

# **BMC North West Area Hill Walk**

## **Sunday 3 July 2022**

### **Crowden Horseshoe**

**BMC members are invited to join a peer-led walk delivered by BMC North West Area volunteers.**

Thank you for taking an interest in our walk, we're looking forward to enjoying a really good day together! Please read the following carefully. Places are limited, so if you (or a member of your party) later change your mind and decide not to come, please be sure to let us know straight away, so we can release your place to someone else.

This walk is being organised in line with the BMC's current COVID-19 guidelines for groups of outdoor climbers and hill walkers.

#### **Location**

Crowden car park walking to Black Hill and returning via moorland.

#### **Meeting point and start time**

Meet at small parking area on the A628 (Woodhead Rd) about 3.5 miles outside Tintwistle (OS grid ref. SK 072992, nearest postcode SK13 1AZ) at 9.30am for 9.45am start. Car parking is free but spaces are very limited. There are NO public toilets available and NO public transport connections.

**PARKING IS NOT ALLOWED BEYOND THE SMALL PARKING AREA.**

#### **The route**

This will be a circular hill walk into a fairly remote part of the Dark Peak and reaching the highpoint of Black Hill (582m), There are great views of the moors and surrounding hills.

The crag walk along Laddow Rocks on the way to Black Hill offers a fair amount of vertical exposure and is a well-known climbing venue.

From the small parking area off of the A628 we will walk along the footpath, past the caravan park entrance continuing until we turn right by the signpost marked Pennine Way. We will continue to a woodland plantation marked with a memorial cairn onto open moorland. From where the woodland stops the well-marked path rises gently for about 1 km before fording a stream. The path continues to ascend along rocky ground until reaching a fork. We will take the right-hand path along the crag edge known as Laddow Rocks. The path stretches for approx. 1 km before descending to Crowden Great Brook. After crossing the brook we turn left upstream and ascend towards Black Hill via a well-established track arriving at the Triangulation Pillar at the top of Black Hill. From the Trig Point we head in a South Easterly direction across open moorland before descending towards a disused quarry, we will turn right to circle the quarry along its northern edge down to a cobbled track leading to a stile. After crossing the stile the route continues south easterly across successive fields until we come to a track running parallel with the A628. We continue along the track

to St James Church then passing through a wooden gate into field. Cross the field and pass through a wooden gate leading into a wooded area, follow the path through the wooded area leading back onto the lane which leads back to the car park.

The walk is around 16 km, using road, established shooting tracks and moorland access paths, and should take around 5.0 to 5.5 hours, including stops.

We will pass brooks and streams, see lots of wild flowers and at least hear (if not see) various moorland birds on this walk.

BMC members will be asked to wear usual clothing appropriate for a day walking in the hills and bring their own food and drink for a full hill day.

### **Travelling to and from the event**

Unfortunately, there is no public transport link to the start/finish point.

### **What to bring**

Participants will be expected to wear supportive walking boots/shoes with grippy soles and to wear or carry weather resistant clothing (including gloves and headwear) suitable for the conditions prevailing on the day (remember it can be substantially colder up high than it is in the valley) which could be anywhere between warm and sunny (meaning sun hats, plenty of water and maybe even sun-cream) to cold, wet and windy (meaning warm clothing and waterproofs) and to also carry sufficient food and water (or other suitable drinks) for a full-day hill walk. There will not be any opportunities to buy refreshments during the walk itself

Although the walk is planned to finish well within the hours of available daylight, participants may like to bring a small torch/head torch in case an emergency results in a very severe delay to the walk (however not compulsory for this walk!).

Even allowing for the relaxation of Covid regs sharing of food and equipment between party members is strongly discouraged (as doing so can lead to virus transmission) so we ask you to bring hand sanitiser for your own use (those with at least 70% alcohol are currently favoured), and an individual first aid kit (a few plasters and antiseptic wipes to allow self-application). The leader will have an emergency survival shelter. Feel free to bring your own survival shelter if this is in your rucksack anyway! In addition, please bring a face mask or face covering (a buff will do as a minimum), just in case. While we do not intend that participants wear such coverings during our walk, should an emergency occur then you will have a face covering available to use as an additional precaution (and you'll have it handy for any post-walk pub/café visits if required).

### **Who can come**

This walk is open to BMC members and accompanying friends, over 18. All participants must book a place in advance.

**Dogs are strictly NOT allowed as we are on mainly Access Land with local restrictions.**

**You should consider not attending this walk if:**

- you have any of the recognised symptoms of respiratory infections including COVID-19, which are:
  - continuous cough
  - high temperature, fever or chills
  - shortness of breath
  - loss of, or change in, your normal sense of taste or smell
  - unexplained tiredness, lack of energy
  - muscle aches or pains that are not due to exercise
  - not wanting to eat or not feeling hungry
  - headache that is unusual or longer lasting than usual
  - sore throat, stuffy or runny nose
  - diarrhoea, feeling sick or being sick
- you have been diagnosed with COVID-19 recently or have reason to suspect that you are presently suffering from COVID-19.

**You MUST let us know you are coming**

As part of the conditions for allowing an event such as this to take place during the pandemic it is a BMC requirement that we have the names (and a contact telephone number) for all participants in advance. If you have not already supplied these then please send to Steve Charles via [stevecharles25@gmail.com](mailto:stevecharles25@gmail.com) straight away. These details will be held securely for 21 days after the event and will be given to NHS or local authority track and trace services should we be required to do so.

**Health issues**

If you have health issues that you believe might affect your ability to complete the walk safely then please let the leader know in advance. Please remember to carry any medications that you may need and, if appropriate, let the leader know where to find them for you, if that might prove necessary.

**BMC Participation Statement**

This is an approved BMC event.

The BMC recognises that climbing, hill walking and mountaineering are activities with a danger of personal injury or death. Participants in these activities should be aware of and accept these risks and be responsible for their own actions and involvement.

**Any Questions?**

Please email Steve Charles on [stevecharles25@gmail.com](mailto:stevecharles25@gmail.com).