

Bell End - North Dale - Northern Rigg - Rosedale Abbey

Walk 7

Distance - 5 miles (Moderate)

Start/car parking - Bell End car park, HPB Rosedale

WALK

1. Leave Bell End Farm via the car park exit, then turn right follow the road for approximately 400 yards till the wall on right ends and a wood begins. There is a footpath sign on the left of the road but you turn right over the stile and down the track through the woods. Continue down through another stile which again leads downhill to a fingerpost where you turn right through gates and over the bridge.

2. Turn left uphill at the other side of the bridge keeping a wall on your left. Do not turn very sharp left over the bridge through a broken gate and do not go straight on. About two thirds of the way up the field there is a gate through the wall with marker signs (although at last check posts with marker and fallen). You go through the gate aiming diagonally upwards to the left for the gate and you see with a yellow marker on the top wall of the next field. Go through that gate and turn left along the track with woods on your right

3. Shortly after you go through a gate onto a minor road where you turn right. Soon after the road turns left and there is stone building on the right and a large metal barn on the left. Go right through the gate at the brideway sign just past the stone building ([Grid ref 725 978](#)).

4. The track goes steeply uphill here. Go through the gate at the top of the field on to Northdale Rigg. Continue uphill and go slightly right till you meet a distinct track. The path/track up to the distinct track is unclear at times but your aim is to go rightish and uphill towards the wall higher up. A tall stone can also be seen in the direction you wish to follow. After meeting the track go right with the wall on your left until a gate is met.

5. Go straight across and follow the brideway path through the heather - the path is narrow in parts (but eventually it emerges onto and leads onto a minor road - cross the road and through more heather on a narrow path which eventually merges onto another minor road at [Grid Ref. 739 965](#)).

6. Bear right and follow the road for a few hundred yards before reaching a cattle grid at [Grid Ref. 741 957](#). Here there is an information board about Hartoft Rigg and a Public footpath sign pointing right.

7. Go right just before the cattle grid - the path begins to bear away slightly to the right of a stone wall, and down towards a stone cairn and a memorial seat from where there are spectacular views across Rosedale. Continue on down past the seat to a small gate near the corner of a dry stone wall.

8. Go through the gate and continue downhill through the bracken and across some wooden boards crossing a small patch of marshy ground. Cross a stile, then further down the hillside look for a three way signpost. Note there is a tall stone just before the fingerboard. Turn right at the fingerboard across a double stile first stone then wood and follow the edge of the field with the wall to your right.

9. Go through a large wooden gate and continue on through other gates (metal and wood mostly with yellow pointers), this time with the wall to your left, until you reach a farm (The Grange) at [Grid Ref 731 958](#). Yellow pointers show either ahead or left. Go left through the farm yard to the tarmac road with red roofed holiday cottages on your left and a yellow pointer on a building on your right. Please note this track to the Grange can be very muddy.

10. Continue down the road over a stream via a footbridge noting the black swan in the pond on your left. The road turns right then at the next left turn there is a fingerpost. Go straight ahead through the gate keeping to the left of the field until another gate with yellow pointer is met (across some planks). Turn left through the gates where the public right of way goes diagonally down and across this field towards more farm buildings, but if there are crops in the field, please keep to the top edge and then left down the far edge until eventually emerging onto the road down the track past the farm buildings.

11. Turn right and follow the road along to the village of Rosedale Abbey (follow Castleton road signs). Turn left at the village green and go past the tearooms. A public right of way goes through the school playground on the right, but it is much more courteous to follow the road around to the left of the school buildings.

12. The road bends right and you will soon see the church, over the wall on your right. Next to the church are all that remains of the old Abbey - the ruins of a stone spiral staircase.

13. Almost opposite the church entrance gate is a kissing gate and signpost. (Thorgill/The Inn Way) at [Grid Ref 724 959](#). Go through the gate and continue turning to the right at the end of the pathway along the caravan park access road, passing the playing field on your left - follow the public right of way signs.

14. Further on, look for an old stone well (Waterhouse Well) on your left. Leave the road on the right, straight opposite the well, and go through the metal gate ([Grid Ref. 720 961](#)) into a field.

15. Follow the clear, hillside field path for approximately the next 1/2 a mile until it leads gently downhill towards the River Seven before entering a wood via a gate ([Grid Ref 716 965](#)).

16. Not far into the wood, at a junction of paths, look for a footbridge over the river and wooden 'duck-boards' leading ahead - ignore both. Instead, follow the narrow path uphill through the trees on the right.

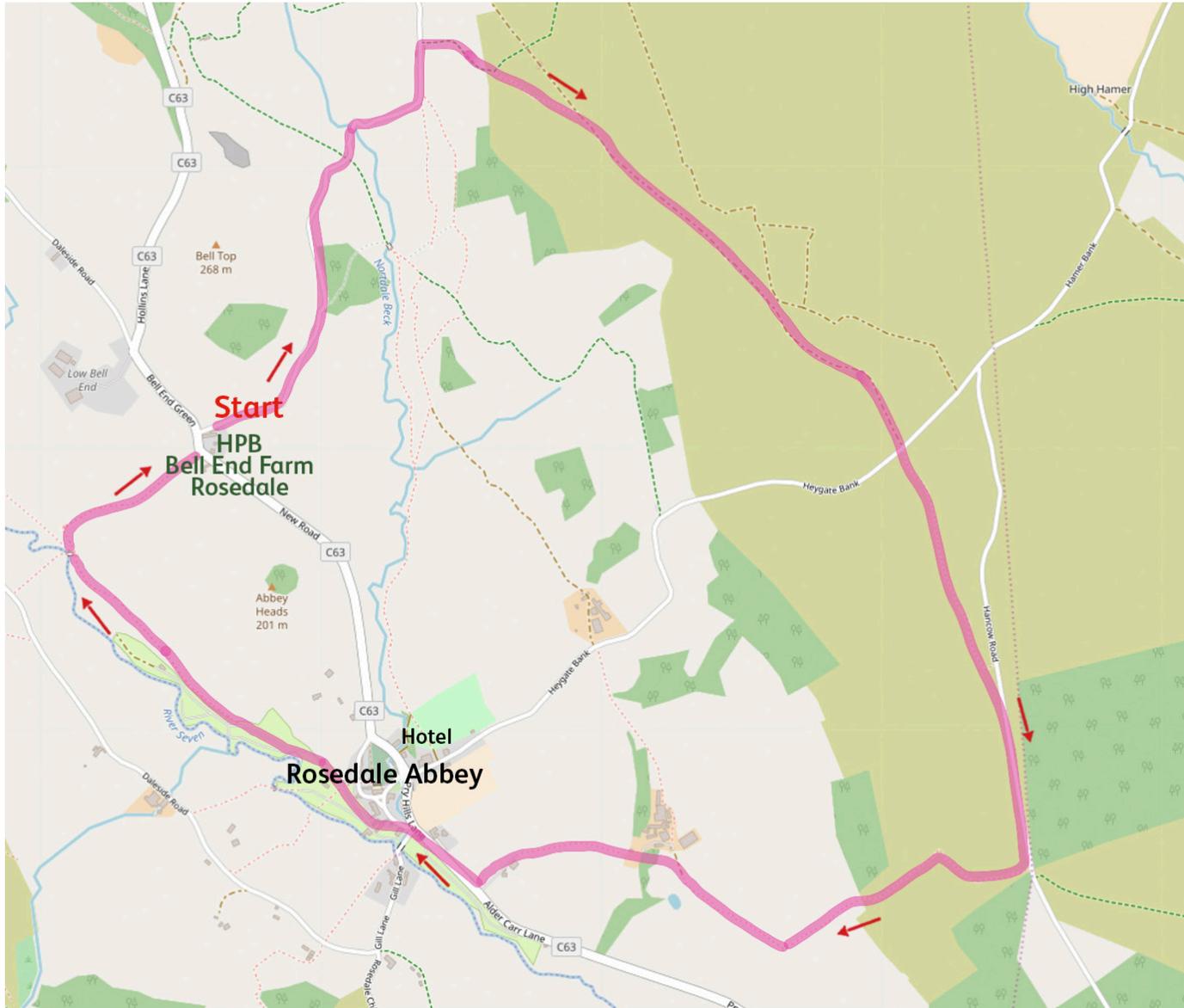
17. Near the top there are a few steps and then the path continues ahead to a gate. Go through the gate and follow the edge of the field until you reach a gate opposite the buildings of Bell End.

Note: It would be a great help to future walkers if you could record any inaccuracies you come across during this walk and report them to reception so that appropriate amendments can be made. Thank you for your help. *Happy walking!*

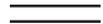
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