

The Lion Inn, Chimney Bank Top and Hutton le Hole 8.5 miles

Transport **M3, ME1**

Map 1:25,000 OL26 or 1:50,000 Whitby & Esk Dale 94

Start

The Lion Inn, Blakey Rigg.

Points of interest

Part hard track, part moorland paths and roads, this walk shows many of the remains of the Rosedale iron industry as well as classic well managed heather moorland. Some superb views of the dale, along with the old and new kilns on the opposite side, (although there is some debate about which is actually the oldest!), the only mine chimney still standing here, pit pony stables and some of the remaining rows of miner's cottages. You soon reach the remains of Sheriff's Pit ironstone mine with its 120ft deep shaft and prominent ruin that was once the manager's house. The railway section of the walk ends at Chimney Bank Top, where, sadly, the magnificent chimney was controversially knocked down in 1972. Here are to be found more calcining kilns and the scar of the inclined tramway that raised the unusually rich iron ore from the mines and quarries below.

The second half of the walk follows a path down across the heather and bilberries of Spaunton Moor to Hutton le Hole with its deservedly renowned Ryedale Folk Museum. It's worth ending your day at the museum with its superb range of historical buildings moved here stone by stone, as well as much information on the moors, mines and railways that you've just walked over.

Route

Take the footpath opposite and just south of the Lion Inn down to the track of the old Railway. Follow along this, the former East Mines branch until you meet the "main line(!)" at Blakey Junction. Another 4 miles sees the railway end at the Rosedale Abbey to Hutton le Hole road. Turn right and follow it with care for half a mile then follow the footpath signed off to your right. One mile after this, just a quarter mile after you've crossed Loskey Beck, follow the public footpath to the left and arrive at Hutton's car park after a little over a mile and a half of moorland paths and private access roads. Carry on into the village to the Folk Museum bus stops

