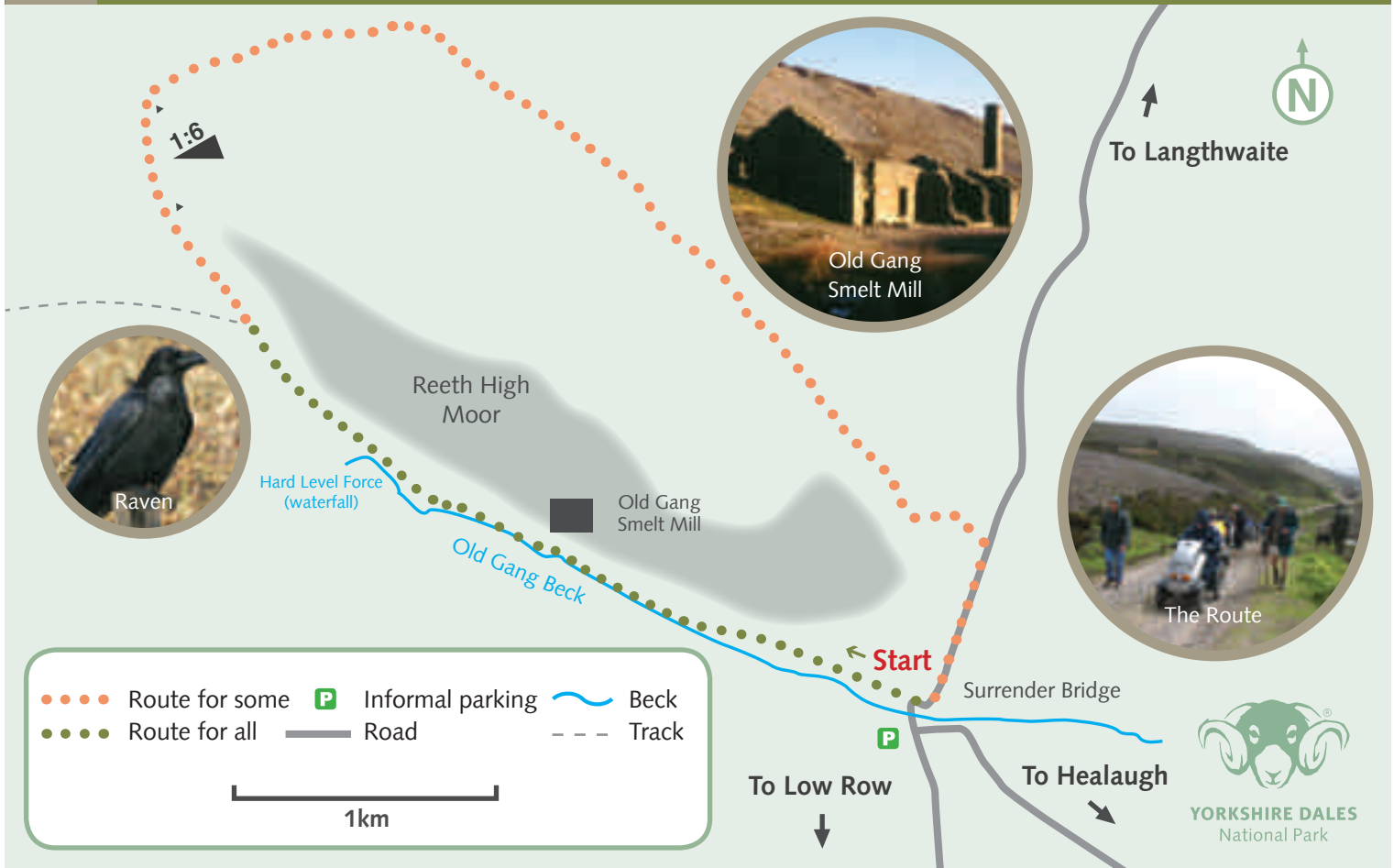


Old Gang Smelt Mill Route: For All/Some



Old Gang Smelt Mill

Route type: For all/some. A lovely walk to one of the best preserved lead smelt mill sites in the Yorkshire Dales - OS Explorer Map OL30

Distance: 3km (each way) for all, 9km (circular) for some

Start point: SD989999

Turning point: NY964013 for some

Facilities: The nearest public toilets, including RADAR facility toilets, are at northern side of the green in Reeth. There is informal parking just before you cross Old Gang Beck at Surrender Bridge.

Getting there: Car: From Reeth take the B6270 until you reach the small village of Healaugh. Turn right at Healaugh, signposted towards Langthwaite. The parking area is just before you cross the bridge.

The Route

The smelt mill at Old Gang, in Arkengarthdale, was built in the early nineteenth century. A huge open-sided peat house, reputed to hold three years' worth of fuel, was built nearby.

The first 3km of the route runs alongside Old Gang Beck to the remains of Old Gang Smelt Mill. The track to the smelt mill is at least 200cm wide and is surfaced with a well-compacted aggregate. The steepest gradient is a 1:10. From here the track becomes more undulating but the views along Swaledale are well worth it for those who like a challenge.

Whilst there, look out and listen for buzzard and raven in flight.