Upper Derwent Valley

Where quiet wooded valleys meet wild open spaces around three majestic reservoirs in the Peak District. Enjoy the rich history, breathtaking landscapes, invigorating walks, wildlife watching, and so much more...



Find us

Located within easy reach of Manchester and Sheffield.

Fairholmes Visitor Centre
Derwent Lane, near Bamford,
Derbyshire S33 0AQ

Heatherdene car park
Off the A6013, Hope Valley
S33 0BY

Opening times

Car park is open all year. Kiosk is open every day except Christmas Day, check website for opening times.

Visitor Centre

Opening times vary, please check the website for up to date opening times. www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/visiting/visitor-centres/derwent

Car park charges apply. Cash only at machines, card accepted in Visitor Centre or at the cycle hire.



A lot of our site is accessible. Please check the website for a full accessibility quide.



Dogs

We want your dog to leave as healthy and happy as they arrived, so please keep them on their lead.

Activities

Walking and cycling are the main activities with routes available for all abilities.

Cycle hire Opening times vary from February half-term to the end of November, see website for more information; www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/

www.peakdistrict.gov.uk, visiting/cycle/bike-hirecentres/derwent

Tel: (01433) 651261 Email: derwent.cyclehire @peakdistrict.gov.uk

Ladybower fisheries: ladybowerfisheries.co.uk

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Calls to 0800 numbers are free from UK landlines. Calls to 0345 numbers are charged at a local rate and when phoning from a mobile may be included in your free minutes package.







WONDERFUL ON TAP



Severn Trent Upper Derwent Valley

Discover wonderful days out at the Upper Derwent Valley



Discover Upper Derwent Valley

The mix of moorland, wooded valleys and open water provides great bird and wildlife watching. Both easy and challenging walks offer fantastic views and insight into the area's rich heritage.

From Fairholmes Visitor Centre

Derwent Dam Trail

Distance: 1.5km (1 mile)
This short loop will
show you the iconic dam
made famous by the
'Dambusters' and stunning
views of the reservoir. Head
out through the woods
and follow the red route
waymarkers until you reach
the dam where you can visit
the Dambusters memorial
before returning to the
Visitor Centre.

Ladybower and the Lost Villages Trail

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Distance: 9km (5.5 miles) Discover the lost villages of Ladybower with this trail. Start with the water on your right while you pass below Derwent Dam until you reach the site of the old Derwent Village. Cross the reservoir on the main road bridge over the lost village of Ashopton before continuing on the path up to Fairholmes. Not waymarked. For more information on the lost villages, including more in-depth guides, visit Fairholmes Visitor Centre.

Derwent, Howden and Slippery Stones Trail

Distance: 16km (10 miles) This challenging trail will take you past Derwent and Howden reservoir. through mature forests and increasingly wild scenery. Start the trail at Fairholmes and head towards the west tower of Derwent Dam, continue to follow the reservoirs round and eventually cross the river at Slippery Stones before heading back along the east side of the reservoirs. NB You cross the valley below Derwent Dam, you cannot cross at Howden Dam.

From Heatherdene

Ladybower Dam and the 'Plugholes' Trail

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Distance: 1km (¾ mile)

Great views are packed into this short walk featuring the 'plugholes', the overflows for the reservoir. Follow the path from the car park across the dam and return via the same route.

Warning: There is no walking route round the reservoir due to the dangerous A57 with no footway or verge.

