

Bridestones Outdoor property Access Statement

Bridestones
Peaksides
Ravenscar
North Yorkshire
YO13 0NE
T: 01723 870423
E: gareth.wilson@nationaltrust.org.uk

Introduction

The Bridestones can be found to the north of Thornton Le dale and can be accessed via the Forestry Commission's Dalby Forest toll road.

Bridestones Moor, designated both nature reserve and Site of Special Scientific Interest, to reflect the site's nature conservation value.

There is a wide range of habitats to be found on the property including wet and dry heath, ancient woodland and species rich grassland. The peculiar shaped rocks are a popular visitor attraction. To the north lies Blakey Topping and Crosscliff. Blakey Topping attracts the eye with its conical hill set amongst the generally flatter but heather covered Crosscliff. All dogs are welcome, including Assistance Dogs. Livestock do graze in some areas so please be alert to this and put dogs on leads in these areas.

NB - Mobile phone reception is not very good across the site. In an emergency, please make contact on the phone number above as soon as you are able.

Arrival & Parking Facilities

Follow the Dalby Forest toll road. (Approximately £7 for the day). Pass through the village and continue for a further two miles until the lake is reached. The car park is immediately to the south of the lake. A footpath (not NT) leads you to the NT omega sign and the start of the Bridestones property.



Path leading to Jonathan Ghyll and the oblique path



Grassy track leading to a stone chippings path along the valley.

Access from the omega sign starts with the choice of three paths. The first runs along the valley and is relatively flat. This continues to form a circular route around the nature reserve taking in the Bridestones rocks. A steep climb is undertaken on Needle point to reach the heights of the moorland.

Alternatively at the three path crossroads take the middle path up the oblique path, this is still a climb but is more of a gentle climb. On reaching the Bridestones continue forward and the circular walk will bring you back down Needle point. The third path known locally as Jonathan ghyll, meets up with the circular route but is much steeper a climb. There is a slope to the side of Jonathan Ghyll which has a steep gradient. The surface at the top of the slope is firm with stone pitching covering the route between the Bridestones and the access over Needle point.

An alternate access point is a long walk in from the car park at the Hole of Horcum (National Park) on the Pickering to Whitby road. Initially the route is firm along a stone track but on entering the Moors this becomes more vegetative and can be prone to standing water. This access point is also the best route for experiencing Blakey Topping and Crosscliff. This route requires dropping down on good tracks, through the farm and on to Crosscliff. The routes across Crosscliff and Blakey are vegetated but well trodden.



Oblique path leading to the Bridestones

There are no refreshment facilities at the car park on the Dalby Toll road but cafes are available at the village itself. There are some toilets at the car park and in the village, including an accessible toilet at the visitor centre. These are not managed by the National Trust but visitors are welcome to use them.

At the Hole of Horcum car park there is occasionally an ice cream van in summer but no toilets.

Trails

The route round the Bridestones are not waymarked but are well used and easily to follow. There is an extended omega with a map on it, on the entrance from The Dalby toll road.



Path around the Nature trail.

The Nature trail

This circular route leads from the car park off the toll road up a steep slope to the top of the moors. The total distance is about 2 miles. It takes about 45 minutes to complete this walk at a moderate pace. There will be the sound of birdsong to accompany you on your way and, as you approach the stones, you might well encounter some of our cattle grazing the land.

You are heading out onto the moors so be prepared for changes in weather conditions. There are no seats except for a bench on Needle point but the rocks make for a good resting place.

Further information about trails around the property is available on our main website.

<https://www.nationaltrust.org.uk/bridestones-crosscliff-and-blakey-topping>

Contact details for more information

T: 01723870423

E: gareth.wilson@nationaltrust.org.uk

Map

OS Maps

Page 1 of 1

