

# Bleasdale Fells, Fair Snape Fell & Parlick

We start at a lay-by at Fell Foot, about 1km West of Chipping. We are looking for at the junction of the delightfully named Startifants Lane, Fell Gate, and Fish House Lane, and if your Satnav doesn't include any of those names, then postcode PR3 2NQ gives the approximate location. What-3-Words tag **tailwind.saturate.reminder**, or grid reference SD6016 4421 can then be used to pin-point the layby, which is marked as a car park on the OS map – but in reality is just simple roadside parking.

From the parking spot, we head up the metalled track toward Parlick – the somewhat imposing hill that dominates our view at the start.

As we head up the metalled lane, we see a pair of farm buildings separated by a fence with a kissing gate – we go through the gate and turn sharp right to start the ascent.

The path soon takes a sharp left and remains clear as we follow it steeply uphill. As we ascend the hill, we are heading generally Northwest. We soon find ourselves climbing quite steeply with a drystone wall on our left hand side – some care is needed here as the path is somewhat uneven.

The thin path we have followed along the dry stone wall becomes wider again, and merges with an old lane. As we follow the old lane around the hill, we realise that the track does not actually visit the top of Parlick, and having climbed this far, it seems a shame not to enjoy the views from there, so as we follow a wire fence on our right, we look out for a path leaving the lane on the right, heading up to the fence which we follow to the right to arrive at the peak and it's shallow cairn.

Having rested, we follow the wire fence back the way we came – noting that we are now on the other side of the fence than we were when we approached the summit. This takes us along the ridge that joins Parlick to Fair Snape Fell – the cairn and shelter of which are clearly visible.

We walk gently downhill for a while, and then cross the fence at a stile to continue along the ridge, soon starting to climb as we approach Fair Snape Fell. Compared to the climb of Parlick though, this is easy going.

The path now starts to move away from the fence and we head Northwest toward the clear summit of Fair Snape Fell, which boasts a cairn and a very pleasant shelter.

From the shelter, we start our descent – all the hard work is now done. We initially head back the way we came, taking care to find the smaller path leaving the main ridge path on the right to start a series of zig-zag descents along the side of Blindhurst Fell. The path remains clear and take us through extensive wild bilberry bushes.

The zig zag path down the side of the saddle of Blindhurst fell soon arrives at a drystone wall which we follow – seeing a large ladder stile ahead of us. We don't take the stile though – we head through the gate just beyond the stile and head down toward farm building in the distance at Higher Fair Snape.

As we arrive at the farm buildings, we take the gate into the yard and then turn right before passing through another gate where there is welcome shade and a pleasant stream.

We follow the farm track round to the left for a very short distance and find a finger post where we follow the route to the right. This lane takes us toward another farmyard with the footpath passing to the right hand side of the building before continuing on the far side.

We are now on a farm lane, following the contours, so the walking at this stage is easy. Ahead of us in the distance (in a North westerly direction) is Holme House and this is where we head.

Before we get that far though, our lane arrives at another at a T junction. We go left here and follow the track as it veers left. We are now heading South with the tower of Bleasdale Church on the horizon.

The track soon arrives at Vicarage Farm, where we see a fingerpost for Bleasdale Circle. Take a diversion to the circle if you wish, but make sure you return to the fingerpost and then take the lane over toward the delightful church of St Eadmer's at Bleasdale.

From the church we head down the road through the village, and just past the school, we take the footpath on the left, to take us East toward Blindhurst. The path here is narrow, and a little overgrown, but remains clear enough so navigation should not be a problem.

We soon arrive at a minor metalled road – which serves Lower Fair Snape.. We follow the road for a while now but watch carefully for a path on the right which takes us over to Blindhurst – this is well signposted.

We then cross a small wooden footbridge and then a step stile which takes us onto a steep lane leading up to the farm buildings at Blindhurst. As we arrive at the farmyard, we take the path between the barns and when we see the farmhouse, take the path around the right hand side of the house.

This takes us onto a track which continues ahead, but we need to take care to head hard right, following the contours on a path that is much less clear than the lane we have just left.

We follow this path for a while now, heading in an Easterly direction. The path heads up toward the corner of a field where we see a rather tempting stile ahead of us – this is NOT the route we take though - look further round to the right and we see a second stile in the dip at the corner of the field. This is where we need to be.

From here we continue to follow the path through pleasant pasture with cows grazing, and cross four more fields at stiles until we arrive back at a final stile which when we cross it, we see is at our starting point.

- **Total distance 14.2km (8.8 miles) – includes extension to Bleasdale Circle**
- **Total Ascent 594 m**
- **Moderate walk**