

Chee Dale

Chee Dale, nestled in the heart of the Peak District, is a picturesque gorge offering a serene and captivating escape into nature.

Carved by the River Wye, this stunning dale features steep limestone cliffs that tower over lush, green woodlands and tranquil waters. The narrow gorge is a haven for wildlife, with diverse flora and fauna thriving in its sheltered environment.

One of the highlights of Chee Dale is the iconic stepping stones that cross the river, providing a charming and adventurous pathway for walkers. The terrain is varied, with rocky paths, shaded trails, and riverbanks that invite exploration and quiet reflection. Surrounded by the natural beauty of the White Peak area, Chee Dale offers an idyllic setting for hikers and nature lovers to immerse themselves in the tranquil and timeless charm of the Peak District.





About the Walk

Terrain

The trails through Chee Dale can be challenging, with rocky and uneven paths that require careful footing. The terrain varies from shaded, wooded sections to open riverbanks, providing a mix of light and shadow that enhances the area's natural beauty. In some places, the paths are narrow and bordered by the river on one side and cliffs or steep slopes on the other, adding to the sense of adventure. Overall, the terrain at Chee Dale is both captivating and demanding, rewarding visitors with stunning scenery and a profound sense of connection to the natural world.

Location / Parking:

Millers Dale Car Park, Millers Dale, Wornhill Road, Buxton SK17 8SN A pay and display car park, cash, carda or Ringgo app, £2.50 for upto 2hrs or £4 for up to 4hrs.

Distant / Time:

Approx: 2.5 miles, Allow 2-4 hours

Near by:

Millers Dale Station Refreshment Room: Millers Dale Car Park, Wornhill Road, Buxton SK17 8SN Open Monday - Friday 10am-3pm, Sat & Sun 10am - 4pm

Tideswell Lounge - Brunch, Lunch, Coffee and Cake: Bank Square, Tideswell, Buxton SK17 8LA Closed Monday and Tuesday, Wednesday - Sunday 9.00am - 4.00pm



Parental Supervision Required:

Due to the nature of the varying terrain of our guided walks and the surrounding areas, children must be supervised at all times. While the stunning views and natural beauty make wonderful places to explore, it is essential for parents and guardians to closely monitor their children to ensure their safety.





You'll arrive at Millers Dale car park and Millers Dale Station Cafe. The car park is pay and display, accepting cash, card, or payment via the RingGo app. Upon exiting the cafe, turn right and follow the old railway track trail to the end of the platform and car park. You will come to a fork where two main paths split left and right; both converge onto the main path that begins your walk to Cheedale and the stepping stones.





Take the path on the right, with the cliffs to your right. You'll pass the "Have You Paid?" sign on your left.

Continue past where the left path rejoins the main trail heading towards Wye Dale, signposted on your right, passing the wildlife trust information sign.

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Pass the small wooden train on the right and continue straight on. You'll come to a signpost pointing up to the right, leading to the top of Lime Kilns. Although you'll be heading straight to Wye Dale on the main path, you can take a quick detour to the top of Lime Kilns. Once at the top, you will need to return the way you came to rejoin the main path.



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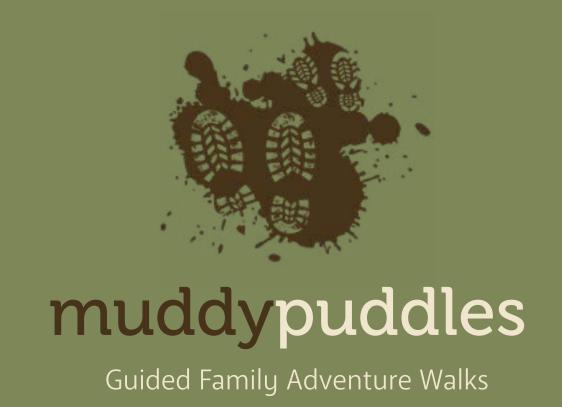
Returning to the main path, you'll walk past the base of the Lime Kiln on your right. Continue for another 100 yards towards the viaduct bridge. Before reaching the bridge, you'll see a signpost to Cheedale. Head down the stairs on the right to the bottom of the viaduct bridge and the Wye River below. Once at the bottom, follow the path running alongside the Wye River on your right.

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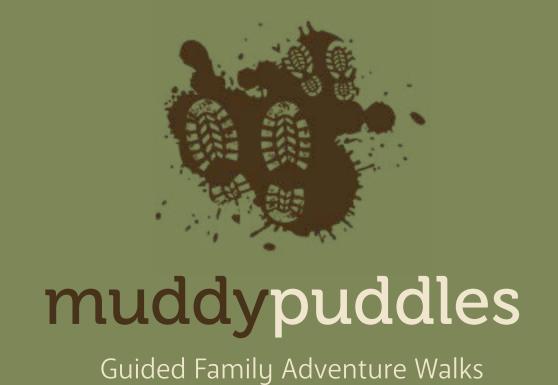
riverside path until you reach a small footbridge to Blackwell, crossing the river onto a grassy plain—a great spot for a rest and to take in the scenery. Instead of crossing the bridge, follow the path straight ahead, across a short wooden jetty, past the sign reading 'Difficult footpath & likely to flood' (this is an adventure, after all)!



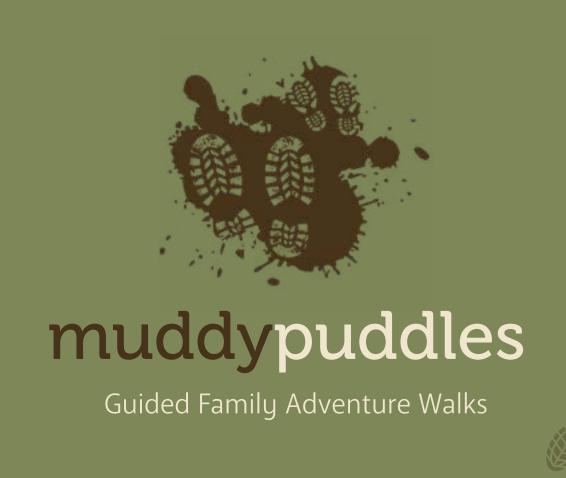


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The path then opens up, leading to a series of wooden jetties. As it winds alongside the river, you'll find plenty of opportunities for photos and paddling. Continuing on, you'll reach a small footbridge. Heading uphill, you'll come to a muddy junction; take the left route over what looks like a small rocky wall and across another small footbridge.



With the Wye River on your left, begin a rocky climb above the river, then descend again, taking care along the river edge, especially in wet weather. After descending, cross another wooden jetty as the cliff wall across the river comes into view, giving a distinctly Amazonian feel. Continue upstream onto a larger, winding wooden jetty.







Navigate through the rocky obstacle course to reach another jetty, passing a small tree cave on your right. As you travel along the jetty path and then undertake another rocky climb along the river's edge, you'll be treated to breathtaking scenery the entire way.



As you continue along the rocky path, the enormous cliff wall will appear on your right. Follow the base of the cliff with the river on your left. Eventually, the famous Cheedale stepping stones will come into view, winding around the cliff base and then disappearing out of sight. You'll have to take your chances that no one is coming from the opposite direction.







Following the stepping stones, you'll reach another bridge that takes you back over the River Wye and under the viaduct. Take the path upwards and left at the signpost leading to the Monsal Trail and Blackwell Mill.

Climb the rocky steps and continue onto the Monsal Trail. After passing through the stile, turn right and head through the Chee Tor tunnel towards Bakewell.







Continue through and out of the Chee Tor tunnel, back over the top of the viaduct, and past the point where you descended to the River Wye at the start of your walk. This will lead you back to Millers Dale car park and cafe, passing the Lime Kilns again, completing your adventure walk. Maybe celebrating with and ice cream treat from the station cafe.



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Your next family adventure is just around the corner!

