

## Across the river to the garden centre

It's just a 2 mile gentle stroll .. Mostly

Downhill from Blackberry and turn right into Victoria Road

Go right along to the end and left down a footpath (marked).



On your right admire the allotment, full of amazing fruit and veg.

Say "Hi" to David if he is working there.

2 things to be aware of as you head down the path

A) in the left hand garden you might meet Magic the black

Labrador who is very bouncy and noisy but (to us anyway) very friendly



B) at the end is the road up to the mill; cars travel along this so exit with great care. Even

though the Mill drivers themselves are very careful the exit onto the road is abrupt and a car travelling very sedately could be awkward.

Turn right up the road past the entrance to the mill housing and then left by the enormous conker trees. If you are walking in the autumn and you have children with you; you could be some time here.



Left again in a few metres following the Touchstone Trail guide post down to the river and weir. The ducks are usually hungry so make sure you are adequately prepared



The stepping stones will be in some sort of (dis)repair; could be a bit of a scramble unless they have been redone - they get washed

away by flood water regularly however it doesn't



usually take long for the appropriate authority to mend them again.



On the bridge you must stop and admire the FIRE touchstone.

Then it's across the fields aiming towards Win Hill



At this point it's good to stop and ponder one of life's great countryside mysteries .. "Why do farmers always put the gate in the muddiest part of the field?"



Go past the barn, and through another gate; usually even muddier than the first.

Then angle left up the slippery muddy slope

At the top you will join the old railway track up to the dams

You could go straight on up towards Win Hill



Or right to the dam



If you really do need to get your breath back

But this walk goes left

Amble gently down the old railway track which was used in the 1940's to transport men and materials up to the Ladybower Dam site. You bare quite likely to meet horse riders and cyclists along here but so far we've never seen a trail bike.



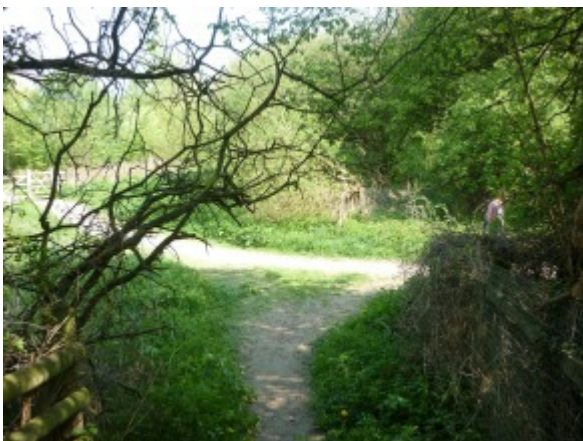
Look left for good views of Bamford Village



Just after a gate you will see housing on the left; this is the old Severn Trent Water Works HQ, now a Quaker Community. You can take either the narrow path left or continue on the motorway and turn left at the end.



You can continue down Water Lane to the recreation ground or go right by the hedge - usually the gate is shut and you go over the style. It's directly opposite the Quaker entrance



Follow the field edge round and exit by the railway bridge. Turn right and under the bridge for the garden centre or left to go across the rec and rejoin Water Lane by the children's playground



**The Garden Centre, is always worth a visit; and there's a cafe there as well!  
When you've had your tea and cake and bought some plants return under  
the railway bridge and across the recreation ground**



**Go right when you rejoin Water Lane;  
across the river bridge, immediately left  
on a track through Riverside Garage and  
up back onto Bamford Main Road; then it's  
a rather unpleasant, loads of traffic, 200m  
up the road back to Blackberry.**

**Sorry there aren't any photos for this last bit but someone was tempted by  
too many nice plants at the garden centre and my hands were too full of  
other things to manage camera operation.**

