

Leyburn Shawl Loop – about 4.5 miles

LEYBURN Shawl is an escarpment that stretches for one mile and three quarters, running westwards, providing panoramic views of Penhill and the Coverdale Fells. The Shawl is reached via Shawl Terrace which is just off Commercial Square next to Campbell's Supermarket and the Dalesman Club.

THE Loop walk is not quite a circular walk, more of a figure nine walk.

BEGIN the walk from the start of the Shawl reached via a gate off Shawl Terrace. Through another gate and there is an information board on the left. Walk for a further 200 metres and there is a stone plinth which shows the names of the hills on the opposite side of the valley.

CARRY on through a gate into a field and then straight on through a gate into a smaller field and then straight on to another gate and stile into a larger field. Carry straight on to another stile and gate into a wooded area, where the path is easy to follow. There are a number of benches and viewing points.

WALK along the path until you reach two old gate posts, here the path divides, straight on to the end of the Shawl, or down a grassy patch towards a stile, which is the path to take.

ONCE over the stile, walk diagonally down hill towards a farm road and gate. The gates on the farm road might or might not be in place but if they are not in place, it is easy to see where they used to be. Walk along the farm road through a total of five gates/gaps. After the fifth gate/gap, walk a short distance, just about 20 metres, until you see the farm buildings through the foliage on the left, now turn right towards a five-bar gate about 100 metres upwards.

WHEN you reach the gate, continue diagonally right up the hill, towards a gate in the distance. This is the main drag upwards. Go through the gated stile towards another, straight on up the hill to the Shawl. You are now at the far end of the Shawl.

FROM here follow the Shawl path right, through a wooded area back to the point where the path divided. Now just continue back to the starting point.