

WALK No. 4 ~ Extension to Walk No. 3

"Thornton Steward Reservoir to Finghall"

What you can expect ~

A short walk over agricultural land to Finghall and the pub with a return by the same route to the reservoir with magnificent panoramic views.

Difficulty rating: ★ ★ ★ ☆ ☆

Distance: 3 miles

Time: 45 minutes - Very brisk pace
1 ½ hour - Family pace

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer, Sheet No 302, Scale 1:25 000

Description:

On entering the reservoir area look towards the North Westerly point, where you will see on rising ground a plantation of trees, known as High Hull, to the left of which is a hunting gate. The choice of approach from around the reservoir is up to you. Once through the gate leave the hedge on the right, walk down the bridleway, rough headland of an arable field, known as Long Hull, for 100 yards. In the corner beside an old duck pond the bridleway becomes narrow and crosses a small stream. The bridleway will guide you past a small farm on the right and onto its main drive towards the Leyburn to Middleham road. Turn right onto the road (and then almost immediately left into an arable field). In the best interest of the farmer and what will probably be a growing crop, we would suggest a kinder alternative to that of taking the official route. Instead of crossing the arable field, continue down the road a little further, for some 110 yards, then bear left onto a hardcored farm track running into the horizon due north up the middle of a large arable field. The footpath/bridleway will then be picked up again. Continue up this straight track for ½ mile, past a large agricultural building of Southwick Grange on the right. Keep going straight ahead and soon the track meets the road leading to the centre of the village of Finghall. At the end of this road there is a t-junction and almost immediately opposite the Queens Head - time perhaps for a refreshment!

For your walk home simply reverse the route. If this doesn't appeal then you could consult your map for an alternative route back home via the roads.

