

# Bolton by Bowland Circular



## Start Point



Information centre/Car Park Bolton by Bowland SD 7841 4935

## Distance/Time



3 miles (4.6 km)  
1 1/2 hours

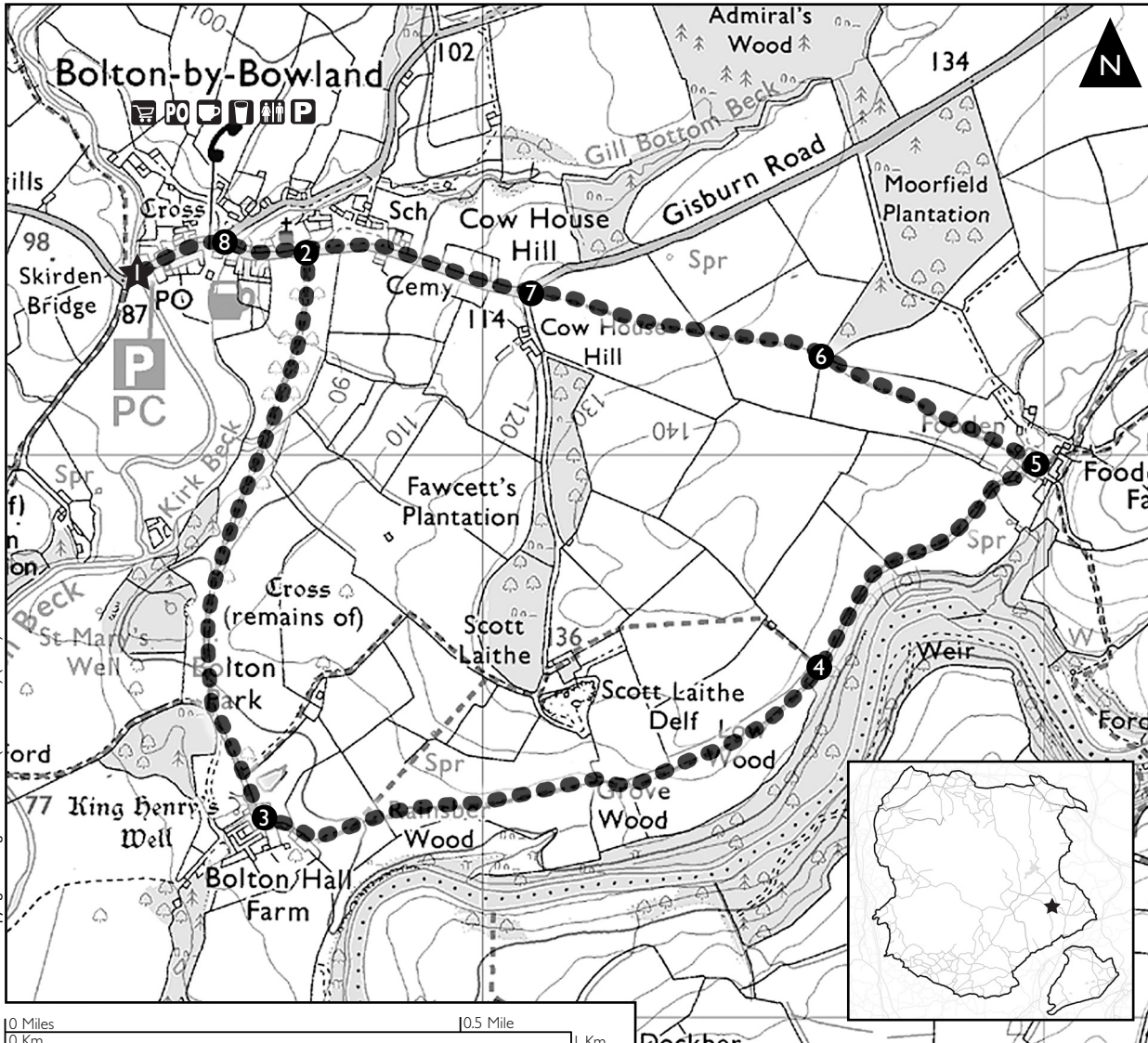
## Terrain

Metalled roads, gravel/hardcore tracks and footpaths. Generally good ground conditions, although patches

can be muddy/boggy in the winter or after prolonged rainfall. Boots or Wellingtons are the ideal footwear.

## Key to Facilities

Shop, 
 Post Office, 
 Cafe, 
 Pub, 
 Toilets, 
 Car Park

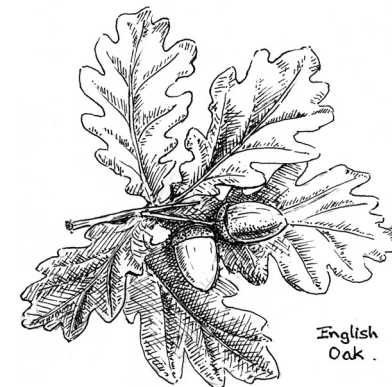


## GPS Waypoints (OS grid refs)

- ★ SD 7841 4935
- ② SD 7869 4937
- ③ SD 7861 4835
- ④ SD 7960 4862
- ⑤ SD 7996 4900
- ⑥ SD 7960 4919
- ⑦ SD 7909 4930
- ⑧ SD 7856 4939

## About This Walk

This walk takes in some of the finest parkland scenery in the Forest of Bowland and the village of Bolton by Bowland is itself one of the prettiest and best preserved villages in the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The village has two village greens and you will see the restored stocks and an ancient market cross on the lower. Of particular interest are the mature broadleaf parkland trees - both avenues and specimens. Look out for ash, oak, beech and field maple. Deer can generally be seen as a herd grazing in open fields or in smaller numbers in the steeply sloping valley containing the River Ribble.



English Oak

▲ English Oak

Shelia Carter



www.forestofbowland.com

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## Walk Description

### ★ **1** GPS: SD 7841 4935

If you are arriving by car then park in the car park next to the information centre and toilets and walk up through the village past the shop, village green (of which there are two, you will see the other one on your return) and pub to St Peter and St Paul's church.

### ② **GPS:** 7869 4937

Just after the parish of St Peter and St Paul there is a private road with white gates to the right leading to King Henry Mews. Take this road which is fenced on both sides and pass through an avenue of mature trees. On the left hand side you will be able to see an old field system. After a mile there is a low stone bridge and yew trees on both sides of the road. Climbing a little, you will see on the right a wooded stone outcrop that has been quarried and on the left there is an ancient base for a cross. A wooden cross would have been placed there in the past - a 'wayside cross'. Low stone walls line the road at this point as it drops and falls away to reveal Pendle hill in the distance. On the left hand side you will see what looks like a gravestone under a leaning oak tree. The inscription reads 'Coronation oak George V 22 June 1911'. Ignore the track to the left and continue over the cattle grid taking the left hand fork onto a

rougher road. As you approach some stone houses, you will see a small circular building with a slate roof in the gardens on the right. This is called King Henry's well. Bolton Hall, which stood on this site, was demolished in 1950s.

### ③ **GPS:** 7861 4835

Turn left onto a track made with regular stone setts that quickly turns into a rougher track with stone and flags past a converted barn. Immediately leave the track on the left through a kissing gate and cross the sheep pasture to another kissing gate in the middle of open fields. Head straight across the sloping fields keeping to the contour until you come to a sleeper bridge with handrail and kissing gate at a small stream. This brings you into a narrow strip of land fenced on both sides that has occasional mature trees. The river Ribble is hidden deep in a wooded valley on the right hand side and the slope of the land increases.

### ④ **GPS:** 7960 4862

Leave this strip of land through a kissing gate and proceed with a steep sided wood to the right and open fields to the left. You should be able to hear the river at this point but you may not be able to glimpse it until later. The path dips and climbs before the next kissing gate. As you rise now you will see the

hamlet of Fooden approaching and the path becomes slightly sunken. Just before cottages, take the kissing gate on the right into a small field and skirting the barn take the kissing gate on the left. Take care on the 3 steps that take you from the gate into the farmyard.

### ⑤ **GPS:** 7996 4900

Walk up between the houses and through a farm gate at the top of the hamlet to enter a small field. Head right to the kissing gate into a larger field and then keep to the right hand side fence line heading gently to the highest point of the walk.

### ⑥ **GPS:** 7960 4919

At the kissing gate at the top of this field, with Intake plantation on the right, you can see fine views of Bowland straight ahead and further away to the northeast and the Yorkshire Dales. Now head slightly left downhill to a kissing gate in the fence line and then follow a ditch line, which was probably an old hedge, heading still in the same direction. There are several mature oak trees still on the line of the ditch as you approach the road at the corner of the field.

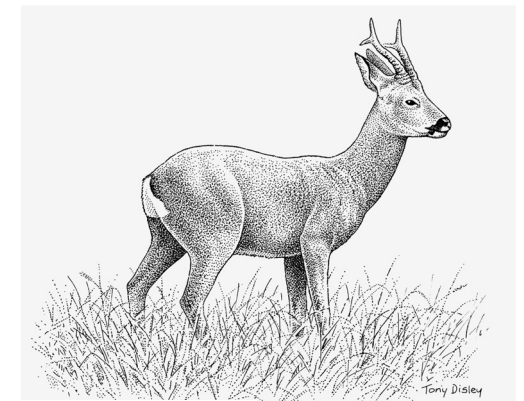
### ⑦ **GPS:** 7909 4930

Leave the field through a kissing gate and descend carefully to the road before heading downhill to return to

Bolton by Bowland. There is no footpath here so take care. After 50ms there is a walled graveyard reached by 7 steps. There are a couple of benches there where you can stop and admire the views over gentle countryside. The buildings that you pass on the way into the village are particularly fine and well maintained. Note the well proportioned school and the well maintained houses. You will pass the second village green which is bordered by a row of mature trees - ash, horse chestnut and oak.

### ⑧ **GPS:** 7856 4939

As you pass over the bridge in the centre of the village then please note the restored 'West Riding' style road sign with grid reference 786494 on the top finial. This was restored in 2008 to how it looked prior to 1971 when the village was in the old West Riding of Yorkshire. You are of course in Lancashire!



▲ Roe Deer