

# Lancashire Walks

## White Coppice



*Nestled below Great Hill on the edge of the West Pennine Moors, the hamlet of White Coppice has the most attractively set cricket ground in Lancashire. If this is not inducement enough to try this walk then add to the list the lovely woodland near Brinscall.*

**Start:** Small car park on right as you reach White Coppice from the direction of Wheelton, A674. (Chorley-Blackburn road) which is reached from Junction 8, M61

**Distance:** 11 Km or 7 miles

**Time:** 3 -4 hours

**Terrain:** Farmland and woodland tracks. Mainly easy walking with some short ascents.

**Map:** OS Explorer 287 West Pennine Moors

### 1. White Coppice to Brinscall (2½ Km or 1½ miles:45mins)

Walk towards road junction turning left across a footbridge by an attractive row of cottages. **(Pic 1)** Now on a farm track steadily climb to where it bends to the right. At this point go straight ahead crossing a stile to the left of a metal gate. **(Pic 2)** Keep ahead with the hedge at first on your left but after a short distance on your right. The path drops slightly to a wooded corner. **(Pic 3)** After crossing a wooden stile, cross a small brook to reach a second stile. Once across enter a field and continue with fence on right. Here you will have a sense of elevation looking across to the moors and woods to your right. Dropping to a metal gate in a muddy corner of the field, go through and then cross a substantial bridge over the now dismantled railway. **(Pic 4)** Once over the bridge turn left on a farm track. Where this meets a lane after 200m turn right. This lane will bring you to a cluster of houses. Keep straight and then follow the lane as it bends to the right in trees to reach a large house. **(Pic 5)** Here take the track that continues past the entrance and leads to a junction of footpaths. Your way is ahead crossing a field with a fence on your right. The footpath enters woods by way of a stile next to a cattle grid. Turn left onto a wide track that leads up to Brinscall Hall. **(Pic 6)** After the track turns left in front of the hall turn right to walk into Brinscall by way of a tree lined drive. **(Pic 7)**

### 2. Brinscall to Abbey Village (2½ Km or 1½ miles: 45 mins)

Turn right into School Lane and descend through the village turning left after 200m onto a footpath signed for Withnell and Abbey Village. **(Pic 8)** Follow this as it crosses open ground to enter attractive semi-parkland, with woods and ponds. Soon you'll come to the entrance of Withnell Nature Reserve. **(Pic 9)** Here follow the sign post for Abbey Village. This part of the route, once a railway, now enters a deep cutting before emerging on the A675 at top end of Abbey Village. **(Pic 10)** Turn right.

### 3. Abbey Village to White Coppice (5 Km or 3 miles: 1½ hours)

From the Hare and Hounds at the south end of the village walk a further 200m towards Bolton. On reaching a footpath sign turn right onto a path. **(Pic 11)** With the field boundary on your right, keep ahead. After 500m you reach a timber yard. Follow the path as it bears to the left and then turns right to enter the yard. Cross the yard and then turn right to reach the lane. Turn left on the lane. 400m ahead where the lane divides keep left to join Twist Moor Lane. **(Pic 12)** 700m along, past a quarry on the left and before the lane drops deeply to Brinscall, turn left onto a footpath. This leads across rough pasture providing an elevated prospect of Brinscall. Where the path forks, **(Pic 13)** keep right to arrive at a stile leading into a (Edge Gate) lane. **(Pic 14)** Turn right and then after a short distance left onto a broad track leading through Wheelton Plantation. Keep on this track as it curves through the trees and begins to gently descend. After 700m/10mins it begins to descend more distinctly rightwards and on the edge of the plantation reaches a footbridge. **(Pic 15)** Cross the footbridge and turn immediately left. You are now walking alongside the Goit, an artificial watercourse constructed as part of the Rivington Reservoir Scheme. Keep on the concessionary path which will bring you after 800m to a small reservoir. With the reservoir on your left cross a field to arrive at a footbridge in its corner, **(Pic 16)** then by a connecting footpath, come out onto the cricket ground. Turn right skirting the edge of the field past two pretty cottages. On reaching the cinder lane descend to the car park.



**Map by Chris Wayatt  
at the Blackpool Gazette**

**Pic 1**



**Pic 2**



**Pic 3**



**Pic 4**



**Pic 5**



**Pic 6**



**Pic 7**



**Pic 8**



**Pic 9**



**Pic 10**



**Pic 11**



**Pic 12**



**Pic 13**



**Pic 14**



**Pic 15**



**Pic 16**

