

THE FARMERS ARMS | Walk No. 2 - Muker to Keld Circular

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Summary

A great circular walk with stunning scenery of upper Swaledale. Starting at The Farmers Arms in Muker, following the River Swale to Keld then over Kisdon Hill returning to Muker.

Start: The Farmers Arms, Muker

Facilities: Public Toilets at Muker and Keld

Distance: 6 miles

Refreshments: Muker and Keld

Duration: 3 hours

Difficulty: Medium - A gentle stroll through the meadows then along the River Swale on the stone track to Keld, a steep climb over Kisdon Hill, then all downhill back to Muker.

Route

- 1) Start from the **Farmers Arms at Muker** and walk up the snicket to the right of the pub. At the top turn right and keep the row of houses on your left. Walk past the long straight road that goes off to your left, that's where you will return from later on. Carry on until you reach the post box where you will then turn left and follow a flagged footpath through the seven fields to the River Swale.



Turn left immediately after the Old Post office and follow the paved path through the seven fields until you reach the river Swale. Turn right and walk over Rampsholme bridge. On crossing the bridge turn left following the sign post for Keld. A wide stone track guides you all the way to Keld from this point. As you walk along the track you will pass some of the old lead mine workings at the bottom of Swinner Gill.



Continued overleaf.

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- 2) Carry on walking along the stone track until you reach the point where the Pennine Way joins your path. It is sign posted (see photo below) and you will know you have arrived at this point because you will have gone through a large wooden gate and below and to your left is a large water fall. If you haven't decided to stop at this point to rest or to eat your packed lunch, follow the path to Keld down the bank (the direction that the water is flowing) and over the foot bridge that crosses the Swale once more before climbing up the bank at the other side and following the signs into Keld.



- 3) You will arrive in Keld at the bottom of the village to the right of the church. Keep the church on your left and walk up the road past the church and "Keld Centre". The public toilets are also on your left before you take the left hand road out of Keld.



- 4) Follow the road to the telephone box where you will join the B6270. Turn left and follow the road towards Angram for about 150m where you will see a track go off to your left and a stone barn just off the road along side it. Follow the track as it fords a small water course and pulls its way up the side of Kisdon Hill. This path is called the Corpse Road. Don't forget to admire the view when you reach the top as you will undoubtedly stop for a breather when you pass through the metal gate.



Continued overleaf.

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- 5) The footpath is well defined as you can pretty much see the next gate you are headed for. You will pass through a section of footpath with broken down walls either side of you and no doubt comment to yourself how nice it would be if they were rebuilt once more.



- 6) As you begin to make your decent a grassy knoll invites you to stop and stare for a while and take in the breathtaking view as the river Swale and the village of Muker suddenly appear in the valley bottom below you.



- 7) Next stop, Muker where you will be able to reward yourself for all your efforts with a pint at The Farmers Arms.
- 8) But before that, you must head down the hill. The Pennine Way crosses your path once more. Continue on the footpath downwards towards the wooden gate where the path now passes between dry stone walls either side of you. As you head down the hill the footpath becomes a tarmac track before winding its way off Kisdon Hill.
- 9) As you reach the bottom of the track you will go through one last wooden gate before heading along the narrow straight road that passes the Old Vicarage before reaching your starting point.
- 10) Now you can reward yourself with some refreshment at The Farmers Arms; we are open all day except Mondays and our food serving times are 12pm – 2:30pm and 6pm – 8:30pm.

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OS Route Map

