

Blackstone Edge Trig Point.



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Starting Point: The White House Public House

Finishing Point: The White House Public House

Walk Profile: 7.14 miles / Ascent 970ft / Descent 972ft.

Required Time: 3.20 - 3.75 Hours (2.5mph).

Difficulty:



Transport: Regular bus services from Littleborough.
Ample parking next to White House.

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1....Cross the main road and head up the sign posted track. Follow the rough track up the hill towards the disused quarry at the top. From here turn right and follow the drainage channel as it winds its way around the hill (point 1).

2....This channel goes on for nearly half a mile and in the distance you will see a gate. Just before this gate and to the left, is the remains of an old roman road. At this point head up hill on this old roman road (point 2).

3....Approximately half way up and on the left is the Aiggin Stone an ancient waypoint marker for travellers (point 3). To the right is the trig point but for now, proceed straight ahead and up to the top of the hill. The path down to the bridge at the bottom can be muddy in places and can at times, completely disappear for small sections. Head down to the bridge at the bottom and having crossed it, turn right following the drainage channel (point 4).

4....Follow the drainage channel South until you reach a sign post.(point 5). Proceed straight ahead, and head for the hill in the distance. At this point the path becomes very narrow but is fairly good walking with the occasional boggy area.

5....Follow the narrow path as it bears off to the right and heads off around the edge of the hill. At this point, Green Withins Reservoir comes into view and in the distance the noisy M62. Once you have rounded the hill you will see a marker post and from here the path down to the bridge in the distance (point 6).

6....At the bottom cross the bridge (point 7) and turn right along the track at the side of the drainage channel. After a short distance the track turns left (point 8) and crosses the angled dam wall of Green Withins Reservoir. At the far end of the dam wall you will arrive at a gate and a disused building. (point 9).

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7....At the gate turn left, following the wide track at the side of the drainage channel as it winds its way towards the large radio mast and the M62 in the distance. Once you arrive at the blue reservoir sign (point 10), leave the track heading off to the right following the drainage channel right up to, and within a couple of hundred yards of the motorway.

8....Turn right up the track directly at the side of the M62. Once you have reached the top you will find yourself at the Pennine Way footbridge that crosses the M62 (point 11). Do not cross the foot bridge but instead, follow the Pennine Way North and up hill.

9....From the gate the Pennine Way heads down hill towards the only really boggy area where it crosses a small stream in the valley below. All along this section the route is clearly visible. This is not a steep climb up to Blackstone Edge but more of a long gradual climb. As you reach the summit, the Pennine Way widens and becomes covered in large rocks and boulders. These grow in size the closer that you get to the trig point.

10...Once within a couple of hundred yards of the trig point it can feel at times like mountaineering with the path difficult to see in between the large boulders. Eventually you will arrive at Blackstone Edge trig point which is perched prominently on the top of a large rock. The views from here on a clear day are excellent especially over towards Hollingworth Lake and the moorland to the North and West (point 12).

11...Follow the Pennine Way to the right of the trig point and start the decent back down to the Aiggin Stone. For the first part of the descent the boulders are quite large, and its pot luck if you find the path as you weave in and out of the boulders on the decent down hill. Lower down on the descent the walking gets a lot easier with the occasional marker post to guide you as you travel back towards the Aiggin Stone in the distance (point 13).

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12...Climb the small stile opposite the Aiggin Stone and cross the roman road. From the Aiggin Stone, the final leg of this walk is the same route that you took earlier.

13...Follow the course of the old roman road and descend the hill off to the left.

14...At the bottom of the hill, cross the drainage channel and turn right. Follow the track at the side of the drainage channel back to the dis-used quarry passing the drainage channel crossing point (point 14) en-route.

15...Once you have reached the dis-used quarry, turn left and head down the rough steep track. This track will take you back to the main road.

16...Once down on the busy main road, turn right for the short trip back to hill and towards the White House Public House, and the finishing point.

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Blackstone Edge Trig Point Map.

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