

WALKS FROM WWW.MIKES-WALKS.CO.UK --- STOCKS RESERVOIR

	Grid Ref	Direction	Dist	
1	713523	WNW		From the Public Car Park, turn right into Slaidburn going up the hill and turning right again at the War Memorial. After crossing the bridge over Croasdale Beck, take the footpath to the Right. Do not hug the Beck. But bear NE, till you meet a track at the side a wall, which will take you to Holmead Bridge over the River Hodder
2	715531	NE		Cross the Bridge and follow the Track up to Hammerton Hall. The track passes to the east of the hall, and where it diverges shortly afterwards, take the left-hand gate and head NNE towards Higher Laithe. This path is quite muddy, and as the woods draw in from the right, becomes muddier still. You must resist the temptation to hop over the fence on your left and walk down that dry looking forestry track, and follow the footpath instead until you come to the field overlooking Black House
3	727549	NE		Take the gate into the field and follow the path against the left-hand wall down to the farmyard. Go round the west (front) of the house and join the track. Follow the track until it joins the road at a 90 degree bend
4	736554	N		Join the road and head North (left), passing the small church on the right, which bears the name of Stocks in Bowland, which was the name of the village flooded when the reservoir was created. The road crosses a small causeway, and then in about half a mile there is another 90-degree bend. Do not follow the road, but go straight on into the car park
5	732565	NW		The car park has numerous information boards on the local birdlife and the history of the reservoir. Having read these, take the track at the back of the car park. After a hundred yards or so, you will pass a picnic area on the left, and a few hundred yards after that, ignore the track on the left, which leads to a bird hide. Follow the signs for the 'Stock Reservoir Circular Walk'. The path starts to head slightly uphill and away from the reservoir, through what the map shows as forest, but is mainly either recently planted or recently felled. After a while the path falls away downhill again to some ruined outbuildings
6	722574	W		From the outbuildings head take the path downhill to the footbridge over Haskill Beck. The path is then fairly straight and gently uphill to New Houses. Just before the building at New Houses, the path goes through the wall on the left and takes a zig and a zag that are not evident on the map down to the River Hodder, which you cross by means of the footbridge
7	718579	S		Again the actual and waymarked path differ from the map, so having dried your feet, head downstream to where a wall reaches the river. Follow the wall away from the river and you will see some Waymarks on the far side of the wall. Cross the wall through one of the gaps and follow the waymarks up the side of Copped Hill Clough
8	712573	SE		Towards the top of the clough, the take the path to the left. This long slow descent follows the line of the old single line railway which was

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				constructed to supply materials for the building of the reservoir, and the impressions of sleepers can be seen in the path bed as well as remnants of the steel rails in places. Eventually the path turns south around Eak Hill and again the waymarked path diverges from the path on the map, so follow the waymarked path which takes you between Hollins House and the reservoir, as opposed to round the back of Hollins. From Hollins house onwards the path becomes a made track, past the water bailiffs building, past the impressive Water Board buildings by the reservoir dam and along a road bordered by saplings newly planted in the year 2000, each planted by a local schoolchild or North West Water employee
9	710545	N		At the public road, go right (north) for a hundred yards and take the stile on the left and follow the path down to Croasdale Beck. Here the path turns left before crossing the beck. Follow this path straight back to just outside Slaidburn, returning to the car park via the tea shop - very good cakes !

RESOURCES	
Car Parking	Pay and Display car park, Slaidburn village, 713523 and at Stocks Reservoir 742565
Toilets	In the car park at Slaidburn
Refreshments	Tea Shop by the car park in Slaidburn, Bar meals at the Rest And Be Thankful in Slaidburn, pop & sweets at Slaidburn Post Office. There is also a tea room in the Heritage Centre
Map required	Outdoor Leisure 41, Trough of Bowland
Warnings	
Points of Interest	Information boards at the Stocks Reservoir car park give details of the building of the reservoir and of the local bird life. There is a birdwatchers hide near the car park The village of Stocks-in-Bowland was flooded when the reservoir was built. Reputedly the church of St Johns in Bowland 746555 was built with stone from the original, now drowned church There is a Heritage Centre in Slaidburn open most of the year. Check the website below for opening hours
Website	www.slaidburn.org for history and more walks in English and Norwegian !
Feedback	If you download the route, walk the walk, or have any other issues, please email feedback@mikes-walks.co.uk
Thanks	To Martin Wildsmith for corrections and updates