

**16.75km/10½ miles  
MATLOCK**

Matlock is host to popular attractions like the steam railway and Hall Leys Park, the latter with the lovely River Derwent flowing through it towards the famous Matlock Bath. The landscape highlight is the steeply wooded valley from Sydnop Hall to Darley Dale, which once seen is not forgotten. By Guy Corbett-Marshall.

**The walk**

1 From station car park, turn L over the Derwent, walk through Hall Leys Park parallel to, then along A615. At A632 junction, climb towards Chesterfield for 250m, turn R into housing estate on a sharp bend. After 200m, fork R down a track then path, houses, L, woods or open space, R. After 500m route swings L through woodland to high, open point. Continue ahead, join Asker Lane in 400m, then Lumsdale Road and A632.

2 Cross and climb footpath opposite through fields to track. Turn R for 500m until it swings L. Continue on footpath between Cuckoo Stone House and golf course, cross stream in 600m. Climb two meadows to grassy track, turn L, continue for 200m, a plantation, R. Turn R, trees R, but getting more distant as path crosses several fields. Aim for R end of distant wood, to a road in 1.2km, just R of Matlock Park Farm.

3 Turn R then L at junction, then R 20m later along narrow, muddy footpath that meanders L, downhill, then swings R along walled path to

**5¼ hrs**

Shooters Lea Farm. Turn L, over stream, then ahead to the drive away from farm. When this swings R, walk L edge of field ahead, then R of small field to road. Turn L, cross B5057 and field beyond via a footpath that ends at another road.

4 Cross, head diagonally R across field to a wall-stile. Halfway down R side of field two, cross wall-stile then go L side of field three. At end, cross wet ground. Follow trees down L side of large field. Stay L in final field, Darley Forest Grange's buildings, L. Reach road, turn L, past Grange, leave road as bends L. Continue through parking area, then along forest track. Continue for 1.6km, swinging L just after kennels to B5057 200m later.

5 Turn L, walk R verge, turn R in 100m through wooden door to Ladygrove. Narrow path ends, cross two fields ahead (hard stile between!), pass lone oak, drop to bridge over brook. Cross, turn R, keep stream, waterfall and lakes immediately R for 1km to clearing below bungalow. Turn L up path then R along lane to wider section. Turn R, descend footpath through nursery to road. Turn L then take first R down Grove Lane to A6.

6 Cross to pavement, turn L, then R down track to Darley Bridge. Under railway line, turn back up to track, then R to follow it for 800m to a "Stop, Look, Listen" sign. Cross track then head diagonally R before crossing field to A6. Turn R and return in 1.2km over Derwent Bridge in Matlock back to

**moderate**

**DETAILS**  
Country Walking ID 2684  
Mag Route 7, October 2006  
Region Heart of England  
Area Derbyshire  
Length of walk 16.75km/10½ miles  
Time needed 5¼ hrs  
Difficulty Moderate

**IS THIS WALK FOR YOU?**

Terrain Climbs quite long and gentle. Waymarking good. Muddy intervals. Stiles About 20 – one difficult towards Ladygrove. Suitable for children, dogs

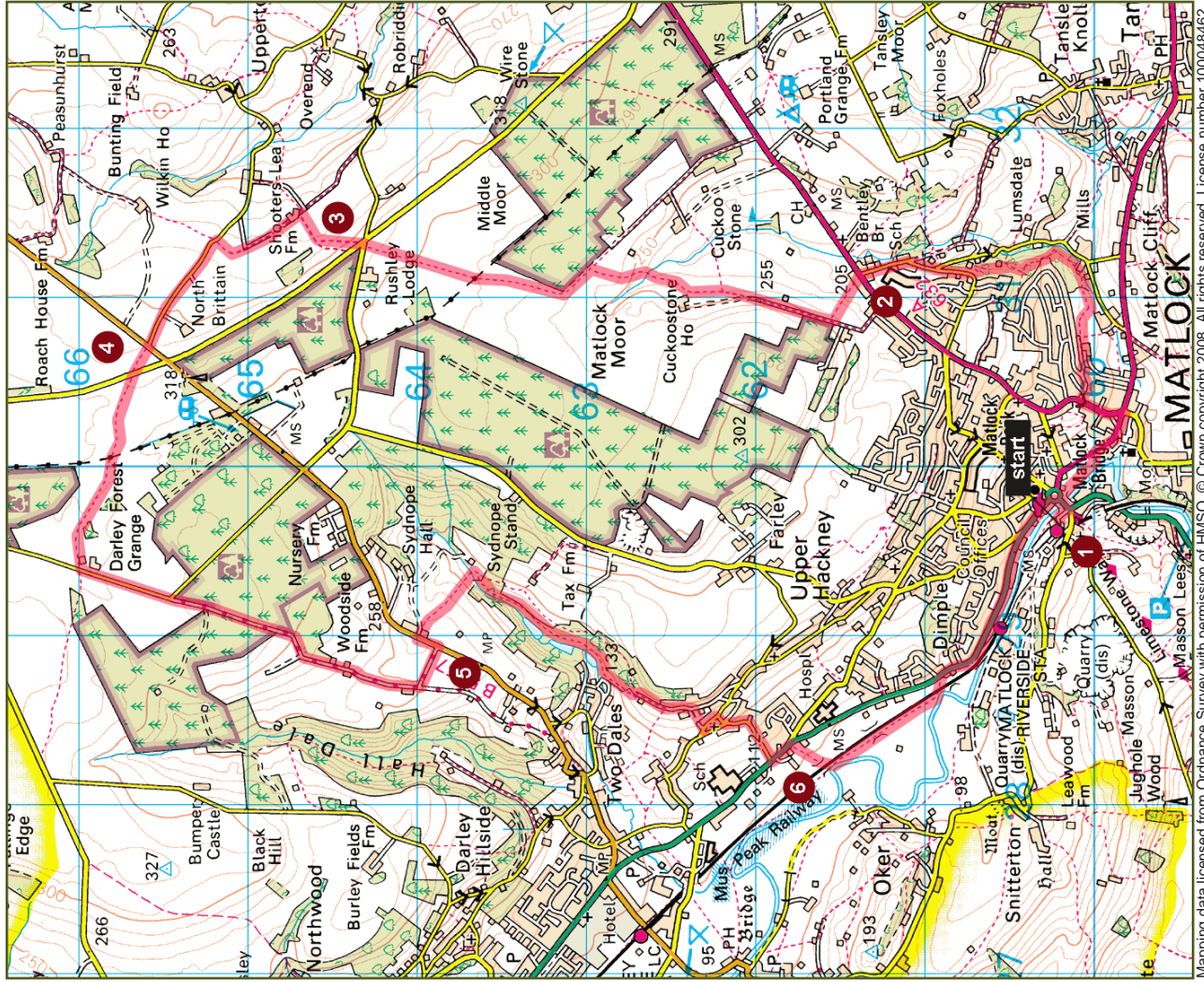
**PLANNING**

Parking Station car park (free and fee options) in Matlock town centre, grid ref SK296602  
Start grid ref SK297602  
Nearest town Matlock  
Refreshments Many options in Matlock  
Public toilets Matlock – Hall Leys Park  
Public transport Tel: Traveline 0870 608 2608 or visit www.derbybus.net

**MAPS**

Ordnance Survey Explorer 24

GUY CORBETT-MARSHALL



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