

The Black Swan Pub Walk, Fearby



Distance:	Short Loop: 3 miles	Location: See  on "Welcome Page"
	Long Loop: 8 miles	
Time:	Short Loop: 1½ hours	
	Long Loop: 4 hours	
Difficulty:	Short Loop: Easy level walk with some stiles	
	Long Loop: Moderate with some steep sections	

Starting from the Black Swan at Fearby this delightful walk meanders through beautiful countryside near Masham in rural North Yorkshire.

Passing through sheltered wooded valleys there is a gradual climb towards the historic folly of Druids Temple. Pause at this magical spot to enjoy sweeping views of Colsterdale and the Vale of York. On your return follow routes lined with ancient trees and hedgerows as you pass through the historic estate of Swinton.

The Routes

Short Loop

From the Black Swan turn left and follow the road. Just before the school turn left and follow the road. Continue past the footpath sign until the wide track on the left. Turn onto the track and follow it until you meet a road. Turn left onto the road.

After a short while you will see a footpath sign on the left. Climb over the stile and walk towards the bottom right corner of the field. Go over the stile and then diagonally across the field until the next stile. Head towards the top corner of the field and go over the stile. Once in the next field, look for another stile on the left. Go over it, and head straight across the field towards the next stile. Over the next stile, cross the field. Go through the gate and turn left onto the road. Follow the road back to the pub.

Long Loop

From the Black Swan turn left and follow the road. Just before the school turn left and follow the road past the Swinton Saw Mill and over the stream. Walk uphill and then turn right towards Broadmires. Carry on through the farm and go through the gate at the end of the yard. Head towards the wooded area. Go through the gate and follow the track.

Continue on the track and go through the next two gates. Carry on through woods on the right and keep following the track, up the field. Just before the wood, almost double back on yourself and go up the hill. Go over the stile and head across the next field towards the ladder stile. Once over the



stile, follow the track. Midway up the field turn left and cut through the small wooded area into the next field.

Bear right and continue to follow the track. Keep the wooded area on the right and go through the next gate. Continue to follow the track and go over the fence. Turn right up the road until you get to the car park. Go through the car park and follow the track after the barriers up to Druids Temple.

Return back to the car park and follow the road you came up. Opposite the path you came from you will find a stile on the right hand side of the road. Go over the stile and follow the track to the right of the house, and go through the gate and bear left. Go over the stile and head down the hill, while keeping the wall on the left-hand side. At the bottom, turn left and go through the gate. Walk along the track, keeping the wooded area on the right.

Carry on through the gate and turn left onto the road. Just past the buildings, immediately turn right and follow the track towards the footbridge. Once over the bridge, bear left and walk along the track, with the stream on the left. Go through the gate and carry on along the track.

Before Lobley Hall, turn left and go through the gate. Then, bear right towards the bridge. Go over the bridge and turn right over the stile. Walk uphill and go over the next stile. Once over, bear right onto the track. While in the middle of the field, bear left and head towards the gate. Continue uphill and head towards the next gate.

Go through the gate and head across the field to the white and green gate on the right. Head across the field towards Stonefold Farm, and the next stile. Once over the stile, turn right in the farmyard.

Again, turn right and walk down the farm track, go through the gate and bear right onto the road. Walk up the road and by the school, turn right and walk back to the pub.

Pub Information

The Black Swan is situated in the beautiful village of Fearby in Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Overlooking the Burn Valley and the Vale of York the pub is ideally placed in fantastic countryside perfect for walking. Serving traditional ales, home cooked bar meals as well as food in the restaurant, you are spoilt for choice. The heated garden patio overlooks the play area allowing parents the opportunity to relax when the children are enjoying themselves. The holiday park offers an opportunity for visitors to extend their stay. There are static caravans and a cottage for hire and touring caravans and tents are welcome.

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Opening Times: Daily: 12.00-23.00
Food Served: Bar Meals: Wed-Sun: 12.00-15.00
Restaurant: Wed-Sat: 18.30-21.00
Sun: 17.30-20.00

Features of local interest

Druids Temple

This folly was commissioned by William Danby to relieve some of the unemployment in the area. He hoped it would look like a miniature Stonehenge. It took 50 years to complete and was finished in the 1820s. His workers were paid a shilling a day. From the Temple you get sweeping views west towards Leighton Reservoir in the valley bottom.

Veteran Trees

Trees dating back to the monastic period can still be found in the hedgerows and roadsides on the route. Very old trees are called 'veterans' and they have an important place in the history of our landscape. Many of these oak trees are over 500 years old and have stood through many centuries of change.

Swinton Park

Swinton Park is the ancestral home of the Cunliffe-Lister family. It is set in 200 acres of parkland, lakes and gardens. Sir Abstrupus Danby founded the first residence here in 1695. In the 1760's, the parklands and a chain of 5 ornamental lakes were created and in the 1800's the house was turned into a "castle". In 1882, Samuel Lister bought the park, and it is currently owned by his great-great-grandson.



Barn Owls

Barn Owls are one of Britain's favourite birds. Incredibly graceful in flight and superb hunters they are a spectacular sight if you are fortunate enough to see one. The rough grassland, trees and hedgerows around Fearby is ideal habitat for Barn Owls. You are most likely to spot one at either dawn or dusk when they are out hunting for their favourite foods - mice, shrews and voles.