


Hornby Circular

Start Point

Car Park beside the bridge over the River Wenning at **Hornby**
SD 5851 6835

 Lancaster - Skipton - Leeds

Distance/Time



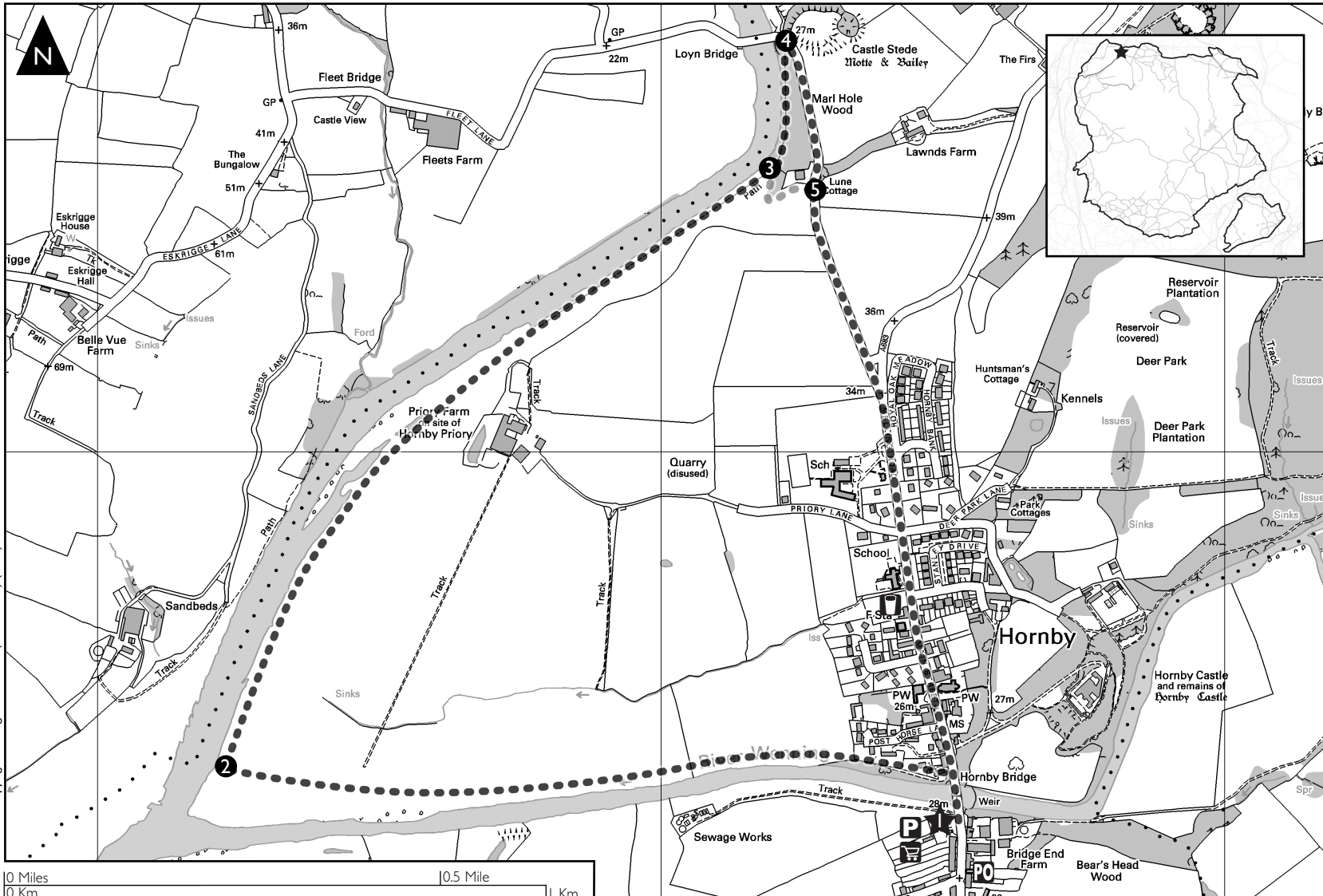
3 miles (4.7 km)
1 1/2 hours

Terrain

Mainly level walking through fields on good ground with a number of stiles apart from the short section through the woods near Loyn bridge which has a number of steps, boardwalks and a steep ladder stile over

wet, muddy ground. At times it will be impossible to pass under the bridge, however; there is a concessionary footpath to avoid the wood and bridge. The return from Loyn bridge can be along the road






which has no footpath so you may prefer to return by the riverbank. After prolonged wet weather and in winter; the fields and riverbank will be quite muddy. Boots or Wellies recommended.



Key to Facilities

-  Pub,  Post Office,
-  Bus stop,  Shop

GPS Waypoints (OS grid refs)

-  SD 5851 6835
-  SD 5722 6843
-  SD 5821 6951
-  SD 5828 6952
-  SD 5822 6975

Hornby Circular

Walk Description

★ GPS: SD 585 | 6835

If you are arriving by car then park in the car park next to the bridge over the river Wenning opposite Hornby Institute. Walk up and over the bridge and at the far end pass through a gate on the left just before the row of cottages. Walk along the flagged path with wooden handrail to follow the riverbank westwards. After a few hundred yards, leave the riverbank to climb over the embankment on a wooden bridge then over a stone stile to continue along the riverbank with open fields to the right hand side. Now come to a wooden stile in the fence line after which you will hear the river more as it passes over a gravelly bed. As the river Wenning approaches and joins the river Lune, the bank opens out to allow views down the Lune valley with steep sided woods to the west.

② GPS: SD: 5722 6843

Now turn north to head along the bank of the river Lune which is wide and tranquil. Continue underneath the banking close to Priory farm as the river turns further eastwards. The bank here is wetter and rougher where cattle have trodden down the edge. You will see the 3 graceful stone arches of Loyn bridge ahead.

③ GPS: SD: 582 | 695 |

When you reach a small woodland you can continue into the woods over

a wooden stile and along and over boardwalks, steps and a steep ladder stile. Pass under Lyon Bridge, if the water level allows this, before climbing to the right and ascending to a farm track on stone steps.

However when the River Lune levels are high this route is impassable thus take the signed concessionary path to the right.

Concessionary path avoiding Loyn bridge. The concessionary path heads away from the river bank and follows the fence line up a banking under a large oak before emerging into a field over 2 narrow wooden stiles.

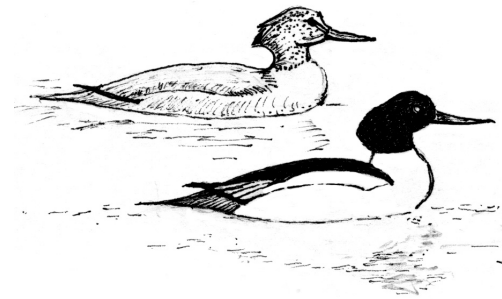
④ GPS: SD: 5828 6952

Keep to the fence line and it is a short distance to the road which is reached via another wooden stile. The road at this point has no footpath so take care.

⑤ GPS: SD: 5822 6975

This area is the site of 'Castle Stede', a Motte and Bailey castle and one of the best examples in Lancashire. A few yards will take you to a gate onto the road and there is a narrow gap to the side for walkers. Turn left now and take the road back to Hornby. Take great care here as the road is narrow and there is no footpath. On the left is a well preserved World War 2 pill box

that protected the bridge. Note the line of mature trees that form a most pleasant border to the road. On the main street before you cross the river and back to your starting point, you will pass Hornby castle gates. See if you can see a cat and a rat on the entrance pillars. These also figure on the Victorian fountain at the end of Main Street.



▲ Goosanders

Shelia Carter



▲ Oystercatcher with chick

Debbie Yare

About This Walk

This walk follows the river Wenning until it joins the Lune and then follows that river upstream before returning to Hornby on the road. The Wenning has stretches where the river bed is gravelly and you can hear the river rushing and breaking over the stones. This is ideal spawning conditions for trout and salmon. The Lune is deeper and quieter in this area. You are likely to see herons and ducks all year round, oystercatchers particularly in the spring when they nest on gravelly beds near to the river and migrating geese in the winter. Tree creepers may be seen and cormorants. In summer there will be damselflies and dragonflies. There are some magnificent trees to be seen on this walk. In particular, the Wenning is lined with mature willows near Hornby and there is a fine line of oaks on the road leading back from Loyn bridge.