

Carlton Bank

Carlton-in-Cleveland, Cleveland

Simon Warren

I often compare the North Yorkshire Moors to *The Lost World* by Arthur Conan Doyle, a high plateau isolated from the modern world, one only accessible via one of a handful of vicious climbs. The toughest ascent from the north is this road, Carlton Bank, the venue for the 1996 National Hill Climb where Stuart Dangerfield secured the fourth of his titles, beating second man Steve Hulme by a whopping 22 seconds.

Climbing the course in a dumbfounding five minutes 39 seconds, he rode a huge 42x21

fixed gear that day — I challenge you to replicate that without tearing your knees apart!

As you leave Carlton-in-Cleveland the ridge looms ahead, a foreboding mass of black rock. You have every right to be apprehensive as this is a serious climb with a significant stretch of 20-25 per cent gradient, alongside the vertical drop on your left and the breathtaking views over the flat plains of Teeside.

Tracking right and towards the top of the moors it's these views that are your reward for the battering your body will take to reach the top of this punishing road.

CW
Difficulty
rating:
7/10



The view from the top is well worth the effort

Photo: John Kelly/Cleveland Wheelers

The stats

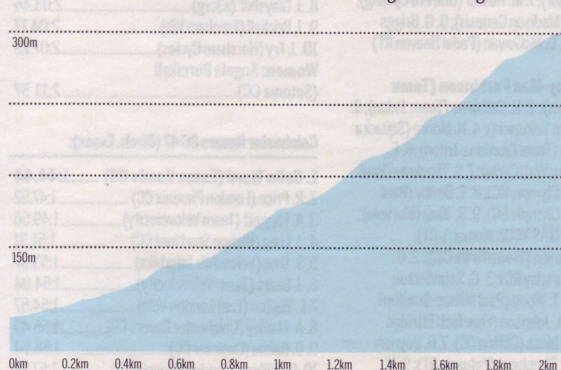
WHERE Carlton-in-Cleveland just below the A172 north of the North Yorkshire Moors. From the village head due south on Alum House Lane to climb.



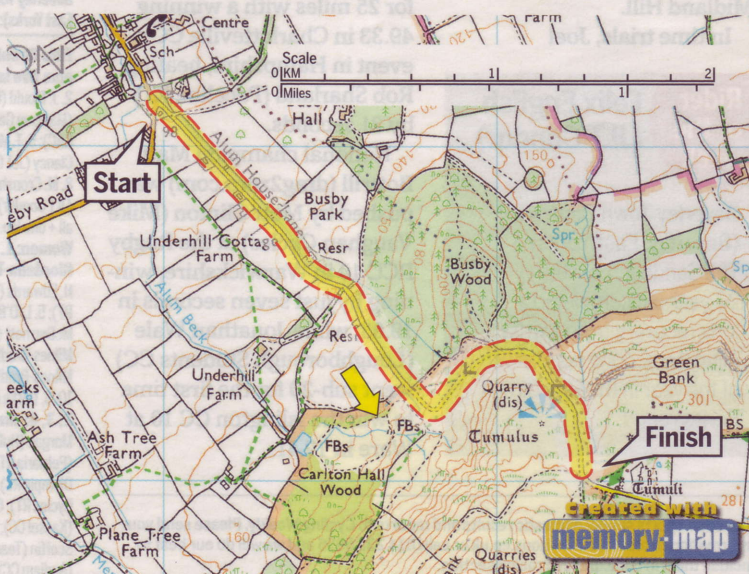
KOM Top Tip Don't start soaking up the views until you've reached the top.

2,000m 301m 199m 10% 25%

Length Summit height Height gain Average gradient Max gradient



Strava file: www.strava.com/segments/6691019



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