

Cobden & Height Top Farm Circular Walk

Start Point

Free parking area, left hand side as you drop down from Nick of Pendle before Sabden.

 SD 7749 3809

Or Height Top Farm

 SD 8114 3738

Or Cobden Farm

 SD 7702 3647

Distance/Time

 9 miles – 5.5 hours
Including Height Top Farm Loop

 11 miles – 6.5 hours

Public transport

Bus Service –
27 from Clitheroe to Burnley

Terrain

Tracks, fields, roads
Gates and stiles
Steep sections and can be wet under foot

Key to Facilities

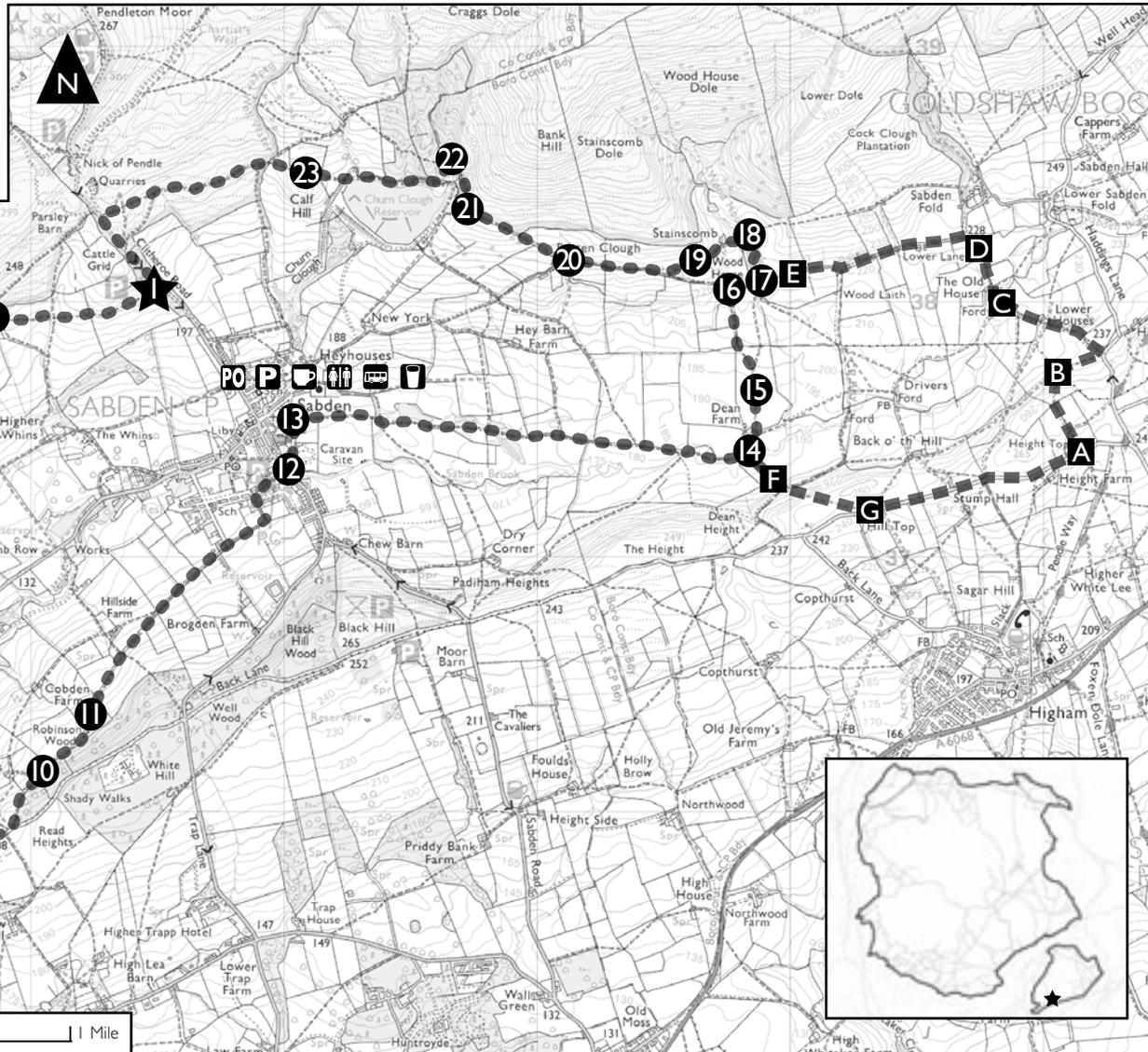
Sabden:  Post Office,
 Parking,  Café,  Toilets,
 Bus Stop,  Pub

Walk Description

 **GPS:** SD 7749 3809
On the opposite side of the road follow a way marker and beyond this go through a gate. Follow the path across a field to a wall gap, head slightly down hill and cross a beck and continue ahead across the next field to the right corner next to the farmhouse.

 **GPS:** SD 7684 3794
Go over a stone stile to the right of the farmhouse. Over the stile, straight up to the bridleway, and turn left. Continue along the bridleway, through two gates.

 **GPS:** SD 7573 3712
Just before the third gate turn left, and follow the wall edge. When the wall bends to the right, follow round but then turn immediately left through the trees and downhill and of the two stiles ahead, take the one to the right.



Cobden & Height Top Farm Circular Walk



Walk Description Continued

4 GPS: SD 7598 3671

Over the stile and cross a brook, and straight ahead to the next stile in the fence. Then ahead to a ladder stile which brings you out onto the road. Turn right.

5 GPS: SD 7613 3645

After a few yards go over a stile on the left and make for the fence post opposite. Bear right, following the fence line along and then left at the corner. Continue along the field boundary to the next stile. Cross stile and make for the footbridge over Sabden Brook – a perfect spot for a picnic!

6 GPS: SD 7614 3602

Over the wooden bridge then diagonally right over a new stile into newly planted woodland. Immediately take a path left, up to a ladder stile and into the woodland. Continue following the path uphill through the woodland.

Emerge from the woodland and continue following the path with a wall to your right until you reach a farm.

7 GPS: SD 7621 3564

At the farm follow a way marker left and continue to a gate (the one to the right) into a paddock and continue to a stile in the top, left corner. At this point be careful of electric fences and horses.

Over the stile and turn right following the fence to the next stile. Up the field to a yellow way maker.

8 GPS: SD 7648 3584

Continue past the wind turbine and head for the right edge of the field. Continue to the right field corner, over a stone stile and ahead to another stile and onto the road.

9 GPS: SD 7673 3582

Turn left, continue along the road for about ¼ mile and take the 1st track on the left.

10 GPS: SD 7702 3613

Follow the track and where it bears left continue ahead onto a green track and over a stile. Continue, following the edge of the woodland on your right.

11 GPS: SD 7723 3635

Bear diagonally left downhill to the field corner where the wall meets a fence. Continue along this track and, ignoring the track which joins the path

from the edge of the village, continue ahead and follow the track along and then to the left where it eventually meets the road. Continue for a few yards then take the bridgeway right. This emerges onto the main road through Sabden.

12 GPS: SD 7801 3734

Go over the bridge, cross the road and continue up next to Stubbins Vale Holiday Homes.

13 GPS: SD 7804 3753

Just before the junction of St Nicholas' Avenue and Stubbins Lane, turn right along the bridgeway and continue all the way to Dean Farm.

14 GPS: SD 7984 3739

Turn left at Dean Farm and soon after turn right through a kissing gate then left over a stone stile in the wall.

15 GPS: SD 7985 3772

Continue straight ahead up the field to cross a stile in the left corner. Keep ahead to the next stile following the boundary of a house and onto a kissing gate. Turn right and up the slope.

16 GPS: SD 7977 3806

Soon after turn right along a bridgeway, through a gate, cross the stream and then left over a stile into the woodland.

17 GPS: SD 7985 3816

Continue to follow the stream and then over a grassy knoll (watch out for the steep drop to the left), back down to the stream and then bear right to the next stile.

18 GPS: SD 7983 3826

Over the stile and after a few yards bear left down to the stream and over next stile. Bear left and up through new woodland, and left through a gate to Stainscombe Farm. Look back at the wonderful views!

19 GPS: SD 7965 3817

Leave the farm and continue left along the track, noting the thin upright stone wall on the left. This is a vaccary wall, originally enclosing cattle pasture, and is believed to be the oldest wall in the valley.

20 GPS: SD 7912 3815

Continue and just before Ratten Clough Farm go through a kissing gate on the right and follow a path to the top corner of the field to a ladder stile. Continue straight towards a pine forest, keeping the trees on your left.

21 GPS: SD 7873 3839

Descend following the wall down the track until you meet the stream feeding Churn Clough Reservoir.

Cobden & Height Top Farm Circular Walk

Walk Description Continued

22 GPS: SD 7867 3853

Turn sharp left and go down to a small iron gate. Passing through the gate, turn right to walk next to the reservoir and ahead to a gate.

23 GPS: SD 7841 3863

Continue ahead on the path, through two more gates and then onto a track – follow this all the way back to the road. At the road, turn left onto the path that runs parallel to the road, back to the parking area on your left.

Height Top Farm loop

A GPS: SD 8114 3738

Start out at Height Top Farm, opposite the entrance take the footpath and continue ahead across two fields then over a stone stile.

B GPS: SD 8105 3772

Bear right in line with the wall then head for a gate onto a lane. Turn left on the lane and go past Lower Houses Farm.

C GPS: SD 8087 3798

Through two gates, and bear left towards a footbridge, don't go over this but instead a stone bridge and up to a gate at Old House.

D GPS: SD 8073 3822

Through the yard and two more gates, then turn left. Continue along Watery Lane for about ½ mile.

E GPS: SD 7989 3808

At a barn turn right before a stream and over a stile, pick up the directions above from point 17.

F GPS: SD 7986 3738

On the return at point 14 turn right at Deans Farm, over the bridge. Bear right and continue uphill on a track until you reach road.

G GPS: SD 8030 3716

Turn left and continue back to Height Top Farm.

About this walk

An historical circular walk around the beautiful Sabden Valley. The farm at Wilkins Heys was built in the 1600s and said to have connections with Whalley Abbey. It was sold by the Huntroyde Estate in 1977. Just along from here is known as the 'Corpse Road' and was used centuries ago by the monks to carry the dead to Whalley Abbey.

Dean Farm is the oldest farm in Sabden Valley dating from 1574 along with Lower Houses Farm dating from 1592. At The Old House, archaeologists from Pendle Heritage Centre have discovered an ancient iron foundry here and are continuing with an archaeological dig.

Churn Clough Reservoir was opened in 1892 and extended by 5 feet in 1920. During the 1995 summer drought water was pumped overland from this reservoir to Ogden Clough near Barley to feed the town of Nelson.

Thanks to Colin Cooke – some of the text and route for this walk has been adapted from Colin's 'Sabden Way'.

Colin, who died in May 2007, inspired many with his love of the countryside and walking the footpaths of Sabden Valley and Pendle Hill.

About the businesses

Both Cobden Farm and Height Top Farm have been accredited through the Green Tourism Business Scheme. The scheme provides accreditation and encouragement for tourism businesses to reduce the environmental impact of their activities. By encouraging sustainable practices the scheme ensures the continued enjoyment of the environment around us for future generations. The businesses are assessed against a rigorous set of criteria for such things as energy, water, waste and travel as well as promoting wildlife watching opportunities and car free activities to visitors. Being green certainly doesn't compromise quality though, you'll be sure to have a fantastic holiday experience!

Cobden Farm B&B

If you are staying at Cobden Farm B&B, you can start the walk at point 11

Height Top Farm Self Catering

If you are staying at Height Top Farm, follow the additional route notes and then pick up the route at point 17

