

Walk in the Brecon Beacons: Black Hill & Hay Bluff

Located to the north of the Brecon Beacons, the Black Hill & Hay Bluff walk offers majestic mountains, rocky peaks, wild moorland and spectacular scenery. Throughout this challenging yet rewarding hike, you'll be swept away by the dazzling views.

Location: Black Hill, Herefordshire

Walk difficulty: Challenging

Time: 5 to 6 hours

Distance: 9.5 miles (15 km)

Walk guide: [Black Hill & Hay Bluff walk by adragonsescape.com](https://adragonsescape.com/black-hill-hay-bluff-walk)



Black Hill & Hay Bluff walk instructions

1. From the Black Hill car park, go through the gate and follow the uphill path (known as the Cat's Back). At the trig point, you've reached Black Hill. Continue along the path as it dips down and back up the hill. At the intersection at the foot of a hill, turn right along the downhill stone path.
2. At the small stone pillar on the side of the path, veer left off the track and walk up the side of the hill diagonally and then along the ridge. When you spot the trig point, veer left towards it. You've reached Hay Bluff. Take the path on your left and walk back towards Black Hill.
3. At the intersection, veer right up the flights of steps and to the top of the hill. There is no trig point to mark Black Mountain. Continue along the path to a stone pillar on the side of the path, roughly in line with the Cat's Back. At the stone pillar, turn left down the man-made path, following the sign for 'Olchon Valley'.
4. Follow the man-made path down the flank of the mountain. When you reach the field of ferns, follow the path and turn sharply right, and at the intersection, turn left. When you reach the road, turn right and walk past a farm and a house.

5. At the footpath sign on your left (before you reach the intersection), cross over the stile and follow the man-made path downhill, keeping the brook to your left. Following the signposts, veer left and go over the brook, and then veer right and cross the footbridge.
6. Continue straight uphill keeping the brook and the line of trees to your right. Cross over the brook and veer right. Go through the gate to the right of the house and walk along the back of the house. At the far end of the house, go through the small gate to your right, still following the footpath signs.
7. Continue straight uphill, keeping the fence and the brook to your left, cross over the stile and follow the woodland path to the road. Turn left onto the road and at the intersection, turn right. Follow the uphill road back to the car park.

Black Hill & Hay Bluff walk details

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Walk GPX file: [Black Hill & Hay Bluff walk on my.viewranger.com](https://www.viewranger.com/black-hill-hay-bluff-walk)

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Time: 5 to 6 hours

Distance: 9.5 miles (15 km)

Ascent: Steep

Trail condition: Good, but muddy in wet weather

Accessibility: Not suitable for pushchairs, wheelchairs or bikes

Parking: Black Hill car park (HR2 0PL)

Facilities: Closest toilets, shops and pubs in Longtown

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