

Clapham - Tunnels and Bridges

Scale 1:30000



Start: Clapham NPC, GR: SD 746 692

Distance: 19km

Ascent: 210m

Grade: Moderate



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CLAPHAM – TUNNELS AND BRIDGES

Start and finish	Clapham SD 745 692
Distance	19km (12 miles)
Toilets	Clapham
Pubs and cafes	Clapham, Austwick and Feizor.
Nearest train station	Clapham 1km from start

This route really does have a bit of everything that is best about Dales mountain biking – walled lanes, stone tracks, grassy tracks, rock slabs, fords and old clapper bridges. To add to it all from the top of the route you have one of the best views in the Dales looking out over the limestone pavement of Thieves Moss to Pen-y-Ghent.

ROUTE DESCRIPTION

1. Turn right out of the car park, and after 200m turn right again along signed bridleway track. This leads up through two tunnels, and then continues up a tough little climb to reach level ground. A good condition stone track leads straight on, and crosses a minor tarmac road before descending to a T-junction with a road.
2. Turn right, and then left after 500m on to track signed Pennine Bridleway. You soon meet the first ford and clapper bridge of the ride – the choice is yours. Keep on the Pennine Bridleway along great small tracks through to Feizor.
3. Turn left and pass through the small village and on up a track. This descends past one farm down to a second. The Pennine Bridleway goes right here, but you carry straight on down the farm track to meet the road.
4. Turn left and follow for 800m, then turn right along signed bridleway into Wharfe. Go up into the village and then continue out on the bridleway. This narrow stony track climbs away from Wharfe, to meet the second ford and clapper bridge option. Continue past this to meet a T-junction with a large track.
5. Turn right and climb steadily up to Crummack farm. Go through the gate to the left of the farm access track and on to limestone pasture land. The superb grassy track climbs up to reach a high plateau area. Follow the track along through a tussocky area to meet another track. It is worth continuing along in the same direction until you meet a gate to get the fantastic views out over Moughton Scars.
6. Now back track to the track junction again and this time go right. There are several tracks in this section but they all meet up again. You are now at the start of a long descent back to Clapham, first on grassy tracks and then down a stone walled lane. There is one short climb by a woodland and this leads to a track junction. Turn right and descend carefully back down through the tunnels to Clapham.