

Walk 5 Edensor & Pilsley

Distance: 6.1miles (m)

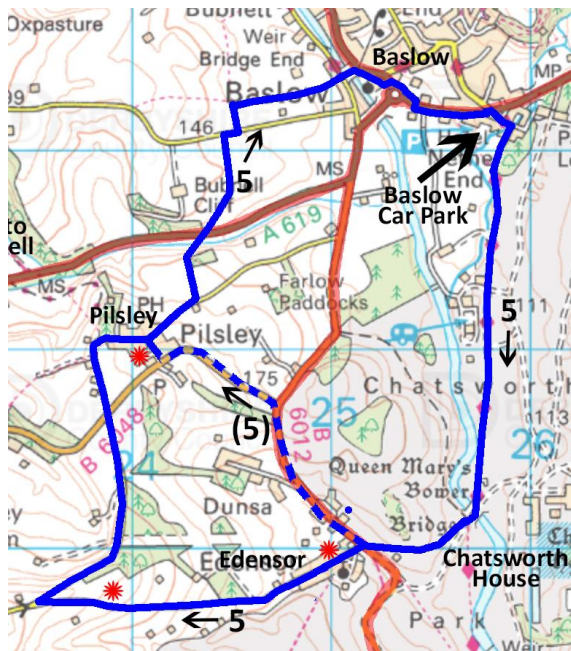
Elevation: 915ft

Difficulty: Easy, but with one steep downhill slope

Start point: Baslow Carpark DE45 1SR

Grid reference: SK 25877217

Summary: This walk goes west of Chatsworth Park, following the river Derwent before crossing to Edensor, then up to Pilsley. From Pilsley the return over the fields gives excellent views of Baslow Edge.



Exit the car park and turn right crossing the *Bar Brook bridge* by the *Malt House*. Immediately turn right and follow the path to the revolving kissing gate entrance into Chatsworth Park (350yd). Go through the gate and straight ahead on the rough path parallel to the river. Continue on this path, past the lodge, the old Chatsworth House *kitchen garden* (now a caravan park) and the cricket field to *Queen Mary's Bower*,



Queen Mary's Bower

a stone structure by the river below *Chatsworth House*. Go through the gate to the bridge(1.3m).

Cross the bridge and the road to take the path on the right going uphill. When you come down to the road by the big tree, *Edensor* with its church is straight ahead of you.



Edensor Church

[It is possible to take a **short cut** to Pilsley. Turn right at the road and follow the footpath keeping the golf course and the haha on your right. At the top of the hill bear left and follow the road to Pilsley. As you come into the houses of Pilsley take the first turning on the right, going downhill past the school and village green. The Farm Shop and Café is on the left of the main road. At the Devonshire Arms (2.7m) re-join the main walk.]

The **main route** goes ahead over the cattle grid into the village of *Edensor*. Take the right hand road and walk uphill with the village green and the church on your left. (The tearoom and entrance to the church is on the left hand fork.) Keep straight ahead onto the track with fields to the left and trees on the right. Take care as this *lane* has

an uneven surface due to damage from vehicles.

Eventually the track meets Handley Lane at a T junction, with a carved stone feature and guide stoop. Turn right and be rewarded with views over towards Longstone Edge as you walk along the ridge. Follow the lane downhill to the main Pilsley road (3.6m from start) and cross into the field ahead over a stile. Directly ahead of you by the second tree on the right are stone steps and a stile. Cross here into a grassy lane. Follow the lane round, into Pilsley and down to the Devonshire Arms on the left. (4.3m from start)



Devonshire Arms Pilsley

Leave the village and continue down the lane to a small stone barn on the right (350yards). Take the path to the left, and walk down the field keeping the wall on your right. At the bottom of the field on the

right is a gate into a steep sided field. Follow the path diagonally downhill, which can be slippery. At the bottom, go through the gate and cross the main Bakewell Road with care.

Enter the field opposite and climb diagonally towards the telegraph pole in the centre of the field. Continue past the pole in the same direction to the top right hand corner of the field with a signpost "Public footpath to Baslow". Ahead of you, as you enter the field, are views of Baslow Edge. Go through the gate and follow the wall right to the far end of the field and Wheatlands Lane. Exit via the stile and turn right. After 50 yards turn left into the field through a pedestrian gate. Go straight forwards to an old gate post by a projecting corner of the field. Turn right and follow the path through several fields along this wall. At the end take the footpath in the left hand corner and go down an alley to Bubnell Lane. Ahead is *Baslow old bridge**, with its *Watchman's hut*, *Toll Bar Cottage* and *Baslow Church**.

Cross the bridge (5.6m) and turn right past the church. Cross the Bakewell road at the roundabout and continue past Baslow Sportsfield and the Cavendish Hotel on your right. Turn right at the village green and hall to the car park.

Points of interest

* Baslow church and the Old bridge and ford are described in the walk around the village.

Edensor

Edensor is a model village, a showpiece created by the Dukes of Devonshire in the late 1700s and early 1800s. Each house is different. It is still a Chatsworth Village, with most houses occupied by present or retired employees. The Church dating back to the 1100s, was completely rebuilt and expanded in the 1860s. Most of the Dukes of Devonshire are buried here, including Kick Kennedy, sister of John F Kennedy and wife of William who was killed in the war before he could become the duke.

Lane from Edensor

This lane was part of the main road from Bakewell to Chatsworth and on to Chesterfield. In 1739 it became the first Turnpike in the area, but it was soon superseded by better roads nearby. Recently it has designated a Restricted Byway, banning motor vehicles the trail motor bikes, however they do still use it so take care.

At the very top of the lane is a guide stone in the field on your right. It was erected in the early 1700s, confirming the importance of the roads to Bakewell, Sheffield and Chesterfield.

Pilsley

Like Edensor, Pilsley is an estate village. Many of the inhabitants still work for Chatsworth. The old school built in 1849, was for the children of estate workers. Chatsworth Farm Shop and Café, across the main road was built in 1910 for the Duke's shire horse, then used for a dairy herd before being converted to its present use in 1977.