



Robin Hood's Cave is a fantastic natural balcony set in the gritstone cliffs of Stanage Edge. The adventurous can reach it via a short cave within the cliff to the right of this picture.



North Lees Hall was built in the 1590s and is thought to have been the inspiration for Thornfield Hall, Mr Rochester's house in Charlotte Brontë's novel *Jane Eyre*.



The parish church of St Michael and All Angels at Hathersage is a Grade I listed building with good brasses, grotesques and stained glass. A Saxon cross shaft stands in the churchyard.



Little John, Robin Hood's right-hand man, is reputedly buried in Hathersage churchyard.



The River Derwent is frequented by Dippers, Grey Wagtails and other water birds.



The manufacture of millstones was a thriving local industry until the market collapsed in the 19th century. Hundreds lie scattered below local crags, particularly at Bolehill Quarry. Strictly speaking, these are *pulp stones*, intended for export to Scandinavia for use in the paper industry.



At Padley Gorge, the Burbage Brook tumbles down an attractive bouldery valley. Interesting birds to be found here in summer include Wood Warbler and Pied Flycatcher.



Nicholas Garlick and Robert Ludlam, two Catholic priests, were arrested at Padley Manor in 1588, convicted of treason and executed in short order. The manor was later converted into a chapel in their memory.



THREE WALKS FROM THE MILLSTONE COUNTRY INN

Hathersage, Derbyshire



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Derwentside stroll
2½ miles: Fairly easy
A pleasant riverside and woodland amble.
- Padley Gorge & Bole Hill**
3½ miles: Moderate
Millstones galore, and a rocky valley to explore.
- Stanage Edge**
6¼ miles: Moderately strenuous
A Peak District classic, visiting Little John's Grave and Robin Hood's Cave!

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FOOD SERVED

Breakfast: 7am to 12 noon
 Monday to Thursday: 12 noon to 8.30pm
 Friday and Saturday: 12 noon to 9pm
 Sunday: 12 noon to 8pm

Derwentside stroll

2½ miles: Easy

Allow 1½ hours. One steep descent and an at-grade railway crossing; riverside and woodland paths may be muddy after rain.

1 From the front door, cross the road, turn right and walk a short distance down the main road. **2** Beyond the vehicle-activated speed limit sign, turn left down the driveway of Dakins Barn. **3** At the farm buildings, turn right through a gate and follow a field path steeply downhill to the railway crossing. **4** Cross the railway quickly but carefully, and zigzag down to a metalled drive alongside the River Derwent. **5** Turn left and follow the drive to Harper Lees. **6** Beyond a stream and before a cattle grid, go through a kissing gate on your right, then walk along the field edge beyond. **7** On regaining the riverside, follow it past the National Trust sign at the beginning of Coppice Wood. **8** Just after a stone bridge, take a hollow way on the left that leads uphill away from the river towards the railway. **9** Exit the wood through a gate, then swing left over a bridge over the railway. **10** Once over the bridge, turn left to re-enter the woodland. **11** Follow the winding woodland path approximately parallel to the railway, at one point ignoring a gate into open fields on your right and fording a small stream. **12** Eventually leave the wood and descend to the stony driveway to Kettle House. **13** Go straight across, then ignore a crossing path above a railway arch as you enter another wood. **14** Cross another small stream via stepping stones and continue to the end of the wood. **15** Follow a tumbledown wall beyond, then swing uphill (indicated by a footpath sign) to some steps up to a track. **16** Turn left then immediately right (before Throstle Nest), passing a rocky outcrop to reach a cattle grid at a junction of tracks. **17** Keep right to return to the Millstone Inn.

Padley Gorge and Bole Hill

3½ miles: Moderate

Allow 2 hours. Some rocky ground around Padley Gorge and Bolehill. Refreshments and customer toilets at Grindelford Station Café.

1 From the front door, cross the main road and turn left. **2** Ignore the first track at the end of the car park, keeping along the main road past the delimit signs. **3** Take the next right, on a bend, past the National Trust sign for Greenwood Farm. **4** Follow the track, passing millstones left and right, to the farm. **5** Ignore the turning to the right, to pass the farm buildings and a stone trough between millstones built into the wall on your left. **6** Keep along the track, passing to the left of the next farm. **7** Follow the track through open fields until you reach Padley Chapel. **8** Pass the chapel and walk past a farmhouse then a row of houses to reach Padley Mill on Burbage Brook. **9** Having crossed the bridge over the stream (and visited the café beyond the railway if required) go through a squeeze stile upstream into Padley Gorge. **10** Follow the path roughly parallel to the stream, passing a

stone arch then looking out for a flight of stone steps leading down to a wooden footbridge. **11** Once over the stream, follow the zigzag path up the steep slope opposite. **12** At the top of the hill, leave the main path along a less obvious path to the right, by a former gunpowder magazine with a semicircular brick vault. **13** At a double gate below quarry workings, swing left, then climb the bank to a further gate. **14** Turn left in front of a semicircular quarry face and then head right, up a rocky gully to an open bracken area. **15** Pass between two quarry holes, then swing left on a mostly level path through birch trees, with a low quarry face to your right. A well-made stone trough lies abandoned among the trees to the right of the path. **16** The woodland eventually thins and you pass the famous millstones (more accurately “pulp stones”). **17** At the main road, take the upper and more obvious of two paths opposite, which leads below the rockface of Millstone Edge and passes a number of ruined quarry buildings. **18** A wall joins from the left, beyond which is the conifer plantation of Whim Wood; just before the end of the wood (before the path reaches open country) turn left and go through a gate into the wood. **19** Follow the right-hand edge of the wood until you cross a stream and reach a road. **20** Turn left and walk downhill past a covered reservoir on the right until you reach the main road by Whim Cottage. **21** Turn right down a no-through road which leads parallel to and above the main road past a series of houses. **22** Where the main driveway swings right up to some gates, turn left and then immediately left again to return to the Millstone Inn.

Stanage Edge

6¼ miles: Moderately strenuous

Allow 4 hours. Road walking to start followed by a long (but mostly gradual) ascent. Public conveniences at car park below Stanage Edge. Much rocky ground along Stanage Edge.

1 From the front door, cross the main road and turn right (downhill) along the pavement. Follow the road for ½ mile into Hathersage. **2** Turn right into School Lane, then beyond the school turn left up Church Bank. **3** Keep left to pass the church. When the road bends left to the church car park, cross a stile on the right. **4** Look out for a path on the left that drops down to a ‘clapper’ bridge over a small stream. **5** Beyond the stream, follow a hedge straight ahead. **6** At a waymark post, turn half-right, up the slope to the top corner of the field where the path passes through the hedge and then continues along the bottom of the upper field. **7** Pass to the right of the buildings of Cowclose Farm and then join the drive briefly, before taking a path on the left to the road. **8** Turn left then immediately right, up the metalled drive to North Lees Hall. **9** At North Lees, walk past the hall then turn right before the farm to emerge into open fields. **10** Walk up the field and through a wood, turning left to reach the road by the toilet block. **11** Turn right along the road, then left on the obvious path up to Stanage Plantation, swinging right when you meet the path coming up from the car park. **13** Follow the slabbed path through the wood then emerge into open country and follow the obvious route

that heads obliquely up to the top of Stanage Edge. **14** Turn right and pick your way along the edge path for one mile, until you approach a trig point. (*Robin Hood’s Cave is about halfway along this section, accessed via a wide bouldery ledge below the overhanging main edge; if exploring, take the safer route through the short inner cave to the right rather than the exposed outer route directly above the cliff face.*) **15** Just before the trig point, pick your way down to the right through the rocks (past a group of millstones) and follow the obvious path out to the road. **16** Cross and go through a wooden gate opposite and walk half-left toward Higger Tor. **17** Just before the road, turn right down a grassy track. **18** This drops steeply to join a bridleway and then passes the ruined buildings of Callow Farm. **19** Beyond Callow and just before a bridge over a stream, turn left up the drive to Mitchell Field Farm. **20** Beyond the farm buildings, turn right before the exit gate, through a clump of trees and over a wall stile into a field. **21** Walk across the corner of the field to another stile and into open country. **22** Follow the fairly obvious path to Scaperlow. **23** The official right-of-way goes through the gate and down the drive, but the de facto route skirts to the left of the outside wall of the property. **24** Beyond the house, join and follow the entrance drive, which swings left and left again to meet the road at Little Moor. **25** Turn right and walk downhill, passing a covered reservoir on your right. **26** At the junction with the main road, turn right along a no-through road. **27** When this swings right to a set of gates, turn left and immediately left again to drop down to the Millstone Country Inn.

THE MILLSTONE COUNTRY INN

This old coaching inn has been welcoming visitors for centuries, and makes an ideal base for exploring the many different attractions the Peak District has to offer.

We have nine rooms available, from double rooms, twin rooms, single-bedded rooms and family rooms. For the standard of comfort and service, the Millstone Inn accommodation has been graded a 4-star Inn by the AA.

Our bar has SIX hand-pulled real ales, and a great menu of bar meals is available every day. We are Cask Marque accredited for the quality of our real ale.



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