To The Mast and Beyond

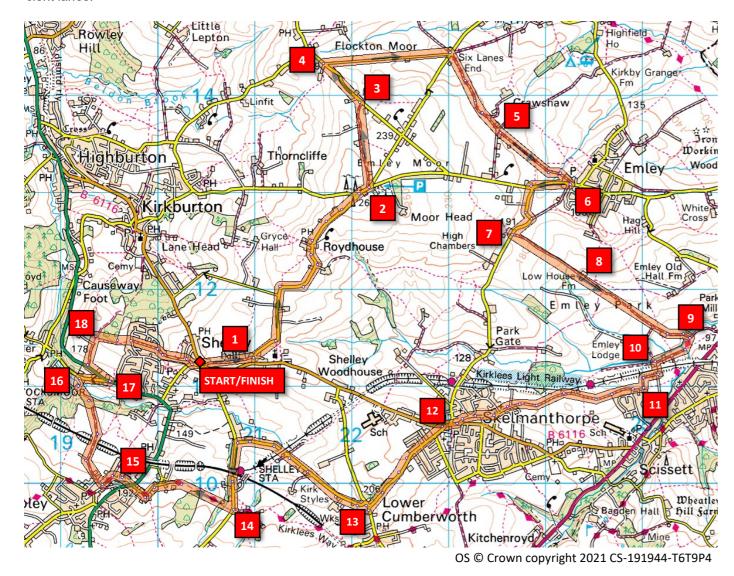
Distance 22.2km/13.2 miles

Time 3 to 4hrs

Ascent 365m/1198ft

OS 1:25000 Explorer Map 288: Bradford & Huddersfield is recommended

A scenic roller coaster of a ride to the north of Shelley. Combining off-road, quiet lanes and sections of the Trans Pennine Trail this route can be enjoyed by riders of all abilities. Starting at the Village Hall you take a steady climb to Emley Mast which at 264m above sea level rewards you with far reaching views. You will go on to cross Emley and Flockton Moors, descend through long sections of bridleway into the Dearne Valley, and wriggle along some ancient lanes.



- Starting from the Village Hall car park turn right onto the A629 and then immediate left into Back Lane, which is opposite the hall. At the end of Back Lane turn left onto Bark House Lane and follow the road ahead for 2.4km. Climbing steadily you will pass the Three Acres Inn to arrive at the mast.
- As the road levels out by the mast look out for your next turn, left into Factory Lane, signposted as a bridleway.
- At the end of Factory Lane turn left onto Lenacre Lane and descend the hill for 600m.
- Take your first right into Long Lane and continue to the junction known as Six Lanes End. Carefully cross the junction to go straight ahead into Crawshaw Lane.
- After 900m there is a junction opposite a white walled cottage, go straight ahead onto Broom Field Lane.
- You will emerge at the White Horse Pub in Emley. Turn right onto Chapel Lane and then after 400m turn left onto Leys Lane for a further 600m.

This route can be ridden by anyone in good health with basic bike skills and a reasonable mountain bike, but is not suitable for road bikes/hybrids. The estimated times reflect a leisurely pace and taking in the views.

When riding off-road there are a few basic rules to remember:

- While cyclist have 'right of way' on bridleways this means cycling is permitted, however cyclist <u>must</u> give way to
- horses and pedestrians.
- Don't frighten animals.
- Always ride in control and take care as you do not know who/what may be around the next corner.
- Please close all gates behind you.
- Immediately after passing Park House, on your right, turn onto Frank Lane which is the concrete track signposted Public Bridleway.
- At Low House Farm you will need to stop and open the gate in order to continue along the bridleway. Please make sure to close it behind you.
- After 1.3km you will cross the River Dearne. Stop on the old stone bridge to take in the picturesque valley in both directions. Immediately beyond the bridge, on your right, is the entrance to a bridleway that runs along the river valley. Take this.
- After 500m the bridleway turns left and passes under the railway bridge, then turns immediate right. Continue along the bridleway to emerge on Pilling Lane.
- Turn right onto Pilling Lane and follow for 1.4km to enter Skelmanthorpe on Elm Street. Continue along Elm Street, bearing left at the junction with Dale Street, and clmb the short hill to join the A6116.
- Turn right onto the A6116 Commercial Road for 200m then turn left onto Cumberworth Road (becoming Ponker Lane) for 1.1km.
- At the junction with Shelley Woodhouse Lane turn right and then next left into Coal Pit Lane. Continue straight ahead for 1.5km to a T-junction and turn left onto Copley Lane. Climb the hill, passing under the railway bridge, and look out for the signpost for the Trans Pennine Trail joining on your right after 400m.
- Turn right onto the Trans Pennine Trail and continue for 800m, then bear left when you join the tarmac of The Knowle and continue to the junction with the A629.
- Carefully cross the A629 into Yew Tree Road, continue to the junction with Station Road and turn left, then take the first right into Field Head. After a further 300m look out for the bridleway joining from the right immediately after the entrance to Field Head Farm Court. Take the bridleway, know as Long Lane, and descend to Corn Mill Bottom.
- Turn right at the end of the bridleway and follow the road to the junction with Dam Hill, then turn right to climb to the A629.
- Turn left along the A629 for about 200m then turn right onto the Healy Farm track, sign posted for the Trans Pennine Trail. After 200m, as the lane turns left, bear right onto the bridleway, know as Box Ings Lane. Climb up to the start of the woods on your right
- Turn right, climbing over the remains of the old dry stone wall to enter the corner of the woods. Follow the trail along the edge of the woods running parallel with the stone wall separating the woods from the pasture. As you leave the woods continue straight ahead to exit onto Hawthorne Way. Continue straight ahead, dismounting to pass through the pedestrian link between the houses to Westerley Lane. Follow Westerley Lane round to the right, passing the Cricket Club and then go straight ahead into Water Lane as the road turns sharp left. Exit Water Lane onto Far Bank turning left to climb the short hill back to the Village Hall.