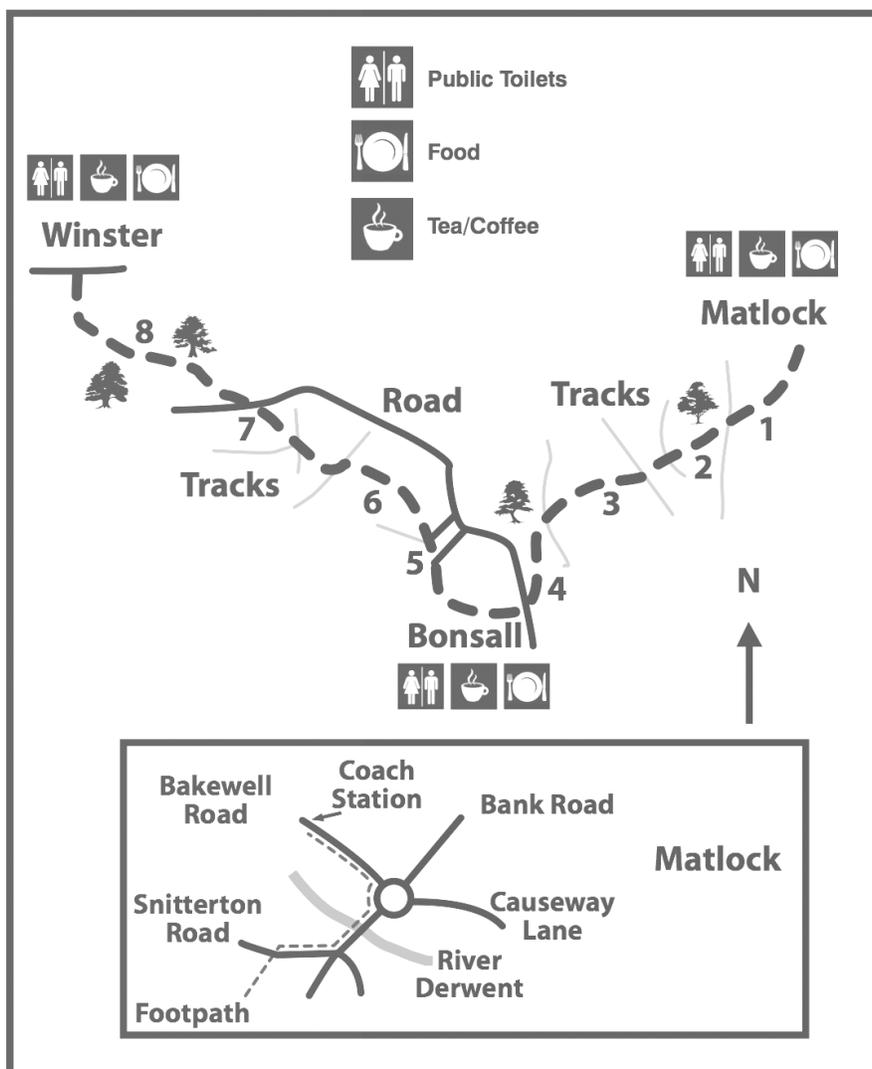


A series of 6 walks in the Peak District, researched and published by Transition Chesterfield, that can be reached by public transport from Chesterfield, for people without cars, or who want to leave the car at home. Unfortunately constant changes to the bus timetable, ticket costs, in some cases routes and even bus numbers make keeping this information updated impractical. Instead, we suggest you check the current status online at: <http://www.derbysbus.info/times/>. For the other walks see: [www.transitionchesterfield.org.uk](http://www.transitionchesterfield.org.uk).

## Walk No. 4: Matlock to Winster

**Summary:** largely following The Limestone Way, including ancient lanes and through a landscape apparently unchanged for years. It starts with a long ascent, but is worth it for the splendid, far-reaching views across the surrounding dales.



**Walk description** (the first 3 steps of the route are all uphill and steep in places, but the effort of the ascent is well rewarded by the fine views it affords):

**1:** At Matlock, starting at the roundabout by the Tourist Information, cross the bridge and go up Snitterton Road, the larger of the 2 roads ahead of you. About 50 metres up this is a 'Public Footpath' sign pointing left along a small side road; walk up this, over the railway line, to where the lane turns left. Here, take the path signposted 'The Limestone Way', going up some steps into a field, then follow the grassy track up the hill, passing to the right of a marker post, with an impressive view back over Matlock.

**2:** Go through the gap in the wall and straight over the road, at which point the path enters a strip of woodland on the other side. Continue uphill in the same direction, crossing several stiles and fields, until the path splits just before a farmhouse. Take the right-hand branch and cross a track, and up more steeply to another, turning right along this, again signposted 'The Limestone Way'.

**3:** The path leaves the track after about 30 metres, on the left by a seat. Follow it diagonally rightwards, still going uphill, bearing right through a gated stile near the summit, just after some rocks. Continue in the same direction, crossing another track into the next field; go straight across this keeping just left of an isolated line of trees as the path begins to level out. Go through the gap into the next field where there is a section of wall on your left, then continue past the stone field barn before bearing right through a gated stile in the hedge to join another trackway; turn left onto this.

**4:** Just past a gate where the track forks, stay on the left. (The Limestone Way sign points rightwards at this point, but this track swings left shortly after to meet up again with the left fork). Stay with the walled track down the hill, ignoring the other paths joining from either side. The track finishes with a ribbed concrete section that leads steeply down into Bonsall, near the cross and King's Head Inn. Go straight over the road to a white post with a public footpath sign pointing right; take this path to the set of steps between the houses signposted 'Limestone Way', and climb these.

**5:** Go up the path, which is steep but quite short, bearing right where it forks near the top, and continue along between two stone walls, now on a tarmac surface, past some seats until you meet a small lane. Walk down this, turn left into Uppertown Lane and almost immediately right into another road. About 200 metres down it is a T-junction, and in the angle opposite you is a gate with a rather inconspicuous stile to the right; go through this and then diagonally across 3 fields. Bear left to pass close by a stone/brick building on the left and straight on across several more fields, staying with The Limestone Way and ignoring a leftwards path.

**6:** When you reach a gated stile onto an old stone track, turn left – it is again signposted 'The Limestone Way'. About 250 metres along is another footpath sign on the right; take this path, passing well to the left of the derelict buildings and then more-or-less straight on across several fields until you reach a well-used chipping track.

**7:** Turn right and then left into the next track; there is a Limestone Way signpost just ahead, pointing right. Pass diagonally rightwards across the next few fields, aiming for the obvious gaps in the walls. Turn left at the road and then after about 50 metres right through the gated stile. Continue along a rather indistinct path across the fields, in the same general direction as previously, ignoring any other paths as you descend towards Winster, with great views out over the valleys.

**8:** When you reach a gated stile, signposted Limestone Way, in the wall on your right go through this and turn left. Continue downhill, keeping the mounds in the field on your right; where the path splits, follow the one signposted to Winster, past a stone stile alone in the middle of the field. The path splits again lower down; take either, they come out at different places on the same road.

Some paths may be rough or, if it has been wet, slippery, so wear appropriate clothing, especially footwear. Where there are steep or long hills this will be mentioned in the route description; however, it should be borne in mind that this is the Peak District and descriptions of conditions are relative to the area. The route map is very simplified so we recommend that you also carry an OS map, either Explorer OL24 (1:25,000) or Landranger 119 (1:50,000), which both cover all the walks in this series - maps can usually be borrowed from public libraries. Remember the Countryside Code: leave gates and property as you find them, protect plants and animals, take your litter home, keep dogs under close control and please consider other people.