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**Bradfield Walkers are Welcome**

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## Inclusive Route: Damflask Reservoir, North Side

- Length - 1.5 miles
- Time – 30 - 40 minutes one way
- Start – Damflask Lodge, B6076 or bus stop on Loxley Road just past Damflask Reservoir dam.
- Grid Reference SK 285 908
- Parking – on-road parking at Damflask Lodge (where there is a dropped kerb), or Loxley Road or B6076 along the dam (no dropped kerbs).
- Public transport – 61 or 62 bus from Hillsborough Interchange to the bus stop on Loxley Road just past Damflask Reservoir dam.
- Refreshments – The Schoolrooms Café is wheelchair accessible. (Mill Lee Road, Low Bradfield, S6 6LB, phone 0114 285 1920).
- Accessible public toilets – Low Bradfield, next to parish council offices, radar key access. The Schoolrooms café also has an accessible toilet.
- Seating - there are benches approximately every 200 m.

### Description

A woodland route, along the north shore of Damflask Reservoir with great views across the water towards the surrounding hills. At the start and end of the route there are slopes approximately 20 metres long with a gradient of approximately 1:12.



A road goes between our inclusive route on the north side of the reservoir and our inclusive route on the south side. It is fairly narrow, has traffic going in both directions, and the edges on either side are soft. Using this stretch of road is not recommended.

The dam wall

## Access Information

**Road/off road:** The route from Damflask Lodge to the entrance to the shore path follows the dam wall road (B6076) and Loxley Road, both of which have pavements (1).

**Surface:** The paths are firm compacted sand / stone with occasional shallow muddy patches. Tactile paving at the entrance by the bus stop and at the end of the route where it joins the Lamb Hill.



**Width of path:** On average 1.5 m wide, sometimes up to 2 m (2). There is one place between tree roots where it is only 80 cm wide. The entrance by the bus stop on Loxley Road is 91 cm wide.

**Camber:** Generally flat, with the occasional slight camber.

**Gradients:** At both the start and the end of the path on the north side of the reservoir there is a slope approximately 20 m long with a gradient of approximately 1:12. Between the start and the end, the path is mainly flat with some shorter more gentle gradients.



**Rails / Edges:** In two places the path crosses a stream and there is a wooden bridge. Rails extend along the path before and after the bridge for approximately 100 m. At the end of the path there is a rail for approximately 50 m (3).

There is foliage on each side of the path. The distance between the path and the water is variable and in some places the water is approximately 20 cm from the path, with grass between the path and the water. The height of the path varies. There are no painted lines at the edges of the path.

There is a wall along the left-hand side of the dam wall road (B6076).

**Obstacles:** At the edge of the pavement at either end of the bridge over the weir, at the south end of the dam wall, there are protruding capstones (4).



There are no stiles, gates, or narrow plank bridges. At the time of writing there were no obvious overhanging branches.

## Route Instructions

1. Follow the road with the reservoir on your left until you reach the entrance to the route (1). This is a few metres from the bus stop. From Damflask Lodge it is approximately 450 m along the B6076 (New Road) across the reservoir dam. There is a pavement all the way along the road.
2. Follow the path along the reservoir shore for approximately one mile (2).
3. The path then comes to a minor road (Lamb Hill), where the inclusive route ends (3). (Lamb Hill leads to the inclusive route on the south side of the reservoir and to Low Bradfield; however, the road is fairly narrow, has traffic going in both directions, and the edges are soft on each side of the road. Using this road is not recommended.)



## Historical Notes and Points of Interest

The reservoir was constructed in 1867 as one of a group of reservoirs in the area built to supply both fresh drinking water and a guaranteed supply of running water to the population and industries of Sheffield. It has a capacity of 1,123 million gallons and a maximum depth of 88 feet (27 m). Today it is also used by rowing and sailing clubs and for fishing. It takes its name from Damflask village which stood just about where the reservoir embankment is today. Early maps show that a corn mill, paper mill, wire mill, public house and a cluster of houses existed in 1850. Nothing was rebuilt when the village was washed away in the 1864 Sheffield flood as plans were already in place to construct the reservoir.

Reference: Dungworth, Storrs and District Local History Group (1985) 'A Walk into History – a collection of memories, facts and photographs' Hudson Print Ltd., Warrington.



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