



## SECTION 5 CRAGG VALE TO LUMBUTTS

Withens Clough Reservoir, Te Deum Stone, causey path, great views of Stoodley Pike, Lumbutts water tower

### Length and time

3 miles (5km). Should take you about 2 hours.

### Gradients

The first half is a fairly gentle climb followed by a steeper descent

### Terrain

The route starts with a long stretch of narrow tarmac road (the alternative route avoiding the road is a bit longer and steeper).



### Obstacles

There are several gates with interesting catches to deal with!

### Facilities

Hinchliffe Arms at the start, Mankinholes Youth Hostel, Top Brink pub at Lumbutts

### Bus access

to the route To Cragg Vale 901, From Lumbutts T6 or T8 to Todmorden or the valley bottom

- From the Cragg Road (and nearby bus stop) descend the road signposted to the church.

- From the church (SE00I232), bear left past the Hinchliffe Arms and follow the tarmac road up the valley for 1½ km (ignore turns off).

**The main route goes left, the alternative heads up right**

**Alternative route (avoiding the long road walk)**

**200 metres from the Hinchliffe, just past an arched gateway, take the tarmac road uphill signposted Old Cragg Hall (the interpretation board is worth a read)**

**The road winds up the hillside, when you reach a cluster of buildings ahead, this is the fine 17th century Old Bank Hall. Just before the hall take a hairpin left uphill on a narrow-walled lane.**

**When you reach a junction, bear left signed to Swan Bank, where you keep straight ahead, now on a track.**

**After ½ km, go through a metal gate and turn left on a tarmac road which gradually descends to rejoin the main route at Withens Clough Reservoir car park**

- At the top of the road, go through gates to Withens Clough Reservoir. At the dam, keep on the track straight ahead along the right-hand edge of the reservoir. The track turns to the left and ½ km further on, turn right up a waymarked grassy track.



The farm at Withens Clough reservoir

- At the first junction of paths, you turn left on a permissive bridleway which avoids the old very wet Calderdale Way route.

- Keep ahead and at a gate turn right uphill. You pass a stone stoop with the inscription "Te deum laudamus" ("We praise thee O Lord") and go through the gate on to the moor, picking up a great stretch of old causey path.

- After 200 metres you reach Withens Gate where you cross the Pennine Way with Stoodley Pike to the right. A great place to stop and admire the view.

- Keep ahead going downhill on the causey path. The path picks up a wall on your right and shortly after you reach a gate going into a walled lane leading to Lumbutts and Lee Dam. Here you turn right on a walled grassy track down to the hamlet of Mankinholes.

- Go straight ahead on the tarmac road through the hamlet, watch out for the drinking troughs for cattle and pack horses and Mankinholes Hall, now the Youth Hostel.

- At the end of houses, opposite the graveyard of a former Chapel, turn left down a walled lane on to the back of the Top Brink Inn.

- Coming out of the pub, bear right and go down the setted path to Lumbutts with its distinctive water tower.

***Here Link Path H is an easy way to **the** Castle Street at the Valley bottom and buses.***