

LANCASHIRE RAIL RAMBLERS - WHO ARE WE?

We are a diverse and friendly group of people who enjoy walking in the beautiful countryside of north west England. As our title suggests, we are particularly keen to use public transport to reach our destinations and we have been promoting this idea for over thirty-five years.

We are not a walking club as such, we don't have a membership fee and we are open to all. Our supporters obtain one of the walks programmes or find details of our activities on the internet, catch the relevant train and join us at the station where our walks start. One of our leaders will be there to meet the party. Some of our supporters are regulars, some are occasional and all who turn up are made to feel welcome.

Our activities and walks are co-ordinated by a group of walks leaders who are all members of the Ramblers Association. Our walks vary in length and difficulty to suit all needs and graded as below:

A & B walks :-	Strenuous -	walks may be rough, steep, lengthy or against the clock
C walks :-	Moderate -	no scrambling - suitable for experienced energetic walkers
D walks :-	Moderately easy -	a generally easy walk that may include steep climbs.
E walks :-	Easy -	a slower pace than for moderately easy walks with short rest periods
F,G,& H walks :-	Easy stroll -	suitable for those not accustomed to walking in the countryside

Should you have any doubts about your capabilities then avoid strenuous grade walks. For all walks you must have strong footwear, warm clothing and rainwear. On most walks stops are made for lunch or tea, so remember to bring your own food and always bring plenty to drink.

If you enjoy walking in interesting places and want to discover more of our region without using your car the Rail Ramblers are the ideal way to do so. For further information visit www.railramblers.wordpress.com or send a sae to Craig Ward, 19 Hollowhead Avenue, Wilpshire, Blackburn BB1 9LD Tel. 01254 240526.

We look forward to seeing you on one of our walks.

Participants on these guided walks are asked to be aware of and accept the following conditions:

Walk leaders will be entitled to refuse permission on a walk if the leader judges the person is not fit or adequately clothed for the walk concerned.

Leaders may vary the walk if the conditions are judged to be unsuitable.

Walkers' safety is their own responsibility.

No liability or claim can be accepted by Rail Ramblers Committee or leaders for any loss damage, accident or personal injury howsoever caused.

FUTURE DESTINATIONS - 2024

Hebden Bridge	6 th January
Northwich	20 th January
Kendal	3 rd February
New Mills	17 th February
Frodsham	2 nd March
Windermere	16 th March
Chester	6 th April
Barrow & Beyond	2 nd April
Rochdale Town & Country	4 th May



NOTE RE. TRAIN TIMES:

The train timetables are expected to change in December 2021. Please check our website for any changes.



SATURDAY 18th November 2023 – Wenning Valley

B WALK – 10 miles moderately strenuous

Alight Higher Bentham return Wennington

Higher Bentham – Brookhouse Farm – Great Stone of Fourstones – Rantree Fold – Mill

Bridge – Lowgill – Stairend Bridge – Helks Bank Farm – Park House – Thimble Hall – Four Score Acres – School Hill – Higher Perries – Wennington.

Leader: Nik Grounds

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer OL41 – Forest of Bowland & Ribblesdale.

E WALK – 8.5 miles moderately easy

Alight Wennington return Clapham

Wennington Station – The Blands – Greenfold – Robert Hall – Low Mills – River

Wenning – Railway Underpass – High Bentham – Cowslip Hill – Summerfield Farm – Batty Farm – Linghaw – Lane House – Waterscale – Meregill – Old Butt – Upper Hardacre – Nutta Bridge – Clapham Station.

Leader: Craig Ward

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer OL41 – Forest of Bowland & Ribblesdale.

TRAVEL DETAILS: We shall meet in the booking hall of Lancaster Station in order to catch the 0941 Leeds train to Wennington & Bentham. Connecting trains depart from Blackpool North at 0803 (change at Preston), Poulton 0808 (change at Preston), Kirkham 0809 (change at Preston), Blackburn 0737 & 0821 (both change at Preston), Accrington 0724 & 0812 (both change at Preston), Bolton 0808, Chorley, 0820, Preston 0842 & 0903.

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GUIDED WALKS PROGRAMME June 2023 to December 2023

SATURDAY 17th June 2023 - Buxton

B WALK – 13 miles moderately strenuous

Alight Whaley Bridge return Buxton.

Whaley Bridge – Reddish Farm – Taxal Moor – Cats Tor – The Tors – Clough Bridge –

Burnsal Cob – Dismantled Railway – Beet Wood – Nithen End – Buxton.

Leader: Hilary Bell

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer OL24 – The Peak District White Peak Area

E WALK 8 miles easy

Alight Buxton return Whaley Bridge.

Buxton – Bus to Cat & Fiddle – Shooters Clough – Errwood & Fernilee Reservoirs –

Taxal – River Goyt – Whaley Bridge Station.

Leader: Graham MacLeod

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer OL24 – The Peak District White Peak Area

TRAVEL DETAILS: We shall meet on the concourse at Manchester Piccadilly to catch the 0951 train to Buxton. Connecting trains to Piccadilly : Blackpool North 0754, Poulton 0801, Kirkham 0809, Preston 0821, Leyland 0826, Chorley 0835, Bolton 0854, Clitheroe 0722 (change at Bolton), Blackburn 0747 (change at Bolton), Accrington 0801 (change at Blackburn & Bolton).

Return from Buxton at 1416, 1546 1615, & 1715 and from Whaley Bridge at 1502, 1604, 1631 & 1702.

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SATURDAY 16th December 2023 – Community Rail Rambler Parbold

E WALK – 7 miles moderately easy

Alight Parbold return Gathurst Station

Parbold – Dalton Lees – Ashurst Beacon – Old Convent – Dean Wood – Gathurst

Station.

Leader: Graham MacLeod

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 285 – Southport & Chorley

TRAVEL DETAILS: Travel to Parbold by the following trains: Blackpool North 0823 (change at Bolton), Poulton 0831 (change at Bolton), Kirkham 0839 (change at Bolton), Preston 0851 (change at Bolton), Leyland 0857 (change at Bolton), Chorley 0906 (change at Bolton), Bolton 0932, Clitheroe 0823 (change at Bolton), Blackburn 0848 (change at Bolton), Accrington 0824 (change at Blackburn & Bolton). It is also possible to travel from Blackpool & Preston to Parbold via Wigan by changing stations at Wigan. Please check the National Rail website for times.

Return trains to Wigan and Bolton from Gathurst at 32 & 59 min past each hour.

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SATURDAY 1st July 2023 – Warrington

C WALK – 13 miles moderate

Alight and return Warrington Bank Quay.

Warrington Bank Quay – Transporter Bridge – Moore Nature Reserve – Moore –

Bridgewater Canal – Daresbury Firs – Daresbury Lane – Common Side Farm – Goose Lane (Hatton) – Delamere Way – Park Lane – Hillcliffe – Stockton Heath – Latchford – Victoria Park – Mersey

Way – Bridgefoot – Warrington Bank Quay.

Return from Buxton at 1416, 1546 1615, & 1715 and from Whaley Bridge at 1502, 1604, 1631 & 1702.

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SATURDAY 15th July 2023 – Community Rail Rambler

Forest of Bowland

B WALK – 10 miles moderate

Alight and return Clitheroe

Clitheroe – Bus to Tosside (Fare £3 return, no concessions) – Bailey Lane – Heath Farm – Whelpstone Crag – Fair Hill – Dob Dale Beck – Bottoms – White Hill House – Bottoms Beck to Causeway – Stocks Reservoir Circuit to Dam – Hammerton Hall – Holmeshead Bridge – Slaidburn – Coach to Clitheroe.

Leader: Hilary Bell

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer OL41 – Forest of Bowland & Ribblesdale.

E WALK – 8.5 miles moderately easy

Alight and return Clitheroe

Clitheroe – Bus to Higher Stony Bank Farm (fare £3 return, no concessions) – Brook House Green – Lower Barn – Stocks Chapel – Stocks Reservoir – New House – River Hodder – Copped Hill Clough – Old Railway Line – Eak Hill – Hollins House – Reservoir Dam – Higher Laithe – Hammerton Hall – Holmehead Bridge – Slaidburn – Bus to Clitheroe.

Leader: Craig Ward

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer OL41 – Forest of Bowland & Ribblesdale.

TRAVEL DETAILS: Trains to Clitheroe depart Blackpool North at 0818 (change at Blackburn), Poulton 0825 (change at Blackburn), Kirkham 0832 (change at Blackburn), Preston 0844 (change at Blackburn), Bamber Bridge 0833 (change at Blackburn, Blackburn 0935, Accrington 0912 (change at Blackburn), Burnley M/cr Road 0902 (change at Blackburn). The connecting bus will leave from Clitheroe Bus Station at 1015 after the arrival of our train.

Ticket information: Book an Off-Peak Return to Clitheroe.

SATURDAY 5th August 2023 - Glossop

C WALK – 12 miles moderately strenuous

Alight and return Glossop.

Glossop – Cock Hill – Clough Edge – Pennine Way – Wain Stones – Mill Hill – Harry Hut – Wormstones – Glossop.

Leader: John Howarth

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer OL1-The Peak District Dark Peak Area.

E WALK – 7.5 miles moderate

Alight Broadbottom return Glossop

Hodgefold – Chew – Brown Low – Sandhill Lane – Robin Hood’s Picking Rods –

Cowm Edge – Whiteley Nab – Glossop.

Leader: Peter Walker

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer OL1-The Peak District Dark Peak Area.

TRAVEL DETAILS: We shall meet on the concourse at M/cr Piccadilly Station to catch the 1003 train to Glossop. Connecting trains to M/cr Piccadilly from Blackpool North 0823, Poulton 0831, Kirkham 0839, Preston 0848, Leyland 0856, Chorley 0905, Bolton 0921, Clitheroe 0722, Blackburn 0747 & 0818 (both change at Bolton), Bolton 0921, Accrington 0801 (change at Blackburn & Bolton).

Return trains from Glossop at 22 & 52 min past each hour.

Ticket information: Book an Off-Peak Return to Glossop but check n the National Rail website if Advance Tickets are available from some stations.

SATURDAY 19th August 2023 - Mytholmroyd

C WALK – 11 miles strenuous

Alight Sowerby Bridge return Mytholmroyd

Sowerby Bridge – Sowerby Croft – Norland Moor – Calderdale Way – Highlee Knowl – Moor Bottom Road – Ripponden – Cote Road – Flight House Road – Manshead End – Great Manshead Hill – Calderdale Way – Catherine House – Kirby Cote – Glen House – Dean Hey – Hollin Hey – Mytholmroyd.

Leader: Chris Thornley

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer OL21 – South Pennines

E WALK - 8 miles moderately easy

Alight and return Mytholmroyd

Mytholmroyd Station – Dauber Bridge – Clough Foot Bridge – Spa Wood – Cragg Vale Riverside Path – Cragg Vale Church – Calderdale Way – Park Fields – Blaith Royd Fields – Sunderland Pasture – Stoodley Pike – Dicks Lane – Erringden Moor – Broad Head – Daisy Bank – Mytholmroyd.

Leader: John Barnes

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer OL21 – South Pennines

TRAVEL DETAILS: Trains to Mytholmroyd from Blackpool North depart at 0819 (change at Hebden Bridge) , Poulton 0825 (change at Hebden Bridge), Kirkham 0833 (change at Hebden Bridge), Preston 0844 (change at Hebden Bridge), Bamber Bridge 0833 (change at Blackburn & Hebden Bridge), Blackburn 0904 (change at Hebden Bridge),Accrington 0913 (change at Hebden Bridge), Burnley M/cr Road)922 (change at Hebden Bridge). Manchester Victoria 0921.

Return trains from Mytholmroyd to Preston/Blackpool at 27 mins past each hour changing at Hebden Bridge. For times to M/cr Vic and via Todmorden to Blackburn see National Rail.

Ticket information: Book an Off-Peak return to Mytholmroyd.

SATURDAY 26th August 2023 – Manchester Town & Country

C WALK - 11.5 miles moderate

Alight Manchester Piccadilly return Mossley.

Manchester Piccadilly – Medlock Valley Way – Phillips Park – Clayton Vale – Medlock Vale – Oldham Way – Daisy Nook Country Park – Port Mahon – Broad Carr – Mossley.

Leader: Hilary Bell

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 277 – Manchester & Salford.

F WALK – 4 miles easy stroll.

Alight Salford Central return Manchester Oxford Road

Meandering Manchester. For Auden’s Way, An Ape and Apple and Abercrombie’s Peterloo. For Parrs Banking Hall, The Parson’s Retreat, and the Peverill of the Peak. For Taste Alley, Mr. Thomas’ Delights and the intolerant Bishop’s Tomb. We’ll search for Calatrea’s Crossing, The Subterranean Temple and . . . Oh. Yes! That Hidden Gem. Come.

Leader: Stuart Leese

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 277 – Manchester & Salford.

TRAVEL DETAILS: For the ‘C’ walk we shall meet on the concourse at Manchester Piccadilly at 1015. For the ‘F’ Walk we shall meet at Salford Central at 1000hrs. Connections from Blackpool North 0823, Poulton le Fylde 0831, Kirkham 0839, Preston 0910, Chorley 0922, Bolton 0936, Clitheroe 0823 (change at Bolton) Blackburn 0848 (change at Bolton) Accrington 0828 (change at Manchester Victoria), Burnley Manchester Road 0839 (change at Manchester Victoria).

Numerous trains home from both Piccadilly and Victoria. Return trains from Mossley to Piccadilly at 1518, 1618, 1649. Change at Stalybridge for Victoria.

SATURDAY 9th September 2023 - Wirral

C WALK – 11 miles moderate

Alight Hoylake return West Kirby.

Hoylake – China Plate Farm – Royden Park – Thurstaston Hill – Caldly – Marine Lake

– Hilbre Island – West Kirby.

Leader:

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 266-Wirral & Chester

E WALK – 8.5 miles easy

Alight and return West Kirby.

West Kirby – Wirral Way – Caldly Hill – Wirral Coast Path – Marine Lake – Little Eye – Middle Eye – Hilbre Island – West Kirby.

Leader:

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 266-Wirral & Chester

TRAVEL DETAILS: We shall meet on the concourse at Liverpool Lime Street Station at 1000 to catch a Merseyrail train to West Kirby. Connecting trains to Liverpool Lime Street from Blackpool North at 0803, Poulton 0808, Kirkham 0809, Preston 0826, Leyland 0834, Chorley 0812 (change at Leyland), Bolton 0836 (change at Deansgate) or 0816 (change at M/cr Victoria), Blackburn 0736 (change at Preston), Accrington 0724 (change at Preston).

Frequent return trains from West Kirby to Liverpool Lime Street.

Ticket information: Book an Off-Peak Return to West Kirby.

SATURDAY 30th September 2023 – Grange Over Sands

C WALK – 11 miles strenuous

Alight and return Grange Over Sands

Grange – Cumbria Coastal Way – Low Meathop – Lindale – Buck Crag – Tow Top Road – High Newton – Greaves Farm – Four Lane Ends – Hampsfell Hospice – Fell End – Grange Over Sands.

Leader: Roger Fairclough

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer OL7 – The English Lakes South Eastern Area

E WALK – 8 miles moderately easy

Alight Cark return Grange Over Sands

Cark – Low Bank Side – Lane Park – Cartmel – Muddy Pool – Aysome Mill Farm – Longlands – Longlands Allotment – Hampsfell Hospice – Fell End – Middle Fell Gate – Cartmel Road to Promenade path – Grange Over Sands Station.

Leader: Graham Macloud

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer OL7 – The English Lakes South Eastern Area.

TRAVEL DETAILS: We shall meet on the concourse at Preston Station to catch the 0842 Barrow train. Connecting trains to Preston from Blackpool North at 0803, Poulton 0808, Kirkham 0809, Bolton 0808, Chorley 0820, Lancaster 0859, Burnley Central 0706, Accrington 0724, Blackburn 0736, Bamber Bridge 0751.

Return trains from Grange at 1426, 1521, 1725.

Ticket information: Except for those starting from Preston, the cheapest ticket for those aged 55 and over is an Explorer55 at £17.50. For Railcard holders check fares on National Rail or Northern Trains. Thos with Railcards should check fares on the National Rail Journey Planner.

SATURDAY 14th October 2023 – Stockport Town & Country

D WALK – 9 miles moderately easy

Alight Stockport return Marple.

Stockport – TP Trail – Midshires Way – Bredbury – Middle Farm – Goyt Hall – Etherow-Goyt Valley Way – Chadkirk Chapel – Upper Watermeetings Farm – Compstall Bridge – Goyt Way – Marple Station.

Leader: David Pryer

Map: Ordnance Survey 277 – Manchester & Salford.

E WALK – 4 to 5 miles easy stroll

Stockport Charm – a Tour. The charm of the old town can still be seen in the streets and alleys that wind around a hilltop on the south bank of the river Mersey.

For Bailiff’s and Lavender Brows; for Daw and Windy Banks; for the Dungeon and Three Shires; for Baker’s Vaults and Olderbank Hall.

Look out for the Ice House, the Dust Bowl and the gleaming Glass Umbrella. We could search for Enoch Hills’ missing leg and for a ‘7000 bed hotel.’

Tales of Prince Rupert’s skirmish, of John Bradshawe’s judgement, of Farmer Thakchel’s protest and of the end of the twice hung John Dean.

And of course, lots more! Come.

TRAVEL DETAILS: We shall meet on the concourse at Manchester Piccadilly Station to catch the 0948 Sheffield train to Stockport & Marple. Connecting trains to M/cr Piccadilly from Blackpool North at 0754, Poulton)801, Kirkham 0809, Preston 0821, Leyland 0826, Chorley 08356, Bolton 0854, Clitheroe 0722, Blackburn 0747 & 0818 (both change at Bolton), Accrington 0801 (change at Blackburn & Bolton), Burnley M/cr Road 0737 (change at M/cr Victoria to the M/cr Airport train). There is a frequent return service to Manchester from Stockport. From Marple return trains to M/cr Piccadilly are at 07 and 40 min. past each hour.

Ticket information: Book an Off-Peak Return to either Stockport or Marple. For those aged 55 or over it may be cheaper to buy an Explorer55 at £17.50.

SATURDAY 28th October 2023 – Delamere

B WALK 11 miles moderate

Alight and return Delamere

Delamere – Eddisbury Lodge – Sandstone Trail – Summertrees – Boothsdale – Castle Hill – Dodds Rough – Brines Brow – Delamere.

Leader: Ken Hall

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 267 – Northwich & Delamere Forest

E WALK – 8 miles easy

Alight and return Delamere

Blakemere Moss – Hunger Hill – Pinewood Farm – Kingswood Cottage – Sandstone Trail – Eddisbury Lodge – Pale Heights – Visitor Centre.

Leader: TBA

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer 267 – Northwich & Delamere Forest

TRAVEL DETAILS: We shall meet on the concourse at M/cr Piccadilly to catch the 0910 Chester train to Delamere. Connecting trains to M/cr Piccadilly from Blackpool North at 0722, Poulton 0730, Kirkham 0738, Preston 0749, Leyland 0754, Chorley 0803, Bolton 0822, Clitheroe 0722 (change at Bolton), Blackburn 0747 (change at Bolton), Burnley M/cr Road 0737 (change at M/cr Victoria to the Airport train).

Return from Delamere at 13 minutes past each hour.

Ticket information: Depending on where your starting point station is and whether you have a Railcard, it is better to check the National Rail Journey Planner or Northern Trains to find the Off-Peak return fare. Otherwise, those aged 55 or over should buy an Explorer55 ticket at £17.50 for use on Northern Trains only.

SATURDAY 4th November 2023 – Community Rail Rambler Todmorden

B WALK – 11 miles strenuous

Alight Todmorden return Burnley Manchester Road

Todmorden – Stansfield Road – Meadow Bottom Road – Hole Bottom Road – Scrapers Lane – Whirlow – Mount Cross – Mount Lane – Bank Top Farm – Stiperden House Farm – Long Causeway – Shedden Clough – Middle Pasture Farm – Foxstones Lane – Red Lees Road – Cliviger Laithe – Towneley Park & Hall – The Kilns – Howarth Road – Burnley Manchester Road Station.

Leader: Roger Fairclough

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer OL21 – South Pennines.

E WALK – 7 miles moderately easy

Alight and return Todmorden

Todmorden – Bus to Shepherds Rest – Rake End – Gaddings Dam – Langfield Common – Bald Scout Hill – Pennine Way – Stoodley Pike – London Road – Mankinholes – Lumbutts – Lumbutts Clough – Castle Street – Rochdale Canal – Todmorden.

Leader: Marian Strahan

Map: Ordnance Survey Explorer OL21 – South Pennines.

TRAVEL DETAILS: Travel to Todmorden by the following trains: Blackpool North 0823 (change at Blackburn),Poulton 0825 (change at Blackburn), Kirkham 0833 (change at Blackburn), Preston 0846 (change at Blackburn), Bamber Bridge 0833 (change at Blackburn), Blackburn 0920, Accrington 0928, Burnley M/cr Road 0937, Bolton 0849 (change at M/cr Victoria).

Return trains to Burnley, Accrington & Blackburn are at 33 mins past each hour.

Ticket information: Book an Off-Peak return to Todmorden.