**Aysgarth: woods and waterfalls**

**Distance:** 2.5km (1.5 miles)  
**Time:** a minimum of 45 minutes  
**Accessibility:** the woodland section can be muddy in places and have slippy tree roots. Limestone around the Falls viewpoints can be slippy when wet too. There are number of narrow gates and steps along this route.

**Parking:** Aysgarth National Park Centre (DL8 3TH. SE 01177 88782)

**Other transport:**  
- Bus 156 to Aysgarth village  
- Cycle stands at the National Park Centre

**Toilets:** Aysgarth National Park Centre

**Refreshments:** café at start point

**Closest National Park Centre:** Aysgarth Falls National Park Centre DL8 3TH (call 01969 662910)

**Route description**

1. Leave the car park in the direction of the Lower and Middle Falls. Cross the road with care, and take the obvious well made path. After a short distance, steps lead down to the Middle Falls viewing point. Continuing on along the path, pass through a gate and then on your right you will see the return path from the Lower Falls. (You can visit this waterfall on a circular path which has many steps.)

2. Take the grassy path to the left signed Castle Bolton and follow this alongside a fence to reach a gate and sign to Redmire and Castle Bolton. Go straight ahead on a grass track aiming just to the right of some farm buildings.

3. Go through two field gates and on to the tarmac track through the farm. Go through another gate and then take the footpath on the right. Walk alongside the fence to a fingerpost and turn left signed Freeholders Wood. From here distant views of Castle Bolton can be enjoyed, built in 1399 this is one of the country’s best preserved medieval castles.

4. Over the field to a gate. Turn right on to the track, and then immediately left on a footpath signed Aysgarth. Straight across the next field to meet a track. Turn left and go under an old railway bridge.

5. Just beyond the bridge take the footpath to the right signed Aysgarth, and follow the path as it twists through the wood. Birds such as treecreepers, chiffchaffs and warblers may be spotted, along with roe deer. Dormice were successfully reintroduced into the wood in 2008. Do not disturb any wildlife by opening the nesting boxes in the wood. Go through a narrow gate and continue through woodland to come out close to the road. Cross back over the road to return to the National Park Centre and café.