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Linton and Kilnsey Circular

Starting point and OS Grid reference	Fontaine Inn at Linton (SD 997628) – on street parking.
Ordnance Survey map	OL2 Yorkshire dales – Southern and Western
Distance	11.3 miles
Traffic light rating	

Introduction: This is an easy walk but one which takes in some fine limestone scenery including the famous Kilnsey Crag, the limestone gorge at Conistone Dib, the village of Grassington and Linton Falls. It is a good walk for anyone coming to the Dales for the first time.

Refreshments are available at the Tenants Arms or Kilnsey Park (trout farm) at Kilnsey, various places in Grassington and the Fontaine Inn in Linton. There are public toilets in Grassington car park.

There is very little significant gradient on this walk.

The walk starts from the pretty hamlet of Linton outside the Fontaine Inn. There is street parking but it does tend to get busy so get here early at peak times. An alternative is to use the large public pay and display car park in Grassington through which the route passes anyway.

To get to Linton, turn north east off the B6265 between Threshfield and Cracoe signposted Linton.

Start: With your back to the Fountain Inn facing the green (SD 997628), turn left then turn right along the road. Just before the road bridge over the river, turn left on to the footpath.

The path forks at a gate with a two way fingerpost (SD 994629). Take the left fork signed B6265 and Threshfield. Go over the stone footbridge over the disused railway line, bear right to the end of the copse of trees and follow the wall along on your left.

On reaching the road (the B6265) (SD 998624), turn right but take care as this is a busy road with no pavement. You are not on the road for long. Pass the Old Hall Inn and turn left immediately after it on a broad drive (SD 990636) in the direction of the fingerpost for Skirethorns.

After 20 or 30 yards on the drive, branch off to the right indicated by a fingerpost over a stone stile. Turn right over another stile and head diagonally across the field heading for the corner of a wall then follow the wall keeping it on your left.

Go over a stone stile you come to on the left and follow the wall along to a three way fingerpost and go over the stone step stile in the direction indicated for Skirethorns lane.

Turn left over the next stile then go straight across the field to another gated stile at the end of the stone wall – do not confuse this with the stile in the opposite corner.

Go straight across the farm drive (SD 982637) to another gated step stile in the wall opposite. Bear left and go to the top of the banking by the old stone barn and turn left. Follow the wall along and go through the gated stile at the end where there is a yellow footpath arrow. Go through another gated stile on to the tarmac lane and turn right (SD 979636).

At the corner, go straight ahead in the direction of the fingerpost for Mastiles lane. Turn left into Wood Nook caravan site (SD 977641) where there is a fingerpost indicating Bordley.

Go through the caravan site on the main drive and bear left following the direction of the public footpath fingerpost as it goes through one of the caravan fields. The exit is in the left hand corner via a stile and stream in the direction of the fingerpost.

This next section of the route is marked by yellow topped posts. You pass the old disused farmhouse Height House at SD 963644 and shortly afterwards, go right through a walkers gate (SD 959645) in the direction of the footpath fingerpost down to the barn (Height Laithe). Just past this, go left through a kissing gate and follow the wall on the left to another fingerpost you can see on the horizon (SD958646). Turn right for Kilnsey and follow the path to the road (Malham Moor Lane).

At the road go straight across again for Kilnsey. Your route is now indicated by blue topped posts. When they peter out, follow the obvious track. It becomes a walled lane.

After going through a series of gates (for corralling animals), come to a broad gravel track and turn right (SD 965670). This is Mastiles Lane. Follow this all the way down to Kilnsey. As it joins a tarmac track, turn right. Pass Kilnsey Old Hall and where the road forks, go left down to the main road (B6160) by the Tennants Arms.

Turn left and just as you come to Kilnsey Crag itself, turn right on to a footpath signposted Conistone Bridge. Head right, across to the corner of the walls, and again to the next external wall corner (SD 979677). Turn right for the bridge.

At the bridge, turn left along the road into the village of Conistone. Go left at the triangle with the maypole/weathervane and almost immediately right on to the gravel track in front of the cottages. When it forks, go right (SD 982675).

At the gate, follow the fingerpost for Conistone Dib. Go thorough the narrow gorge and where it opens out a little below the radio mast, turn right by a three fingerpost signposted to Grassington (SD 990679).

Walk on the well defined track to Grassington passing an old limekiln on the right. At a gated stone step stile where the Dalesway arrow points left, this is your route to Grassington. At any further forks, keep left.

Eventually, the track becomes a walled lane which you follow into the village. When you get to the village, turn left and at the village hall, go right down the main street.

At the bottom of the main street, turn left then right into the car park (SE 003638). Walk across the car park until you come to the footpath going right down to Linton Falls. Cross the falls by the bridge and turn right then left at the old packhorse bridge (do not cross it). On reaching the road turn left.

Watch out for a footpath on the right (SE 003632) indicated by a sign on the side of a house stating B6161 via Stickhaw $\frac{1}{2}$ mile or Linton Camp $\frac{1}{4}$ mile. After 50 yards turn right by the sign Linton via B6160. On reaching the road, turn right and at the fork, go left then at the next road junction, turn left into Linton.

