

<p>Distance: Approx. 6.5 miles</p> <p>Time Taken: Approx. 3hrs</p> <p>Terrain: Mostly good moorland and rocky paths, narrow muddy paths in Levisham Brow.</p> <p>Total ascent / descent: 1176ft</p> <p>Dog Friendliness: Dogs should be kept on lead on Levisham Moor during nesting season (1st March – 31st July) otherwise can be off were there is no livestock.</p> <p>Toilets / Refreshments: Horseshoe Inn, Ice cream van at Saltersgate Car Park (during peak season).</p> <p>Parking: Levisham Village roadside parking – please be courteous.</p> <p>OS Maps: OL27</p>	<p>035 – Levisham – Hole of Horcum Circular</p> <p>Background: Levisham is a small beautiful village in the North Yorkshire Moors, not far from Pickering. The village is recorded as a very small settlement in the Domesday Book of 1086. The name of the village was first recorded in 1086 as Leuecen, at it derives from Old Norse, meaning the farmstead of Leofgeat’s people. The village is believed to have moved location due to the Black Death in the 14th Century.</p> <p>The Hole of Horcum is one of the most spectacular features in the National Park – a huge natural amphitheatre 400 feet deep and more than half a mile across. Legends hang easily upon a place known as the 'Devil's Punchbowl' – the best-known says that it was formed when Wade the Giant scooped up a handful of earth to throw at his wife during an argument.</p> <p>It was created by a process called spring-sapping, whereby water welling up from the hillside has gradually undermined the slopes above, eating the rocks away grain by grain. Over thousands of years, a once narrow valley has widened and deepened into an enormous cauldron – and the process still continues today.</p> <p>Route Description:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Starting in the village of Levisham, head north out of the village taking the path to the right of the Horseshoe Inn (facing the Inn). 2. Head up Limpsey Gate Lane until you get to the gate heading onto Levisham Moor. 3. Go through the gate and take the path straight ahead, following the Tabular Hills Walk path. This is a well-marked route and very easy to follow. 4. Follow this path past Dundale Pond and up onto Levisham Moor and eventually to the Hole of Horcum. The views down into the hollow of Levisham Valley are stunning. 5. Continue on along this path until you reach the gate, then turn left and down the clear path to the valley floor. 6. Follow this path South through a gate and past the old farmstead of Low Horcum. 7. Take the path veering right following the beck. 8. Once you reach the signpost for ‘Hole of Horcum’ and ‘Dundale Griff’ cross the beck and head up the path through Levisham Brow. This path climbs up and down through woodland and is quite narrow in places. 9. Follow this path until it meets the road back into Levisham. 10. Turn right onto the road and follow it North back to the village and the Horseshoe inn. <p>Points of Interest: Hole of Horcum, Skelton Tower (if you fancy a detour on your walk), and the rare dwarf cornel, an arctic-alpine plant usually found in much colder conditions can be found at the Hole of Horcum.</p>
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