



WALKERS ARE WELCOME

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[Walkers are Welcome UK](http://www.walkersarewelcome.co.uk) is a nationwide network which aims to encourage towns and villages to be 'welcoming to walkers.'

Stocksbridge Walkers are Welcome

www.stocksbridge-walkers.org.uk

Medium Walk: Hordron Road from Langsett

- Length 5.1 or 6 miles (8.2 or 9.6 km)
- Grade – this is a walk with options – either a moderate walk or take the section which is for experienced and well-equipped walkers
- Start - Langsett Barn Car Park (free parking). If it is full, use the lay-by 200 m up the hill
- Grid Reference - SE 210 004
- Map - OL1 Dark Peak
- Public transport – the 21, 29 and 401 routes pass through Langsett.
- Refreshments - [The Waggon and Horses Inn](#), [Bank View Café](#), Langsett
- Public Toilets – [Langsett Barn](#)

Description:

This walk takes you along the banks of Langsett Reservoir before ascending through woods to two ancient tracks: Swinden Lane and Hordron Road (pronounced '*Harden*,' from the Old English for '*store house*'). We then either take a moderate route back or cross moorland before following the Porter/Little Don River towards the reservoir. We then return to Langsett Barn through woodland. The moorland section can be exposed and boggy. At points, the path across the moor is not clear.

Some of this route is on access land which is used for grouse shooting. The landowner can close the area for short periods. This is usually in the shooting and nesting seasons. There may also be restrictions on taking dogs onto grouse moor access land. More information is available on the [Natural England Website](http://www.naturalengland.org.uk). In the 1870's, R.H.Rimington-Wilson, of Broomhead Hall, re-introduced the mountain hare to the area.



Langsett Reservoir and the adjacent woods (1)

1. Take the path at the opposite corner of the car park to the Barn (1). Follow the path down the hill and then along by the reservoir all the way up to the top end of the reservoir.
2. At the junction with the track down to the bridge, turn right and go up as far as the concrete slab (20 m). Turn left across the grass.
3. Take the right-hand bridge and go up the path through Crookland Wood (3). This path can be very muddy.
4. At the top of the wood, pass through a wooden gate. Turn right in front of the old barn and follow the farm track to a junction. Take the left fork (4) and follow the path as it passes between two stone walls.

The old barn is the remains of Swinden Farm. The farmhouse was occupied until the 1950s and was demolished in 1991.



5. After ~300 m, turn right, following the wooden sign (and the white arrow), through the gate and up the straight wide track between stone walls (Swinden Lane) (5).
6. Continue, passing through two gates, until this track drops out onto another farm track (6). Turn left

The A616, Woodhead Pass and the [Dog and Partridge Public House](#) can both be clearly seen away to your right.



7. Crossing two fords (the second is Moor Clough), follow this old farm track (Hordron Road) for over a mile.
8. You will reach a junction marked by a stoop (a large vertical stone) (8). At this point (SK 182 997):



EITHER

9a. Turn sharp left (V angle) at this junction. This takes you on a rough track across the moorland. After 200 m, pass a wooden gate on your right, keeping the dry-stone wall on your right continue as the path slowly descends. At the end of the wall, continue to descend.

10a. Bear left, crossing Moor Clough and ascend. The path then descends back towards the river. Continue to follow the riverside path and after passing a wooden bridge on your right, rejoin the route at (14).

OR

9b. Continue following the Hordron Road until you reach a low farm building in a walled enclosure (9b). This C19th barn was abandoned when Langsett Reservoir was built. Grid reference: SK 177 996.

10b. Turn sharp left, passing the dry-stone wall on your left. Descend across the moors, angling downwards towards the river which is in the bottom of the valley. You will pass through a hole in the wall and follow a narrow path which is parallel to a metal fence (10b).

11b. Using sheep tracks, slowly descend to the river and continue following the path along the bank. This path can be very muddy and has several tricky sections. You will also pass-through holes in the wall on several occasions.

12b. The path opens out and crosses a more open section. There is an eroded section on the far bank of the stream showing sedimentary rock formations. Shortly after this the path splits, take the left fork up the bank. At the fence at the top follow the path at the higher level before descending back to the stream.

13b. At grid reference SE 190 000, turn left through a hole in the wall, then follow the path ascending into woods. The path then descends back to the river, joining at a point adjacent to a wooden bridge (Grid reference: SE 191 002). Continue to follow the riverside path (13b).

14. 250 m after the bridge, cross the stream. On your left, you then pass a wooden gate, marked, 'private.' After a further 20 m, pass through the wall on the left and, ascending, follow the well-trodden broad path between the fence and the wall (14).

15. Follow this track parallel, and above, the river until you reach a small wooden gate in the fence. Pass through this gate. After 50 m, go through the gap in the wall and continue. You will pass the Little Don Fish Pass and Brook House Bridge on your right.

16. Continue, keeping the stream on your right until you reach a wooden footbridge. Cross the footbridge and continue until you reach a crossroads. Turn left into the wide track. If you wish to have a close look at the fish pass and the Bridge, turn right. The retrace your steps.



The [Little Don Fish Pass](#) was [formally opened](#) by Angela Smith MP on 20th.April 2018 to mark World Fish Migration day (21st.April). It is part of a wider programme of such works on the River Don. The aim is to provide a 'fish highway,' benefitting species including Atlantic salmon, European eel, barbel, chub, dace, and trout. This 'Larnier' type fish pass provides a gently sloping channel which has enough depth to allow fish to scale the weir.

Erected in 1904, Brook House Bridge spans the Little Don River at the head of the Langsett Reservoir. Close by was Brookhouse Farm, one of six tenanted farms depopulated when the reservoir was built. The stone weir is designed as a silt trap, preventing the reservoir from silting up.

17. Ignore the two paths which go off to your left. When you reach a junction, take the right-hand path. (The left path leads up to the A616 which is visible approximately 200 m ahead of you). Continue along this path for approximately 350 m.

18. You reach another junction. Again, take the right fork (18). This descends, then ascends before bearing right and taking you out of the larch woods. It runs alongside fields parallel to the A616. There is a stone wall on your right.

19. Follow the path, with fields on your left and the wooded slope down to the reservoir on your right

20. After approximately 2/3 mile / 1 km you return to Langsett Barn car park (20).



[Langsett Barn](#) is owned by [Yorkshire Water](#). It is used as a [Peak Park Ranger centre](#) and is also available for community hire. It is of timber frame construction, with a stone dated 1621 on the gable end. However, some details, such as the narrow church style windows give the impression of a much earlier medieval building like a tithe barn. It was one of several barns in the locality used for storing various arable crops and hay used for winter stock feed. The big double doors would have allowed fully loaded horse-drawn carts to enter and unload. The name 'Langset' first appears in a charter of 1252 which tells of an agreement, whereby Walter de Houdham granted his whole manor at Langside to Elias de Midhope.

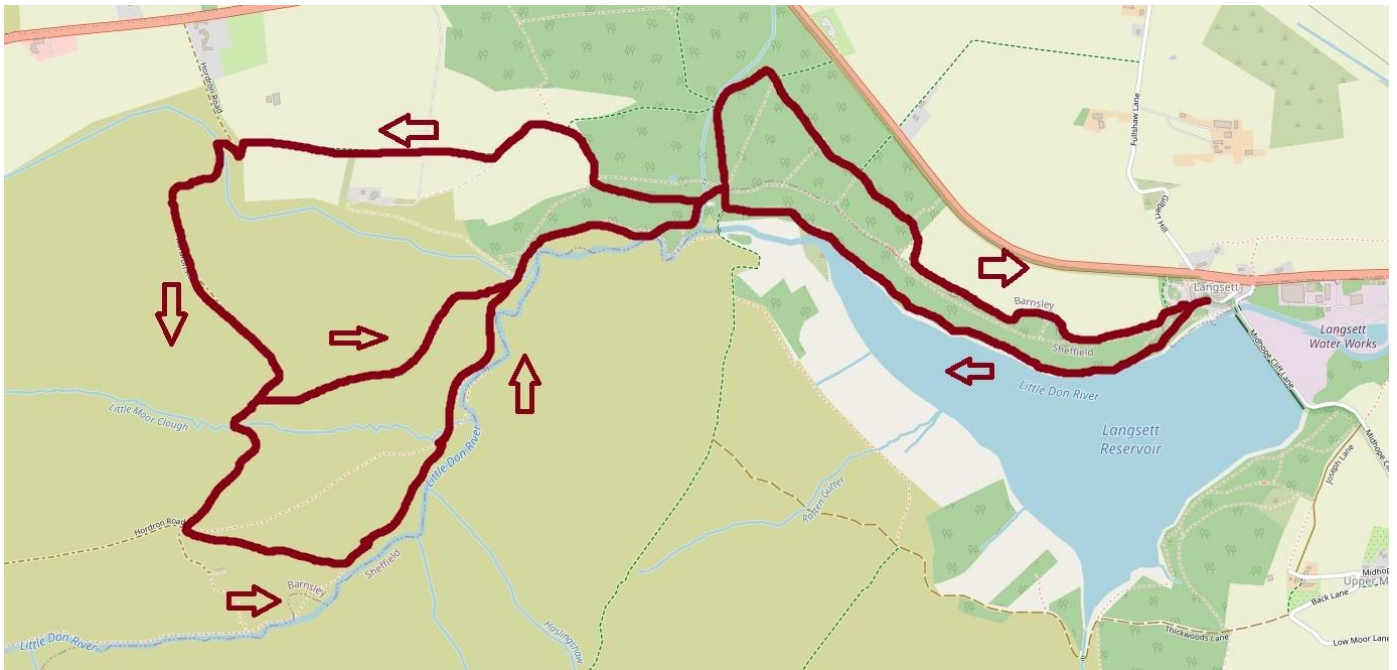
[Langsett Reservoir](#) was constructed between 1889 and 1905. A temporary village of corrugated iron huts was built near Langsett village to house construction workers. This included hospital, canteen and recreational facilities.



The reservoir is managed by Yorkshire Water. Supplying water to Sheffield and Barnsley, it is around a mile long, with an area of 51 hectares, a depth of 29 m and a volume of 1,400 million gallons.

During WW2, [the Langsett area](#) was used as a training area in preparation for the 1944 Normandy landings. In addition to a training range for tanks, armoured cars and artillery guns, it was also a test range for experimental shells. For example, when returning to the start (18/19), on your left, you can see the concrete remains of two of the five bases for a catenary defence mast. The car park has interpretation boards with more information.





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Historical information on the area is available from Stocksbridge and District History Society: <http://www.stocksbridgehs.co.uk/>

Please utilise the 'contact' link on our website if you wish to suggest any amendments to these instructions.

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