
SURVIVORS



MAD DOG

Locations in Monsal Dale, Derbyshire

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| Travel Directions | See the <i>Survivors: Mad Dog</i> website |
| OS Map | Explorer OL 24, Landranger 119 |
| Parking | Pay-and-display car park at the rear of the Monsal Head Hotel (also short stay car park in front) |
| Toilets | In the main pay-and-display car park |
| Refreshments | Monsal Café and Monsal Head Hotel, seasonal ice-cream van in short stay car park |
| Time Required | 2-2½ hours minimum |



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Locations at Monsal Dale

In the main Pay-and-Display car park behind the Monsal Head Hotel at Monsal Head, walk uphill and to the right to find a walled grass area with benches that provides an excellent vantage point for the majority of the locations in the valley below (although the viaduct itself is out of sight below and to the left). Return here at the end of the trip to retrace your steps through the valley and confirm the close proximity of all the key sites.

Turn left out of the bottom of the car park, and left again at the road junction to pass in front of the Monsal Head Hotel and Monsal Café. As the roadway bends round sharply to the right, locate the gap in the wall on the valley side of the road, go through and turn immediately right to take the footpath steeply down hill. Descend with care, down broad steps, to join a pathway. Keep straight ahead (ignoring a left turn which leads to the top of the viaduct) continuing your descent to the valley floor.



Charles' barn

As the pathway flattens out and emerges from the trees, Netherdale Farm is visible on your left. Take a left turn at the edge of the farm to pass in front of the doorway of the barn from which Charles emerges after being discovered by the young girl. Keep ahead on the pathway towards the narrow river bridge. This is the area glimpsed on-screen as Charles flees from the barn, after the young girl runs off to raise the alarm. Cross over the river and turn left on the far side, following the footpath close to the river's edge. The pathway meanders gently to the right, to pass underneath the impressive viaduct. This is the area where Charles is first attacked by the dog pack before being rescued by Fenton.



The viaduct



Edge of the weir

Pass through the narrow stile and emerge into the open floor of the valley, with the river on your left. Before moving off, look up to your right: this is the incline down which the dog pack descends to attack Charles. Keep straight ahead, following the river. It is along this section of the valley that Charles is first seen, approaching the viaduct on horseback. In a short time, a clear pathway emerges and the sound of cascading water becomes audible as you approach the weir. Pass through a stile, which indicates the border of a "Woodland Conservation Management" zone and keep straight ahead. The area around the top of the weir is the place where Charles, Sanders and Jim arrive after fleeing from the rabid Fenton, before they return to confront him. All three of them flee down what is now a heavily wooded bank to arrive at the weir's edge. (Fenton's 'halfway house' is located many miles away, near Ilam). A few feet further along, several steep paths lead down to the stone platform from which Charles collects water to soothe Fenton's fever. After heavy rain, this platform is often submerged, but at other times this area is accessible with care. An excellent view of the weir can be seen from the footbridge slightly further downstream.



Below the weir



The valley vista

Retrace your steps along the valley floor in the direction of the viaduct. As you approach, a series of steep pathways become visible on your left hand side. Carefully ascend one of these short steep paths to emerge at a stile and gateway at the viaduct's left end. Turn right and walk along the main body of the viaduct. Just before crossing the river, look down over the right edge of the viaduct to see the point where the camera recorded Charles' fall from his horse when the dogs first attack him. Cross to the left edge of the viaduct and look down to see the image of the flowing river that repels Fenton when he attempts to jump from the wall behind



Rocky outcrop

his 'halfway house' (in reality, another llam location). Walk further along before stopping to look out to the right over the valley floor to view the vista of the valley seen in the episode's opening shot. Turn around to face the other way and look upwards to see the rocky outcrop along which the three riders pursue Charles. Keep ahead to approach the entrance to the railway tunnel (now sealed) from which the dogs emerge to attack Charles and Fenton. With your back to the tunnel, the area where the wooden hut in which Charles and Fenton sheltered stood is located behind wooden fencing along and to the right.



The curved tree trunk

Turn around and cross the viaduct again. At the stile gateway you previously ascended, find the footpath heading sharply uphill away from the viaduct. Follow this pathway steeply uphill and then (15-20 feet after the path bends to the right) make a sharp left turn over the remains of a drystone wall to emerge into open fields. The valley floor should be visible below you on the left, with the viaduct now behind you. This open field slopes downhill in two directions – sharply leftwards and less sharply straight ahead towards the far end of the valley. Keeping straight ahead, follow the gentler downward incline and locate an area of collapsed dry-stone wall free of trees and bushes. This is the spot at which Charles is thrown from his horse for a second time, as he attempts to evade the riders who are galloping uphill behind him in hot pursuit. Standing on the remains of the wall, and with the rocky outcrop in the distance behind you, look approximately 20 degrees to your right to identify a tall tree with a distinctive curved trunk. Stand facing this tree, with the valley floor behind you. Look uphill to your right. This is location where Charles and Fenton begin their discussion on horseback in the snowstorm. They make their way down the slope to arrive in front of the tree, where both riders halt and Charles agrees to accompany Fenton to his 'halfway house'. These two **Mad Dog** locations are the trickiest to pick out of the landscape – but persevere and you will identify them!



Above the valley

Retrace your steps back down to the viaduct. Passing through the gateway turn left, away from the viaduct and walk along the scenic Monsal Trial, passing along the line of the old railway track. Walk along the route, passing under one of the old bridges that spanned the line. This is a short, but necessary, interlude in the location-spotting component of the tour. A simple brick building marks the site of the old railway station, where passengers and tourists previously boarded and descended. Walk behind the building to find a gateway leading onto a steep roadway. (If you reach the site of the old platforms on the Monsal Trail, you've overshot, and need to return to the old station building to find the gate). Turn right and walk down the steep roadway as it descends beneath an arched bridge. The path soon begins to level out slightly.



Charles' approach to the bridge

Follow the roadway as it bends to the right and onto the road bridge. This is the bridge beneath which Charles hides from the dog pack after wading out into the river. As he hides himself underneath, Sanders and his gang cross overhead unaware of his presence. If you stand on the bridge facing the houses on the far side, Charles makes his way along the riverbank to the left of the bridge, before crossing the roadway and plunging into the water on the right hand side.



Beneath the bridge



View from Charles' hiding place

Walk across the bridge to find Upperdale House on your immediate right. This is the location of Charles' meeting with Sanders and Jim. As this is a private residence, please do not trespass. The location of the roof on which Sanders and Jim are working will shortly be visible from the public roadway.



Fenton's house

Walk ahead to the junction, watching for traffic on what can at times be a surprisingly busy roadway. Turn left and walk downhill to pass the gateway for Dean Cottage. This is the location used for the interiors and exteriors of Fenton's house. The grassy bank on the

opposite side of the road is the place where Charles hides amidst trees while Sanders passes underneath. Dean Cottage is a private residence, so please do not trespass or act intrusively.



The 'bullet' barn

Walk back in the direction of the crossroads. This time take a left turn, to follow the roadway uphill. On the left corner of the junction is the barn (now fully renovated) in which Charles seeks temporary shelter and tends to his gunshot wound. Head further uphill to approach the dilapidated stone barn on the left, past which Charles cycles on his stolen bicycle. Between the two barns is the area in which Charles discards the bike, after it suffers a puncture, by throwing it over the dry-stone wall.



Bicycle lane



Approaching Sanders and Jim

Turn back down the roadway to the junction. Watching for traffic, turn left and head along the roadway, this time passing above Upperdale House. Keep an eye out on your right hand side as you pass above: *first*, an overgrown area between two farm buildings (this is the route along which Charles approaches on horseback); and, *second*, the lean-to roof at the far edge of the property (on which Sanders and Jim are discovered to be working). The lean-to roof, which has long been in an extremely poor state of repair, is now being rebuilt.



The lean-to roof



The bicycle cottage

Keep ahead along the roadway to approach Riversdale Farm on the right. Once again, this is a private residence, so please do not trespass. The general area used for the recording is clearly visible from the roadway. This is the location in which Charles leaves the riverbank, enters the garden, and then steals Phil's bike – after distracting him. He rides away up what is now a tarmac driveway.



Phil's stone steps

Continue along the roadway in the same direction for a short distance. As you approach a small parking layby on your right hand side, a pathway leads back towards Netherdale Farm. Take the pathway, and this time keep straight ahead, passing along the edge of Netherdale Farm and beginning the steep ascent back up the hill towards Monsal Head.

For more information about these, and other, **Mad Dog** locations, visit the website:

<http://www.survivors-mad-dog.org.uk>

The site contains travel directions and access information about all of the locations used to film the third series *Survivors* episode **Mad Dog**. Feedback on these 'walkthrough' guides is welcomed!

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