THE DEW STONES

RIVOCK EDGE, OFF THE SILSDEN TO EAST MORTON ROAD

A wonderful upland walk with a gentle rise, across meadows and through coniferous forest with fantastic views across the valley.

TIME TAKEN 20 mins each way.

DISTANCE 1.2km/ 0.75 miles each way. You may want to combine this walk with the **Puddle Stones**, which are a 5 minute drive away.

ACCESS Up a dirt and gravel track (short slope) across grassland and through a forest. An alternative route includes two stiles. Can be muddy.

REFRESHMENTS AND TOILETS

Plenty of pubs and cafés in Silsden and several family pubs on the B6265 at the bottom of Ilkley Road. National Trust café at East Riddlesden Hall. (www.nationaltrust.org.uk)

Toilets: Bridge Street, off Bolton Road Silsden, in the public car park in front of The Punch Bowl Inn.

GETTING THERE AND PARKING

From the A629 (Bradford-Skipton Road) take the A6034 to Silsden, a pretty town beside the Leeds Liverpool canal. Coming into Silsden go over the metal sided canal bridge and turn immediately right into Howden Road, marked 'Clog Bridge to Howden Road' on a gable end.

From the A65 (Leeds-Skipton Road) take the A6034 to Silsden. In Silsden, turn left into Howden Road as above, just **before** the metal sided bridge over the canal.

Follow this lane twisting through the countryside for 3 miles (5 minutes) until you come to a right hand turning, Banks Lane. (Map ref SE071438.)

For safe parking, turn down Banks Lane and park in the layby on your right hand side.

Alternatively

You can approach the same junction from the B6265. At the traffic lights at East Riddlesden Hall, turn right, from Bingley, or left from Keighley, up Granby Lane. Take the second left onto Banks Lane. Follow for 1 mile up the hill to the T-junction with Silsden Road.



Photo: Gateway in Rivock Edge Forest where the Dew Stones are now installed.

THE DEW STONES continued

RIVOCK EDGE, OFF THE SILSDEN TO EAST MORTON ROAD

The Walk

Having parked, walk up the road to the T-junction.

Turn left and walk along the Silsden road for 200m. You will see a cluster of barns on your right with three wooden gates, leading to a wide gravelled track signed 'footpath and bridleway'.

Go through the footpath gate and follow the track up towards the TV mast.

(For a short cut at the start: turn left at the top of Banks Lane for a few yards. Cross the road and go over the stone stile in the wall on your right. Go diagonally across the field and over another stone stile to join the gravelled track towards the TV mast.)

100m before the TV mast you'll see a wide farm gate and smaller metal gate, on your right.

Go through the smaller gate and, ignoring the vehicle track leading to your right, go slightly left through another gate. Now go diagonally left across the field to a futher gate (this is a bridleway, so look for hoof prints).

Go through this further gate and straight across the next field.

This field rises slightly in the centre and as you get to the top of the rise, you will see a metal gateway into Rivock Forest beyond.

Go through this gateway and follow the clearly defined path straight on, through the coniferous forest.

After 10 minutes on the forest path, you will go downhill round a bend to the left.

As the path emerges at the edge of the trees you will see the two large **Dew Stones** in front of you.



Photo: Dewrising on Rivock Edge.

About the Dew Stones

"A disused gateway in the drystone wall was the inspiration for these outsized gateposts which block the gateway – but permit light to pass through. I chose a thick slab of Scoutmoor gritstone at Marshall's Brighouse quarry. The stone was sawn down the middle, resulting in two halves

which, when opened out, mirrored each other. The holes at the edges were drilled so the stone could be split. This technique, involving hammering wedges into the holes, is known as 'plug and feather' and dates back to ancient Egyptian times."

Pip Hall

DEW STONES WALK

2.4KM/1.5 MILES IN TOTAL

