

Walk 3 Chatsworth

Distance: 2.6 miles (m) (6.2m with extension)

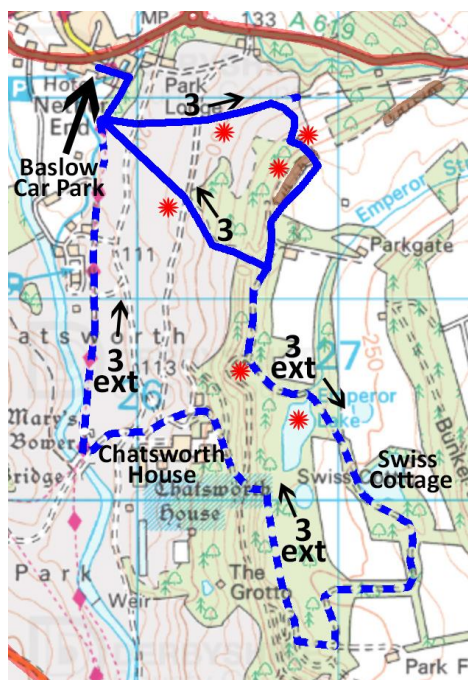
Elevation: 330ft

Difficulty: Easy with the main walk very short.

Start point: Baslow Carpark DE45 1SR

Grid reference: SK 25877217

Summary: This walk goes towards Eastmoor before looping back through Stand Wood, either through Chatsworth Park or via Chatsworth House. The extended walk gives great views of the lakes and waterfalls that supply the cascade in the gardens at Chatsworth House.



Exit the car park and turn right crossing the old bridge by the *Malt House*. Immediately turn right and follow the path to the rotating kissing gate entrance into Chatsworth Park (350yd). Go through the gate and turn left, alongside the fence, on the left hand one of 2 grass paths, to the main drive. Cross the drive and look diagonally ahead to the left. Keeping 3 trees to your right cross the park to a double farm gate on the upper side of the park. If you reach the upper track and can't see the gate follow the track to your left until it appears, then go over a stile to its right. The old turnpike road (Walk 2, a grass track) goes ahead up the hill. As you ascend the hill the *Victoria Jubilee stone* is on your right about 50 yards off the path, by a group of trees. Return to the path and 350yd from the stile, just before the crest of the hill, take the grassy path to the right uphill. Follow this path, crossing a gully, which was named '*Coal Pit Lane*', and turn right by the stone wall. Continue until you come to a junction with a stone stile on your left. Ignoring the stone stile branch right, climbing higher. The path comes up to the far wall and follows the wall along the edge. Below the edge here are *old stone quarries*.

After 500yds climb over the stone stile, sited where the wall starts to descend back

downhill, then turn left, until you come to a track. Turn right on the track and, ignoring a track to the right and left, continue until you see a footpath to your right going steeply downhill, signposted to Baslow (1.6m from start). At this point you can take the walk extension by continuing on the track, or return to Baslow down the steep path.

At the bottom of the steep footpath take the stone steps down into Chatsworth Park. Pass the big tree on your right and follow the path to the right, downhill to a track on your right. Follow the track left, downhill, to the junction. At the junction go straight on across the park, keeping the 2 trees ahead on your left, back towards the Kissing gate, and return to Baslow car park the way you came.

Extension for walk 3

Continue along the track to a T junction. Turn left. After about 50yards you can take a narrow right hand path to visit the *Hunting Tower* with views out over Chatsworth House and park.

Return to the main path and continue, ignoring the next track on the right. Keep left until you come to the Emperor Lake (350yds) on your right.

Cross the end of the lake, continuing along the track to Swiss Lake on the left (500yds), with *Swiss cottage* on the far side. Ignoring the left turn to the cottage, continue on the track to a crossroad, 3.2 miles from the start of the walk. Park Farm is to the left. Go straight ahead and after about 100 yards, immediately before crossing a small stream, as the path turns left which leads out onto Eastmoor and Beeley, go straight ahead onto a narrow path. As you come to the edge the Derwent valley is below you, with Beeley to your left through the ancient oak trees. After 500yards this path re-joins the main track from Park Farm. Turn left onto the track and after 100yards fork right, uphill, as the main track starts to descend. This is the old route to Hardwick Hall from Chatsworth, used by Bess of Hardwick.

Follow this track for 700yds to a footpath junction with a group of yew trees on your left. Go between the yews down steps to the pond at the top of the waterfall and views down to Chatsworth House and Park. This is the stream from the Emperor Lake to the cascade. Follow the steps down to the left, ignoring a path off to your left, and follow the path of the stream to cross the aqueduct on a footbridge. The cascade is below you.



Chatsworth House from Stand Wood

Keep right down to the road. When you meet the road go straight across into “The Dell” and follow the path to the bottom road, ignoring the path to the right. At the road, turn right and follow it down to the gates to Stand Wood from Chatsworth Park (4.4m from start). Turn left through the gate and into the car park ahead. Turn left towards the stables and either go through or round, to take the main drive downhill from the stables to the House. Keeping the gardens and the entrance to the main house on your left continue straight down towards the bridge over the Derwent, with views back to the front of *Chatsworth House*. Don’t cross the bridge but turn right, go through the gate and follow the river, past Queen Mary’s Bower, the showground, cricket pitch and lodge. Continue straight on to just before this road veers left through a closed

gate. Take the footpath straight on to the revolving Kissing Gate. Retrace your steps to Baslow car park.

Points of Interest

Jubilee Stone. This remarkable inscribed stone stands 6 feet high. It was constructed to commemorate the golden jubilee of Queen Victoria in 1897. It was designed by Dr E M Wrench the local doctor.

Coal Pit Lane. This holloway was one of the main roads out of Baslow leading to the south east until the late 1700s. On the flat above the crest of the hill was an outcrop of coal, which was developed as the Chatsworth colliery. Coal was brought down this road from the Chatsworth colliery above until about 1800.

Old Stone quarries. Much of the stone from the edges was good quality and suitable for millstones, produced in Baslow in 1500s to 1700s. They are situated to your right as you ascend to the crest of the hill.

The “New” Park. In 1824 the Duke of Devonshire took the opportunity to acquire additional land. He removed all houses, walls and fields to create the north end of the Park as we now know it. The Duke ensured that all displaced villagers were rehoused.

Hunting Tower. The Hunting Tower or Stand is the oldest building in the vicinity, completed about 1582. Then, the surrounding land was a deer park, open ground with a few trees. The tower was a vantage point to view the hunt. Now there is a magnificent view of the park designed by Capability Brown.

Emperor Lake & Swiss Cottage. The 6th Duke spent vast sums improving Chatsworth. He built these reservoirs to run the garden water features and several stylistic cottages. Swiss Cottage, built about 1840 was one of them.