

IAIN's LOCKDOWN WALKS

Nº. 19 CROMFORD and the HIGH PEAK TRAIL

This walk commences from the Arkwright Mill in Mill Road (aka Mill Street), Cromford DE4 3RQ where there is Pay & Display parking (£4 for 5 hours). There is also a café serving light refreshments and toilets. It is also possible to arrive by train at Cromford station from Derby then walk towards Arkwright Mill down Lea Road and Mill Road crossing the River Derwent.

1. From the Mill entrance turn right into Mill Road. Cross over the A6 Derby Road by the pedestrian lights and then immediately crossover Cromford Hill, turn left and proceed a short distance and turn right by the Market Place into Scarthin. Walk past the Boat Inn (highly recommended for refreshments) and mill pond and on reaching Water Lane turn left past the other side of the pond back to Cromford Hill. Turn right up the hill, past the Bell Inn then take Bedehouse Lane on your left and shortly afterwards the ginnel past some alms-houses. Cross over Barnwell Lane and take footpath opposite signposted Black Rocks uphill to Baker's Lane and turn left along lane.
2. Follow the winding lane, taking right fork and past cattle grid towards a stone-built house with woods behind. Upon reaching the house turn right thru gate along left-hand field boundary then up some stone steps and follow path right then left thru the woods of Dimons Dale to Black Rocks car park and picnic site. Turn left along the High Peak Trail, the trackbed of the former Cromford and High Peak Railway. (Immediately opposite is a signposted there-and-back waymarked detour to the Black Rocks).



3. Continue along the High Peak Trail for about 3km, passing the Engine House at the top of the first incline (left), until the bottom of Sheep Pasture Incline at High Peak Junction (right) is reached, where there are the former workshops of the railway, part of which has been converted into a café.



4. Cross over the Cromford Canal and turn left along the towpath until Cromford Wharf is reached, where there is the Wheatcroft's Wharf Café for light refreshments.

Iain Wells 8km (5 miles) 0 stiles

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