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### Derwent edge and Moscar Moors walk

- Length 9.0 miles
- Time – 4.5 hours
- Grade – A long walk with steady ascents. Stiles and gates. A section on quiet roads. The paths are mostly well defined but can be boggy in wet weather.
- Start – Lay by on A57, 1 mile east of the junction with the A6013. SK 216 874
- Alternative start – Mortimer Road, 0.5 miles north of the Strines Inn. SK 227 908
- Public transport – check with Travel South Yorkshire as services are subject to change.
- Refreshments – None on the route
- Public Toilets – none on the route

**Description** - Starting in Low Bradfield the walk climbs gently, then after a short section on a quiet road the route goes around Agden Reservoir, using a path created by Yorkshire Water. The route crosses the stream by a footbridge and then returns to Low Bradfield through woodland by the reservoir. There is a short final section on roads..



Looking across to Boot's Tower

## Route Instructions

1. From the lay by take the path down towards Ladybower reservoir. After 200m the path opens to a farm gate. Cross the road and take the path opposite onto Derwent Moor. Take care this is a busy road.
2. After a 100m the path is crossed by another path. Continue straight on up the hill.
3. The path swings left and continues to climb for a mile until it reaches Derwent Edge.



4. From Derwent Edge there are views across the Upper Derwent Valley..

5. At the edge there is a junction with other paths (SK197874). Take the path to the right up the hill.



6. Follow the path for 2 miles along the edge past a number of tors and stones with curious names Wheel Stones, Salt Cellar, Cakes of Bread etc – this section of the route is mostly flagged as far as Back Tor.

7. Back Tor is the highest point and has a trig point on the top.



8. From Back Tor the route now goes back down the path for 200m to the upright guide stone at the crossroads with another path.

9. Turn left, heading east, away from the Derwent Valley, and go down across Foulstone Moor

10. When the track reaches Mortimer Road turn left and follow the road for 600m.(narrow road, take care).The road turns to the left and climbs steadily.

11. Take the farm track down to the right towards Strines Reservoir.

12. An alternative starting point is from this location. There is some parking space on the verge.

13. Boots tower can be seen across the reservoir.

14. Follow the track down and to the left. At the farm building turn right towards the dam wall.

15. After 50m take the paved footpath to the left, through the small wooden gate and down the hill into the trees.

16. Follow the path through the wood and then cross the stream by the wooden footbridge.



17. Take the right fork immediately after the bridge.

18. Continue along the path for 100m. Take the footpath off to the right which crosses the stone wall by a stone stile.

19. Go straight up the hill for 20m before following the path as it swing to the right and heads back toward the reservoir and Boot's Tower.



20. Follow the path as it climbs away from the reservoir. *This section can get very boggy in wet weather.* The tower will come into view. Keep to the path, with the tower 100m off to your right.

21. Continue up the hill. Sugworth Hall will come into view.
22. The footpath goes through a gate in the stone wall and then through a tunnel of rhododendron bushes.
23. The path kinks to the left and then runs above the grounds of the Hall.
24. The footpath emerges out onto the drive. Follow the drive up the hill and go out through the pedestrian gate to the right of the main gates.



25. Turn right and follow Sugworth Road back to the junction with the road to Strines.
26. Cross the road and take the path across the moor towards the farm buildings. This was part of the original Mortimer Road.
27. Pass through the farmyard and continue along the track – note the old guide stoop which was re-erected by the Ramblers Association after being buried for many years.



28. When the track swings up to the right, continue straight on. There is a stone stile to the right of the metal gate.
29. Follow the path as it descends. The path then meets the path up from the main road. Return to the lay by.

### Historical Notes

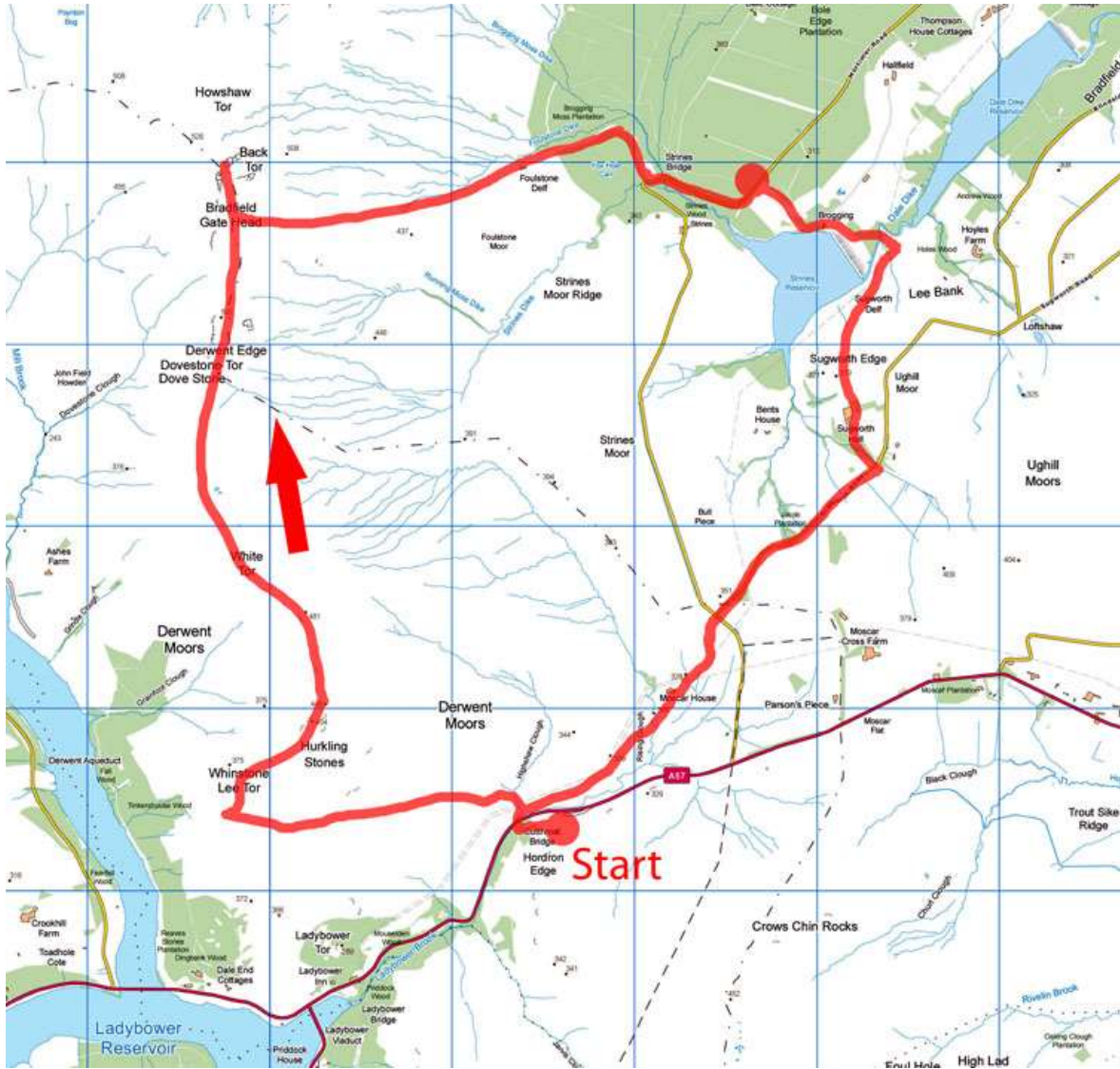
**Boots Tower:** Constructed during the 1920s from waste stone – a number of theories abound as to why it was constructed – nearby are a collection of carved stones which were deposited here for safekeeping from Brunswick Chapel in Sheffield following WWII bomb damage.

**Sugworth Hall:** Was rebuilt by the Boot family, a number of the outbuildings have now been converted into dwellings.

**Mortimer Road:** Named after Hans Winthrop Mortimer of Bamford who set up this toll road from Grindleford Bridge to Penistone Market with the intention of extending it at either end to Matlock and Halifax once money started coming in from the tolls. However this was not a success and he ended up in bankruptcy – most of the route is now the tarmac road used by motor vehicles but there are still sections of the original route now used as footways.

*Acknowledgements: Malcolm Nunn, Archivist, Bradfield Parish Council.*





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