

1. **Foolow - Silly Dale - Grindlow - Foolow**

2.5 miles

A pleasant evening's stroll



From the door of the Bulls Head turn right and cross onto the green. Walking towards the duck pond, a footpath is seen next to the entrance to The Manor House with a signpost "Silly Dale." Follow the path through a narrow alley to a gateway leading into the fields.

At the gate the path turns right and walks diagonally left across the field to a "kissing gate." From here the path is obvious, crossing 7 further fields to a junction with a green lane. Cross straight over the lane and follow the path through 3 further fields until the lane is joined again. Turn right following the lane for 50m where there is a junction with another green lane.

Turn right and follow this track along the length of Silly Dale. The track ends just beyond Henry's Bungalow at a junction with Tarmac roads.

Cross the road and follow it slightly uphill, towards Grindlow. In approx. half a mile, immediately after a barn on the right, turn right and follow a track back towards Foolow. The track ends at a stile leading into a field, where a footpath continues through 3 fields and joins the road approx 300m outside Foolow. Turn left and the road brings you back into the village.

**Foolow** is a small, picturesque village, situated in Derbyshire and the Peak District National Park, 1.5 miles west of Eyam and 7 miles North of Bakewell.

There are approx. 60 houses in Foolow with around 130 inhabitants. Most of the current buildings date from the 18th and 19th century, growing around the picturesque village pond and green, with its medieval cross and bull ring. The cross bears the date 1868, this being the date it was removed from the site where the chapel now stands and placed in its present position. It is believed that the ring was used to teather bulls for bull baiting. The pond was formerly used by the villager farmers to water cattle, but is now home to the village ducks.

There used to be 5 pubs in Foolow. The Spread Eagle is a private house but still has tethering rings for horses. The Bull's Head is the only remaining public house and in recent years has become a popular venue.

St Hugh's Church and the former Wesleyan Reform Church both date from the 19th century, St Hugh's having had a porch added in 1928 using stone from the old smithy.

Lead mining and farming have traditionally been the principle employment. Lead mining has been carried out in the area since Roman times, and though this ceased some time ago, the evidence is still there with mine shafts and spoil heaps still visible.