

Walk 4 : The Nine Standards

From Exploring the Landscape: A Walker's Guide to the upland of upper Eden. Part 1 by Peter McWilliam

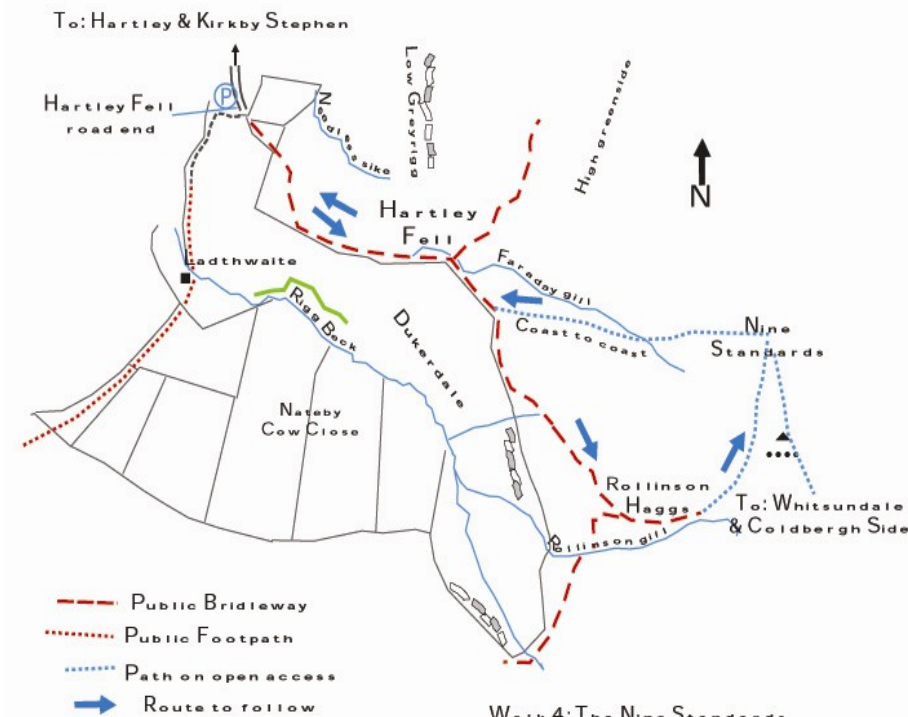
DESCRIPTION: A circular route starting either in Kirkby Stephen or on Hartley Fell road end and visiting the local landmark of the enigmatic Nine Standards field cairns. The outward route replicates the Coast-to-Coast route and this can be followed by Faraday Gill on outward and return routes if desired although the description here includes a more circular route via Rollinson Haggs.

TIME: 5 hours or 2 - 2½ hours. **DISTANCE:** 11 or 5 miles. **TERRAIN:** The outward route from Kirkby Stephen follows the C-to-C route on the fell road. Thereafter there are mostly good paths and signposting on bridleways and tracks on open fell although a small section of the route to Rollinson is not as well defined and care may be needed in poor visibility. **START/FINISH:** Either Market Square, Kirkby Stephen or Hartley Fell road end at NY799075. **PARKING:** There is parking on the fell road but do not block access.

FROM KIRKBY STEPHEN: The Coast-to-Coast route passes through Kirkby Stephen on its way to the Nine Standards and uses the minor fell road to reach Hartley Fell which is the route described here. From the Market Square proceed to Frank's Bridge and turn right to follow the river upstream. Pass through the kissing gate and forward on the tarmac path. Leave the field at the top by the gate and continue forward to the row of terraces. Turn right to pass the terrace and then left to cross an old stone footbridge. Turn right on the road and then immediately right on a path by the river. Emerge again onto the road turning right to continue uphill, passing Hartley Quarry, for about two miles to reach the fell track.

FROM FELL ROAD END (NY799075):

Continue up the road/track and through the fell gate. Follow this track onto Hartley Fell and continue uphill adjacent to the wall. After nearly a mile pass the signpost for Nine Standards (do not take) and continue adjacent to the wall on an obvious track. After ¼ mile the track swings left away from the wall and continues to ascend. At the same time it enters wet ground where the track is obscured. Continue uphill bearing slightly right. The route is marked over this section with two waymark posts and eventually the track becomes more obvious again as the cairn at Rollinson Haggs comes into view. This track joins a Coast-to-Coast alternative route just above the cairn. Turn left and follow an obvious path which ascends north to the viewpoint just south of Nine Standards. Proceed forward to Nine Standards. For the return descent bear left (west) on a well made path which joins Faraday Gill and then the outward route.



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(enhanced web map)