Miners once worked independently

Building Stones

In Lathkill Dale there was even a independent, until mining

District before the Romans

Turning base metals to gold?

Footpaths from the doorstep. Visitors to the cottages

famous for the Blue John Mine and local caverns.

Over millions of years ice and water

eroded softer shales and gritstones to

reveal limestones standing proud. In the

wide Hope and Derwent valleys below

Kinder Scout’s brooding mass, you can

see the Dark and White Peaks as the

spectacular valley sides. From Edale, climb

Kinder’s dark gritstones or explore the southern end of the Pennine Way. Drift through a tropical coral reef to visit popular, Castleton, where you can

explore underground caves or look for

seashells in the drystone walls and buildings.

Access and Orientation

Explore Edale, Castleton and Hope from the three villages. There are visitor centres at Castleton and Edale and four show caves near Castleton.

Exploring Speedwell (cave) is the striking feature of Speedwell Cavern. Mam Tor, a hill of dramatic

landscape. One closed the main road.

The Shivering Skulls, Stalactites hang like petrified icicles in Speedwell Cavern. Bottom: The bridge at Baslow is constructed of millstone grit.

Over 3000 metres of caves are known in this deep limestone
gorge. The River Derwent cut down into Millstone Dale limestone in a host of four stages, causing and creating a different
cave system whenever the water reached a layer of less permeable rock. Nearby Stoney Middleton Dale has a thermal spring. You can discover traces of historic quarrying, limestone and mining throughout the area.

Access and orientation

Explore Millstone Dale from Eyam, Stoney Middleton or from the limited car parking on the site of the A623 near to the Rockwell Business Park.

Refreshments and toilets in Stoney Middleton

near to the Rockwell Business Park.

Above Bankford Edge, The building shows clearly telling of the layered deposition of sediments in the ancient river delta, which went to make this stone. Bottom: The bridge at Baslow is constructed of millstone grit.

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TRAVELINE 0871 200 22 33

The Peak District wears many faces. Experience this diversity in the six areas we’ve chosen to show how our land was formed – and how that affects the ways we live now.

Underground, overground
Dysoxic wells and stone-built villages characterise the Peak District. Look out for different colours and textures of stone. See how ‘red’ follows the contours of the land and houses cluster in flat valley bottoms or cling lonely to steep ridges. You will discover ghostly abandoned millstone workings, mining remains and the hollows and mounds of ancient quarrying and agricultural field clearances.

Animal, vegetable or mineral?
Even animals and plants depend on the rocks for life. Geology decides whether the land is wet or dry, windy or sheltered, fertile or arid, woods, grass or heather moorlands. So no geology = no Park! Touch but don’t take! Please treat our land with respect. It has taken millions of years to form and is home to rare and shy creatures. Follow the rights of way and enjoy your visit.

335 million years in the making!
The rugged geography of the Dark Peak, surrounding on three sides the limestone-fringed ‘Peak Triassic’ on a tropical sea, was magnificently rich in flora and fauna. But hard beds of limestone slowly shift their positions and the story of the Peak District’s origins continues.

Geology rocks!
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