

Kirkburton to Skelmanthorpe Circular

Kirkburton to Skelmanthorpe Circular - 14 miles/22.5 km

Suitable for walkers, cyclists and equestrians - A varied and interesting ride using road and trail routes which links a number of Kirklees villages.

TPT Map 1: Irish Sea to Yorkshire

There are plenty of opportunities for refreshment throughout this route and there is ample car parking on Huddersfield Road, Kirkburton, opposite the start of the trail.

Start at the beginning of the Kirkburton to Millhouse Green off-road trail at Box Ings, Kirkburton. Follow the signs to Cornmill Bottom and then to Shepley. In Shepley, cross the main road and continue down The Knowle until it becomes a track and continue on this. At the road, turn left and continue downhill under two railway bridges.

At the next junction turn right (Barncliffe Hill) and continue to the T-junction. Follow the signs by turning right here and then left on Ponker Lane. Continue into Skelmanthorpe, now ignoring the Trail signs, and descend to the main road.

Here turn right, taking the second road on the left (Elm Street), following this until it becomes a track (Pilling Lane). Descend this track, noting the line of the Kirklees Light Railway on your left. Where you rejoin tarmac, take the first road on your right (Pennine Way) and follow it down to the main road.

This is the village of Scissett where you turn left and continue under the railway bridge. We are now in Clayton West. (The terminus of the Kirklees Light Railway is on your right, just before the bridge.)

Soon after, take the first turn on the left at Langley Lane, near The Junction public house. Carry on up this track, keeping to the left at first and soon right at the first junction, then climb steadily to Emley Moor, with views of the Emley Moor Television Mast on your left. Go through a gate and then turn right on the road. Follow this road as it bends left and



arrives at a T-junction. Turn left here and climb gradually up to Emley Mast.

Soon after the Mast, turn right on Jagger Lane (signposted Kirkburton) and continue descending right into Kirkburton. At the T-junction turn left, climb the hill and you will soon reach your start just past the church.

PLACES OF INTEREST:

SKELMANTHORPE: Originally a centre of the textile trade, in 1819, after the Peterloo massacre, local people wove a famous banner which stated their demands for wider suffrage and improved human rights. This banner, or chart, was paraded at a number of local political gatherings. The original is in the Tolson Museum, Huddersfield, and a copy is kept in The Chartist public house in the village

THE KIRKLEES LIGHT RAILWAY: This follows the route of the original main route between Clayton West and Shepley. Trains run at weekends and in school holiday periods.

Produced by Ken Roberts — Group Coordinator for Penistone to Kirkburton