

# How We Ate.....Longshaw

## Trail Summary

### Transport



Circular walk which is steep in sections and over uneven terrain. Some busy roads need to be crossed.

### Distance

5 km  
3.5 mi

Longshaw Lodge is not open to the public but there is a visitor centre and café serving some local products including oatcakes and local cheese. The estate is open all year round.

### Allow

3hr

### Difficulty



*“Britain’s longest continuously running sheep dog trails are linked to the Longshaw estate..”*

This walk takes you around the Longshaw estate. The estate is now owned by the National Trust and was acquired as a large estate in the 1820’s by the Duke of Rutland. He was the first of five Dukes to use the estate as a recreational retreat. The moorland landscape has trackways created as drives for horse and carriage drives around the estate. Longshaw Lodge was built as a hunting lodge, its moorlands managed for grouse shooting. Lines of grouse-shooting butts are still visible on the moorland.

The moorlands are also used for sheep. Britain’s longest continuously running sheep dog trials are linked to the Longshaw estate. The first trial was held in 1898 and they have been held every year except during the two world wars.

This guide is intended to complement rather than replace appropriate navigational equipment and due care should be taken when undertaking the self-guided trails. We recommend you carry and know how to use the correct Ordnance Survey map. Please wear sturdy footwear, take appropriate weather protection, food and drink - and please remember to follow the Countryside Code.

### Start and finish:

The National Trust Woodcroft car park at Longshaw Lodge . OS White Peak Area, OL24 SK 266 800.

### Access:

The estate is 7 miles south-west of Sheffield between A625 and A6187. There is a bus stop at Fox House near Longshaw Lodge. For current information on public transport phone Traveline on 0870 608 2 608. Parking: pay and display car park at Longshaw Lodge.



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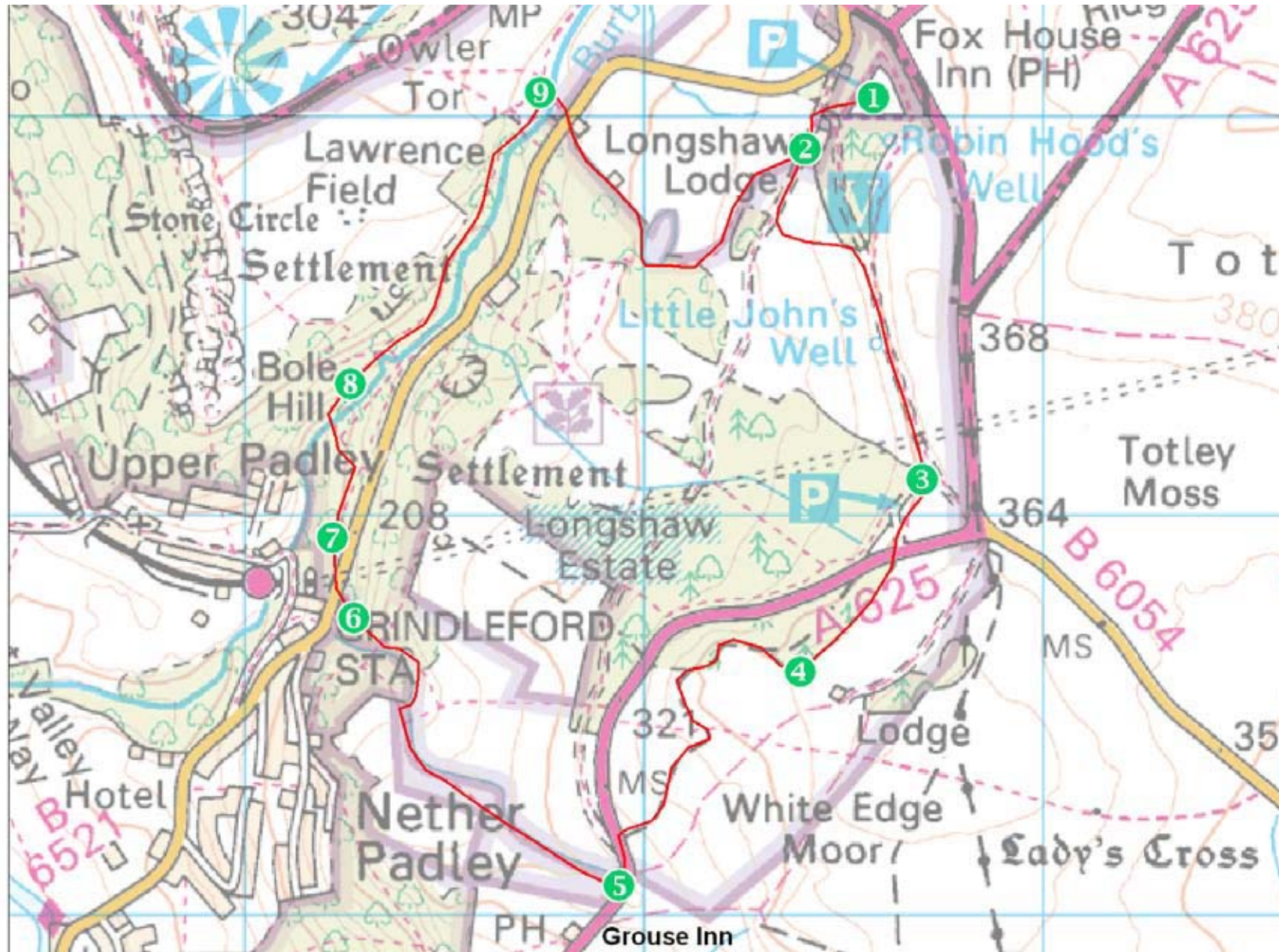
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## 1. Woodcroft Car Park

Go down the slope to the bottom of the car park and pick up the path heading to Longshaw Lodge. Follow the path passing the visitor centre and join the path on the right that takes you to the front of Lodge.



## 2. Longshaw Lodge

The Lodge (image above) was built by the 5th Duke of Rutland in the 1820s as a shooting lodge. It provided accommodation for the Duke, family, friends, guests, servants and stabling for horses.

Pass through a gate, where you reach some yew trees. Here, take the track to the left through the second gate. Follow the track until the woods on the left finishes. Here take a grassy path on the left, with the woodland still on your left and open land to the right. The path rejoins a bigger track. Turn right and where the path forks after a few minutes walking, take the path to your right.

## 3. Wooden Pole

There is a wooden pole (image left) on the skyline, 50 metres to the left. It was erected as a way marker for people crossing the moors and also as a boundary marker. It has a stone at its base marked T 1778. The surrounding moorland is used for raising sheep.



Continue along this path and after a few minutes cross over the road that serves the car park and go through the small wooden gate 40 metres in front of you. Take great care crossing the busy A625 and head for the white gate on the other side of the road. Follow this path through the woodland and at the field gate turn left, keeping the woodland on your left. Within 40 metres you will see two stone grouse-shooting butts set in sloping ground on the right and White Edge Lodge in front of you (image right).

## 4. White Edge Lodge

White Edge Lodge was built as a gamekeepers' cottage as part of the Longshaw estate. The gamekeepers were responsible for the management of the moorland and for grouse bred for shooting. It is still possible to see red grouse up on White Edge Moor. It was converted into holiday accommodation in 2000. Listen and look out for the cackling low flight of grouse on the moorland.

Rejoin the path you left at the field gate and follow it as it snakes through the moorland to join the A625 again. Turn left on joining the road. Take care, as there are no footpaths. Follow the road downhill (left) for around 200 metres and go through the gate on your right. (Further along the A625 is the Grouse Inn, which you may like to take a detour to visit but take care along the road.)



The view from Longshaw Lodge

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## 5.The Grouse Inn

This public house (image below) got its name from sitting in a moorland landscape that was used for grouse shooting. The views ahead through the gate include a mixture of open moorland and gritstone-wall-enclosed improved moorland.

(If you visited the Grouse Inn, return back up the road and go through the gate about 200 metres on your left.) Follow the path and within 100 metres turn right off the main footpath and follow the line of the stream, the worn path soon becoming apparent. As the path gets nearer the stream it can at times become wet and



boggy. Continue on the path until reaching the woods. Cross over the stream at the stone wall where the stream runs under it. Follow the path round the woodland where it soon becomes a stone trackway. On crossing another stream, turn left and within 20 metres look for an obvious path leading down into the woods. The steep path follows the stream downhill and eventually joins the road.

## 6.B6521

Take care crossing the road, turn right and walk up the road, taking the second footpath on the left signed Padley Gorge. Follow the path into the woods.

## 7.Yarncliffe Woods

You are standing in a oak and birch woodland. Many of the oaks are over 100 years old. Some have several trunks as a result of once being managed as coppice. The coppiced oak was used to create charcoal to supply the iron industry, and was coppiced until around 1870.

Follow the path for a few minutes and take the third track on your left (the path has a short section of stone edging on its left hand side at this point). As you approach the river look for some stone steps that takes you to the bridge.

## 8. Padley Gorge

Padley Gorge is a SSSI (Site of Special Scientific Interest) important for plant and animal species.

On crossing the river the path winds up the hillside with steps. At the stone bench follow the path to the left, then right at the next fork in the path, before some more stone steps. The path continues through the woodland following the river on your right. The path leaves the woods heading to a bridge over the river. From here it is possible to follow paths heading back in the direction you've walked, on your left, heading to the hill top. This detour will allow you to explore Lawrence Field.

## 9.Lawrence Field

Lawrence Field has a large oval enclosure. You can still find most of the wall. The remains of two long houses stand next to each other at the eastern end of the enclosure. Two walled yards attached to the houses can be seen. Narrow ridges with stone rows and clearance cairns show that arable crops were once grow here. Archaeological evidence dates these features to around 1000-1100 AD. The land upon which this farmstead was established is not the most favourable land, and although much effort had gone into the preparation of the land for agricultural use, it appears to have gone out of use after only one or two generations. Perhaps because of poor soil fertility, people being moved off the moorlands or a small change in climate.

Returning back down to the river bridge, cross over the river, following the path up to the road. Crossing over the road, taking care, pick up the footpath on your right, heading into woodland. Keeping to paths to your left this path takes you past a pond and back up to Longshaw Lodge.

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