



Stoodley Pike Circular

Getting there and parking

Walk starts at Withens Clough Reservoir car park in Cragg Vale, Hebden Bridge, HX7 5TD. The car park is located on Rudd Lane. When you get to the postcode, carry on for another 900 meters. The carpark is on your left.

Other Information

Medium ability - steady climb to and decent from Stoodley Pike.

Walking boots and poles advised to help protect ankles on uneven and boggy areas.

Distance 3 miles.

No facilities en route.

Torch recommended for inside Stoodley Pike.

Route Details and Reflections

Exit the car park and turn left up towards the reservoir.

Continue ahead through the gate along the track towards the reservoir. Keep the reservoir on your left-hand side.

Reflection 1 - The reservoir



- Take a look around. How do you feel today?
- Are you looking forward to the climb up to Stoodley Pike?
- Are you bit apprehensive?
- For a moment, pause to consider your feelings?

- Is that thought helping you? Does it serve you? If not, push it to one side.
- We are going to journey together today, looking out for one another, to ensure that together we reach the widely recognised local monument.
- We have each other. We are not walking alone on this journey.
- Take a look at the stillness of the reservoir, take in a deep breath, take in another deep breath and take in its peace.

As you reach the first bend around the reservoir, there is a gate on your right-hand side, pass through the gate. *Note- do not take the finger gate which is 50 yards further ahead on your right. It is the first gate.*

Walk ahead uphill. You are aiming to reach the exit at the top left-hand corner of the field. See image below. Take care in this field as it can be boggy and walking poles advised due to uneven ground.



As you walk through the field, ignore the gate on your left-hand side. Bear slightly right through the flattened grass to reach a broad grassy track which then branches off to your left.

Three quarters of the way up the field, on the grassy tracks, take the left-hand fork with the marker post directly ahead of you.

40 yards beyond the post, you reach a grassy track. Bear right on the grassy track. You're heading towards the corner of a wall beside a field with a gate to the left of it.

You have now reached the exit you were aiming for.

Reflection 2 - At the gate, look back at the reservoir



- We pause to look back on where we have come.
- We cannot yet see the summit, but we have managed to get through, what I think, is the hardest bit of the walk.
- Have you had to help each other through that section? We may have had to physically help each other or simply given a word of encouragement. Well done!
- Helping one another is a key foundation stone of many faiths, and one would hope, a basic human value.
- Who has helped you this week?
- Who have you been able to help this week?
- Pentecost Sunday is next week (17th May 2026) - It's when we celebrate God sending the Holy Spirit to be a help and guide, for anyone willing to being open to knowing Christ. We are to just simply ask.
- Pause to consider a moment when the Spirit has been your help and guide or offer the simple prayer 'Come Holy Spirit, come'.

JOURNEY ON

Continue through the gate, following the grassy path beside the wall, with the wall on your right-hand side.

As you reach a stone pillar on your left-hand side (which is the corner post of the wall) look to your left for your first view of Stoodley Pike



Continue head along the grassy track, following the stone wall on your right-hand side until you reach the corner of the field where there is a wooden gate.

Pass through the gate and head straight ahead to the finger post.

As you reach the finger post, turn left on the hardstanding path. Pass through the gate and follow the path heading up towards Stoodley Pike. See image below.



Reflection 3 - at the base of Stoodley Pike (out of the wind)

- We have made it to the summit!
- The inscription above the entrance is worn but it reads:

STOODLEY PIKE
A PEACE MONUMENT
ERECTED BY PUBLIC SUBSCRIPTION
COMMENCED IN 1814 TO COMMEMORATE
THE SURRENDER OF PARIS TO THE ALLIES
AND FINISHED AFTER THE BATTLE OF
WATERLOO WHEN PEACE WAS ESTABLISHED IN 1815.
BY A STRANGE COINCIDENCE
THE PIKE FELL ON THE DAY THE RUSSIAN
AMBASSADOR LEFT LONDON BEFORE THE
DECLARATION OF WAR WITH RUSSIA IN 1854
WAS REBUILT WHEN PEACE WAS RESTORED IN 1856
REPAIRED AND LIGHTNING CONDUCTOR FIXED 1889

- It is a peace monument - so take your time to explore the monument (please use a good torch for the stairs) and take in the peace.

JOURNEY ON

Option to climb the steps up Stoodley Pike. Torch essential as there is no natural light.

The route back, is a path on the opposite side of the entrance to Stoodley Pike (3/4 of the way around from the direction we came from). See image below.



As you exit around the back of Stoodley Pike, follow the stoney path ahead with the windfarm at your 2 o'clock. Keep noticing the cairns and follow the path in the direction of the cairns until you reach a wooden post.



Take the public footpath Calderdale Council to a gate in the wall in the field (on your left at 11 o'clock). Do not take Todmorden Centenary way.

As you pass through the kissing gate, continue ahead (slightly right at 1 o'clock) towards the marker post. At the marker post, continue straight ahead.

As you reach the boulders, head slightly left (11 o'clock) towards the gate. You will see the reservoir beyond the gate.

Pass through the gate and continue to head down the hill along the path.

Continue down the path using the wall to your left as a guide - this takes you down to the gate. Pass through the gate bearing ahead and slightly left to a marker post and a gap between a wall (30 yards ahead) heading towards the corner of the reservoir.

Past through the gate, turning left to join the track around the reservoir.

Reflection 4 - back at the reservoir

- We are back at the reservoir.
- We paused at the start to consider the climb, how we journey together and took in the peace of the reservoir.
- We paused half-way up to consider how we help each other on the journey and how we can ask for the help of the Holy Spirit.
- We paused at the monument to draw on the peace that it represents.
- We now pause to simply say thanks for the walk together, our safe return and appreciate how much we enjoy journeying together.

JOURNEY ON

With the reservoir on your right, return back to the car park.