



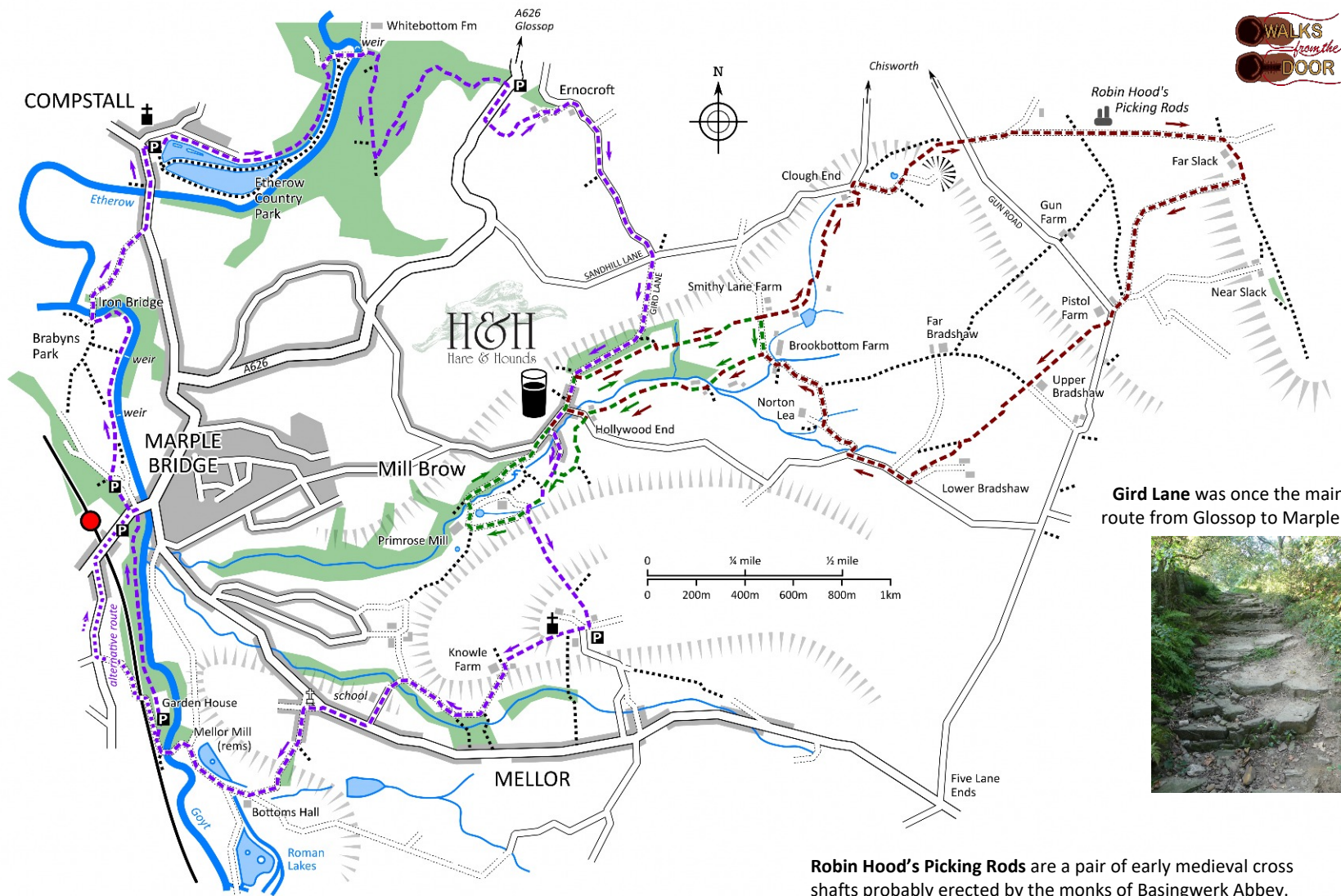
The weir in Etherow Country Park created a head of water for a huge waterwheel at Compstall.



The Iron Bridge in Brabyns Park, built 1813, is a rare early example of a cast-iron bridge.



The replica roundhouse at Mellor Hillfort



Gird Lane was once the main route from Glossop to Marple.



Robin Hood's Picking Rods are a pair of early medieval cross shafts probably erected by the monks of Basingwerk Abbey.



St. Thomas's Church, Mellor



three circular walks from the



Hollywood & Mill Brow

2 miles: fairly easy

A varied stroll up and down our valley.

Robin Hood's Picking Rods

5 miles: moderate

Cross common land and rough grazing to a medieval cross with wide views.

Etherow Country Park

6 1/4 miles: moderate

A varied walk down the River Goyt and through two contrasting local green spaces.

The Hare & Hounds

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Hollywood & Mill Brow (2 miles: fairly easy)

Allow 1–1½ hours. Paths may be muddy in winter. Some moderate inclines, several stiles, and sheep may be encountered.

1 From the front of the pub, turn left. **2** After 150m, turn left into Gird Lane and follow it uphill past the former chapel on the left. **3** Shortly before the lane becomes a track, near the last house, turn right through a gate and take the footpath running below Gird Lane. Beyond a gate, follow the path along a strip of gorsy land. **4** At the end, climb a stile and follow the right-hand edges of a fenced-off paddock. In the far corner, ford a small stream and cross another stile. **5** Follow the right-hand side of the next field to a gate into a green lane. **6** Walk down to Smithy Lane, crossing a stile partway down. **7** Turn right, and walk downhill for 150m to the next cluster of houses (Brook Bottom). **8** Turn right onto a signposted footpath opposite Brookbottom Farm, up a few steps, and shortly climb a stile. **9** After about 75m, turn left over another stile. **10** Bear right along the hedge to a gate, then drop down to a footbridge by a ruined building. **11** Continue to a driveway in front of a barn and turn right towards the cottage. Go through the gate and past the front door into fields. **12** Follow the path beyond, around the end of the garden and down to the stream. **13** Follow the path down the valley to Hollywood End. Go through the gate and walk out between the buildings to the public road. **14** *For a short cut, turn right over the bridge and follow the road back to the Hare & Hounds.* Otherwise, take a few steps to the left then take the signposted footpath opposite. **15** Follow the hedge then the sunken-walled path uphill. Bear right across the field at the top to a stile left of a wooden building. **16** Follow the walled path downhill to a junction of paths, where you turn left. **17** The path leads between fences (passing the end of a footpath on the right) then drops down to a stile and past a stable. **18** At a junction, take the left-hand track opposite (ignoring the footpath to Mellor Church on your left). **19** This track runs above a stream valley (to your right) then descends beyond an isolated house. **20** Towards the bottom of the valley, follow the track right. **21** At the next junction turn left, over the stream, and beyond the entrance to Primrose Mill follow the road round to the right. **22** Climb gradually back to Mill Brow, with the stream below and to your right, until you meet the main village street opposite the Hare & Hounds.

Robin Hood's Picking Rods

5 miles: moderate

Allow 2–3 hours. Field paths may be muddy. Several stiles, some of which may be precarious or overgrown. Livestock very likely.

Follows steps **1–6** of the **Hollywood & Mill Brow** walk.

7 Cross the road and follow the track opposite, right of Smithy Lane Farm. **8** Beyond the buildings, go through a gate and follow the enclosed path beyond above a lake to a stile. **9** Descend to another stile and ford a small stream. Bear left, parallel to the stream.

10 Climb a stile at the bottom of a fence and cross the next field to another. **11** Bear right below a garden to a stile in the corner. **12** Climb the stile into the next field and turn left along the fence (*if this stile is impassable, you may need to exit via the driveway on your left*). **13** Climb another stile on your left, and turn right along the driveway out to the road. **14** Turn right and right again over a stile next to a gate into a track. **15** Follow the track along the wall for 175m then stay on it as it swings left towards a disused quarry (ignore a footpath on the right). **16** Beyond a pond on your left, carry straight on up the hill (leaving the track, which swings right towards the quarry entrance). **17** Follow the path ahead as it meets a fence and continue across rough ground until you meet Gun Road. **18** Cross straight over onto the farm track through the gates opposite. **19** At a junction, turn right through a gate and follow the track uphill along the wall to Robin Hood's Picking Rods (ignore a ladder-stile on the right partway up). **20** Beyond the cross shafts, continue along the track ahead until you are level with Far Slack Farm. **21** Turn right through a hand-gate (or over the stile) and follow the path past the farmhouse and carry straight on. **22** Beyond a riding menage and before a gate, turn right and walk down to the farm drive. **23** Continue ahead along the metalled drive, dropping down to cross a shallow valley then winding up the slope on the other side. **24** At a junction beyond a cattle grid, turn right and walk out to the road. **25** Turn left past the entrance to Pistol Farm, then cross and go through a wooden kissing gate between cypress trees. **26** Walk across the grass half-left to a wall stile in the far left-hand corner. **27** Follow the fence and telegraph wires ahead of you with good views into the valley. **28** Cross another wall stile and continue down the wall towards Upper Bradshaw Farm. **29** At the bottom of the field, switch to the right-hand side of the wall and carry on down to a stile over the wall. **30** Walk down the right-hand side of the garden, cross the drive by a field gate and go over the wall stile ahead. **31** Follow the left-hand side of the next field to a gateway, where you switch sides again. Bear half-right across a field to a marshy pond in the corner, whose surroundings may be boggy. **32** Beyond the pond, cross a boardwalk and stile and immediately turn left over a second stile, stepping over a small stream. **33** Bear right up the field to a stile in the fence between two trees. **34** In the next field, continue up to the driveway of Lower Bradshaw Farm and follow it right, outside the fence, to the entrance. Beyond the entrance gate, a stile over the wall gives access to Chatterton Lane. **35** Turn right and follow the lane downhill for 300m, passing the entrance to Far Bradshaw Farm on the right. **36** Turn sharp right into a track (signposted "B.O.A.T. 22 Marple") and follow it round a hairpin bend and over a slight rise to Norton Lea Farm. **37** Keep right at the farm entrance, fording a stream. The rough track beyond bends left down to Brook Bottom. **38** Follow the road round to the right then, opposite the entrance to Brookbottom Farm, turn left up steps in the wall onto a footpath, and shortly climb a stile.

Now jump to step **9** of the **Hollywood & Mill Brow** walk. At step **14**, take the shortcut right, along the road back to the Hare & Hounds.

Etherow Country Park

6¼ miles: moderate

Allow 3–4 hours. May be muddy or boggy in places. Several significant ascents; livestock likely.

1 From the front of the pub, turn left. **2** Beyond rows of houses on either side of the road, turn right, past the "Weak Bridge" sign. **3** Follow the cobbled road to its end, and go over the stile or through the gate onto the path beyond. **4** Carry straight on through a gate at a junction with a path on the left. **5** The path leads between fences (passing the end of another footpath on the right) and then drops down to a stile onto a path past a stable. **6** Take the path on the left, through a metal hand-gate signposted to Mellor Church. **7** Follow the path round a left-hand bend and up the steep slope over a couple of stiles. **8** At the top of the hill, by Peak & Northern Footpath Society sign 194, turn right through a gap by a field gate then left out to the road (passing a replica roundhouse on your right). **9** Beyond a further gate, turn right into the churchyard of St Thomas's Church, Mellor (a public area on the right allows access to an excavated section of the ditch of the Iron Age hillfort). **10** Just beyond the church door, turn left down steps to a gate into a field. **11** Follow the obvious path down to Knowle Farm and go through a kissing gate into the farmyard. **12** Exit the farmyard along the driveway to the left and follow it down towards the bottom of the valley. **13** Ignoring footpaths to left and right, stay on the driveway down to the bridge over the stream. **14** Follow the road beyond up past Mellor Primary School to the main road through the village. **15** Turn right to the war memorial, then take the rough road on the left (Parkside Lane). **16** Beyond the War Memorial Gardens, turn left into Old Hall Lane. **17** Follow the track downhill to Bottoms Hall and continue beyond to the junction with Lakes Road. **18** Keep right and continue to the remains of Mellor Mill, where you turn left and cross the River Goyt via Bottoms Bridge. **19** Keep along Lakes Road then turn right into the car park of The Garden House. *The path from here to Marple Bridge is a permitted path that is closed on Mondays and before 10am and after 4pm on other days; a donation is requested. Outside of these hours, or if you prefer not to pay the requested donation, continue up Lakes Road and turn right (Arkwright Road) and right again (Brabyns Brow) to reach Marple Bridge.* **20** Pass through the community farm and follow the riverside path beyond, passing a couple of former coal mine adits. **21** As you approach Marple Bridge the path leaves the river (signposted "Marple Bridge") and climbs slightly to emerge onto Brabyns Brow via the Midland car park. **22** Turn left along the pavement then, at a traffic island, cross and go through a gap in the wall into Brabyns Park. **23** Keep right past the pets' cemetery and follow a path parallel to the service road on your right past a children's playground to the car park. **24** At the end of the car park, cross the service road and head down the slope to the right of an interpretation board and some benches. **25** Keep to the right of the grassed area to rejoin the River Goyt beyond a council depot. **26** Turn left and follow the riverside path upstream, passing a

couple of weirs and ignoring paths off to the left before following the river as it curves left to the Iron Bridge. **27** Cross the bridge and follow the track beyond as it climbs to meet the road in Compstall. **28** Cross over and turn left along the pavement, crossing the bridge over the River Etherow. **29** Keep on along the road then, before the junction with George Street, turn right by a flagpole along the tarmacked path into Etherow Country Park. **30** Cross the car park and follow the path left around the lake and past the visitor centre. **31** Keep to the lakeside past a series of islands then keep right along the road by the lodge house, then pass a footbridge at the end of the lake. **32** Carry on along the main drive beside the mill leat and pass another footbridge. **33** When the leat widens, keep right at a turning (signposted "Ernocroft Wood and Glossop Road") and pass the sensory garden on your left. **34** Cross the River Etherow below the weir, then bear left then right past the entrance to Whitebottom Farm. **35** Follow the track uphill then bear right through the trees, passing a path on the right signposted "Tramway Trail". **36** At a junction of paths, turn sharp left and continue uphill on a path that winds past a couple of ponds and then swings right along the edge of the wood up to the A626. **37** Turn right for 200m then, by a bus stop, cross and join a footpath heading uphill along the edge of a field. **38** At the top of the field, swing left up towards Lower Ernocroft Farm. **39** Beyond a gate, walk between two farmhouses and follow the driveway out to the road. **40** Turn right past Ernocroft Farm and follow the lane for half a mile to its junction with Sandhill Lane. **41** Cross straight over into Gird Lane. After a series of rocky steps, follow it round to the right. **42** Beyond the first of the houses the surface improves; follow the asphalted lane round a left-hand bend and past the former chapel down to the main village street in Mill Brow. **43** Turn right to return to the Hare & Hounds.

The Hare & Hounds

Since Beckie and Ryan took the helm at The Hare and Hounds in 2023, it has gone from strength to strength. Welcoming all from muddy boots and paws to families and discerning diners. Still serving Ryan's locally sourced restaurant-quality food in this hidden gem of a country pub with its large open fire, fantastic views and new beer garden.

Opening hours

MONDAY/TUESDAY: CLOSED

WEDNESDAY to SATURDAY: BAR OPEN 12.00–23.00.

FOOD SERVED FROM 12:00–14.30 & 17:30–20:30

SUNDAY: BAR OPEN 12.00–21.00. FOOD FROM 12.00–17.00