

Grassington - Over Barden Moor

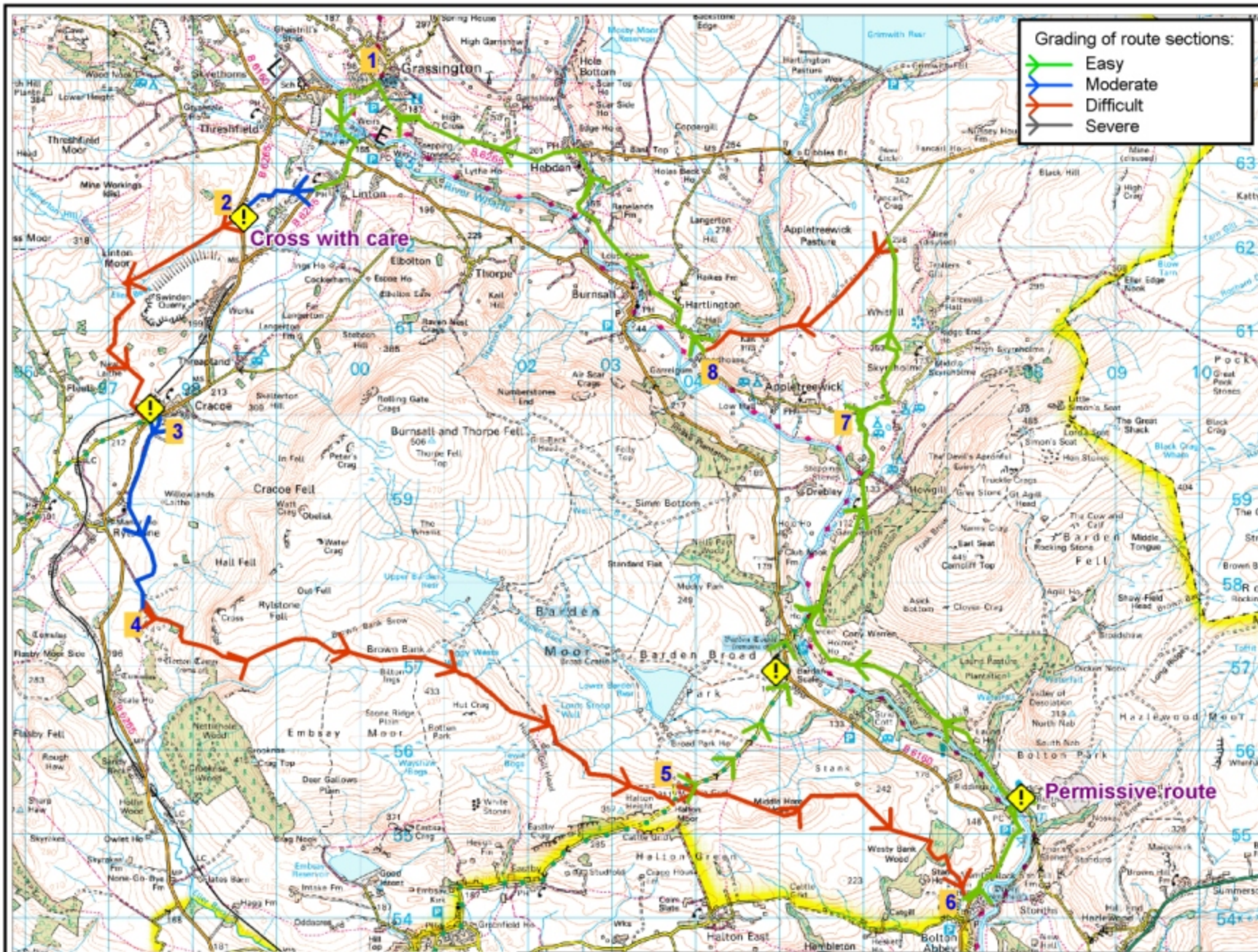
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Start: Grassington NPC (GR: SE 002 638) or Bolton Abbey (GR: SE 071 538)

Distance: 34km

Ascent: 861m

Grade: Difficult



Grading of route sections:

- Easy
- Moderate
- Difficult
- Severe

Cross with care

Permissive route

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GRASSINGTON – OVER BARDEN MOOR

Start and finish	Grassington National Park Centre. SE002638
Distance	34km (21 miles)
Toilets	Grassington, Bolton Abbey
Pubs and cafes	Grassington, Linton, Cracoe, Bolton Abbey, Hebden
Nearest train station	Skipton station is 6 miles from the route. Bolton Abbey for a steam train from Embsay.

This route includes the classic crossing of Barden Moor, a great bridleway with heather singletrack, fast stone track, grass sections, and a superb switchback section through the woods. Even better doing the route this way round means a short steep climb leads to a seemingly endless descent all the way to Bolton Abbey. Then there is a chance to refuel before taking to the tarmac on the return journey – the good news is that even the road section is stunning.

ROUTE DESCRIPTION

1. Turn left out of the car park and follow road down out of Grassington. Turn left immediately after crossing the river and follow the quiet lanes to Linton. It is clearly signposted. Pass through and out of village. After 100m take the obvious track on the right where the road bears to left. This descends to a main road. Take great care here.
2. Cross the road to follow a loose bouldery track. After the gate follow the obvious trail through to a tricky ford crossing. Carry straight on over the fields to a descent across fields to a gate in bottom left field corner at the top of an often muddy lane. Follow to a road just by a junction with the B6265.
3. Turn left on the B6265 towards Cracoe, then almost immediately sharp right into small lane and onto the bridleway signed to Rylstone. This limestone track leads to two gates. Take the left-hand gate and follow field wall to farmyard next to church. Through the next gate and take the bridleway on the left signed to Barden Moor. Follow this easy limestone track through gates to an obvious lane. Go left (signed to Barden Moor) and follow this track 200m to a gate on left signed to Barden Moor.
4. Go left through this gate and climb up Rylstone Fell to the top where it levels out on to a sandy moorland track. Cross the moorland on an entertaining single track before climbing on to a good track to the summit of Embsay Moor, and then a slow descent for 3km to a road. The bridleway leaves the main track to the right shortly before the road.
5. Turn left, cross the cattle grid, then take the bridleway signed to Bolton Abbey. Follow good grassy track to a gate then on a steeper section. The track then drops steeply before levelling out on a grassy surface to a gate. Pass through the gate (Bridleway sign) and across the obvious track near manhole covers. Continue across the field to a gate and then on towards woods. Take the obvious track through the woods and descend on a steep winding route to a gate. Cross the field to a gate on left (unsigned) and then follow the right-hand field boundary to another gate and stone track. Go left and descend to road
6. Turn left on to the road, then right at the monument to descend into the grounds to the Cavendish Pavilion tea rooms, where you may want to stop. Cross the Wharfe on the wooden bridge (this is a permissive route so please use carefully) to a T-junction with a minor lane. Turn left and follow the lane to junction. Turn right and follow the road to another T junction. (If you are tired and wish to miss out the final off-road section turn left here).
7. Go right (signed to Stump Cross Caverns) and climb steeply to a long flat straight. At the end of the straight turn left through a gate onto a bridleway (signed Hartlington). This good track descends quickly. Turn right at the obvious track to a farm and continue to the next gate on the right of the farm entrance. The grassy descent becomes steep and rocky leading to a gate by a road.
8. Turn right onto the road and follow to Hartlington. Take the minor road on the right and climb for 100m to a junction (signed to Hebden). Follow this into Hebden and junction with main road. Turn left and follow this road back to the National Park Centre car park (take care as it may be the first traffic you'll encounter since leaving Linton).