

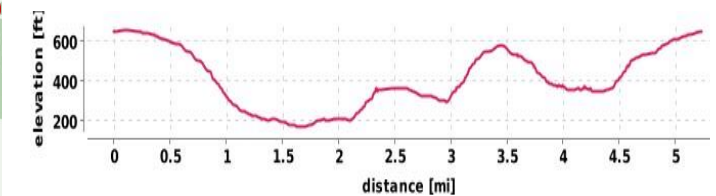


Route Information

Settrington Beacon

Total Distance	5.24 mi (8.43 km)
Elevation	171 ft at lowest point 651 ft at highest point
Total Ascent	815 ft

Elevation Profile



Before you start, just note that there is a stile at the start of this walk at the bottom of Fizgig Hill, which also has a tied-up gate with sheep beyond. Bill got underneath but larger dogs may not. The string holding the gate could possibly be undone and retied though.

Start From: YO17 8BQ [///hockey.chaos.mediate](http://hockey.chaos.mediate)

1. Park at the mast on High Street where there is off road parking for about 8 cars. This is just past the beacon if you are coming from Settrington along Horse Course Lane (past Settrington House) and then turning right onto High Street.
2. Cross over the road and walk up the farm track along the Yorkshire Wolds Way and Centenary Way.
3. Follow the track down towards the farm and walk through the farm yard buildings straight ahead.
4. At the trees, which is Screed Plantation, turn right to follow the signs and then almost immediately left to walk down the edge of the Plantation, which is now on your left.
5. Halfway along this section you will spot a signpost pointing straight on and right. Turn right and follow the field edge with the hedge on your left.
6. The path goes through the very end of Settrington Wood on your left and right to a swing gate, which you go through to emerge at the top of Fizgig Hill.

From our past investigations you may know that a Fizgig is a frivolous woman, fond of gadding about in search of pleasure. A fizgig is also a type of firework that hissed rather than banged. Gig is another word that has had many meanings; Chaucer knew it as a fickle woman but Shakespeare considered it to be a child's top. Fizz meaning bubbly came along much later, probably as an imitative sound. It may be the same word as the obsolete fise for a smelly fart.

7. Walk along the grassy path which runs down the hill towards the gate over on your left. There could be sheep here so dogs may have to be on leads.
8. Go through the gate and continue straight ahead across the fairly flat field towards the next gate, which is the problematic one, with the stile. Dogs Bill's size and smaller should be able to squeeze underneath, otherwise you can attempt to untie (and then retie) the gate.
9. Once you have negotiated the stile carry on towards the farm house at Low Bellmanear - if the gate is tied there could be sheep here. Walk past the pond and the path turns right onto the farm road.
10. Follow this farm road to the end, with The Kelds over on your right. There are a few cattle grids on the way but they are all passible. Eventually you will arrive at Back Lane.
11. From here turn right and walk up the steep road - take a few breathers on your way up - this is the steepest part of the walk though!
12. After about a 1/4 mile you will come to another stony track on your right to Wardale House which you turn up. As this is part of Settrington Estate a sign on the telegraph pole advises to keep dogs on a lead.
- 13 Walk up to where the track turns left to the farm house, but carry on straight ahead across the grassy field with the hedge on your right. (there is no sign)
14. At the end of the field at the fence line, where there is a wooded area on your left and right, go through the gate. (There is a stile here but also a swing gate at the side).
15. Follow the grassy path with the trees and fence on your left, along the side of this hill with fabulous views ahead and to your right. Be careful of ground nesting birds / game birds for the shoot, on this stretch, as in the summer there are lots of them - so you may want to keep dogs on leads at this time of year.
16. As the trees and fence swing left, turn right down the hillside and head towards the small clump of trees where there is spring running through the middle of them. Again, watch for game birds.
17. The clump of trees has a wire fence around the outside of it. Walk around the fence clockwise and on the next side you will see a large wooden swing gate, with the spring running through a stone gully on the other side where Bill had a nice fresh drink.
18. Go through the gate (there may be sheep or game birds here) and literally walk in a straight ahead over this next field, which is Town Wold, to the other side where you will spot an open gate in the fence, a yellow way marker on a post and a few trees on either side in the fence.
19. Follow the path along the left-hand fence line with sparse trees on your left. You will get some fantastic views all around you so do stop and enjoy them as your dog has a romp around (unless there are sheep of course) and also catch your breath.

20. Where there is a gap in the trees and you see a gate down to your left - ignore this and just keep on straight ahead uphill towards the farm house, Wold House. This is a fairly steep slope with the scraggly trees still on your left - so you might, like us, take a breather here to enjoy the views from a seated position!
21. With Wold House on your right, find the fence line at the top of this sloped field where you will spot a yellow way marker plus another gate and a stile. The gate is tied shut, but it is possible to go through the fence to the left of it where it joins the other fence line coming up from the left.
22. Once you have negotiated this, walk up straight ahead with the trees on your left and you will come to a stony driveway on which you turn left. This brings you to a road at the top.
23. Cross straight over the road where you see a public footpath signpost, which takes you to a field.
24. This field may have been completely ploughed and planted, so you may not see the footpath at all - but it is there I promise (if you are lucky someone will have trodden it before you)! So, walk directly across it in a straight line. You can't really see where you are heading to until you are part way across but when you do see the hedge ahead, head for the tree and the hedge running away into the next field.
25. At the other side of the field there is a yellow way marker on a post and the path continues along the side of the field ahead, with the hedge on your right.
26. Walk to the bottom of this field where you will see an abandoned farm building of Many Thorns Farm. The path swings left and then carries on along the farm road but you need to turn right off it just after the field corner and head behind the abandoned building.
27. The path heads into a wooded area and you just follow it through and out the other side where you are rewarded with some fabulous views over Bassett Brow.
28. At the top of this path you will find a very nice bench, dedicated to farmer James Stephen Kenneth Wood, on which you could sit and enjoy your lunch.
29. After enjoying the views and peace for a while carry on along the path with those fantastic views to your left. The path heads along and down but just keep going.
30. The path goes down to the valley bottom which you just follow along, past what looks like a crater but what I think was just a disused pit. You are looking across to the small village of Thorpe Bassett here.
- Thorpe Bassett was listed in the Domesday Book compiled for William the Conqueror in 1086. In 1066 the Lords of Thorpe Bassett were the Normans Cnut and Gamal, Sons of Karli, and Ulfkil and the property was valued at £1.*
31. At the end of this section is a footpath sign pointing you right along the Wolds way and Centenary Way (as well as left and straight ahead along a bridleway). Our path heads up hill again towards some woodland.
32. Enter the woods through a wooden kissing gate or the swing gate next to it and follow the obvious path through the trees.
33. The path continues to go up slightly and then comes to another Wolds Way / Centenary Way sign that points you right.
34. Keep following the path to the next Wolds Way / Centenary Way sign that steers you left.
35. The path eventually emerges on the road near Settrington Beacon and back at your start. Before you climb back in your car though, make sure you bag the trig point here and take a look at the Beacon point on your way home.

The beacon or signal station is the most spectacular Roman artefact in the Settrington area formerly found on Settrington High Street near the present water tower, which was not demolished until 1831. The beacon was an iron brazier at the end of an arm on the top of a pole (much like the one replacing it today), standing about 650 feet above sea level, it received signals from the fires lit at the signal station in the grounds of the present Scarborough castle and passed them on to the York area. It is said that the area in which the beacon's light could be seen was some 400 square miles.