

Hill Top Hamlets

5³/₄ miles (9km) circular walk

START/FINISH

At the entrance to Cross Roads park, on the A6033 Haworth Road, Cross Roads near the junction with the A629 Keighley / Halifax Road. G.R. SE045377.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Frequent bus services to the nearby bus stop from several locations contact Metroline 0113 245 7676.

CAR PARKING

There are no public car parks nearby, therefore car parking is limited to on street parking. Please park with care and consideration

WALK INFORMATION

As the title suggests you will be walking on the hill tops where even in summer the breeze can be quite cool, therefore it is advisable that you dress for the season and include an extra sweater a waterproof coat, and strong footwear.

After leaving the walk start point there are no shops/public houses on route therefore essentials will have to be carried, food and drinks for example can be obtained at the local shops near the walk start point. Public toilets are available at the walk start point.

This walk is not suitable for wheelchair and pushchair users or people with limited mobility.

If you are confident that you can walk the distance this walk is suitable for reasonably fit occasional walkers and has the advantage of starting near the top of the hill, therefore there is no prolonged climbing.

Expect good long distant views including the Worth Valley Railway from quiet footpaths.

THE ROUTE

Starting with your back to the park entrance turn left uphill the short distance to the main A629 road junction at the top, cross this busy road via the traffic island turning right on the opposite side, then immediately left to walk up the much quieter Bingley Road. On reaching the road junction at the top of the steep climb, cross Bingley Road straight ahead to join a footpath through the stone built stile adjacent to the gable end of 'Lane End' the row of cottages opposite.



A view across to Haworth from Barcroft

Through the stile walk up the stone sett path leading into a field at the top, here turn left crossing the field to a stile and gateway at the far end of the field.

Go through the stile out onto the surface road turning right uphill passing the houses on your left. Just beyond the last house near the top of the hill the road surface changes to a wide rough track as you continue straight ahead and over the crest of the hill. Eventually the track surface changes back to a surface road, continue straight ahead the short distance to where the road divides opposite "Cliffe House" the first building you come to which can be seen across the field on your right.

Here take the left fork following the two obvious hard surface vehicle tracks which after a short distance change to a rough farm track leading to "Cliffe View" a former farmhouse. From here continue straight ahead along the back of the buildings following the wide now grassy track for approximately 150yds/137m to find a gated stile hidden under the trees. Go through the stile into a field to follow the footpath straight ahead keeping near to the wall on your left for quite a distance to a second stile at the far end of the field. Through the stile cross the next field again keeping close the wall on your left eventually bearing left and going steeply downhill crossing a small stream to a gate and stile which can be seen ahead under the trees.

Through the stile continue by walking steeply up a narrow walled path which eventually leads out onto the Keighley/Cullingworth road. Here take care as you cross the road turning left uphill on the opposite side for approximately 150yds/137m before turning first right off the road and along a wide grass track. Follow the track up the gentle incline eventually going through a stile at the side of a gate, through the stile ignore the path off to the left to

continue straight ahead up the wide grassy track as it follows the contour of the hillside of "Catstones Moor" and "Hunters Hill" plantation on your left to a second gateway with stile. Through the stile follow the well trod track now walking on the level as you pass the top of a footpath which joins from the right to a third gate and stile, over the stile continue ahead along the wide grassy track passing the rear of the building at "Hunters Hill" to a fourth gate and stile.

Immediately over the stile the path divides, here our route takes the left fork following the level path straight ahead keeping near to the wall on your left until you reach a stile through a stone wall which leads out onto Ryecroft road. Take care here as you cross the road bearing slightly to your right to join the rough road opposite which leads into the hamlet of Ryecroft. Continue straight ahead along the road as meanders through the hamlet bearing left at the far end as you pass along the back of Ryecroft farm to exit Ryecroft along a farm track. After only a short distance and adjacent to the new houses on your right, leave the track via the narrow gateway on your left which leads uphill into the woodland following the well worn path between the trees which leads to a gap stile through the boundary wall of Harden moor.



The hamlet of Ryecroft

HARDEN MOOR - OPEN COUNTRY

Due to the maze of paths over the moor it is quite difficult to write an accurate route, however the author of the walk has attempted to follow the public footpath which crosses the moor and hopes that you will be able to follow in his footsteps.

If all else fails make your own way the best you can uphill onto the top of the moor from where you will be able to see the telephone mast straight ahead. Then using your walk map and the mast you should be able to work out which way to walk to get you back on the right track so that you end up at the top right hand corner of the moorland at the kissing gate near the junction of three rough tracks (GR SE 071393). Good luck!

THE ROUTE CONTINUES:

Go through the stile in the boundary wall to follow the obvious well worn path steeply uphill the short distance until you meet another path which crosses from left to right. Turn right here for only a short distance following the path as it goes steeply down into a hollow and back up the other side to where the path levels out. Here walk on a further 4yds/3.6m to the second faint path which you come to on the left which leads off the path you are on to make your way uphill between the two small trees and the heather covered hillside the short distance to where it joins a much wider and rockier path which crosses from left to right. Turn left up the wider path passing between the heather covered spoil heaps to the junction at the top where several paths cross. From here looking straight ahead the top of a mobile phone mast can be seen and our route continues straight ahead in the general direction of the mast ignoring other paths which might tempt you of to left or right.

Soon the path levels out and bears left across a grass and bracken covered plateau before soon bearing right up a slight rocky incline between the spoil heaps and still walking in the general direction of the mast. At the top of the incline the path divides, here take the well worn rough path to the left gently uphill which soon becomes partially stone paved. Continue ahead through the last of the spoil heaps out onto the level moorland where after a short distance the path widens to a track. Eventually the stone paved track starts to bear right across the moor leaving the telephone mast over on your left, eventually crossing another track to continue straight ahead across the moorland for approximately 400yds/366m until you reach a field gate/kissing gate at the right hand corner boundary of the moor near the junction of three rough tracks.

Go through the kissing gate crossing the track straight ahead to join the track opposite level at first before starting your descent steeply down towards the hamlet of "Back Shaw". At the bottom of the steep incline near the bungalow "Swallows Nest" and house "The Old Barn" on your right at Moor Edge turn sharp left along the level track "Back Shaw Lane" eventually passing houses on your right on what as now become a partially surfaced road as it bears right downhill along Hainworth Shaw to emerge onto Shaw Lane. Cross Shaw Lane bearing to your right to go through the stile in the wall opposite to rejoin the footpath downhill walking between the wall and the fence and over a second stile into a field. In the field the path follows the wall on your left almost to the bottom left hand corner of the field, where on your left a stile through the wall can be found. Through the stile the footpath continues straight ahead bearing slightly to the right to find a stile between the two gateways clearly visible across the field.

Through the stile the path goes diagonally to the right in a straight line across the centre of the field to a gateway at the bottom left hand corner. From the gateway continue straight ahead following the wall on your right to a second gateway where the footpath continues following the wall straight ahead to a third gateway leading into a walled track. Go along the track as it meanders between the disused machinery and debris before turning right to go

through the stable yard at “Ash Cottage Stables” (**here you may encounter very vocal but chained up guard dogs**) before exiting onto Goff Well Lane.

Turn right down the road crossing almost immediately to bear left into the hamlet of Hainworth. At the centre of the village where the roads converge our route turns left and is joined by part of the Worth Way Walk as you continue straight ahead between the houses along the rough Moor Bottom Road for quite a distance until you reach a road junction. Here continue straight ahead up the slight incline to follow the rough track along “Moor Bottom” still following the “Worth Way Route” as it narrows to a path, boggy in places along the hillside for approximately 3/4 mile before emerging onto Bingley Road. Turn right down Bingley Road soon entering the hamlet of “Barcroft” where after only a short distance turn right down the steep short section of Bingley Road that you walked up at the start of your walk to cross back over the main road at the bottom to return to your start point.



Hainworth Village

Footnote

We hope you enjoyed your walk. If so tell your friends, if not, or you have encountered any problems please tell us at:

City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council
Countryside and Rights of Way Service
5th Floor, Jacobs Well,
Bradford BD1 5RW

Tel: 01274 432666

www.bradford.gov.uk/countryside

e-mail: danny.jackson@bradford.gov.uk

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Hill Top Hamlets

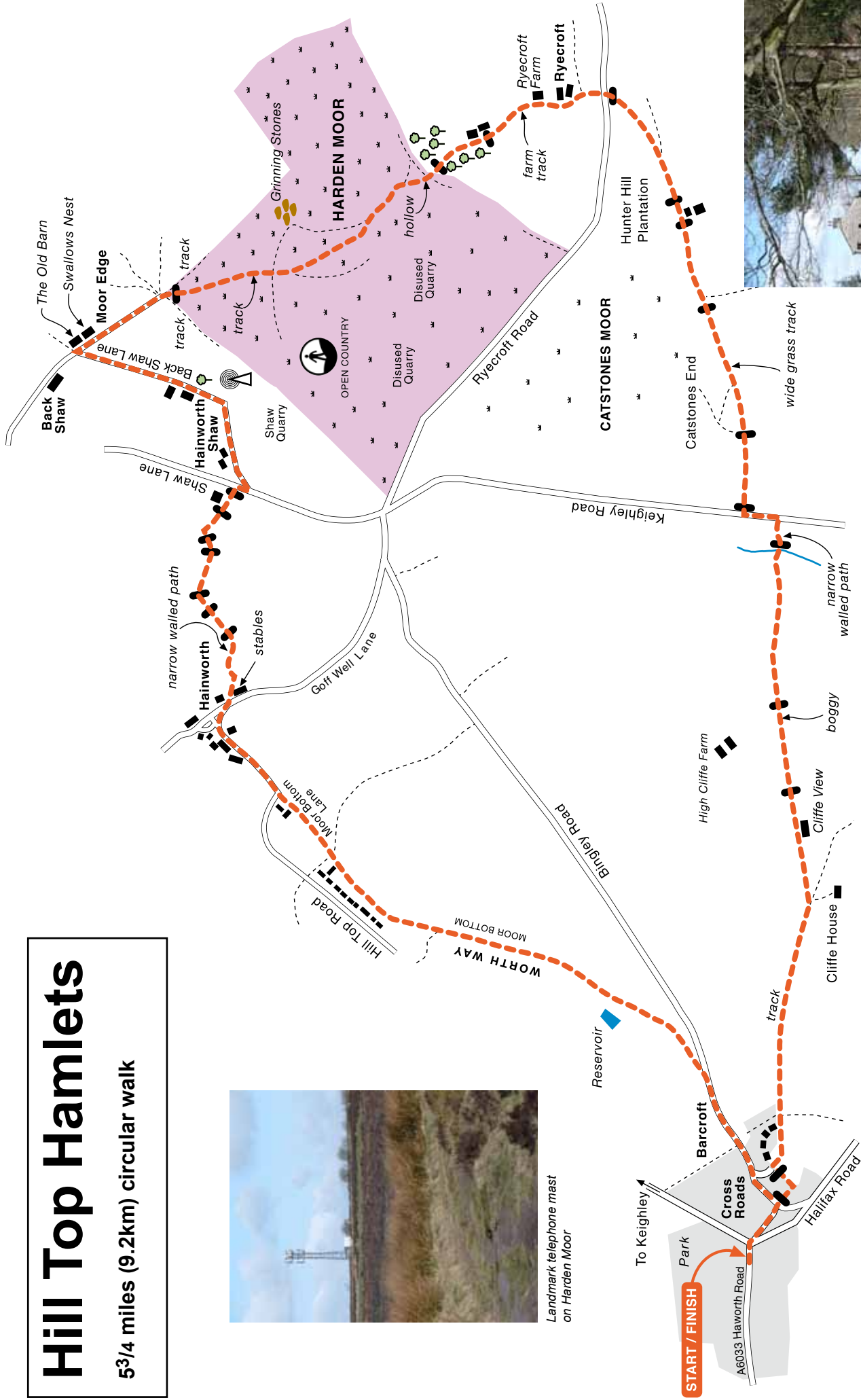
53/4 miles (9.2km) circular walk



Landmark telephone mast on Harden Moor



Footpath at Hunters Hill



Key	
	Route
	Stile/Gate
	Footpaths