



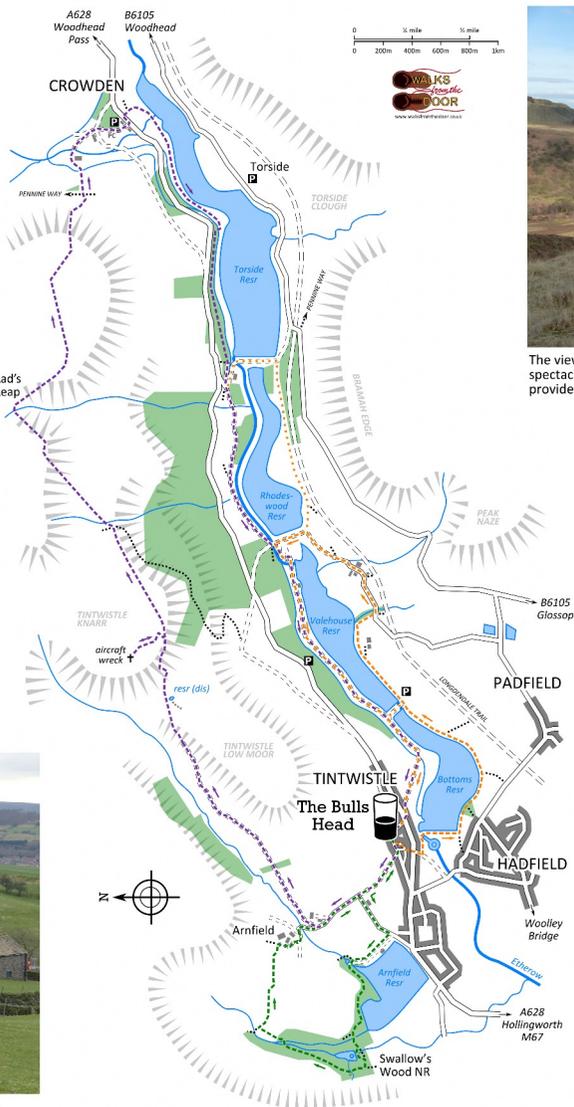
At Lad's Leap a small stream tumbles off the plateau and down a gritstone gorge. A local fell race takes its name from this landmark.



On Tintwistle Knarrs lie the poignant remains of Avro Lancaster PA411, which crashed on a night exercise in December 1948 with the loss of all seven crew.



Arnfield is a pretty cluster of farm buildings overlooking the reservoir of the same name.



The views over Crowden-in-Longdendale and its adjoining reservoirs are spectacular. The slopes of Bleaklow, the second-highest hill in Derbyshire, provide the backdrop.



The reservoirs of the Longdendale Chain were built in the mid-19th century to provide water for Manchester. The top three reservoirs (Woodhead, Torside and Rhodeswood) are for drinking water; Valehouse and Bottoms Reservoir provide compensation water for the River Etherow.



Swallow's Wood Nature Reserve surrounds the site of the disused Hollingsworth Reservoir.

THREE WALKS FROM THE BULLS HEAD

Tintwistle, Derbyshire



Arnfield & Swallow's Wood 3 miles: Easy

A leisurely reservoir and woodland stroll, visiting a local nature reserve.

The Longdendale Chain 2, 3¾ or 5½ miles: Easy

Mostly level walking around one, two or three of the reservoirs of the Longdendale valley.

Crowden via Lad's Leap 8¾ miles: Strenuous

A demanding moorland walk with superb views, followed by an easy and level return.

THE BULLS HEAD

78 Old Road, Tintwistle,
Glossop, Derbyshire SK13 1JY
Tel: 01457 853365

Website: www.bullsheadpubtintwistle.co.uk

Email: bullsheadtintwistle@hotmail.co.uk



Check us out on **TripAdvisor** under
Glossop or Tintwistle Restaurants

OPENING HOURS

Closed Mondays except Bank Holidays
Tuesday to Thursday: 5pm
Friday to Sunday, Bank Holidays: 12 noon

We serve home-cooked traditional pub food

Friday and Saturday: 12–8.45pm
Sunday and Bank Holidays: 12–4.45pm
Tuesday to Thursday: 5–8.45pm

Arnfield and Swallow's Wood

3 miles: Easy

Allow 2 hours. The first section, as far as the lake in Swallow's Wood, is suitable for all-terrain pushchairs. Popular with dog-walkers: watch your step!

1 From the front door, turn left and walk past Stocks Brow and the war memorial. **2** Turn right into the cobbled Arnfield Lane. **3** At a junction (Crossgate Lane) turn left and walk downhill past Crossgate Farm. **4** Just before the entrance to the fly fishery and reservoir, follow a footpath on the right, just outside the reservoir wall. **5** On meeting a track, turn left to cross an inlet and continue along the reservoir edge. After ¼ mile, swing right, away from the reservoir, to cross a bridge. **6** Beyond a gate, turn left over a concrete bridge and continue into Swallow's Wood. **7** Before a ford, take a path on the right that leads past the bottom of the old reservoir and over a wooden bridge. Rejoin the track beyond the ford and turn right. **8** At a junction of paths below a wall, turn right. **9** Cross a small stream by a boarded-up stone building. **10** Keep along parallel to the edge of the wood, descending some steps to cross another small stream. **11** Descend to a footbridge and cross the main stream. **12** Go left up some steps and turn left through a kissing gate and then a second into open fields. **13** Follow the fence to a stile, where you turn right (away from the stream) and follow the yellow-topped waymarks across the field to another stile. **14** Follow field boundaries beyond, before dropping to a farm track just above Arnfield. **15** Turn right and then left to exit the farm, keeping right by the Pennine Bridleway sign. **16** Follow the road beyond, crossing Arnfield Brook. **17** Pass a farm on the left and then a covered reservoir on the right. **18** At the junction with Crossgate Lane, carry straight on along the cobbled Arnfield Lane. **19** On returning to Tintwistle, turn left to the Bulls Head.

The Longdendale Chain

2, 3¾ or 5½ miles: Easy

Allow 2 hours. Mostly level, well surfaced and suitable for all-terrain pushchairs; can easily be shortened to 2 miles or extended to 5½ miles by omitting a reservoir from the circuit, or including an extra one.

1 From the front door, turn left and immediately left again down Stocks Brow; at the bottom of the green follow a cobbled path to the left of The Stocks to reach the main road. **2** Cross over into Bank Lane. **3** Take the first path on the left, which zig-zags down to Bottoms Dam. Cross the spillway and follow the higher path along the top of the dam. **4** At the far side, turn left and follow the lakeside path. **5** After a gate into a field, turn left along the Trans-Pennine Trail to Valehouse Dam. (For a two-mile walk, cross the dam and rejoin the route at step 14.) **6** Otherwise, follow the track ahead past an informal car park and alongside Valehouse Reservoir. **7** Ignore a right-hand turning into a farm then, after passing below the farm buildings, follow the track to

the right when it meets a stream and swings uphill and away from the reservoir. **8** When you reach a narrow lane, turn left (the Longdendale Trail, a disused railway line, is a short distance beyond the road). **9** Walk through Deepclough Farm and follow the lane to Rhodeswood Dam. **10** Turn left and cross the dam. (To extend the walk around Rhodeswood Reservoir for a 5½-mile walk, follow the track ahead under the pylons, then take a footpath on the left below the embankment of the Longdendale Trail. Cross Torside Dam, swing left and join the purple route at step 23.) **11** At the end of Rhodeswood Dam turn left before the spillway, between the stone gate-piers. **12** A descending flight of concrete steps on the hairpin bend cuts the corner to the continuing reservoir road, where you turn right and recross the spillway. **13** Pass a house and continue alongside Valehouse Reservoir for a further mile. **14** Beyond Valehouse Dam, keep right up the service road, passing a quarry face on your right and then the water treatment works on your left, to reach the main road. **15** Cross quickly and carefully into Chapel Brow and climb the hill; at the top, turn left to return to the Bulls Head.

Crowden via Lad's Leap

8¾ miles: Strenuous

Allow 4–5 hours. Stout footwear essential. Crosses open moorland: do not attempt in poor visibility or bad weather. Much rocky, boggy ground and some steep drops in the vicinity of Lad's Leap. There is a steep descent to Crowden.

Can be extended to 10½ miles by following steps 1 to 16 of the **Arnfield and Swallow's Wood** route and then turning left after Arnfield Brook to join this route at step 4, or shortened to 4¾ miles by turning right to leave the moor at step 9 and then taking the byway to Tintwistle from the last bend before the main road (see map).

1 From the front door, turn left past Stocks Brow and the war memorial, then turn right into Arnfield Lane. **2** At the junction with Crossgate Lane, continue straight on past a covered reservoir on your left. **3** Turn right along a track immediately after a farm and before the drop to Arnfield Brook. **4** Follow the track into open country and through a belt of conifers and beyond. **5** When the track fizzles out, continue along a narrower path, climbing to pass a small disused reservoir with the remains of a piped aqueduct. **6** Climb the shoulder of the hill, following a path in a slight dip to a stile. **7** Follow the path beyond along a fence. **8** At a vague cairn, the main route turns right to continue along the fence. To visit the aircraft wreck, which is in trackless heather and not easy to find, leave the fence, initially following the obvious path, then take a less prominent path through the heather on the left, aiming for the brow of the hill slightly to your left. The aircraft remains (see photo on map) are about 100 m beyond the most prominent rock outcrop. Return via the same route and turn left at the fence. **9** Follow the fence through sometimes boggy peat and above a quarry face to a step stile and ladder stile either side of a small stream (turn right here for a quick way back to Tintwistle – see

map). **10** Walk past the first stile then, just before the stream, leave the fence on a path to the left that shortly crosses over and then heads half-right obliquely up the slope towards the end of a low rocky ridge on the skyline. **11** This path skirts round the rocky shoulder above Lad's Leap before dropping to cross the stream. **13** After climbing the far slope, a couple of cairns lead you to a broken wall, which you follow left and downhill. **14** As you approach Crowden, the path steepens and winds downhill to meet the Pennine Way by a stone monument to one Harry Phillips. **15** Go straight across and carry on steeply down the slope to reach the Crowden Outdoor Education Centre. **16** Cross the bridge and follow the drive round to the right to meet another road. **17** Take a walled way opposite and to the left of the caravan park to pass some public toilets and emerge between houses onto the main road. **18** Cross over and turn left along the pavement for a short distance, before turning right onto the Torside Concessionary Path. **19** Ignore the path to Woodhead Dam on your left and swing right when you meet the reservoir, shortly crossing the end of Crowden Brook. **20** Follow the path beyond, which is joined from the right by a stone-lined water channel. **21** Cross this channel via a footbridge into Tinsel School Wood and climb to a bench before swinging left. **22** At the far end of the trees, turn left towards Torside Dam, then turn immediately right along a track that runs behind a house. **23** At the junction, take the lower of the two gates opposite and follow the wide track above Rhodeswood Reservoir for nearly a mile to the next dam. **24** Turn left over the spillway, then right through stone gate-piers before the dam proper. **25** A descending flight of concrete steps on the hairpin bend cuts the corner to the continuing reservoir road, where you turn right and recross the spillway. **26** Pass another house and continue alongside Valehouse Reservoir for a further mile. **27** Beyond Valehouse Dam, keep right up the service road, passing a quarry face on your right and then the water treatment works on your left, to reach the main road. **28** Cross quickly and carefully into Chapel Brow and climb the hill; at the top, turn left to return to the Bulls Head.

THE BULLS HEAD

The Bulls Head is a 16th-century black and white character pub run by your hosts Mick and Jane.

It has open fires, settle seating and a great atmosphere. We sell cask beers and offer wonderful home-cooked food midweek, including home-made pies, puddings, burgers and curries.



Text, mapping and photography
© David Dunford 2015. All rights reserved.

www.walksfromthedor.co.uk