

This route is described clockwise. Start at Errwood Hall car park (SK17 6GJ - SK 012 748 – Elev: 295m). Large red dot on the map. Follow the Errwood Reservoir road (unnamed) towards Goytscloagh Quarry. At that point, seen from the road, the well known Packhorse Bridge should be visible below left.

On the opposite side of the road an always-substantial brook arrives from a small waterfall (waterfall not always visible from the road). That waterfall serves the brook which in turn serves another much larger waterfall on the Packhorse Bridge side of the road.

Turn right into Goytscloagh Quarry, *staying left of the brook* and follow the ascending trail on the stiff climb to the left of the waterfall. The path is obvious and well used. Continue through boggy areas, gates and across the hefty wooden footbridge.

Keep following the obvious trail upwards to the top. Early parts of this route can be treacherously boggy. The main part offers spectacular views but it is mainly rocky with pebbles underfoot. I do not recommend descending this route in snow as there is a danger of slipping and twisting an ankle. Ascending in snow is wonderful but remember it can be a lonely route, especially in snow.

Eventually you will sight the tall mast serving the Cat and Fiddle on your left, as you near the top. At the gateway turn right towards the new fingerpost. At the fingerpost keep going straight (left would take to Shining Tor – Route 12). Continue down the well established track, parallel to the tall drystone wall.

Through the gateway on your left at the fingerpost. Carry on to Pond Number 2 (SK 003 741 – Elev: 425) indicated by the blue dot . Return to the path following the obvious diverse trail back to Errwood Hall. This trail crosses more running water as you get lower down

This whole route is very interesting. See also Route 12 which is an extended (11km) similar route.

Reviewed and updated: 15.08.2024

Distance: 7km (GPS)