

Ride to Hawes, June 9th

Steve King

The ride is a combination of old favourites and hopefully some new roads for most people. There is something for everyone, although that does mean that to complete the ride you have to tackle all elements, which may not excite all riders. I like lanes. OK, I love lanes. There will, therefore, be narrow lanes; narrow lanes with some grit in the middle and hairpin bends and gates and livestock and more gates, sorry Road Captains. But OMG, the views are amazing. These roads are perfectly capable of being ridden, but I always issue a warning as not everyone, understandably, likes my road choices. The single track roads may prove challenging for trikes if we meet oncoming traffic and your front wheel will encounter gravel. Before anyone asks, yes this is all on tarmac!!

Kirkstall Road, Otley Road to Pool in Wharfedale (begin to breath). Farnley, Fewston, Menwith to Pateley Bridge for Coffee at about 11:07. Only coffee, NOT food. Parking at show ground, free.

Restart 11:46 prompt.

Gouthwaite Reservoir, Lofthouse, Leighton Reservoir, and on to Leyburn by way of A6108. Now we definitely start breathing. Up Whipperdale Bank to Grinton, Swale Hall Lane/High Lane passed Crackpot (very apt), Askrigg and to Hawes for lunch at 13:23. Park in town.

Restart at 14:23 having refuelled if you need to; NOT refuel AT 14:23.

A6255 out of Hawes, right to Cowgill and Deepdale to Ingleton, Clapham, Lawkland, Wigglesworth, Otterburn, Eshton and finally the A65 to the Skipton Round about at what was the Little Chef. (EG now). Should arrive, 16:08 approximately lol.

Only about 130 miles, but half of those are to savour and absorb the beauty of, so we will not be racing. Fuel available at Hawes after 75 miles.

