

Torside Reservoir

Walk Information

Walk Area:	Torside	OS Map:	Explorer OL1
Distance:	4 Miles		Dark Peak Area
Start Point:	Torside Visitors Center		1:25000
Map Ref:	SK 068 983		

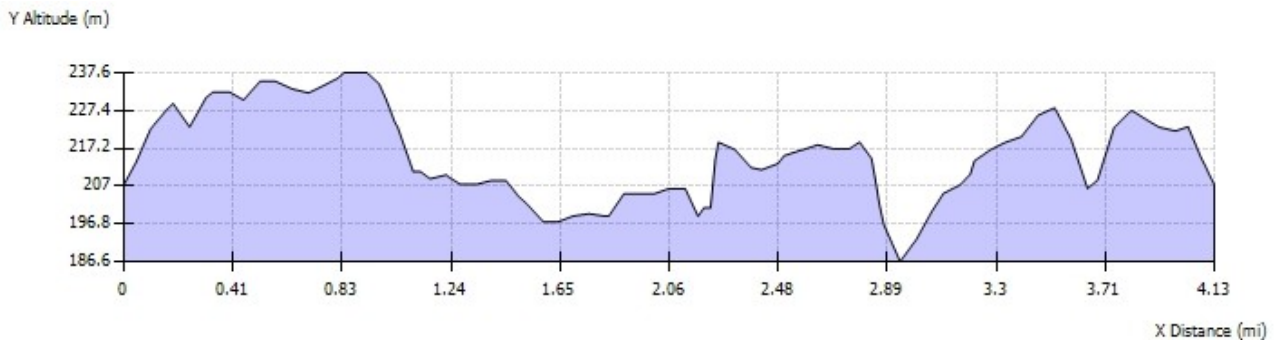
General Information

Parking:	Pay And Display
Tea Shops:	None
Duration:	1 Hours 50 Minutes

Altitude Data

Start:	679 ft (207m)
Minimum	610 ft (186m)
Maximum	777 ft (237m)

Altitude Profile



Torside Reservoir

A fairly easy circular walk of a little over four miles, starting northward from Torside Visitors Centre along the Longdendale trail, then across the sluice below Woodhead Dam. The walk then follows the bank of Torside Reservoir down to Torside Dam, leaving the bank side to pass through a pine wood as it nears the dam. Once over the dam with its views over Rhodeswood Reservoir, its back onto the Longdale Trail to return to the car park. No coffee shops on this walk I'm afraid, but a picnic area and toilets are available near the car-park..

Getting There:

Torside reservoir lies just off the A628 Woodhead Road around 4.5 miles to the north of Hadfield (best known for its role as Royston Vasey in the comedy series *The League of Gentlemen*). The Torside Visitors Center which forms the start point for this walk is just off of the B6105 on the opposite side of the reservoir to the main Woodhead road. If travelling from the down the A628 from Sheffield the turn onto the B6105 is to the left just before Woodhead Dam, if travelling north on the A628 I would think this turn could be a bit awkward. From the south take the B6015 from the centre of Glossop and travel north for just over four miles, the visitors centre is on the right. An alternate start point is the car park at Crowden, this may be a better option for those travelling on the A628 from Hadfield.

Torside Reservoir

The Walk:

Leave the car park with the reservoir behind you, and take the path in the far left corner up through the “Life for Life” memorial planting to the Longdale trail. On reaching the Longdale trail turn left and walk northwards for a little less than a mile. Just before the point where the route leaves the trail there is a drystone wall to the right and a wire fence to the left, the B6105 is clearly visible ahead. At the end of the fence opposite the wall take the path to the left which cuts back at 180 degrees down to the road. This road is quite busy, and the traffic fairly quick at this point so cross with care. Once across the road follow the vehicle track down through the trees to the foot of

Woodhead Dam, then take the foot over the run-off. On the other side of the footbridge go down the set of steep stone steps on the left and follow the footpath towards Torside Reservoir. Follow the path beside the sluice until it bears right away from the reservoir to a small stone bridge. The path over the bridge leads to Crowden car park; the alternate start point for this walk. Do not cross the bridge, instead follow the path until it reaches a gate then take the path to the left (signposted Torside Dam) and head back towards the reservoir. On reaching the bank of the reservoir the path crosses a wide concrete bridge over Crowden



Footbridge Over Woodhead Dam Sluice

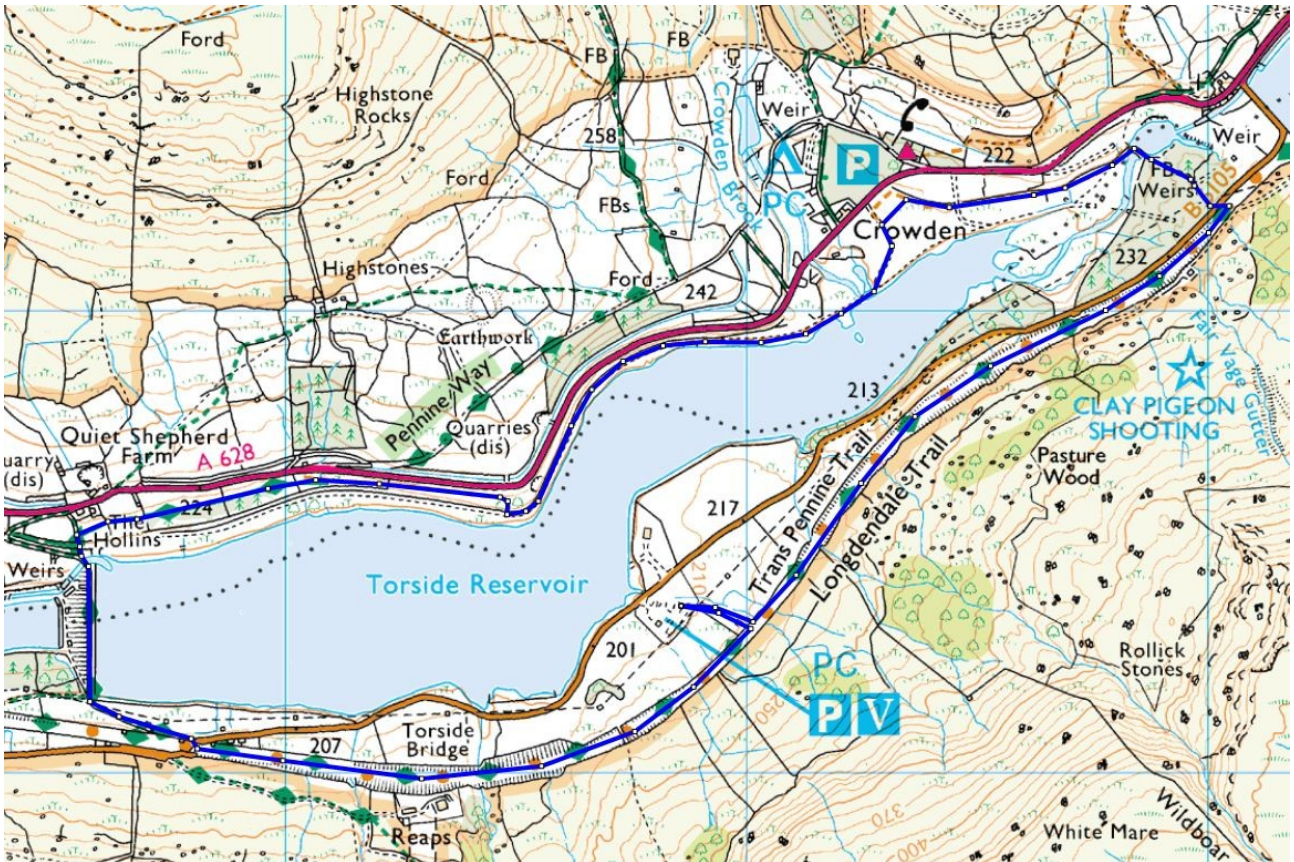


Tinsel School Wood.

Brook then narrows to a track with bracken on both sides. At one point along the way there is a wooden barrier to the left of the path, if you have children or animals with you have them under close supervision at this point as there is an almost sheer drop into the waters of Torside reservoir. Keep following the footpath until it reaches a metal footbridge over the sluice, cross the bridge and take the path up the slope into Tinsel School Wood. The path now continues to rise gently as it passes through woodland and areas of bracken, over a stile and a wooden bridge over a stream and through several gates until it enters an area of pine wood. As the path progresses through the pine wood it is joined from the right by the Pennine Way. The path along this stretch is often bordered by various mushrooms and toadstools, of the six I was able to identify five were poisonous, and to be honest I wouldn't fancy trying the sixth! The path eventually leaves the pine wood and drops away to the left down to Torside Dam.

Cross the top of the dam, if you have a hat I suggest you hang on to it as the wind really whistles down these reservoirs, and crossing the dam the foot path has no shelter from it. Once over the dam follow the path up to the road and cross carefully. Do not go up the bank onto the Pennine Way, but go right beside the road to rejoin the Longdail Trail. Follow the trail northward once more until after three-quarters of a mile you reach the Visitors Center and the end of the walk.

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Map courtesy of Mapyx Quo