

Baslow Boot Bash 14 mile route description

(Actual distance is 13.38 miles)

The complete route is within OS Outdoor Leisure 24 White Peak Area map 1:25000

We strongly recommend that you pre-mark your OS map with the grid references shown

Other than some BBB way markers in Manners Wood, the route will not be marked

Route overview

- It is essential that all entrants are registered at Baslow Village hall before they start the walk
- The route starts at the kissing gate in Chatsworth Park (GR 258717)
- There is a mass start for both the 26 and 14 mile event at 9.00 am (**early starts are not permitted**)
- There are 3 checkpoints en route which must be visited in sequence:
 - C/P 1 After Bowling Green Farm and by the River Wye crossing (GR 230670)
 - this is also C/P 1 for the 26 mile event
 - C/P 2 Top Farm, Rowland (GR215726)
 - C/P 3 Bank Wood (GR 232723) – this is also C/P 7 for the 26 mile event
- The finish is at Baslow Village Hall (GR 258722)

Start to Checkpoint 1 (GR230670) 5.33 miles or 8.5 kilometres

From the start at the kissing gate, simply follow the river towards Chatsworth until you reach the road bridge adjacent to Queen Mary's Bower (you will have little difficulty on this stretch as both the 14 mile and 26 mile entrants will be walking this route so you can just follow the pack! Cross over the bridge and you then have a route choice: you can either head for Edensor village and take the stile on the left near the top of the village which brings you out once again into Chatsworth Park OR you can take a straight line through the park. In both cases you need to head for the gate/stile at the top of the hill going into *New Piece Wood* (GR 247689)

When you pass through *New Piece Wood*, continue on the path bearing slightly right (you will see Carlton Houses to your left). Ahead of you, you will see a small wooded copse - look for the gap/stile which will take you through this narrow section of woodland.

Once through this, follow the clearly marked path to the top of the hill towards a stile/gate which marks the start of *Manners Wood*. Follow the pathway through Manners Wood (we will post some BBB signs through the wood)

Reference to your map will show you which lane to follow when you emerge from the bottom of Manners Wood. Follow this lane past Bowling Green Farm and Haddon Park Farm. At the bottom of the lane **before you reach the river**, turn right at the gate where you will find **C/P 1**.

Checkpoint 1 to Checkpoint 2 (GR215726) 3.75 miles or 6 kilometres

Take the bridleway straight ahead across the field (don't be tempted to follow any of the 26 milers – this is where the 14 mile route departs from the 26 mile route). In approximately 600 yards, (just past the house on the hillside to your right), looking to your right you will see a gate which will give you access to a track. Follow this track until you reach a large bridge where you can access the dismantled railway (signposted "Monsal Trail"). Take the trail towards Bakewell (ie left at the top of the steps).

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Keep going until you reach Hassop station. Plenty of opportunity for refreshments and toilets here.

Continue on the trail for approx. 500 yards until you see a footpath to your right which will take you down to the road and the white gabled Toll Bar Cottage. Go through the stile on to the road, proceed with caution to the left for a few yards until you see a footpath on the opposite side of the road. Take this path and proceed up the hill towards a high walled enclosure.

Keeping the wall on your right, continue on the path until you reach the road. Cross the road and walk through the village of Rowland. As you leave the village you will find **Checkpoint 2** at *Top Farm* (GR 215726) on your left.

Checkpoint 2 to Checkpoint 3 (GR232723) 2.57 miles or 4.1 kilometres

Continue as directed by the checkpoint staff keeping on the road out of Rowland and up the hill to where the road becomes a track. Bear right over the cattle grid. Continue up the stone track (**do not take the grass track on your right**). Follow the track to the summit. (GR 227734). Just through the wooden gate you will see a footpath sign pointing to the right. Ignore this – it's full of brambles. Continue instead on the wide stone path which bears to the right (past the disused mine workings). Keep on this track (downhill) and cross the main road. **WARNING - This is a very busy road - please cross with extreme caution.**

After crossing, continue on for approximately 250 yards to the brow of the next incline where you will see a footpath crossing the road into Bank Wood. Turn right on to this path. This is where the 14 mile route re-joins the 26 mile route. Take this footpath until you reach Checkpoint 3 – (this is also checkpoint 7 for the 26 mile route)

Checkpoint 3 to the finish (GR258722) 1.73 miles or 2.77 kilometres

Nearly there! – continue down the road. In fact you could continue down the road until you reach Baslow but we recommend that you take the footpath across the fields – it is more pleasant and a lot safer!

On the outskirts of Baslow, you will climb over a stile which will bring you to a narrow alleyway. Walk down this for approximately 50 yards and you will reach the road. Cross over the bridge immediately in front of you and then turn right towards the centre of the village. Follow the main road, past the Cavendish Hotel and you will then see the Village hall and the finish.