

Yorkshire Dales Explorer Guided Walks Summer 2026

Guided Walks

An extensive programme of guided walks with experienced guides provides a great opportunity to see the best of the Yorkshire Dales. You are most welcome to join any of these guided walks. At all times, safety is your own responsibility. The guides reserve the right to vary walks dependent upon the weather conditions and the capabilities of the walking parties.

The walks are arranged by 'Lancashire Rail Ramblers' (Visit their website at www.railramblers.wordpress.com) and are led by volunteers from the Ramblers Association. Each walk is graded: choose to suit yourself. Should you have any doubts about your capabilities on the hills, avoid 'strenuous' graded walks.

Grades of walks

Easy stroll: Suitable for those not accustomed to walking in the countryside – these are the **G and H walks**.

Easy: A slower paced walk than for 'Moderately Easy' walks and with short periods of rest. These are normally the **F walks**.

Moderately easy: A generally easy walk which may include some short rather steep inclines, normally shown as **E walks**.

Moderate: A countryside walk for the average regular ramblers. These walks may contain some climbing and ridge walking, but generally no scrambling. Normally designated **D walks**.

Within **E and D walks** are some guided walks themed as 'Flower Walks' or 'History Walks' and 'Map Reading Walks' – all are very popular.

We also have more strenuous walks

Moderately strenuous: Walks suitable for the experienced energetic walker, often at high level and over rough ground. These are the **C graded walks**.

For all walks you should have strong comfortable non-slip footwear, warm outdoor clothing and outer wind and waterproofs if the weather warrants it. On most walks, stops are made, often in the countryside, for lunch and tea, so remember to bring your own food, snacks and a drink, especially when it is hot. Where an additional coach or train journey is required for part of the walk (see walk details – highlighted in yellow), an additional fare may be payable. Details of the walks available each SATURDAY may be found on the internet at www.yorkshiredalesexplorer.com or further detailed information may be had from walks leaders on the Yorkshire Dales Explorer trains.

**ALL THE WALKS ARE BASED ON USING THE FIRST YORKSHIRE DALES EXPLORER
OUTWARD SERVICE AND THE LAST RETURN SERVICE**

MAY 2026

Saturday 23 May

Walk 1 – a moderately strenuous C Walk of 13 miles - alight Hellifield & return Settle
Hellifield, Haw Lane, Dacre Lane, Otterburn, Kirkby Malham, Malham, Pikedaw Hill, Attermire Cave, Sugar Loaf Hill, Settle

Walk 2 – an easy E Walk of 8 miles - alight Horton in Ribblesdale & return Settle
Horton in Ribblesdale, Ribble Way, Cragg Hall Fm, Arcow Quarry, Fore Dale, Swarth Moor, Pennine Bridleway, Lower Bark House, Feizor, Feizor Thwaite, Pennine Journey, Stackhouse, Ribble Way, Settle

Saturday 30 May

Walk 1 – a moderately strenuous B walk of 14 miles - alight Garsdale & return Dent
Garsdale, Moorcock Inn, Yore House, Thwaite Br, Birkkrigg, Appersett, Widdale, Below Great Knoutberry, Coal Road, Dent

Walk 2 – a moderately easy E Walk of 7.5 miles moderately – alight Horton in Ribblesdale & return Settle

Holes, Pots, Gills and Caves: An Exploration of Underground Ingleborough Without Leaving the Surface

Horton in Ribblesdale, Sulber Nick, Nick Pot, Long Scar, Clapham Bottoms, Gaping Gill, Pennine Journey, Trow Gill, Ingleborough Cave, Clapdale, Clapham, **Bus to Settle (Fare Extra)**

June 2026

Saturday 6 June

Walk 1 – a moderately strenuous B Walk of 15.5 miles - alight Hellifield & return Clitheroe

Hellifield Green, Halton Bridge, Town End, Paythorne, Gisburn Park, Long Holme Row, Sawley, Bank Wood, Clitheroe

Walk 2 – **Revised Walk due to no bus** a moderate D Walk of 8 miles - alight & return Garsdale

Garsdale, Pennine Bridleway, Cobbles Plantation, High Dyke, The High Way, Cotter End, Thwaite Bridge, Yore House, Moorcock Inn, Garsdale

Walk 3 – a gentle stroll F Walk of 4 to 5 miles – Alight & Return Settle

Giggleswick - Come to Ghigel's Wick for Elgar's Retreat and a famous Public School. Look for Sir Richard's Warhorse and that missing Market Cross. Follow in the footsteps of George Fox, Oliver Cromwell, and those 'ruffian' Jacobites.

Saturday 13 June

Walk 1 – a strenuous B Walk of 13 miles - alight Horton in Ribblesdale & return Settle

Three Summits Walk – Horton in Ribblesdale, Pen y Ghent, Dale Head, Fountains Fell, Knowe Fell, Henside, Catrigger Force, Langcliffe, Settle

Walk 2 – a moderately easy E Walk of 8 miles - alight Hellifield & return Settle

Hellifield, Nursery Hill, New House, Long Preston, Green Gate Lane, The Edge, Pennine Bridleway, Hunter Bark, Lambert Lane, Sugar Loaf Hill, Dales High Way, Settle

Saturday 20 June

Walk 1 – a moderate C Walk of 10 miles - alight & return Kirkby Stephen

Kirkby Stephen, Smardale Fell, Smardale Bridge, Smardale Nature Reserve, Waitby, Bloody Bones Lane, Kirkby Stephen Town, Kirkby Stephen

Walk 2 – a moderately easy E Walk of 7.5 miles - alight Horton in Ribblesdale & return Settle

Horton in Ribblesdale, Ribble Way, Cragg Hall Fm, Helwith Bridge, Near Intake Barn, Moor Head Lane, A Pennine Journey, Stainforth, Hoffman Kiln, Langcliffe, Settle

Saturday 27 June

Kirkby Lonsdale

Walk 1 – a moderate C Walk of 13.5 miles - alight & return Ribbleshead

Ribbleshead, **Coach to Kirkby Lonsdale (Fare Extra)**, Devils Bridge, Fleets Lane, New House, Leck, Anneside, Bullpot Farm, Barbondale, Barbon, Langthwaite, Bindless Farm, **Coach to Ribbleshead**

Walk 2 – a moderately easy D Walk of 8 miles - alight & return Ribbleshead

Ribbleshead, **Coach to Kirkby Lonsdale (Fare Extra)**, Devil's Bridge, Whoop Hall Inn, New House, Overtown, Leck Beck, Cowan Bridge, Hagg Brow, Leck, Todgill Fm, Ireby, Masongill Hall, Fell Side, Cowgill Fm, Thornton Hall, Ingleton, **Coach to Ribbleshead**

JULY 2026

Saturday 4 July

Settle Saturday

Walk 1 – a moderately strenuous C Walk of 12 miles - alight & return Settle

The Elgar Way: Sir Edward Elgar stayed in Settle on Holiday and loved to walk in the vicinity. One such walk was as follows:

Settle, Upper Settle, Lambert Lane, Sugar Loaf Hill, Attermire, Victoria and Jubilee Caves, Catrigger Force, Stainforth, Feizor, Schoolboy's Tower, Giggleswick, Settle

Walk 2 – a moderately easy E Walk of 8 miles - alight & return Settle

Settle, Giggleswick, Tarn Barn, Settle Golf Course, Ebbing & Flowing Well, Buck Haw Brow, Feizor Thwaite, Dales High Way, Little Stainforth, River Ribble, Stackhouse Weir, Langcliffe, Settle

Saturday 11 July

Walk 1 – a moderately strenuous B Walk of 11 miles - alight Dent & return Ribblesdale

Ascent of Wharfedale:

Dent, Dales Way, Dent Head, Blea Moor, Force Gill, Knottberry Hill, Wharfedale, High Pike, Ivescar, Batty Moss, Ribblesdale.

Walk 2 – an easy E Walk of 6 miles - alight & return Kirkby Stephen

Kirkby Stephen 1940's Weekend:

Kirkby Stephen, Lane Head, Moor End, Pudding Howe Hill, Croop House, Pennine journey, Wharton Hall, Halfpenny House, Kirkby Stephen East Station, Old Railway, Halfpenny House. Kirkby Stephen

Saturday 18 July

Walk 1 – a strenuous B Walk of 15 miles - alight Horton in Ribblesdale & return Settle

Pen y Ghent:

Horton in Ribblesdale, Pennine Way, Hull Pot, Pen y Ghent, Dale Head, Fountains Fell, Tenant Gill, Waterhouses, Capon Hall, Settle

Walk 2 – a moderately easy D Walk of 8.5 miles - alight Garsdale & return Ribblesdale

Garsdale, Dandry Mire, Cobbles Plantation, The High Way, Cotter End, Thwaite Bridge, Mossdale Head, Mossdale, Appersett, Appersett Viaduct, Spillan Green, Hawes, **Bus to Ribblesdale (Fare Extra)**

Saturday 25 July

Swaledale

Walk 1 – a moderately strenuous C Walk of 9 miles - alight & return Ribbleshead

Ribbleshead, **Coach to Muker (Fare Extra)**, Muker, Crackpot Hall, Lownathwaite, Merryfield, Moor House, Gunnerside, **Coach to Ribbleshead**

Walk 2 – an easy E Walk of 6.5 miles - alight & return Ribbleshead

A riverside walk through Swaledale:

Ribbleshead, **Coach to Gunnerside New Bridge (Fare Extra)**, Hag Wood, Dubbing Garth Lane, Isles Bridge, River Swale, Feetham Wood, Barney Beck, Healaugh, Hutton Garth, Reeth, **Coach to Ribbleshead**

Walk 3 – a gentle stroll F Walk of 3 miles – alight & return Ribbleshead

Richmond

Ribbleshead, **Coach to Richmond (Fare Extra)** Roam in Richmond for Carnforth Hill, Culloden Tower and the Good Intent Inn, Find Friar's Wynd, Frenchgate and the Earl of Westmoreland's Tower. Nipping into Newbiggin in search of Old Richmond Gaol, **Coach to Ribbleshead (Fare Extra)**

AUGUST 2026

Saturday 1 August

Walk 1 – a moderately strenuous B Walk of 14 miles alight & return Ribblehead

Ascent of Ingleborough

Ribblehead, Colt Park, Park Fell, Ingleborough Summit, Skirwith Br, Beesleys, Chapel le Dale, Ellerbeck, Winterscales, Ribblehead.

Walk 2 – a moderate D Walk of 9 miles moderate - alight & return Ribblehead

To the Source of the River Ribble & Pennine Way

Ribblehead, **Bus to Newby Head Gate (Fare Extra)**, Ribble Way, Gavel Gap, Pennine Bridleway, Kidhow Gate, Pennine Way, West Cam Rd, Rottenstone Hill, Gaudy Lane, Gayle, Hawes, **Bus to Ribblehead (Fare Extra)**

Saturday 8 August

Walk 1 – a moderately strenuous C Walk of 10.5 miles - alight Dent & return Ribblehead

Dent, Coal Road, Sikes Pitt Gill, Thwaite Bridge, Mossdale Head, Birkkrigg, Appersett, Hawes, **Bus to Ribblehead (Fare Extra)**

Walk 2 – an easy E Walk of 8 miles - alight & return Kirkby Stephen

Kirkby Stephen Circular

Kirkby Stephen, Lane Head, Christopher Brow Top, Tommy Rd, Croop House, Pennine Journey, Lammerside Castle, Mire Bridge Close, Thringill, Nateby, Bollam Bridge, Frank's Bridge, Kirkby Stephen, Stenkrith Park, Halfpenny House, Kirkby Stephen

Saturday 15 August

Walk 1 – a moderately strenuous C Walk of 13 miles - alight & return Settle

Settle Circular

Settle, Mitchell Lane, Lambert Lane, High Hill Lane, Scalebar Force, Langber Lane, Scalehaw Lane, Long Preston, Cow Bridge, Ribble Way, Cattleside, Hollin Hall, Penny Bridge, Settle

Walk 2 – a moderately easy D Walk of 9 miles - alight & return Garsdale

Garsdale, Blake Mire, Rowantree, Moor Rigg, East House, Grisedale Common, High Shaw Paddock, Aisgill Moor Cottages, Hellgill, The High Way, High Dyke, Pennine Bridleway, Moorcock Inn, Garsdale

Saturday 22 August

Walk 1 - a strenuous B Walk of 14 miles - alight Ribblehead & return Horton in Ribblesdale

Ribblehead, Colt Park, Park Fell, Simon Fell, Long Scar, Crummack, Wharfe, Helwith Bridge, Horton in Ribblesdale

Walk 2 - an easy E Walk of 6 miles - alight & return Appleby

Appleby Circular

Appleby, Brandley Bridge, Nether Hoff, Colby, Colby Beck, Limekiln Hill, Thistley Hill, Dowpits Wood, Appleby

Walk 3 – a stroll F Walk of 3 miles – alight and return Settle

Settle, Settle for Tanner House and Howson's Yard. For James Lund's Crown and Gilbert Scott's Gem. Looking out for Bishopdale, Spookey Alley and the Pig Jury Room, Settle.

Saturday 29 August

Forest of Bowland

Walk 1 – a moderate C Walk of 12 miles - alight & return Clitheroe

Clitheroe, **Coach to Slaidburn (Fare Extra)**, Tenter Hill, Myttons, House Lane, Roman Road, Hard Hill Top, Whitendale, Dunsop Head and back via House Lane, **Coach to Clitheroe (Fare Extra)**

Walk 2 – a moderately easy D Walk of 8 miles - alight & return Clitheroe

Clitheroe, **Coach to Dunsop Bridge (Fare Extra)**, Closes Barn, Bishop's House, Foot Holme, Costy Clough, Whitendale, Dunsop Head, Clough Barn, Lanshaw, Myttons, Tenter Hill, Slaidburn, **Coach to Clitheroe (Fare Extra)**

SEPTEMBER 2026

Saturday 5 September

Kirkby Stephen Weekend

Walk 1 – a moderate C Walk of 10 miles - alight & return Kirkby Stephen

Kirkby Stephen, Stenkrith Bridge, Ewbank Scar, Ladthwaite, Fell House, Little Long Rigg, Fell Lane, Winton, Hartley Fold, Kirkby Stephen Town, Kirkby Stephen

Walk 2 - a moderately easy D Walk of 8 miles - alight & return Kirkby Stephen

Kirkby Stephen, Lane Head, Christopher Brow Top, Tommy Road, Ash Fell Edge, Fell Road, The Riggs, Smardale Fell Road, Limekiln Hill, Kirkby Stephen Intake, A685, Whinny Hill, Kirkby Stephen

Saturday 12 September

Walk 1 – a moderately strenuous C Walk of 13 miles - alight Dent & return Horton in Ribblesdale

Dent, Coal Road, Green Bank, Swineley Cwm, Newby Head, Gearstones, Ribble Way to God's Bridge and Horton in Ribblesdale

Walk 2 – a moderately easy E walk of 8 miles – alight and return Settle

Craven Countryside

Settle, Castlebergh Plantation, Pennine Bridleway, Claypits Plantation, Victoria Cave, Attermire Scar, Sugar Loaf Hill, Lambert Lane, Hudsall Plantation, Hunter Bark, Mearbeck Wood, Cleatop Park, Lodge Rd, Brockhole Lane, Settle

Walk 3 – a stroll F Walk of 4 to 5 miles – alight and return Appleby

Aim for Appleby for Smithie's Cave and Scattergate Green. For Medieval St. Michael's and the Earls' Bongate Mill. For Watchmakers and Cheese Makers and their Royalist Taverns. We'll not talk about the Church Organist's Sins!

Saturday 19 September

Walk 1 – a moderately strenuous C Walk of 14 miles - alight & return Settle

Settle, Jubilee Cave, Capon Hall, Malham Tarn, Malham Cove, Fair Sleet's Gate, Stockdale Farm, Stockdale Lane, Settle

Walk 2 – an easy E Walk of 8.5 miles - alight Hellifield & return Settle

Hellifield, Little Newton, Water Fall Rock, Newton Moor, Bookilber Barn, Langber Lane, Scalebar Force, Lambert Lane, Cow Pasture Plantation, Lodge Road, Toll Bar Cottage, River Ribble, Settle

Saturday 26 September

Wensleydale

Walk 1 – a moderate C Walk of 9 miles - alight & return Ribbleshead

Ribbleshead, **Coach to Aysgarth (Fare Extra)**, Carperby, Castle Bolton, Redmire, Preston under Scar, Leyburn Shawl, Leyburn. **Coach to Ribbleshead (Fare extra)**

Walk 2 – a moderately easy E Walk of 7.5 miles - alight & return Ribbleshead

Ribbleshead, **Coach to Wheeling Bridge (Fare Extra)**, Castle Bolton, Redmire, Elm House, Preston under Scar, Gillfield Wood, Lady Alghitha's Cave, Leyburn Shawl, Leyburn, **Coach to Ribbleshead (Fare Extra)**

Walk 3 – a stroll F Walk of 4 to 5 miles – alight and return Ribbleshead

Middleham

Ribbleshead, **Coach to Middleham (Fare Extra)**, Mooch in Middleham for the Swinemarket, for St. Alkeda's and Abbot Thornton's Tomb. Call in the Castle for all its surprises and let's remember those successive equestrian prizes, **Coach to Ribbleshead (Fare Extra)**