

mtb#

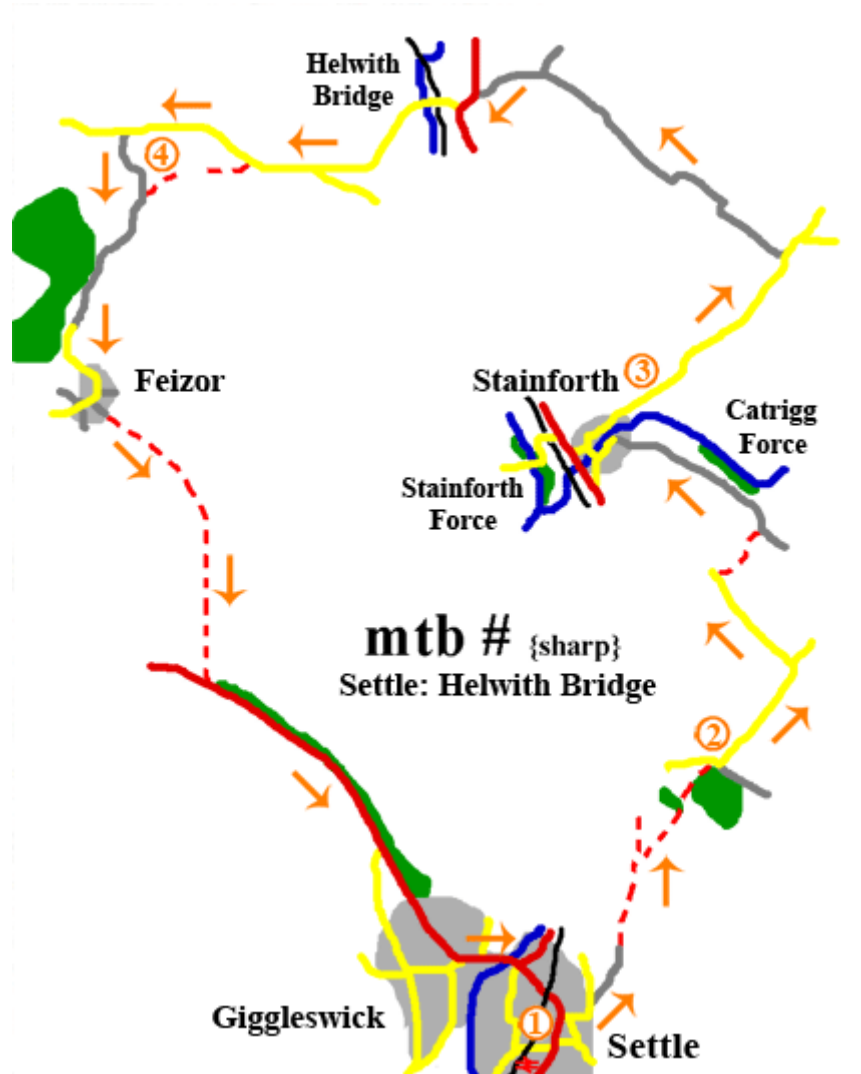
Settle: Helwith Bridge



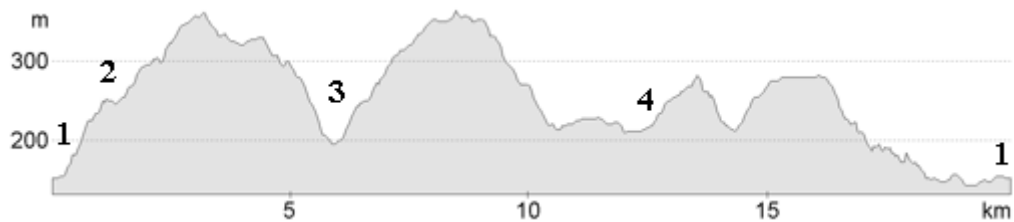
Fun: 3



Difficulty: Difficult



elevation profile:



mtb#

mtb#

Distance: 21km

Ascent: 595m

Allow: ~ 2 Hrs

Maps: OS Explorer OL2 & 41, Landranger 98, Harvey Dales South & West

A couple of big climbs followed by fast technical descents east of the Ribble, then a pleasant trip through classic limestone scenery to the west.

Probably the best place to start is the pay and display with public toilets in the center of Settle (SD818635).

- 1) Leaving the car park where you came in, head left to the main square, right along its side then left up a small road (SD821637). Continue up hill until the Pennine Bridleway is signed right, you'll be following these signs for a little while. This track climbs steeply, becoming rough then grassy. Bear right (Pennine Bridleway signs), but be careful as this traverse can be pretty slippery! Arriving at a road (SD829653), follow this up (signed Pennine Bridleway Winskill).
- 2) Turn left off the road just after a cattle grid (SD834659) and descend on a flowing tarmac lane through the Winskill Stones area. Bear right onto the bridleway when reaching houses then left to join another track. Catrigg Force is coming up on your right (SD831670), and is a short walk if you fancy seeing it. The track descends to Stainforth and is pretty rough in places, making for a good technical challenge. In Stainforth, you can head straight on and hop across the stepping stones or loop round over the bridge. If you'd like to see Stainforth Force and bridge, you'll have to pop across the main road briefly.
- 3) Climb out of Stainforth on the road (signed Halton Gill) and follow until a track leaves to the left (SD833685) which continues to climb for a little way. The descent to Stainforth was just a warm up for this one coming up, it gets pretty hairy, loose and rutted - hold on tight! Continue down to join the road, turning left then immediately right over Helwith Bridge and follow this road for a while (careful of the quarry traffic).
- 4) Turn left to a farm and onto a track (SD791693) which climbs then descends becoming surfaced as it enters Feizor. Turn left by the spring that crosses the road (SD789675), signed FP Stackhouse onto a track which becomes grassy. Continue up and bear right at the signpost (follow BW Buck Haw Brow) before descending, turning right through a gate, and joining the main road (SD797657). The road then heads back down through Giggleswick into Settle where the car park is on the right.

mtb#