

allow 6 hours if climbing  
chrome hill

moderate

## Form an orderly coo

Despite its title the Peak National Park has little in the way of 'true peaks'. There are a few notable exceptions though, all with an oddly similar geological history. After the limestone was originally laid down and then exposed, the tougher 'reef' limestone resisted the effects of erosion. In the White Peak this effect left behind impressive reef knolls, often packed with small fossils. Many of these are in the Dove Valley, and possibly the most striking are the towering Chrome and Parkhouse hills. These dominate the Upper Dove and this walk around them really is a great ramble.

for Fawside across the valley. Through the farmyard, take the path to the right, crossing a wooden stile following the fence line to another stile which joins a well worn track. Ignore this and walk straight out downhill to the stream, heading for Longnor village directly ahead.

**4** Follow the road as far as a turning left onto a wide dirt road. Turn right to bypass Stoop Farm and then rejoin the track toward Booth Farm. At the farm, leave the metalled road and take the path to the left, crossing the cattle grid and following the sign to Fough. An obvious track passes behind the only house – take the lower of the two paths, signed a bridleway. A kestrel box in a tree behind the house makes this a great place to see the birds as they hover above the gorse on the left looking for food.

**5** Rounding a sharp bend in the track gives a surprise view of the upper Dove Valley spread out before you, again with great views of the two dominant features. Leave the wide track now, following the bridleway sign to the right. Go through the fanciest gate I've seen and cross the river. Bear left, climbing slightly to the gate onto the road, and turn left into Hollinscough village.

**6** In the square, take the path to the right past the farm turning, before going left at the last barn and following the track upward. Pass another old white farmhouse and turn left at the cross paths. Take the stile on the right before the bungalow and follow the path to the road. Cross the road and take the two stiles to the right of the house opposite, passing through the gateway across the field to drop downhill to the road. Turn left downhill. At the road junction turn left and then take the footpath on the left heading

**7** In the village square there are several pubs serving refreshments as well as a craft centre with a café. The latter is situated in the impressive market hall and is well worth a visit.

**8** Follow the road out of the village, passing the Cheshire Cheese pub. The last cottage on the left is amusingly called 'Endun'. Turn left here to pass more houses before bearing right, following the fingerpost for another surprise view across the valley. Drop down to the barn and turn left and then right following directions painted on the barn.

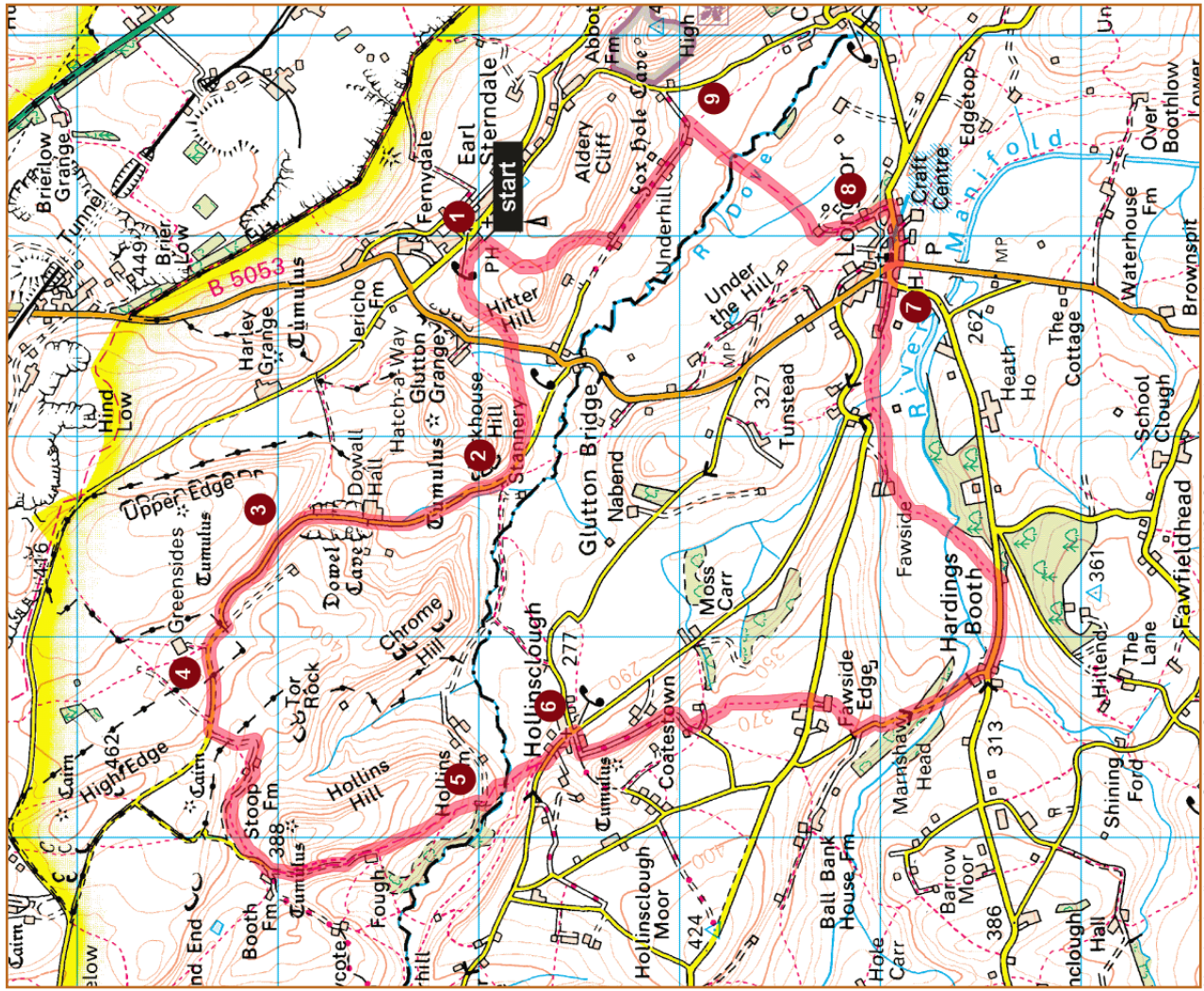
**9** Walk straight ahead now to cross Beggars Bridge. At the metalled road turn left, through the yard and on to the next house, Underhill. Turn right here and head uphill for a short, steep climb. Earl Sterndale comes into view from the top. Walk downhill now back to the pub and finish.

## The walk

**1** Take the right hand path behind the Quiet Woman pub, passing the chicken huts. After several stiles, Parkhouse and Chrome hills come into view. Follow the worn field path in their direction. Bear left down the hill, crossing the road to the path opposite. Now follow painted yellow stiles.

**2** Join the road turning right up Dowell Dale. At the cattle grid a permissive path to the left takes you on the optional hike to the top of Chrome Hill and then on toward Stoop Farm (point 4). The walk up Chrome Hill is definitely recommended – hard work but with stunning views. Otherwise follow the road past the farm, where a tea room is open all day.

**3** Steadily climbing Dowell Dale by road, pass the cave where the bodies of 10 ancient people were found, together with flint tools and the bones of their



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