Buxton via Brampton

Information

Start point  Bure Valley Railway Car Park, Stracey Road, Buxton (Stracey Road off Aylsham Road, close to Buxton church. To find the car park, turn right at the T-junction at the far end of Stracey Road, the car park is on the left at the end beside the railway station) • Grid Reference TG232229

Parking  Bure Valley Railway Car Park

Distance  3.25 miles

Details  Moderate gradient, 70% soft

Walk instructions

From the car park, cross the railway track and the Bure Valley Way, and walk through the wooden chicane opposite into a field. Follow the footpath ahead between the fields.

Walk straight ahead at the top of the hill and continue down the track to a gate, then follow the shingle track over the River Bure and up the hill to the farm.

Turn left at Hall Farm, walk through the busy farmyard and continue along the road.

At the T-junction turn left and cross the River Bure again (fine views from the bridge, with traces of an old lock in a silted up channel next to the river, lost in the 1912 floods which destroyed all the locks between Coltishall and Aylsham).

Turn right at Brampton village signs (two intriguing signs opposite each other) and walk through the pretty village.

Turn right again at the Old Post Office and walk along The Street, passing Common Lane and turning left at the no through road sign beside a white house (no name at this junction).

Walk up the road to the railway bridge, turn right just before the bridge to walk down the steps to the Bure Valley Way, turn left and follow the path for 1.25 miles to return to the start point.
The first of two Buxton walks and a good introduction to walking in the area, this route crosses the River Bure with great views along the river from Oxnead Bridge.

- Oxnead Mill was mentioned in the 1086 Domesday Book, and has been variously used as a paper mill, flour mill and to make ‘duffield’ blankets. Brampton was also shown, listed as ‘Brantuna’, possibly having derived from the Old English brom-tun, meaning ‘the farmstead where broom grows’.

- The original village sign shows Brampton Mill with the new sign showing the Brampton ‘Dolphins’ which were found during an archaeological dig. The Dolphins are thought to have been a carrying handle for a Roman military helmet.

- The River Bure was important to Brampton in Roman times with the sea being approximately only two miles away at the time. Excavations found the remains of a wooden wharf suggesting that this was a trading location.