Holwick Scar - Crag Guidelines

This crag forms part of the Upper Teesdale Site of Special Scientific Interest due to the rich diversity of rare species and relict arcticalpine plants. The site (including the other Whin Sill crags) are also of European importance with Special Area for Conservation and Special Protection Area designations.

This area has a high level of legal protection, and anyone damaging conservation interests is jeopardizing future access and can be punished by a large fine and/or imprisonment.

Through consultation with Natural England, the BMC have produced the following guidance for climbers.

- Do not remove/clean cliff vegetation this is illegal (and punishable) under the Wildlife and Countryside and CRoW Acts
- Climbing is only permitted on buttresses numbered 1 5 on the photos.
- Do not climb on the buttress between lines A-B identified opposite (between and inc. Great Chimney and Charlie's Chimney), or on rock under the lines C & D on buttress 3, or other voluntary restricted routes as shown on the enclosed crag guide.
- Avoid climbing onto large vegetated ledges
- Do not abseil from trees
- Descend from buttresses 1 3 down the back
- When topping-out from buttresses 4 and 5 descend via the large grassy gully on the left (when looking outwards).
- When moving between buttresses stay on the obvious sheep-track below
- Do not walk on the scree slopes
- Only approach the crag by the designated access point
- No instructional groups
- Please leave the crag by 9.30pm
- Do not block driveways or gates when parking
- If you spot Ring Ouzel's in early-mid March, call Natural England.





Important Species





Juniper

Parsley Fern





Whitebeam

Ring Ouzel

Local area contacts

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Check the BMC's Regional Access Database (RAD) for the latest access information.

The BMC recognises that climbing and mountaineering are activities with a danger of personal injury or death.

Participants in these activities should be aware of and accept these risks and be responsible for their own actions and involvement

Cover photo - Keith Miller





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