



## THE INGLEBY INCLINE and ROUND HILL

FROM INGLEBY GREENHOW 9 MILES (14.5KM)

**This walk starts at the peaceful village of Ingleby Greenhow and involves a steep climb to the highest point of the North York Moors. The variety of terrain and scenery is excellent, and the views are exceptional.**

Ingleby Greenhow is situated at the foot of a dramatic valley, sheltered by the steep Cleveland escarpment. It is recorded in the Domesday Book as 'Engleby', meaning 'village of the English', and Greenhow, which means 'the green hill', was added later to distinguish it from two other Inglebys in the district. The manor was held by Malgrin and Siward Barn, the King's Thegns. It was later granted to Guy de Balliol, along with Battersby and the barony of Stokesley, by William II.

The Church of St Andrew was founded in the twelfth century. Despite substantial restoration in 1741 and 1905 many of the original features have survived. The chancel arch, nave arcade

and lower parts of the tower all display traces from the Norman era. The capitals of the pillars in the nave are ornamented by some curious carvings, depicting animals, sea monsters and grotesque heads. The tower has a peal of two bells which were cast in the fourteenth century and they are still rung for church services.

Our walk begins with a stroll through the meadows to the hamlet of Bank Foot. Here we join the trackbed of the old Rosedale Railway which leads to Incline Foot where we climb the steep gradient of the former incline.

The Rosedale Railway was an incredible feat of engineering. It was built to link the ironstone mines in Rosedale with the main railway lines that ran from Battersby to the blast furnaces at Middlesbrough and County Durham. The line opened in 1861. It ran from Battersby to the bottom of The Ingleby Incline – Incline Foot. Empty wagons were removed and pulled to the top of the incline – Incline Top. The wagons

were connected to another locomotive and continued 10½ miles (16.9km) over the moor to Rosedale. During this crossing the railway never fell below an altitude of 1000 feet (305m).

The Ingleby Incline was a self-acting incline, it used the weight of ore-laden wagons, as they were lowered down the incline, to raise empty wagons to the moor top. It was 4290 feet (1308m) in length, rising from a lower elevation of about 600 feet (183m) to 1370 feet (418m) at the moor top. The maximum gradient reached was 1 in 5 with an average of 1 in 5.5. Workers' cottages were built at both Incline Foot and Incline Top, the latter was known as Siberia by the occupants because the weather conditions were often very severe. The last locomotive was lowered down the incline in June 1929 and the Rosedale Railway was declared closed.

From Incline Top we proceed along the old trackbed to join the Cleveland Way and then continue towards Urra Moor.

As we approach the summit of the moor we pass two interesting marker stones. First, the Face Stone, so called because it bears the crude carving of a face. This is mentioned in the 1642 perambulation of the Helmsley estate which describes it as 'the bounder called Faceston'. Next we come to the Hand Stone, an early eighteenth-century guidepost. Justices at the Sessions, held 2nd October 1711, issued orders for guideposts to be erected at all crossways throughout the North Riding.

Round Hill, lying 100 yards (92m) north of the footpath, is the highest point of the North York Moors at 1490 feet (454m). The trig point is sited on the Bronze Age burial mound of Botton Howe. Unfortunately, due to the broad summit, which is bounded in all directions by bleak, windswept moorland, the views are a little disappointing.

Leaving the summit, we continue across Urra Moor and descend into Greenhow Plantation. This is the ideal habitat for the nightjar. These nocturnal birds, most active at dusk and dawn, feed on moths, beetles and other flying insects which they catch mainly on the wing. In ancient folklore it was believed that the nightjar sucked milk from the teats of goats, which has earned it the name of 'goatsucker'. But obviously, it was the insects hovering near the animals that lured the birds. The male attracts a mate with a loud chirring song containing 1900 notes per minute.

From the wood we descend onto a quiet lane with superb views all around, including Captain Cook's Monument and the shapely pinnacle of Roseberry Topping in the distance. Midnight Farm, to the left of the lane, supposedly got its name because it is frequently in shadow due to its position in this short, north facing valley and is rarely bathed in sunshine.

We leave the lane at Low Farm and follow a good path through the fields leading us back to Ingleby Greenhow.

### Start/Parking:

Park at Ingleby Greenhow adjacent to St Andrew's Church or start from Bank Foot where there is ample parking (see details walk 7).

### Location:

Ingleby Greenhow is situated 4½ miles (7.2km) east of Stokesley. Follow the B1257 to Great Broughton then follow signs to Ingleby Greenhow.

### Grid Ref:

NZ 581 063. Postcode: St Andrew's Church – TS9 6LL.

### Distance:

9 miles (14.5km) circular. Allow 4½ hrs walking time.

### Total Ascent:

1232 feet (375m) Maximum Elevation: 1489 feet (454m).

### OS Maps:

Explorer OL26 (1:25,000) North York Moors, Western Area or Landranger 93 and 94 (1:50,000).

### Refreshments:

Ingleby Greenhow: The Dudley Arms.

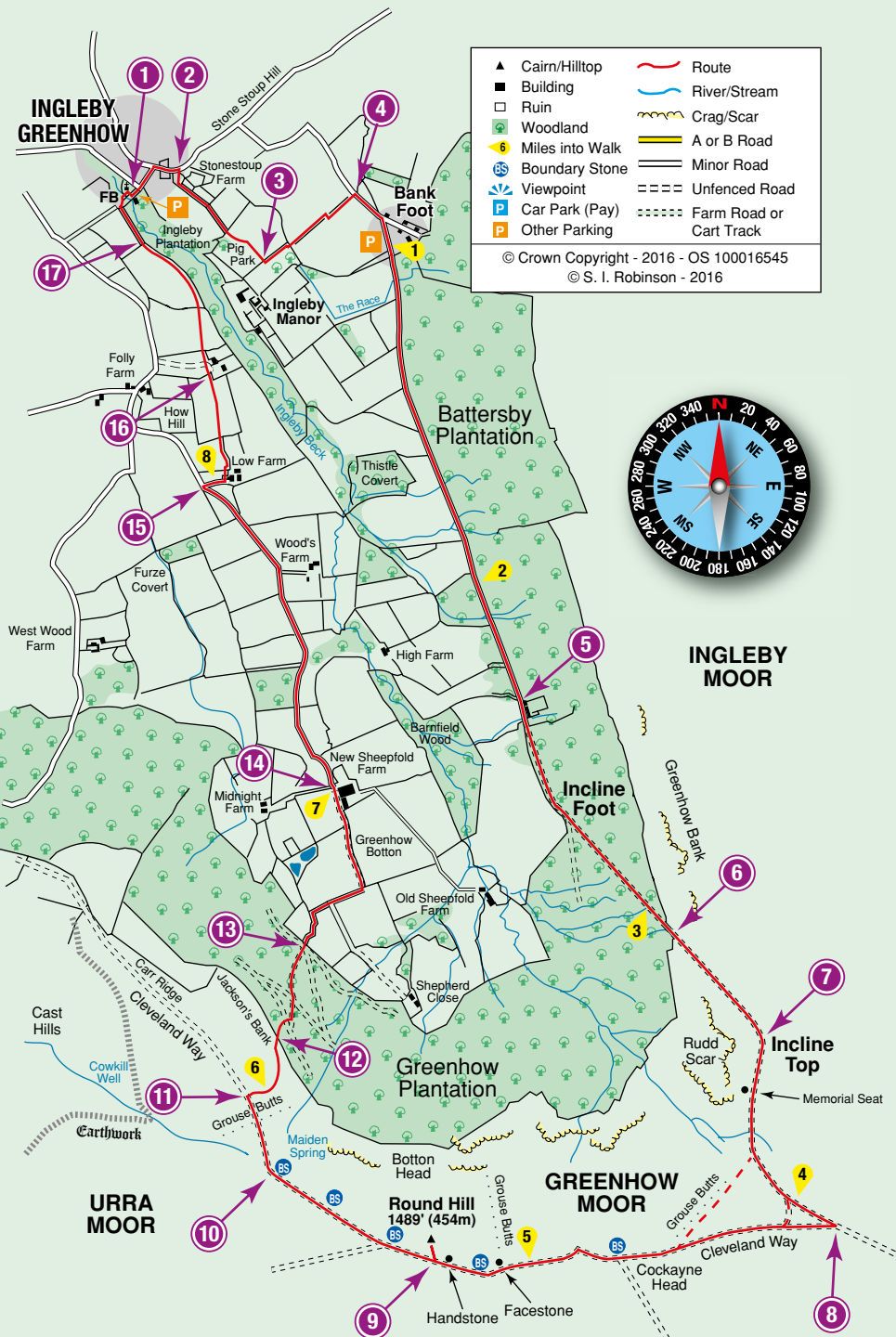
### Public Toilets:

None en route, nearest Kildale or Stokesley.

### Other:

Bus service, telephone.

## THE INGLEBY INCLINE AND ROUND HILL



- 1 **GR: 581 063** Leave the parking place and follow the road uphill to a T-Junction. Turn right (*SP Battersby/Kildale/Castleton*) and continue along the road for about 100 yards (91m).
- 2 **GR: 583 064** Turn right, leave the road (*SP Public Footpath*) and follow a narrow timber fenced path. When the fencing changes from timber to barbed wire, continue along it and descend through a gate. Bear left slightly and then follow the line of a former hedge boundary.
- 3 **GR: 587 059** Go through the gate/stile, turn left (*SP Public Footpath*) and follow the left fence to the corner. Cross a stile (*SP Public Footpath*) and continue forward keeping to left side of the hedge to a gap. Go through the gap and follow the right side of the hedge to the field boundary.
- 4 **GR: 591 062** Turn right and continue along the road to the tiny hamlet of Bank Foot. Turn right onto an unsurfaced road (*SP Public Bridleway*) and follow this, almost level, roadway to a row of former railway cottages.
- 5 **GR: 598 040** Continue past the cottages, go through a gate and follow a rougher track, leading to a fork, this is Incline Foot. Turn left onto the incline and begin the steep ascent to Incline Top.
- 6 **GR: 605 029** Go through a gate and continue climbing steeply past Rudd Scar to reach Incline Top and onto the open moor.
- 7 **GR: 609 025** Bear right and follow a good track descending slightly to reach a memorial seat. Continue along the track which sweeps round to the left.
- 8 **GR: 612 017** Turn right to join the Cleveland Way (*Waymark Post*). Descend along a narrower, paved path, cross a gully and climb back up onto a broader track. Turn left and follow the track climbing gradually uphill across Cockayne Head to Round Hill.
- 9 **GR: 594 015** The summit of Round Hill is 100 yds (91m) north of the track. Return to the main track and continue to a junction of tracks. Take the right fork and begin a gradual descent.
- 10 **GR: 587 019** The track bears right and becomes narrower. Continue descending and pass through a line of grouse butts.
- 11 **GR: 586 022** Turn right (*Waymark Post*) and follow a clear path through the heather, descending steeply to the Greenhow Plantation.
- 12 **GR: 587 025** Go through a gate and follow a good track descending into the wood. At a cross track continue directly ahead (*Waymark Post*) and descend on a narrow path onto another broad forest track. Turn left and descend steeply over two more forest tracks.
- 13 **GR: 589 029** Cross the forest track, go through the gate opposite and follow a fenced path down to the left boundary. Continue with the left boundary onto a farm road. Turn left and follow the farm road to New Sheepfold Farm.
- 14 **GR: 590 036** Continue through the farmyard and join a tarmac road. Follow the road for about 3/4 miles (1.2km) to Low Farm.
- 15 **GR: 584 049** Turn right and leave the road. Near the farm entrance, turn left and cross two wooden step stiles. Head towards the right boundary and cross another wooden step stile in the top right corner of the field. Continue straight across the next field.
- 16 **GR: 584 054** Cross a wooden step stile and follow the right boundary to cross another stile. Bear right and follow the right boundary through two fields.
- 17 **GR: 581 060** Go over a wooden step stile in the corner and follow a narrow fenced path. Descend some stone steps, turn right and cross Ingleby Beck via the footbridge. Continue through the churchyard and leave it via a gate on the right, returning to the parking place.

### THE PERFECT COUNTRY SEAT!

The position of the memorial seat near point 7 provides a magnificent view of the valley. The inscription includes 'A lovely spot for a picnic, don't forget the salt and pepper.'