via the scenic Wye valley, a quiet wooded side-dale, pretty Sheldon and the atmospheric remains of Magpie Mine.

Allow 4–5 hours. One lengthy ascent. Wet grass and mud after rain. Refreshments at the Lathkil Hotel (just off-route, 1¼ miles), numerous outlets in Bakewell (3¼ miles) and Ashford-in-the-Water (5¼ miles) or the Cock & Pullet at Sheldon (7¼ miles).

Follow steps **1–9** of the directions **To the Lathkil Hotel, Over Haddon**, above.

10 Continue along the road beyond the junction with Main Street (or to see a bit more of the old part of Over Haddon, walk down Main Street and follow it round to the left at the car park, turning left into Bakewell Road at the junction with School Lane). **11** Turn left (signposted to Bakewell and Youlgreave) and leave the village. **12** Keep left at a road junction, passing a roofless barn on your left. **13** Take a path through a squeeze-stile on the right when the road bends left and begins to descend. **14** After a short distance, turn right through another squeeze-stile and walk across the field towards a stile leading down into the valley. **15** Continue through a gateway (with a waypost and squeeze-stile) until you reach the wall at the valley bottom; follow it downhill and through a gap in the wall. **16** Shortly before the road, turn left through a double gate and squeeze-stile and follow the wall across the hillside, climbing slightly. **17** After a wall-stile in the corner, a *de facto* path leads directly across the diagonal to the far right-hand corner but the formal right of way goes along the left-hand edges of the field. **18** Either way, you end up at a wall-stile in the corner; cross the next field to the far left-hand corner, beyond which a hedge path leads out to the road alongside the school. **19** Cross the road and follow the signposted footpath across the playing fields of Lady Manners School. **20** Take the left-hand path at the end. **21** Join a road and walk down to a junction, where you take another tarmac path straight ahead of you. **22** Go through a squeeze-stile and continue in the direction of the church spire; the path joins a narrow lane. **23** When the lane bends right at Yeld Cottage, go down the steps ahead of you to meet Yeld Road and turn left. **24** Turn right towards the church. **25** Cross carefully by the vicarage and go through the gateposts into the churchyard. **26** Walk past the church (noting the two Anglo-Saxon crosses) and take the left-hand path at a fork by an old lamp-post. **27** Exit the churchyard into North Church Street and pass the end of Church Alley. **28** On reaching the A6 by the Rutland Arms, cross carefully and walk to the left of the roundabout, past the end of some municipal gardens. **29** At the traffic lights, cross over and follow the right-hand road (Bridge Street). **30** Cross the old bridge over the River Wye. **31** By the road junction with its central water fountain, turn left into Scot’s Garden and follow the riverside path; either keep to the riverside round a meander or follow the main path to cut the corner. **32** Beyond a gate close to the main road, the path continues along the