



Eyam, Coombs Dale and The River Derwent

A moderate walk visiting some local plague sites and with tremendous views of Froggatt and Curbar Edges high above

Essential Facts

- Route distance: 13.0 km (8.2 miles)
- Approximate time: 4 hours
- Approx. total ascent: 272 metres
- Start point Grid Ref: SK 216 767
- GPS Ref: SK 21627 76713
- Recommended O.S. Map: Explorer OL24
- Toughness Rating: Peaks 2

Please see the notes on Toughness Ratings at the end of this report

Up For A
CHALLENGE ?

Take a Great Walk and HELP
your favourite charity with

A Donation

An Individual Walk
A Team Effort

Full Info from the Great Walks web site

THE ROUTE

The walk starts, **S**, at the car park and toilets by Eyam Museum on Hawkhill Road. Leave the car park and turn left into the village. At the bottom turn left into Church Street, continuing past the church until you reach the square. Turn right here into Lydgate (by the telephone and post boxes) at **A**.

This becomes a signed path over fields to Stoney Middleton, passing the Boundary Stone on the way. On reaching the lane at Stoney Middleton turn right, and right at the next lane to the main road. Cross the road and take the footpath opposite up the hill. At the school turn right and after 40 metres turn left into Eaton Fold.

Towards the end of the lane, **B**, there is a choice of paths. Turn right here, past the allotments into open fields. At the brow of the hill take the left path signed Coombs dale. This path drops down and joins the bridleway in the dale. Turn right here and continue straight on until you reach a right bend and a valley to the left at **C**.

Take the footpath left over a stream and follow the path uphill keeping the wall on your right all the way to the top passing to the left side of the hill ahead. On reaching a wall take the path right over a stile at **D**. Now look out for the marker on the right indicating the path left over a stile. This path leads through two fields and a farmers track before joining a public access track, **E**.

Now go left and follow this path down to the road at the edge of Calver Village. Turn left and then right into High Street. Continue forward until the post office is reached. Turn right here. Just past Calver Methodist Chapel take the footpath right over fields to the river, **F**. Turn left and walk along the river bank. The path goes under a road bridge and then comes out on a minor road. There is a public house and tea rooms here.

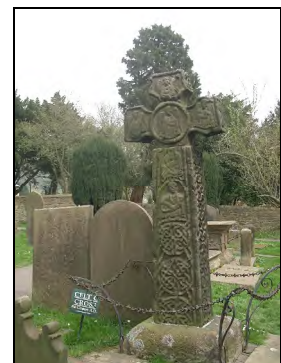
The path then continues along the river to the left of Calver Mill Gallery. The road is crossed again at New Bridge and the riverside path continues through Calver Marshes. There are several paths and information boards, so make sure you continue on the path along the river bank. On reaching an open field, half way across it at **G**, there is a path off to the left and uphill towards a farm. Take this and cross the road to take the path to the farm. Keep to the right of the farm buildings and continue forward over fields and uphill, passing two lakes on your left before coming to a lane, **H**.

Now turn right up to a road and at the road go straight over and up the field opposite, keeping the wall on your right. The path continues through a wood with public access until a lane is reached. Turn left and follow the track back into Eyam, **S**.

Before dropping downhill lookout for the Riley graves to your right at **J**, and take a short detour to visit them and read the information.



Plague Boundary Stone



A Celtic Cross
Eyam Church Yard



Revolving Spit

Refreshment

The Miners Arms
Inn and Restaurant
Off The Square, Eyam
Tel: 01433 630853
Meals and bar snacks
available.

Peak Pantry
Take Away
The Square, Eyam
Tel: 01433 631293
Bakery and takeaway
sandwiches.

Eyam Tea Rooms
Tea Rooms.
The Square, Eyam
Tel: 01433 631274
Traditional tea-room.

Eyam Hall Buttery
Cafe
Eyam Hall Craft Centre,
Eyam
Tel: 01433 631976
Converted stables
serving lunches,
snacks, cakes etc.

LOCAL INFO

Plague !

In September 1665 the village tailor in Eyam received a parcel of cloth from London. As it was damp his wife asked him to dry it out. This he did, thereby releasing plague-infested fleas.

A few days later George Vicars was dead of raging fever and sores. Bubonic Plague had arrived in Eyam. Over the next 14 months it claimed the lives of 260 of the inhabitants of the little village. Many whole families were virtually wiped out.

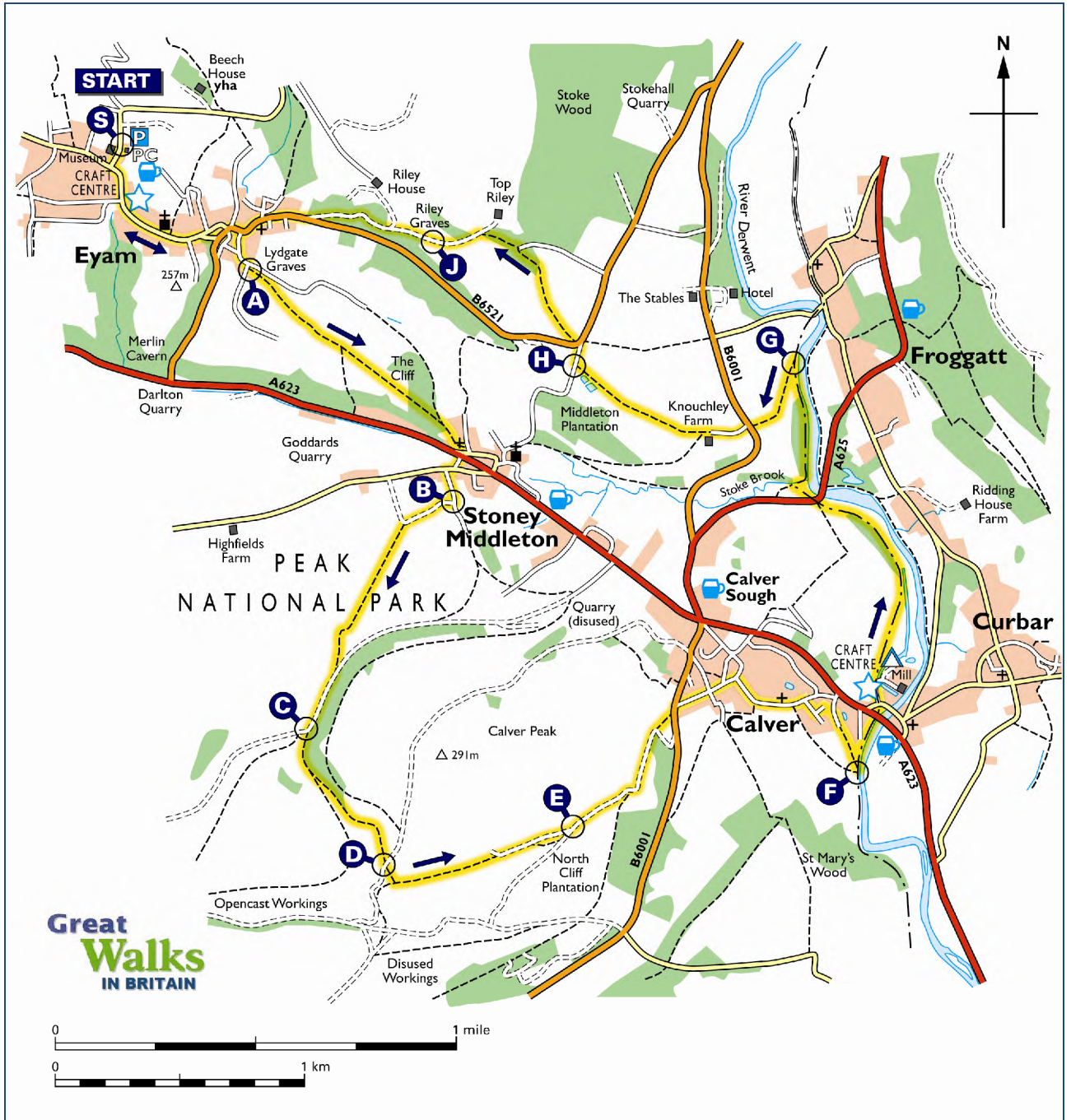
However, a self-imposed quarantine was brought into effect by the villagers. Money left for food and other items was purified in two ways, in running water as at Mompesson's Well, and in vinegar-filled holes in stones such as the Boundary Stone. Both of these can still be seen today. This selfless act is thought to have prevented the Plague reaching other nearby communities.

The village has lots of plaques with historical notes about the plague and other history. It also has village stocks and many old stone water troughs where water was piped from springs.

Eyam has numerous tea rooms and shops plus many fine historical buildings.

**EYAM, COOMBS DALE
& THE RIVER DERWENT
G.P.S. WAYPOINTS**

WAYPOINT NAME	MAP REF		CO-ORDINATES		ELEVATION: Metres
EYA S	S	SK	21627	76713	255
EYA A	A	SK	22103	76266	239
EYA B	B	SK	22933	75312	173
EYA C	C	SK	22346	74393	196
EYA D	D	SK	22656	73861	271
EYA E	E	SK	23388	73987	272
EYA F	F	SK	24525	74248	118
EYA G	G	SK	24285	75804	126
EYA H	H	SK	23415	75860	222
EYA J	J	SK	22862	76395	291



Great Walks
IN BRITAIN

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MAP LEGEND					
	Great Walks route		Church with tower		Spot height - metres
	M6 Motorway		Church with spire		Information centre
	A23 Main road		Other place of worship		Parking
	B2116 Secondary road		Cathedral / Abbey		Public convenience
	Minor road		Building		Public house
	Other road		Built up area		Picnic site
	Track		Woodland		Camp site
	Footpath		Sand, shingle or mud		Major tourist feature
	Bridleway		Water feature		Other tourist feature
	National trail				
	Railway				

Safety First

Safety should always be your first priority in planning and undertaking a walk, whether on your own or leading a group. Please read these Safety First and Walking Our Routes notes.

Lead a group of other walkers only if you have leadership and navigational experience adequate for the 'worst case' conditions which may be encountered on the particular walk, bearing in mind the terrain, possible weather and navigational demands.

Weigh up the capabilities of your party, in terms of fitness and walking speed. Adjust your time expectations accordingly.

Ensure all your party are adequately clothed for the weather and conditions. Footwear is particularly important. Clothing must protect against cold, wet or strong sun according to the time of year.

Emergencies are quite rare, but it is essential to think ahead about what to do if someone in your party sustains an injury. Will you have a First Aid kit? Is there a qualified First Aider in the party? How could help be summoned in a serious eventuality?

Refreshment, particularly water, can be vital. Dehydration in hot summer conditions can be rapid, and frequent intake of fluids is essential.

On tougher walks it is a good idea to tell someone where you are planning to go – and when you expect to be back. Remember - mobile phones often lose reception in mountainous or isolated areas.

All our walks use legitimate routes: Public Rights of Way, Public Footpaths, Bridleways, Permissive Paths, Access Land, Byways and Roads.

Road walking calls for particular care. When there is no defined footpath or verge wide enough for safe walking it is usually best to walk on the right – facing oncoming traffic. An exception may be a tight bend, where walkers would be more visible on the left.

Occasionally you may find a public footpath blocked or unuseable. It is perfectly in order to take the shortest available diversion without damaging crops, perhaps around a field margin.

It is courteous to close gates after passing through, sometimes even if the gate was open when you arrived – particularly if it is obvious livestock may escape.

Mutual respect for farm animals is to be encouraged! Don't frighten or annoy them, but equally don't put your party members in danger or discomfort. You certainly wouldn't be the first walkers to go round the outside of a field of frisky bullocks.

Dogs should always be kept on a lead anywhere near farm animals, and under close supervision elsewhere in the countryside.

Walking Our Routes

Our walks are designed to be negotiated using the route directions in conjunction with the map section provided. We suggest walkers also take the Ordnance Survey Explorer or Outdoor Leisure map recommended for each walk.

On mountain, moorland and open heathland walks it is **ESSENTIAL** to have navigational expertise and tools, including the recommended Ordnance Survey map(s).

Take care to observe any cautions in the route description; exposed paths, areas liable to flooding etc.

Consider conditions before setting off. Will heavy rain have made a water meadow impassable? Will frost or snow make a path slippery?

When navigating the route look for clues to confirm you are in the right place. Are map features where you would expect on the ground? Are features mentioned in the text where expected? If you suspect you may have taken a wrong turn, take action sooner rather than later. It is better to re-trace to a known point rather than carry on regardless with the possibility of becoming increasingly confused.

All our routes are carefully checked before publication, but features can change on the ground – sometimes surprisingly quickly. Footpaths may be re-routed, buildings can appear or change significantly and these days pub names seem to change frequently.

The approximate time given for each walk is based on an average walking speed of 2.5 miles per hour (4 km/hour), plus an allowance for ascent, descent and any difficult terrain.

Total ascent is the approximate total ascent over the whole walk.

GPS users can enter in the waypoints provided in each of our walk reports. It is important to read our guide **Introducing GPS for Walkers**, available as a PDF file from the Great Walks in Britain web site.

Remember that GPS is a great navigational tool, but only one of those available to the navigator. Never dispense with conventional map and compass – and the training and skills to use them, especially on mountain, moorland or open heathland walks.

TOUGHNESS RATINGS

Most of our **Peak District** routes can be undertaken by reasonably fit walkers able to utilise the map segments and our recommended Ordnance Survey maps, together with the route guidance notes.

The toughest walks should be undertaken or led only by experienced mountain walkers with navigational expertise. Always consider recent and forecast weather.

Each walk has been allocated a **Toughness Rating**:

1. Easier walks with modest ascent and generally on well defined paths. There may be stiles or narrow gateways to negotiate.
2. Routes which are more demanding. They may include more ascent and possibly paths which are looser or more difficult underfoot.
3. More strenuous walks. There may be prolonged steep ascents, and perhaps several ascents over the whole walk. Conditions may be challenging underfoot.
4. The toughest walks, requiring considerable fitness and navigational experience. There may be prolonged steep ascents. The ability to navigate by compass may be essential.

Toughness Ratings are allocated in the context of the terrain in the edition area. For example a walk rated as demanding in Cambridgeshire may be equivalent to an easier or moderate route in the Peak District.