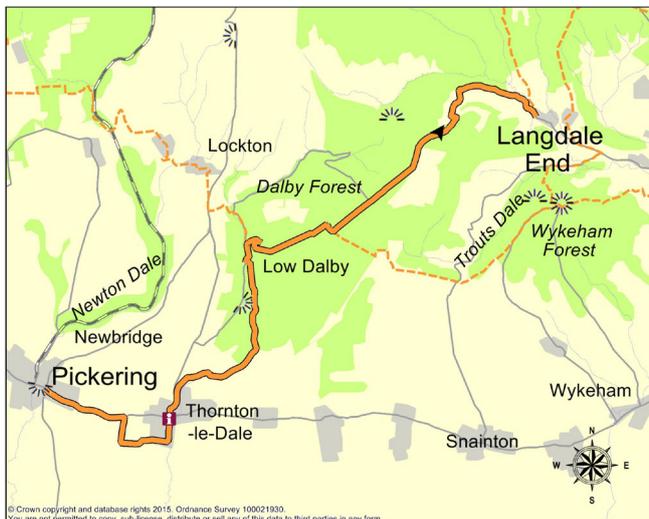




Moor to Sea Cycle Network

www.northyorkmoors.org.uk/moortosea

8: Pickering to Langdale End



Cycle route info:

Distance: 15 miles (24km)

Time: 2 to 3½ hours

Start: Pickering car park (by Co-op)

Grid ref: SE 796 839

Map: Ordnance Survey OL27

Terrain: on roads and forest tracks, with some steep ascents and descents



Starting from Pickering – gateway to the North York Moors National Park – this section of the Moor to Sea passes through the pretty village of Thornton le Dale en route to Dalby Forest. Dalby's own network of off-road cycle trails is well known, but the Moor to Sea quickly leaves Low Dalby and heads for Langdale End. It's a hilly ride, with the hard work rewarded by some fantastic freewheels downhill. Almost the whole stage is forested, which makes it a sheltered route on a windy day.

Directions: Pickering to Langdale End

From Pickering, take the Thornton Road (A170) towards Thornton-le-Dale. Take care with the heavy traffic and at the end of the houses bear L onto the shared-use footway. After 1.5km turn R down Westfield Lane. Follow the road round to the L into Thornton le Dale. Turn L at the T-junction and ride into the village along Maltongate.

Approaching the village green, dismount and walk straight up to cross the main road at the pelican crossing, before continuing on up Whitbygate. Follow signs R and L for Ellerburn, and, after 1.3km, pass the church, following the road R and L onto a bridleway. Go past Low and High Paper Mill Farms and continue on up the valley with the beck on your L. Enter Dalby Forest and continue straight on up to Low Dalby village.

From Low Dalby follow the forest drive northwards, up the valley past the Visitor Centre. At the Sneverdale car park and Go Ape turn R and go through a wooden barrier onto a forest track. At a crossroads, turn sharp R and snake round up Housedale Rigg. Turn R at a T-junction and almost immediately L to join a tarmac road.

At the top of the hill follow the road round to the R. Ignore the stone road ahead and follow the tarmac road round to the L. Continue and eventually pass through a metal barrier flanked by two stone walls. Then keep on in the same direction but along the tarmac forest drive which joins from the L. (*cont.*)



Pass by Jingleby Thorn, fork R on the tarmac and then go down a steep (1 in 6) hill and past the forest drive toll point. At the telephone box, follow the road round to the R and keep straight on down to Langdale End.

Directions: Langdale End to Pickering

Leave Langdale End uphill, going west, ignoring a turning to the R. At the telephone box, follow the road round to the L, signposted 'Forest Drive, Low Dalby 9 and Bickley'. Go through the forest drive toll point, head up the 1 in 6 hill and keep straight ahead on the tarmac. Pass Jingleby Thorn and then, at a crossroads directly before the toll check-point, continue straight on, around a metal barrier flanked by two stone walls.

At a T-junction follow the tarmac road round to the R and L. After 470m turn R on to a forest track and then immediately L down Housedale Rigg. At a crossroads of tracks, turn L and continue through the wooden barrier into the car park. Turn L onto the forest drive and continue along into Low Dalby village.

From Low Dalby take the forest track heading down the valley, with the beck on your R. Follow the lower bridleway past Low and High Paper Mill Farms and across the beck. Swing L on the tarmac road through Ellerburn, turn R at the junction and then turn L into Thornton le Dale.

In the village go straight over the crossroads, taking extra care crossing the road, and down Maltongate. After 700m, turn R up Westgate. Follow this road round until it reaches the A170 (Thornton Road) at which point go straight over and turn L onto a shared-use footway. At the houses, cross the road and continue (with care) along the main road into Pickering.

Route highlights!

Detour to Pickering Castle, where medieval monarchs came to stay.
Tackle an off-road bike track in Dalby Forest – if you've got the stamina.
Keep an eye out for roe deer, hiding in the trees.
Stand in front of Thornton's famous becksided thatched cottage.

Facilities

Pickering and Thornton le Dale have a full range of accommodation, cafés, restaurants and other facilities, including cycle hire.

There's also cycle hire, a bike shop and refreshments in Low Dalby Courtyard, as well as a Forestry Commission visitor centre, café and a picnic area above the car park. Elsewhere, there's local produce for sale at Bickley and refreshments at the Moorcock Inn at Langdale End.