

Broken Scar & River Tees

River Tees near Broken Scar dam

Ramble

Urban Green/Distance: 4.5 miles (7.5km) Grade: easy/moderate Time: allow 3 hours



Discover a delightful trail, along the banks of the stunning River Tees and through the West End of Darlington. The route follows public footpaths and woodland areas, Baydale Beck and the historic Tees Cottage Pumping Station, which has live steam Open Days during the year.

Recommended route:

- From the Broken Scar car park take the clear path down to the River Tees, bearing left alongside the river, noting the dam, and further along a pebbled beach in the middle of the river. There is a stile to climb over but also seats for a rest. Carry on alongside the river, taking care on the cobbled path, passing Baydale Farm on the left. Just past the farm, on the left, you pass an old ruin that used to be a leper hospital. As you leave the riverside, through a stile, there is quite a steep hill before you come out into Blackwell.
- Take care, there is no footpath here. Cross the road to the footpath on the other side and turn left into Blackwell. At the end of this road, turn left onto Carmel Road South and walk along passing Elm Ridge Methodist Church, then Elm Ridge Garden Centre, both on your left. Carry on straight over Coniscliffe Road onto Carmel Road North, passing West Cemetery on the left.
- Turn left into Cemetery Lane and proceed along the lane passing Council Allotments on your left. Carry on straight over Baydale Road and down Wycliffe Way onto Edinburgh Drive where you will see Hummersknott School.
- Cross to the right hand side of the school to see a 'Public Footpath' sign. Take this path, adjacent to school tennis courts and playing fields. Pass a Monkey Puzzle tree in a resident's garden on the right.



Start & finish: Broken Scar Picnic Area, Coniscliffe Road

Map Key

How to get there: From Darlington town centre take the A67 (Barnard Castle), passing Elm Ridge Garden Centre on the left, about 1 mile further on are signs for Broken Scar, turn left into Broken Scar Car Park

- S Start & finish:** Broken Scar Picnic Area, Coniscliffe Road
- P Parking:** Free on-site car park
- Public Transport:** Public transport information [0871 200 2233](tel:08712002233) (calls cost 10p per minute plus network extras) www.traveline.info Text [84268](tel:84268)
- Places of interest:**
 - a Broken Scar Picnic & Children's Play Area
 - b Elm Ridge Church
 - c Elm Ridge Garden Centre, [tel 01325 462710](tel:01325462710)
 - d West Cemetery
 - e Tees Cottage Pumping Station, [tel 01325 359846](tel:01325359846)
- Refreshments:** The Baydale Beck Pub, Coniscliffe Road, [tel 01325 469637](tel:01325469637)
- Toilets:** The Baydale Beck Pub, for patrons

- At the end of the footpath bear right, through woodland, following the path to the copse and into Lauriston Close. Bear right for about 50 yards (45m) until you come to Greyfriars Close on the left, walk down it for about 400 yards (365m) to take the Public Footpath on the right. Follow it, turning left and left again at the palisade fencing and past the reservoir. Follow the path alongside the fencing, Baydale Beck is to your right. Carry on along the path, alongside a small stream on your right to join the main road.
- Turn left onto Coniscliffe Road and walk along it, passing a building with a high chimney on your right, bearing a plaque saying 'Darlington Corporation Waterwork Building 1903'. This is Tees Cottage Pumping Station, carry on past it to arrive back at Broken Scar Picnic Area on your right.

