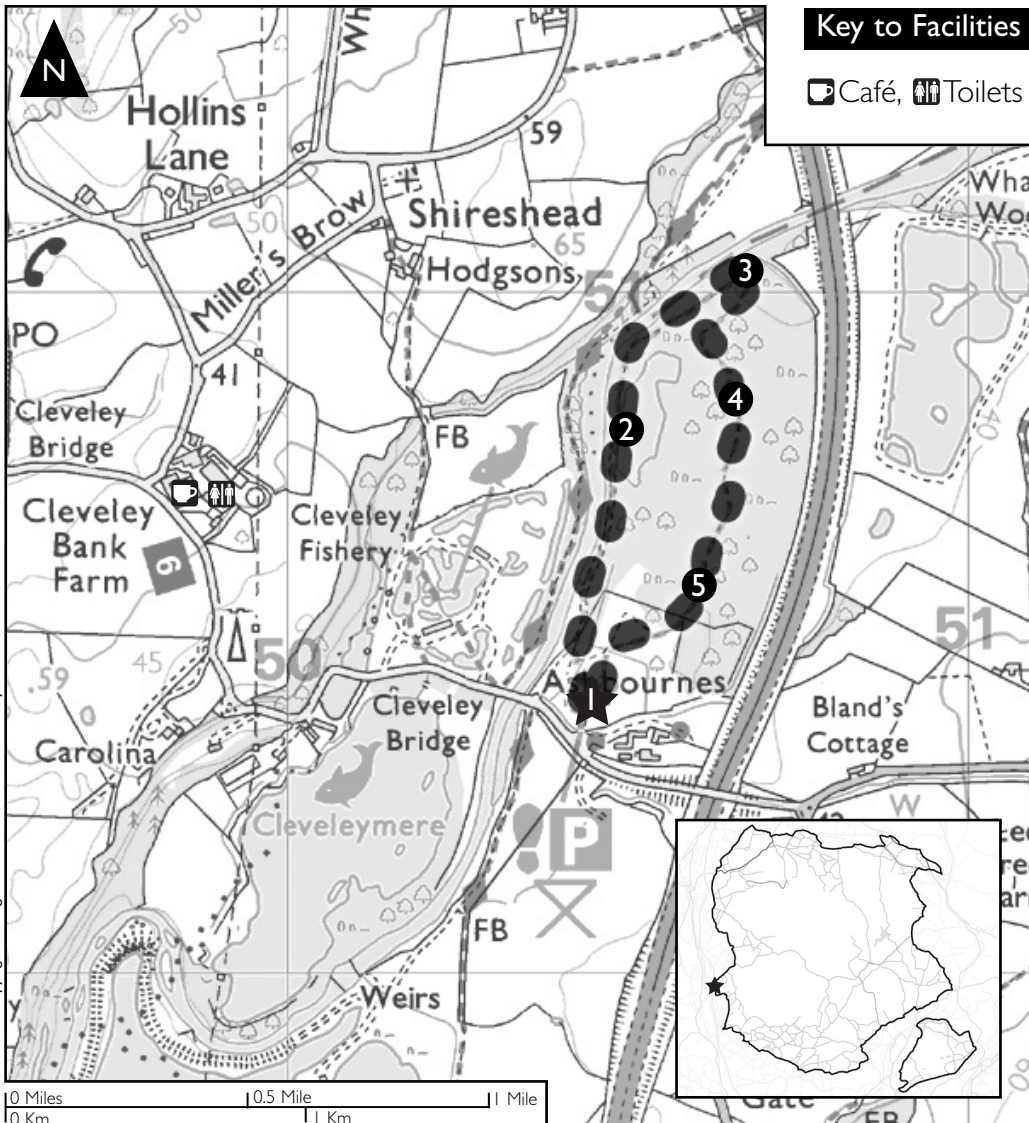


Scorton Picnic Site

Start Point	Distance/Time	Terrain
Scorton Picnic Site. SD 5044 5040	Circular Trail 1 1600m, Approx. 1+ hrs	Tarmac car park. Flat easy walking (no gates). Well surfaced paths (occasional puddles). Suitable for wheelchairs & 'Trampers'

Trail Description



- Take the path to the left hand-side of the car park, crossing a small ditch and heading north follow the edge of the River Wyre through the alder woodland. You may catch glimpses of a fleeting kingfisher skimming along the river; or a dipper 'bobbing' on a rock.
- After 400m you reach the mere (pond) and bird hide. Numerous species can be seen including mallard, coot, moorhen and the occasional swan, not to mention the frogs, toads, newts and the common darter.
- Continue along following the river for a further 300m where the path turns abruptly to the right - 3. Here you will notice a change in the trees with a small area having been cut down and allowed to re-grow ('coppice').
- After meandering a further 200m you arrive at a boardwalk taking you alongside a shallow pool teeming with water snails and pond skaters. Beyond the boardwalk the tree canopy becomes much higher and the understorey of bramble beds beneath hide the secretive roe deer.
- Continue another 450m and the woodland gives way to a grassy meadow managed for its wild flowers. Butterflies can be seen fluttering between the flowers of the clover; knapweed, birds foot trefoil, and common spotted orchid. Where the path separates bear right on the surfaced path and follow it back to the car park.

Scorton Picnic Site

About This Trail

This Local Nature Reserve nestles between the M6 and the River Wyre and is managed by Lancashire County Council. The circular trail starts and finishes at the picnic site car park and follows the River Wyre through predominantly alder and willow woodland before returning through a flower rich meadow. Numerous picnic tables on grassy areas surround the tarmac surfaced car park from which to observe the abundant bird life.

It was once fertile agricultural land until used for gravel extraction in the 1950's, thus giving rise to the numerous ponds and lakes ('meres') in the area.

Less than 1km away along Cleveley Bank Lane can be found 'JC Country' - a rural country store and coffee shop. The nearby village of Scorton has local shops, café/restaurant and facilities.

Just the other side of the river from the picnic site can be found two fisheries catering for the 'fly' and 'coarse' fishing enthusiast.

Sustainable Tourism

The Forest of Bowland Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is a protected landscape that has international importance for its heather moorland, blanket bog and rare birds. In 2005 the AONB became the first protected area in England to be awarded the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism in Protected Areas, joining just 30 other areas across Europe. The Charter is awarded to protected areas that are delivering tourism that is both nature and landscape friendly and which contributes to the economic development of the region. The Charter approach ensures that organisations, local people and businesses are working together to protect the area, whilst at the same time increasing opportunities for visitors to discover and enjoy its special qualities.

You can contribute to sustainable tourism by:

- Leaving the car at home and using public transport instead
- Purchasing local products, including food and drink
- Making a donation to the Bowland Tourism Environment Fund through donation boxes at participating businesses in the area.

Countryside / Moorland Code



From a gentle stroll or relaxing picnic, to a long-distance walk or heart-pumping adventure, the countryside provides every opportunity for enjoyment and relaxation. If you follow the Countryside Code wherever you go, you'll get the best enjoyment possible and you'll help to protect our open spaces now and for future generations.

1. Be safe - plan ahead and follow any signs
2. Leave gates and property as you find them
3. Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home
4. Keep dogs under close control
5. Consider other people
6. Prevent uncontrolled moorland fires

Tramper Safety

Please ensure you are accompanied when using the 'Tramper', as some routes may include gates and are remote. You should also take warm and waterproof clothing as the weather can change very quickly here. Please also note that some of the trails include sections of the public highway.

General Safety

If you are going for a walk, it is strongly recommended that you:

- Dress appropriately - avoid wearing denim and any other clothing, which doesn't dry quickly. It is better to wear lots of lighter layers, which can be easily removed or added. Sturdy footwear and waterproofs are also a must.
- Carry the right equipment - including an Ordnance Survey Map (OS Explorer OL41); compass; small first aid kit; high energy snack; something to drink; mobile phone (be aware that coverage can be patchy); whistle.
- Always let someone know where you're going and what time you expect to be back.
- Do not take any unnecessary risks.

If you are in difficulty or see someone in difficulty, please dial **999** and ask for **Mountain Rescue**.

To report any other incident contact:

- **Countryside Service** - **01772 534 709**, open 9am-5pm, Monday to Friday
- **Lancashire Constabulary** - **0845 1 25 35 45** or **999** for emergencies