

stones. **44** Beyond these, cross the river on a footbridge and pass beneath a railway bridge. **45** Shortly afterwards, descend some stone steps to return to the original bank via a second footbridge. **46** After further riverside walking you reach the second set of stepping stones, beyond which continue in similar vein to pass under a second railway arch. **47** At a third railway bridge ignore the footbridge over the river, continuing along the northern bank to the footbridge at Blackwell Mill, where you cross the river for the final time. **48** Follow the entrance drive out to the Wyedale car park, passing under three railway bridges en route. **49** Cross the A6 and take the path to the left of the quarry entrance. **50** Beyond some settling ponds, go through a gate on your right (signposted 'Deepdale') and climb steps, before descending a ballasted track to the dale bottom. **51** Walk up the dale, ignoring a crossing path and passing below the entrance to Thirst House Cave. **52** After a rocky, wooded section the dale opens out; when it forks, take the right-hand dale (Back Dale). **53** After half a mile, just before a stile, head out of the dale up a steep path on your left, alongside a fence. **54** Cross two stiles at the top of the slope, then bear left across a couple of fields back to Shallow Grange.

Shallow Grange is a working sheep farm three miles south of Buxton, providing a perfect base from which to explore the beautiful Peak District National Park.

We have a flat, well-drained field for tourers and tents. Five of the pitches in the touring field are reinforced. Electrical hookups are available though you are advised to book these in advance.

We offer modern, well-equipped and environmentally efficient shower and toilet facilities.

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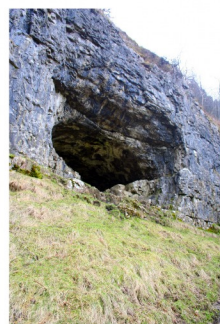
Stepping stones in the River Wye beneath overhanging limestone cliffs permit passage through the narrowest sections of Chee Dale.



The cliffs below Chee Tor are some of the most impressive along the Wye.



Priestcliffe Lees is a Derbyshire Wildlife Trust reserve centred on a disused limestone quarry.



Thirst House Cave (also known as Hob Thirst's Cave) has one of the largest entrances in the Peak District. It was explored by 18th-century miners in search of mineral veins, and also produced Romano-British remains when excavated by archaeologists.



In spring and summer, the sides of the limestone dales are carpeted with **wildflowers** including Cowslip, Meadow Saxifrage and Early Purple Orchid.



Chelmorton Church is the highest church with a spire above sea-level in England. In the porch is a rare assembly of medieval stone coffin lids.



The village of Taddington is centred on the Queens Arms pub and the 14th-century church. In the churchyard is a cross shaft thought to date back to the 11th century.



Three walks from

Shallow Grange

Camping & Caravanning
on a Working Sheep Farm
Chelmorton, Derbyshire

Deep Dale & Chelmorton (4½ miles)

Impressive limestone cliffs and caves, a pretty village and a cosy local pub.

Buxton via Cowdale (5 miles)

A one-way stroll through a series of hamlets to the historic spa town of Buxton.

Taddington & Chee Dale (10¼ miles)

A series of villages in spectacular limestone country, with an exciting riverside stretch.

Deep Dale & Chelmorton (4½ miles: Moderate)

Rocky paths, numerous stiles, and one steep descent and ascent in Deep Dale. Muddy after rain. Allow 2–3 hours. Map overleaf.

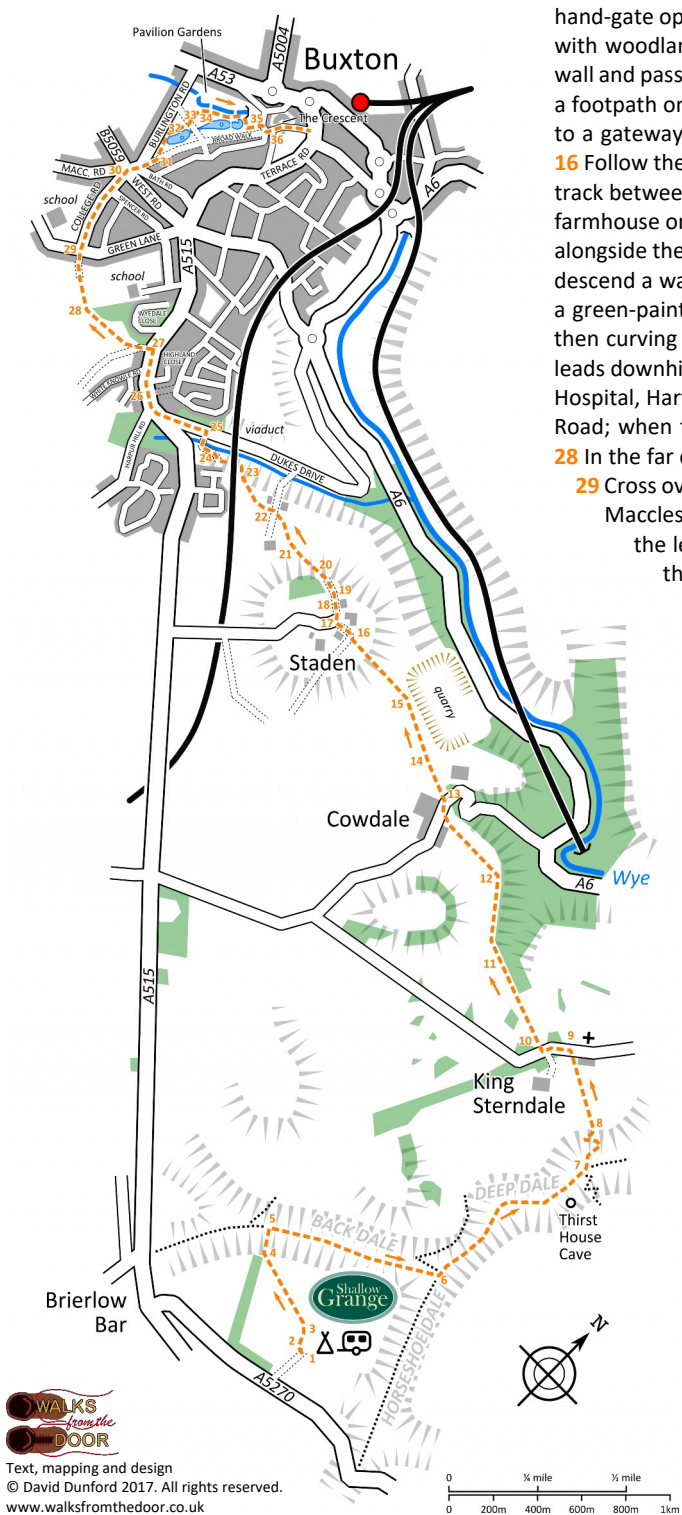
1 Walk to the left of the farmhouse, past the barrier, and turn left through the next gate. **2** Bear immediately right to a wooden stile and cross the wall beyond. **3** Head half-left across the field to another wall stile, then continue in the same direction to a third in the far corner of the next field. **4** Cross the stile and another wooden stile, and drop steeply down into Back Dale. **5** Turn right and walk down the dale bottom. **6** At the junction with Horseshoe Dale, turn left down Deep Dale, which becomes rockier after the nature reserve sign. **7** Shortly after the obvious entrance to Thirst House Cave on your right, take a steep, narrow path up the dale side on the right, zig-zagging past another small cave. **8** Once out of the dale, bear right to a wall stile, then cross three more fields in the same direction to reach a walled farm track. **9** Turn left, then right at a junction of tracks. **10** Follow the track past a barn on your left, and then the entrance to Burrs Farm, before reaching the main road. **11** Cross the road and take a few steps to the left, then follow the track to Shepley Farm opposite. **12** Follow the track, bearing left then right by the farm, to reach Chelmorton. Turn left to visit the pub and church. **13** On your return, walk down the main street past the Illy Willy Water troughs as far as Common Lane (opposite School Farm). **14** Turn right and follow the lane for ¼ mile until a footpath crosses at right angles; turn left into a walled trackway. **15** Pass a small farm building on your left and then, just after the track bends sharp right, cross a stone stile on your left, next to a gate, into open fields. Head half-right towards a clump of trees. **16** Follow a path between walls to the right of the trees until you meet the main road. Turn left. **17** When the road bends left, take a path to the right in the corner and turn half left, slightly away from the dale on your right, aiming for a telegraph pole in the middle of the field. At a stone stile turn slightly left and follow the broken wall back to the main road. **18** Turn right, passing the head of Horseshoe Dale and a small disused quarry on your left. **19** At a ladder stile on the right by a road sign, leave the road and bear left. **20** Beyond a dip, a wall stile on your left near the far corner leads back to Shallow Grange.

Buxton via Cowdale (5 miles: Moderate)

NB Linear route: return by car, taxi (Allied Taxis 01298 72123) or bus (High Peak “Transpeak” to Chelmorton or the once-a-day 193 service to Brierlow Bar – check times and availability before departure). Numerous stiles, rocky paths and two steep slopes. Allow 2–3 hours.

Follow steps **1** to **6** of the **Deep Dale & Chelmorton** walk (above) as far as Thirst House Cave.

7 Shortly after the cave entrance on your right, cross the stream and go over a stile on your left. **8** Zig-zag up the dale side to a stile. **9** Follow the wall and fence, passing to the left of a house to the lane opposite the church. **10** Turn left along the lane, then right through a



hand-gate opposite the Old Vicarage. **11** Follow the fence to a kissing gate, then continue, with woodland on your right, above Kidtor Dale. **12** As you approach Cowdale, follow a wall and pass to the right of the farm to a stile into the lane. **13** Turn right briefly, then take a footpath on the left through a gap in the wall. **14** Cross a wall stile and follow the fence to a gateway. **15** Continue to a second gateway, with a large quarry away to your right. **16** Follow the fence and wall uphill to Staden. **17** Climb a stile beside a gate and follow the track between houses to the end of the lane. **18** Take the track opposite, passing another farmhouse on your right. **19** Go through a field gate and follow the track beyond. **20** Keep alongside the wall as the path descends with views over Buxton. **21** Go through a gate and descend a walled green lane to a gate into a farmyard. **22** Take the track opposite, left of a green-painted metal barn. **23** Follow the track behind the caravan site, crossing a stile then curving right to pass under the last arch of the viaduct. **24** Join a track beyond that leads downhill to cross the stream. **25** Turn left, then right along the A515. **26** Pass Buxton Hospital, Hartwell Walk and Highland Close on your right. **27** Cross and turn left into Fern Road; when the road bends left at a parking area, turn right along the woodland edge. **28** In the far corner, pick up a walled path that leads past school grounds out to the road. **29** Cross over and walk down College Road, passing Spencer Road on your right. **30** Cross Macclesfield Road into Bath Road. **31** Beyond Burlington Road, take the first path on the left into Pavilion Gardens. **32** Walk round the end of the first lake and follow the lakeside path to the right. **33** At the end of the lake go through a gate in the railings on your left, past a sculpture. **34** Bear left by the miniature railway to the riverside path. **35** Follow the river to the end of the park, and exit into The Square. **36** Turn right past the Old Hall Hotel, then left past St Anne’s Well and Buxton Crescent and to reach the town centre. The bus stop is in Terrace Road (A515).

Taddington and Chee Dale

10¾ miles: Strenuous

Paths in Chee Dale and Deep Dale are rocky and uneven and include unprotected drops and steep ascents and descents. Some sections can be muddy after rain, and the stepping stones in Chee Dale may be impassable in times of flood. Numerous stiles. Allow 5–6 hours.

1 With your back to the farmhouse, take the footpath on your left over a ladder stile. **2** Bear slightly right, with the farm on your left and the pond on your right, to a stile in the stone wall. **3** Head diagonally right across the next field, in and out of a dip at the head of a side dale, to reach a stile over the wall at the top of the field below a road sign. **4** Turn left and walk down the main road, bending right and left as it crosses the head of Horseshoe Dale. **5** After passing a house at the top of the slope, and shortly before the turning to Chelmorton, take a footpath on the left and follow the remains of a wall to the bottom of the field. **6** Bear right across the next field, above Bullhay Dale on your left, to a stile in the far corner leading back out to the main road. **7** Walk past the water treatment works on your left, then cross over and take a walled green lane on the right. **8** Follow the lane until it emerges into a field beyond a small clump of trees. **9** Head half-left to a wall stile by a field gate in the far corner of the field. **10** Follow the walled lane on your right as it turns immediately left, and walk out to the road (Common Lane), passing a small farm

building on your right. **11** Cross the lane and follow the walled path opposite until you reach a farm track. **12** Turn right and follow the track past the farm buildings and keep on until you reach Chelmorton village. **13** Turn left and walk between the pub and church. **14** Follow the right-hand bridleway, past Bank Pit Spring on your left. Climb the hill and then keep towards the right of a narrow walled area of rough ground (a former mining ‘rake’) to a gate into Pillwell Lane. **15** Turn right then left over a wall stile with a wooden fingerpost. **16** Cross the field to a stile, then follow the wall below Fivewells Farm through three fields to Sough Lane. **17** Cross the stile opposite and continue in similar fashion, passing a trig point beyond the wall on your left to Sough Top covered reservoir. **18** Skirt to the right of the reservoir, then follow the path downhill towards Taddington. **19** Cross a lane and take the path almost opposite, which descends to emerge at a road junction via a narrow path between gardens. **20** Turn right past the bus stop and proceed as far as the lychgate. **21** Turn left into the churchyard, passing the Anglo-Saxon cross shaft, and head to the left of the church to a gate between holly trees. **22** Follow the wooden fence to a stile in the corner. **23** Cross the A6 dual-carriageway quickly but carefully and cross a stile on the other side. **24** Turn left to the end of the wall, then take a path on the right that heads diagonally to a hand-gate in a stone wall. **25** Walk downhill to Rock Lodge Farm, keeping to the left of a tumbledown wall and then right of the farm buildings. **26** Join a walled path in front of the farmhouse that heads past a dewpond and down the valley. **27** Pass between the buildings of a second farm, then turn left at a crossroad of paths next to an old barn. **28** Climb the steep slope to the lane in Priestcliffe. **29** Turn right and follow the lane as it curves left to a junction. **30** Turn right to Lydgate Farm and take the track on the left signposted to Miller’s Dale. **31** After about 100 yards, take a footpath on the right that crosses a series of fields, the line marked by yellow-painted stiles and gateposts. **32** Follow a wall down into a shallow valley and up the other side, crossing to the left-hand side of the wall before reaching a stile in the top corner. **33** Keep along the wall to the next stile, then bear right to a squeeze stile overlooking Miller’s Dale. **34** Bear right along the fenceline and follow it as it descends around the disused quarry of Priestcliffe Lees. **35** Beyond a bench below the quarry, go through a gate and descend below spoilheaps. **36** Cross a stile into the wood and descend through the trees to the Monsal Trail (*for the Anglers Rest, take the footpath opposite that descends to cross the river*). **37** To continue, turn left along the Trail and, beyond some old lime kilns on the left, cross the viaduct across the valley. **38** Keep along the trail past the visitor centre at the old station. **39** Beyond another lime kiln, and just before the trail crosses a bridge, take a stepped path on the right that descends to the riverside. **40** Turn right (upstream) along the riverside path. **41** Stay on the right-hand bank past a footbridge. **42** Level stretches with short boardwalks and rockier sections alternate until you reach Wormhill Springs, where you leave the river briefly to cross a side-stream. **43** More rocky sections, some high above the water, and more boardwalks, lead to a massive overhanging limestone cliff and the first set of stepping