

4 hours

moderate

Over the edge

There's much more to this walk than exercise or excellent views. The old bridge at Baslow overlooks a fine stretch of river, and, in spring, the church is surrounded by a blaze of golden daffodils. There are some unusual buildings along the way, and a reminder of the past in the Cundy Graves below Baslow Edge.

The walk

- From the crossroads, walk towards Bakewell and turn first left into Cross Lane. At the end, go nearly straight over into Folds Lane (footpath sign), at the end going left then right to pass the house into the field. Follow the sign left, initially along the field edge, then ahead across a dip to where the path can be seen climbing the hillside into a wooded area. At a waymark go left to the top of the hill and pause to look back at the view.
- Do not cross the stile, but follow the right-hand waymark to a path with a wall on its left, and a valley to its right. Along here, the path is easily followed, with views in both directions, and, in season, splashes of colour from the rhododendrons. At a lane, cross slightly left, then follow the path towards the right. Meeting a wall, watch out for a stile (sign for School Lane and Hassop). A clear path follows the other side of the wall, partly in woodland, and partly in the open, to reach another lane.
- Follow the lane left for over 0.8km (½ mile) to a right-hand bend. You can avoid six stiles by following

the lane then turning left at the end, but otherwise cross the stile beside the gate on the left. Here, move away from the lane over the rise of the field to see a wall running downhill, parallel with the lane. Follow the right side of the wall over stiles with Baslow Church coming into view ahead. After passing between houses, cross the old bridge over the Derwent. The tiny building on the left was originally a lock-up. A gate on the right just before the church gives access to a pleasant picnic spot by the river.

- Along the road past the church, bear left up School Lane. At a small green continue up Bar Road. This degenerates to a track. Just before this swings right, look for a path in left at a gate. The path gradually climbs, then follows a wall along the hillside. Cross a ladder stile, and continue between walls to pick up a track. When this bears right, keep ahead along the wall then past a sign for the Eastern Moors Estate. Soon, bear left on a path downhill to join a level grassy terrace – the course of a water pipeline. Along here, in a dip to the left, you can see the Cundy Graves, the graves of plague victims who died more than 30 years before the famous Eyam plague. Immediately past the graves, bear left down grass to a stile in the bottom corner and to a house drive. The unusual building with a conical roof on the right is reputedly another old lock-up. Follow the drive right to the lane in Curbar.

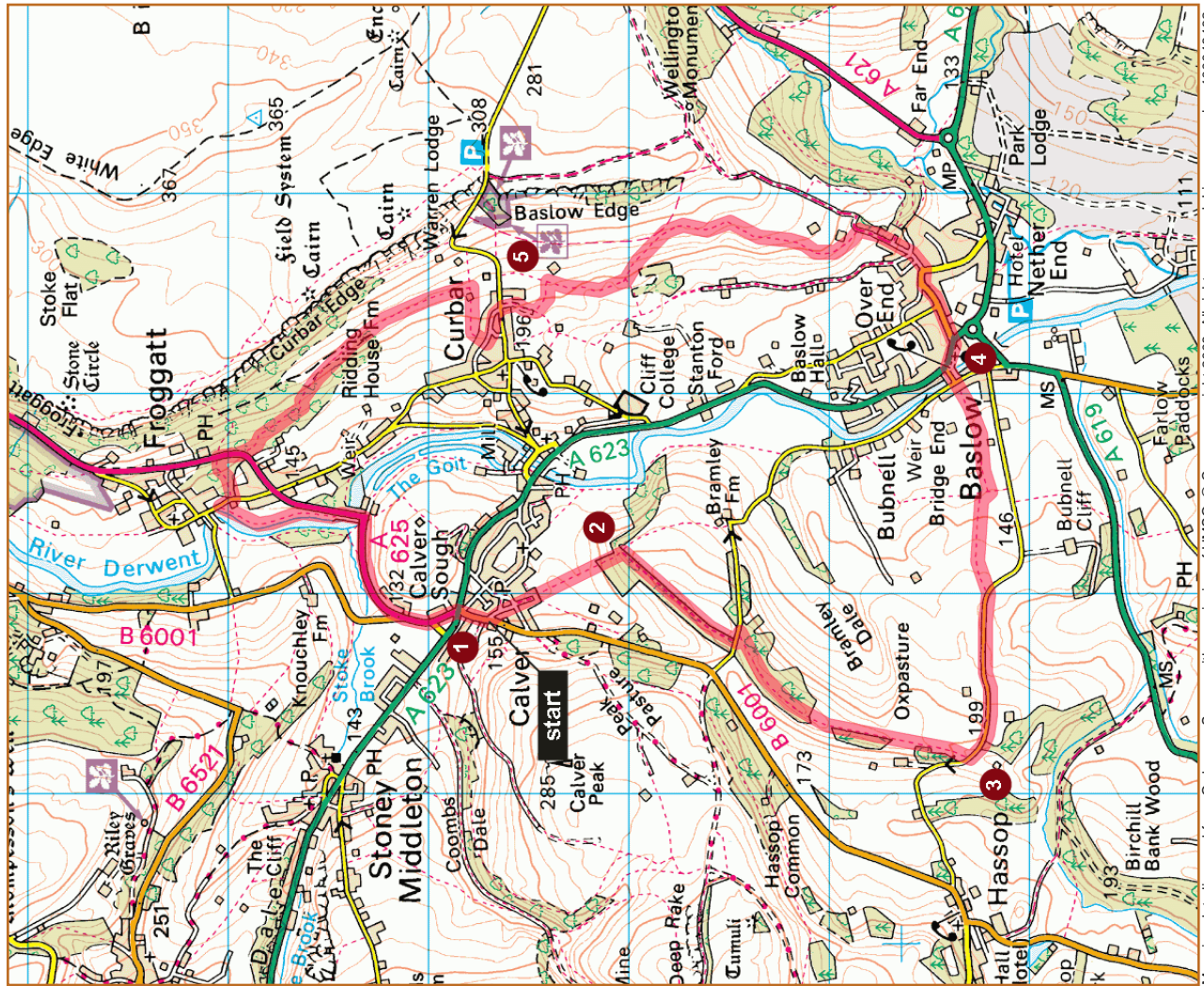
DETAILS
Country Walking ID 1611
Mag Route 11, March 2000
Region East Midlands
Area Derbyshire
Length of walk 12km/7½ miles
Time needed 4 hours
Difficulty Moderate

IS THIS WALK FOR YOU?
Terrain Mostly well-walked paths with two climbs
Stiles 24 (6 can be avoided)
Suitable for children

PLANNING
Parking Calver Sough, crossroads of A623 and B6001
Start grid ref SK239747
Nearest town Bakewell
Public toilets None
Buses from Sheffield, Chesterfield and all surrounding area. Call 01332 292200 for details

MAPS
Ordnance Survey Landranger 119, Outdoor Leisure 24 (The White Peak)

DEREK SPIERS



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