

The Settle Loop

Scale 1:30000

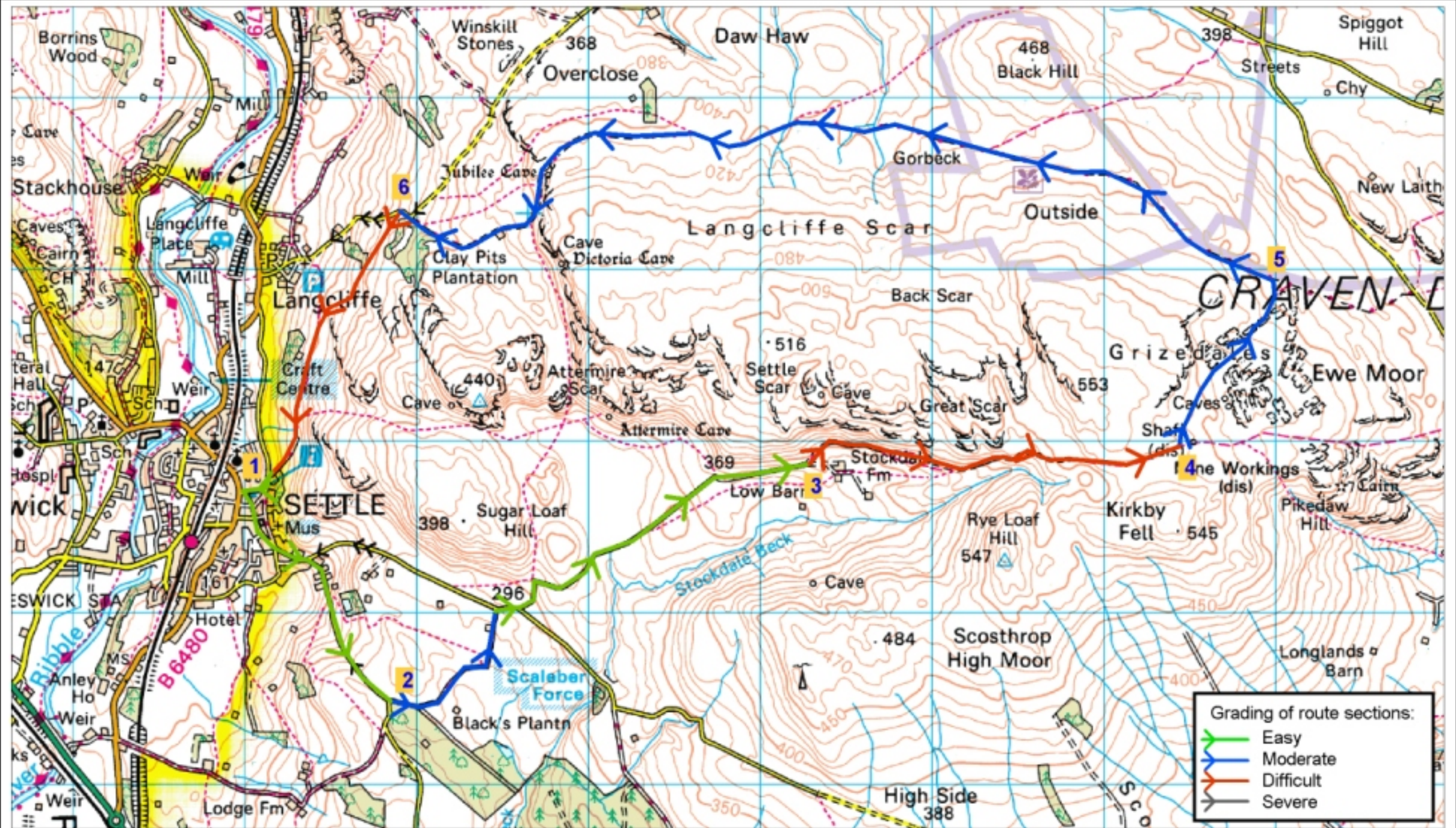


Start: Settle, GR: 818 636

Distance: 16km

Ascent: 500m

Grade: Moderate



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THE SETTLE LOOP

Start and finish	Settle SD 818 636
Distance	16km (10 miles)
Toilets	Settle
Pubs and cafes	Settle
Nearest train station	At Settle

The first section of the Pennine Bridleway to be opened in the Yorkshire Dales, the Settle Loop takes you on a variety of tracks; gravel, natural grassland and rocky limestone sections. It also gives great views out over the southern section of the Dales. It may be a short route but it involves a big climb out of Settle so expect to do some hard work.

ROUTE DESCRIPTION

1. The Settle Loop is part of the Pennine Bridleway and is well signed. The hardest part is finding the way out of Settle at the beginning. You need to get on to the Airton road which starts near The Folly in town. Follow this as it starts to climb away from town, and then turn right down a minor tarmac road at a wooden fingerpost. This continues to climb steeply away from Settle to reach a junction of routes.
2. Take the track to the left and follow this through to meet a road. Turn right, then next left and follow a quiet tarmac road through to near Stockdale Farm.
3. Go through the gate on the left on to a narrow rocky track. The climbing continues further on with a couple of challenging rocky sections to reach flat grassland. Continue on the grassy track to the high point of the route.
4. Stockdale bridleway continues straight on but you turn left and descend grassy tracks down to meet Gorbeck road.
5. Turn left and follow a mixture of grassy track and fast gravel as it crosses undulating ground, and then descends past Jubilee and Victoria Caves to meet tarmac once again.
6. Turn almost immediately left onto another signed bridleway. This great grass singletrack keeps descending towards Settle. When you reach a surfaced track you will need to start breaking as you shortly reach tarmac once again. Turn left and freewheel back into Settle.