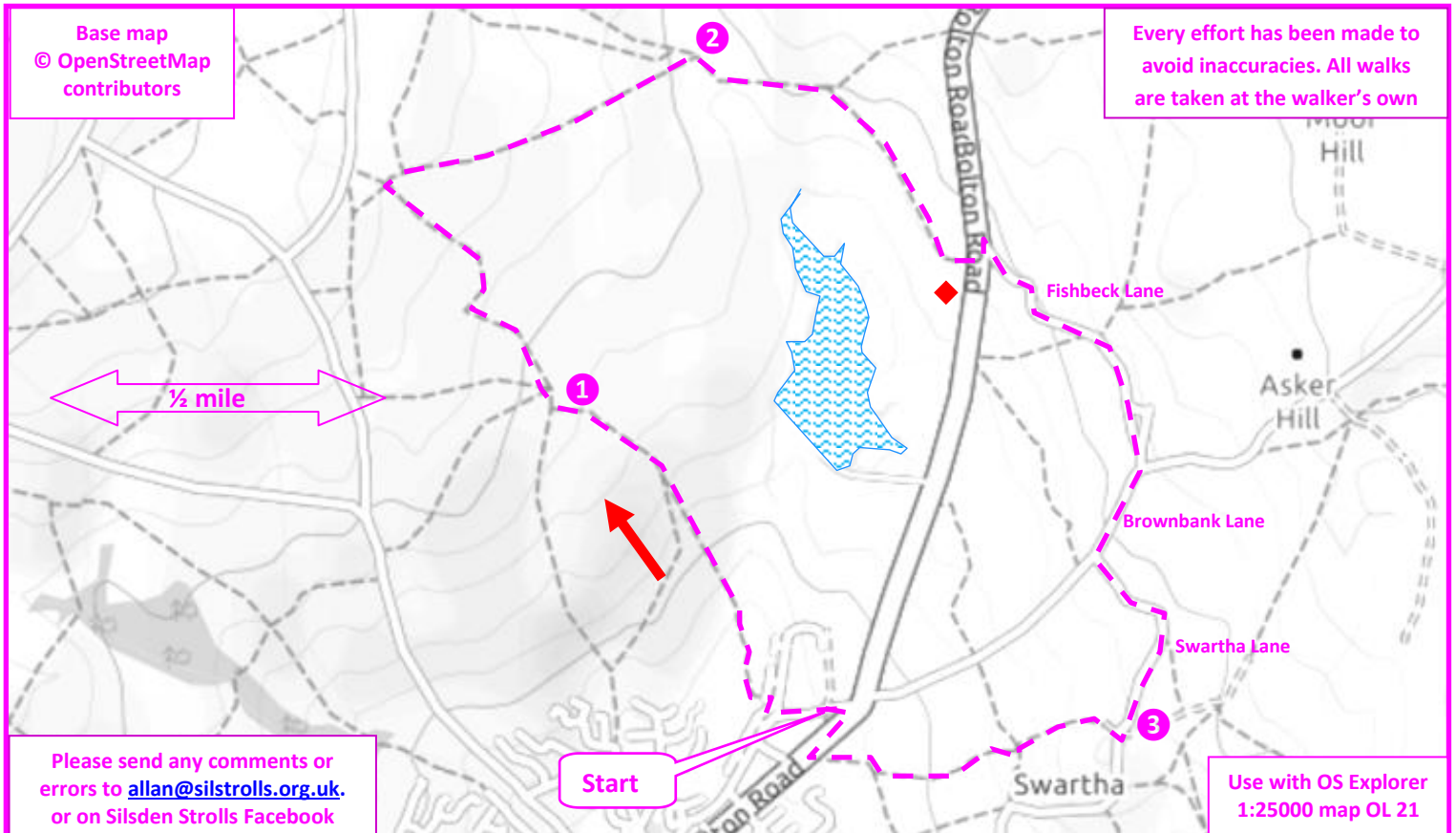


Silsden Stroll 4

3.7 miles. A slow climb of $\frac{3}{4}$ mile along the Millennium Way. Descend to delightful woods at Great Gill Beck, followed by paths giving fine views of Silsden Reservoir and the Aire Valley. Ground very irregular in places and at times rather boggy, so sturdy footwear is important, as are water and sunblocker in summer. Some road walking. Many stiles.



Park with consideration in North Street, Town Head. Ahead, first right into Breakmoor Avenue; immediately left down path beside bungalow. Stile, then pass close to power pole; down to footbridge over Hayhills Beck. Follow beck on your right. Two stiles, bear left up steep slope to double power poles, then follow fencing up to gate in top corner.

Go along delightful walled green lane. Step stile on right; turn left. Keep ahead to just before farm boundary wall, when you take plank bridge and stile on left. Go immediately right, along field edge, to stile in corner; turn right to Hay Hills farmhouse. ❶

Over track to stile; then ahead across field at 11 o'clock to stile in corner. Follow right side of next field to stile near corner; then a bridge and another stile. Follow left edge of field to stile just before house. Up steps, follow fenced in diverted track to ironwork gate.

Left, then right through farmyard via two small gates to Dales Bank farmhouse. Through gate in front of farmhouse; descend to gate at right end of caravan site; pass left through the site, following waymarks to far corner stile. Descend via metal gate to waypost at very bottom of slope, turning right, down steps (possibly slippery) and crossing bridge over Great Gill Beck. Right, following beck for 75 yards ❷, climbing slightly to meet gravel track – climb this up the reverse slope and follow it to gate.

Don't go through but turn right to stile in corner. Follow wall (parallel with road and with increasingly good views of reservoir) over three more stiles to reach Low Cringles Farm. Left and, via stile or gate, reach Bolton Road. (◆ For a shorter $2\frac{3}{4}$ mile Stroll, turn right and walk down road $\frac{1}{2}$ mile to start)

Go left for a few yards and **CROSS WITH GREAT CARE** to go up Fishbeck Lane. Turn right at end (Brown Bank Lane); and then go left along Swartha Lane. $\frac{1}{2}$ mile brings you to Swartha Cottages, and a kissing gate on right into Haw Farm. ❸ Ahead, past the circular pump pen, to follow wall ahead round to the left passing behind thick gorse bushes to stile.

Descend this old servants' lane; descend several fields along their right to reach gated stile by allotments. Follow path round these to Bolton Road, cross with care and go uphill back to path on left. Ahead to stile, then right, to start point.