

A long Settle Loop

Scale 1:55000

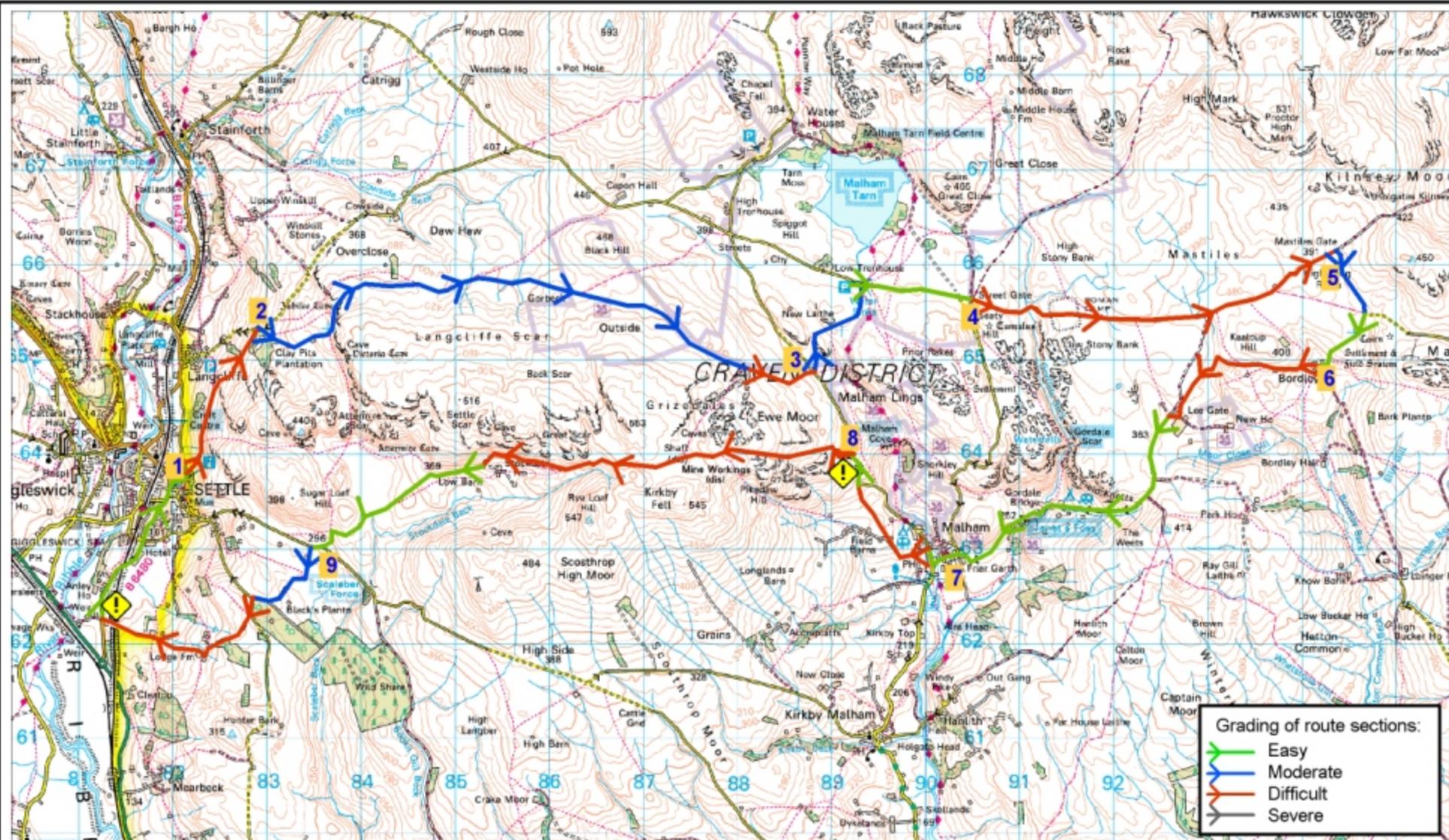


Start: Settle (GR: 818 636) or Malham (GR: 900 627)

Distance: 35km

Ascent: 1020m

Grade: Difficult



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SETTLE – THE LONG LOOP

Start and finish	Settle SD 818 636 or Malham SD 900 627
Distance	35km (21 miles)
Toilets	Settle and Malham
Pubs and cafes	Settle, Malham
Nearest train station	At Settle

If you've been around the Settle Loop and want to extend it, here is one option. It adds in a section of Mastiles Lane and a loop to Malham past Gordale Scar, before a testing climb up Stockdale Lane and a long descent to Settle taking in an extra off tarmac section.

ROUTE DESCRIPTION

1. From Settle market place climb Constitution Hill in front of the Co-op. after it levels off take the track on the right signed Pennine Bridleway. The initial surfaced track becomes grassy and is followed to meet a road.
2. Turn right and carry straight on as the tarmac road goes left. Gorbeck road is easy to follow and is a mixture of stone track and grassy sections. Where the Pennine Bridleway Settle Loop turns right you go straight on. Keep following the route through a road.
3. Turn left, go over a cattle grid, then immediately right to follow a grassy bridleway. There is a short climb followed by a descent which brings you to a road and parking area. Turn right and follow tarmac road for 1km. Where it goes right you go straight on to a gate.
4. This is the start of the old monastic way known as Mastiles Lane, and is signed to Kilnsey. Follow the obvious route down to a stream crossing, then a short climb leads to an undulating section. The route becomes a walled lane, and then just has a wall on the left.
5. At the next gate take the bridleway on the right to Bordley. At crossroads of paths and roads, go straight on to reach Bordley Farm.
6. Follow the bridleway out the other side of the farm. Initially this is a stone track but then becomes grassy. Follow bridleway markers through to reach Lee Gate Farm and a minor tarmac road. A very fast descent takes you past Gordale Scar, up a short climb, and then another quick descent to Malham. You might want to stock up here because you are about to do a long climb.
7. Turn left in the village, and then right as if turning into the National Park Centre car park. Rather than going into the car park, follow a track that goes behind it. After 300m take the bridleway on the left. This starts as a stone track and then becomes grassy. After a gate it goes into a field and then climbs to meet a road. Turn left and keep climbing. After 300m take the signed bridleway through a gate on the left.
8. This is Stockdale Lane and the climbing continues, at times steeply, until you reach the second gate. You are now back on the Pennine Bridleway which is followed over a flat grassy section before the start of some great rocky descending, which is slippery in the wet, and eventually leads through a tarmac track close to Stockdale Farm. Carry straight on still descending to meet a T-junction.
9. Turn right then left down another bridleway. Follow this walled lane through to meet the top of a tarmac road. Do not go down it. Turn left on the stone track and follow this alongside a woodland for 200m. Then look for another track off to the right. Follow this track down, through Lodge Farm to meet a road. Turn right and head back into Settle.