

CASTLE BROMWICH RAMBLERS

SKIPTON WALKING HOLIDAY

23rd – 26th September 2016

Introduction

We will be staying in the Rendezvous Hotel – www.rendezvous-skipton.co.uk situated in Keighley Road about one mile out of Skipton alongside the Leeds and Liverpool canal.

Postcode: BD23 2TA

Telephone: 01756 700100



Derived from the Anglo Saxon words 'sceap' (sheep) and 'tun' (town), Skipton is recorded in the Domesday Book as Scepeton. Sheep have played an important part in the town's economy to the present day.

Known as the 'Gateway to the Dales', Skipton overlooks the Aire Gap which separates the Craven limestone dales to the north from the gritstone moors to the south and the pastoral Ribble Valley to the west.

Things to do/see in Skipton

Craven Museum and Art Gallery – see exhibits telling the story of life in the southern dales (Craven) through the ages and view Shakespeare's first folio, one of only four on permanent display in the world. Free entry.

Shopping

Skipton offers a mix of unique independent shops and national chains. Market days include Friday and Saturday when market stalls run the full length of both sides of High Street. Find the plaque at the southern end of High Street commemorating the birthplace of Thomas Spencer (1851-1905), the co-founder of Marks and Spencer.

Skipton Castle over 900 years old, it is one of the most complete and best preserved medieval castles in England. Open 10 a.m.- 5 p.m. Admission for over 60s is £6.80

Itinerary

FRIDAY 23rd September

Travel to Skipton (details on page 7)

Skipton Woods Walk – (approx. 3 miles)

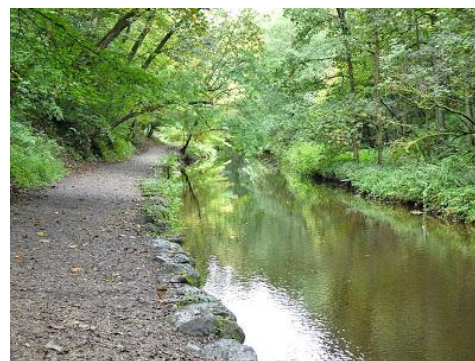
Postcode: BD23 1LH



Meet beneath the statue of Freddie Trueman in the Coach Street Car Park pay and display (BD23 1LH.Fee £4.50) refreshed after the journey and with boots on ready to set off **promptly at 1.00 p.m.**

We will walk along the towpath of the Springs Branch Canal, a spur of the Leeds-Liverpool Canal which leads us behind the castle and into Skipton Woods. A brief diversion from the canal will take us to a world famous pork pie establishment, Holy Trinity Church and a front view of the castle.

The woodland walk follows the banks of Eller Beck and passes alongside some man-made dams, before we start a gentle climb through the wood and into a field with a commanding view over Skipton. It was from here that Oliver Cromwell's men maintained a 3 year siege of the castle during the civil war.



We will need to maintain a decent pace in order to get back to the canal basin in time to catch the 3.20 departure of the Cobbydale, a 60 seater canal boat. The hour-long cruise takes us along the Leeds to Liverpool Canal and passes the Rendezvous Hotel. Tea or coffee and a biscuit are provided and we will be entertained by a recorded commentary by Dave Spikey (Phoenix Nights, 8 out of 10 Cats).



His amusing northern patter will outline the history of Skipton and explain how the canal brought the Industrial Revolution to Yorkshire. The cost of the trip is included in the amount you have paid for the holiday.

Travel the 1.7 miles to The Rendezvous Hotel (details on p.8) and check in.

SATURDAY 24th September

Travel details on page 8

Malham Walk (7.5 miles with a 4.5 mile option)



The walk starts from the National Park Centre pay and display car park (nearest postcode BD23 4DG. Fee £4.50). From Malham village we will walk in a southerly direction following Malham Beck before heading east along Gordale Beck. After passing through a delightful wooded area along an undulating beckside path we

reach Janet's Foss, a waterfall set in its own little amphitheatre. A few yards further on, Gordale Scar is reached, a gorge with limestone cliffs over 100m high. Once a cave that fell in on itself the scar has become world famous as a nesting area for the peregrine falcon.



We will retrace our steps to Gordale bridge and then on over a short climb to reach Malham Cove. The cove is over 80m high and 300m wide and once was the site of a waterfall higher than Niagara falls!



The limestone pavements above the cove are near perfect examples of clints (the blocks) and grykes (the gaps) formed via the weathering processes through the millenia.



At this point we will descend to the base of the cove and make our way along a clearly defined path following Malham Beck towards the village of Malham where lunch can be taken in the pubs or cafes. Those opting for the shorter 4.5 mile walk can spend the afternoon in Malham or return to Skipton.



The additional 2.5 miles of easy walking will take us through meadows past the source of the River Aire and along its west bank to the pretty village of Kirkby Malham where there is a pub should we need it. We will return to Malham along the Pennine Way on the east banks of the Aire.

SUNDAY 25th September

Travel details on page 8

Bolton Abbey Walk – 6 miles (with a 5 mile option)

We will drive from the hotel for about 10 minutes to the free car park in Main Street, Embsay (BD23 6RE) in good time to catch the 873 bus due at 10.32. The 12 minute bus journey offers excellent views as we travel to Strid Wood, part of the Bolton Abbey Estate. **Please remember to bring your concessionary bus pass if you have one.**

Bolton Abbey Estate was a great hunting estate on the banks of the River Wharfe belonging to the Dukes of Devonshire, and the Dukes of Cumberland before them. Now a popular tourist attraction with miles of footpaths, ancient woodlands and the ruins of the 12th Century Augustinian Priory to explore.



From Strid Wood we will follow the Wharfe upstream to Barden Bridge and return on the opposite bank crossing the river by a very ornate aqueduct and footbridge before taking refreshment at the Strid Wood Tearooms. Our journey downstream continues on the west bank of the river where



we will see The Strid, a narrow rocky chasm through which the whole river flows with much force. We will pause for lunch at the Cavendish Pavilion with its café, shop and toilets. Crossing a wooden bridge to the east bank of the river, we will follow the Dales Way until we reach Bolton Priory. Here, there is the option of crossing the river by the stepping stones or by a bridge. We can take some time to explore the Priory Ruins and the adjacent Priory Church before completing the final couple of miles to Bolton Abbey Railway Station to catch the 5.00 p.m. steam train. After the 4 mile journey back to Embsay, a short walk leads us back to our cars. The train fare is included in the amount you have paid for the holiday.



MONDAY 26th September

Travel details on page 9

Ilkley Moor walk – 3 miles

After checking out of the hotel we will travel to the spa town of Ilkley and park in the free car park near the rock formation known as the Cow and Calf in Hangingstone Road. Nearest postcode LS29 8BT.



According to local legend, the Calf was split from the Cow when the giant Rombald was fleeing an enemy, and stamped on the rock as he leapt across the valley.

Ilkley Moor is part of Rombald's Moor between Ilkley and Keighley at a height of 402 meters (1319 feet). The moor is designated as a national Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

The walk takes us over open moorland using rough paths and includes some significant inclines but your efforts will be rewarded by some outstanding views, weather permitting.

After investigating the Cow and Calf and its associated quarry, we will walk back towards Ilkley passing a man-made lake, Ilkley Tarn, to reach the outskirts of the town where the Darwin Gardens commemorate the time that Charles Darwin stayed in the town in 1859 to partake in its hydrotherapy.



We will then start to climb onto the moorland, pausing at White Wells, an early 17th C whitewashed stone building housing a plunge bath. The efficacy of the treatment was said to depend on the coldness of the spring water which stays at 4° C all year round. When the flag is flying on White Wells, refreshments are available.

As we walk across the moor there are many rocky outcrops, some of which have prehistoric carvings. Watch out for interesting plants and wildlife especially the red grouse and the grouse butts from where they are shot. Keep your eyes peeled for any unusual happenings because the moor is well known for its numerous UFO sightings and the occasional alien abduction.

Whilst here we will not miss the opportunity for a rendition of the famous Yorkshire anthem "**On Ilkla Moor Baht' at**".

After the walk we can take refreshment at a small café in the Cow and Calf car park.



FURTHER INFORMATION

Evening Meal

This will be at 6.30 pm. and will consist of 3 courses.

Breakfast

On Saturday and Sunday breakfast is served from 8.00

On Monday it is served from 7.00

We will normally leave for our excursions at 9.30

Car Park

The hotel has a car park.

Shops

There is an Aldi and also a McDonald's within easy walking distance of the hotel.

Remember to take with you:-

- **Insect repellent**
- **Sun screen** – hopefully needed
- **Concessionary Bus Pass** – if you have one.

Safety

Several of our walks take us close to precipitous drops or are over rocky surfaces which are very slippery when wet. In these areas please concentrate on your footing rather than conversation.

Members attending the holiday

Allan Beech	Maureen Beech
Ron Dowdeswell	Maz Eggit
Brenda Fleetwood	Gwen Franklin
Teresa Gladwin	Tony Groves
Kay Hargreaves	Paul Hargreaves
Gail Harris	Ron Kitchen
Jean Lincoln	John Lincoln
Geoff Marlow	Diane Phillips
Carol Somerville	Marion Stowe
Jim Taylor	Paulette Taylor
David Threlkeld	Brian Wilkins
Dorothy Wilkins	Allan Witherington

(Car sharing arrangements have yet to be decided)

ROUTE DETAILS

Friday 23rd September

Castle Bromwich to Skipton Coach Street Car Park (BD23 1LH)

There are two possible routes with little to choose between them.

The most straightforward route uses the M6 and A59

Distance: approx. 148 miles, Travel time: approx. 2h 40 mins (non-stop at speed limits, so allow at least 3 hours)

- Take M6 North to Junction 31
- Take A59 towards Clitheroe
- Continue on A59 for 45 miles to Skipton
- Turn right into Broughton Rd A6069 following sign 'P. Skipton local traffic'
- After 1.8 miles when you see Bizzie Lizzie's Fish & Chip shop turn left into Coach Street
- Go over the canal bridge and the pay and display car park is immediately on the left. Fee = £4.50

The alternative route uses M42, A42, M1, M62, M606 and through Bradford, towards Keighley and Skipton.

Distance: approx. 139 miles, Travel time: approx. 2h 45 mins (non-stop at speed limits)

Use this car park and meet by
Freddie Trueman Statue at 1.00 p.m.



Friday 23rd September

Coach Street Car Park (BD23 1LH) to Rendezvous Hotel (BD23 2TA) 1.7 miles - about 6 mins

- Exit left from car park onto Canal Street (one-way)
- At the roundabout take 2nd exit onto Water Street
- At the T junction turn right onto Mill Bridge (B6265)
- At the roundabout with war memorial take 2nd exit onto High Street
- After 0.2 miles at a mini-roundabout turn right into Swadford Street (A6069)
- After 175 feet stay on the main road as it bends left to become Keighley Rd (A6131)
- Continue for 1.2 miles going through one roundabout and soon after Rendezvous Hotel is on your left

Saturday 24th September

Rendezvous Hotel (BD23 2TA) to Malham National Park Centre Car Park, Chapel Gate, Malham (BD23 4DG) 12.5 miles - about 25 mins

- Exit left from hotel car park on the A6131
- Go through the first roundabout staying on the A6131
- At the next roundabout take the 2nd exit A629 signed Kendal
- At the next roundabout take the 2nd exit onto A65 signed Kendal
- After about 5.5 miles pass the sign 'Gargrave' and immediately after a lay-by turn right into Ray Bridge Lane (not signed)
- Continue for 3.7 miles and at a T junction turn right onto Eshton Rd (not signed)
- Stay on this road for about 7 miles passing through the villages of Eshton, Airton and Kirkby Malham before arriving in Malham
- Immediately after passing the sign 'Malham' take a sharp left into the National Park Centre car park
- This is a pay and display car park. All day fee £4.50.

Sunday 25th September

Rendezvous Hotel (BD23 2TA) to Car Park, Main Street, Emsay (BD23 6RE) 3.2miles - about 10 mins

- Exit hotel car park right onto Keighley Rd (A6131) towards Skipton, pass through one roundabout
- After 1.2 miles follow the main road as it bends to the right and becomes Swadford St (A6069)
- After 175 feet turn left at the mini-roundabout onto High Street (A6131)
- After 0.2 miles at the war memorial roundabout take 2nd exit towards Skipton Castle
- Continue for 0.5 miles passing the castle then watch for a well-hidden left turn signed Emsay
- Continue on this road for about 1 mile and then at The Elm Tree Inn where the road bends to the right enter the public car park immediately on the left. Parking is free.

Monday 26th September

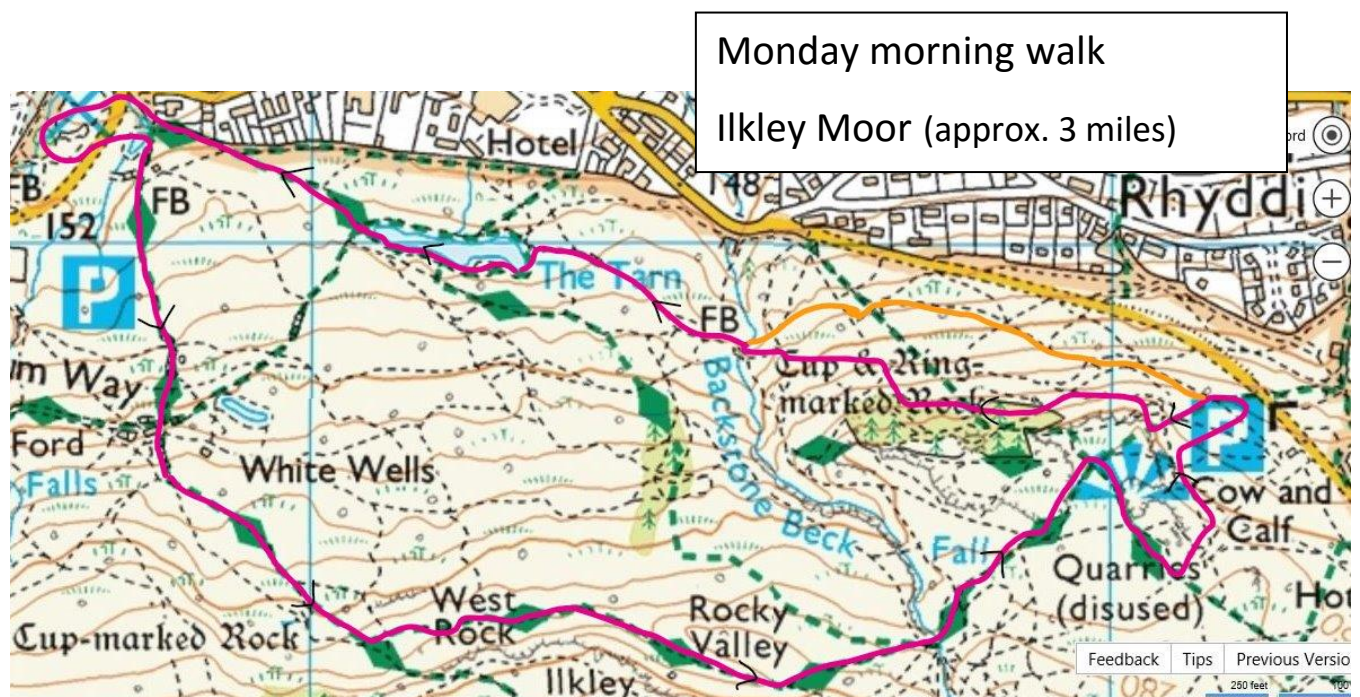
Rendezvous Hotel (BD23 2TA) to Cow and Calf Café Car Park, Hangingstone Road, Ilkley (nearest postcode LS29 8BT) 12 miles about 23 mins

- Exit hotel car park right onto Keighley Rd (A6131) towards Skipton, pass through one roundabout
- After 1.2 miles follow the main road as it bends to the right and becomes Swadford St (A6069)
- After 175 feet turn right (2nd exit) at the mini-roundabout staying on A6069
- Continue on Otley Rd for 1.5 miles then at the junction with the A65 go right signed to Ilkley
- After 4.1 miles at the roundabout take the 2nd exit, signed Leeds, staying on A65
- After 3.5 miles, soon after a set of traffic lights, turn right onto Bolton Bridge Rd (B6382) signed to town centre and Ilkley Moor (Ilkley Cycles shop on the corner)
- After 0.5 miles, after passing the railway station, at the mini-roundabout take 2nd exit onto Cowpasture Road
- Go through another roundabout and onto Hangingstone Road and over a cattle grid.
- Continue up the hill until you see a sign for Cow and Calf Rock Café on the right.
- Parking is free.

For the journey home from Ilkley

Head towards Otley and Leeds and join the M1 at Junction 43 south of Leeds, then A42 and M42

MAPS

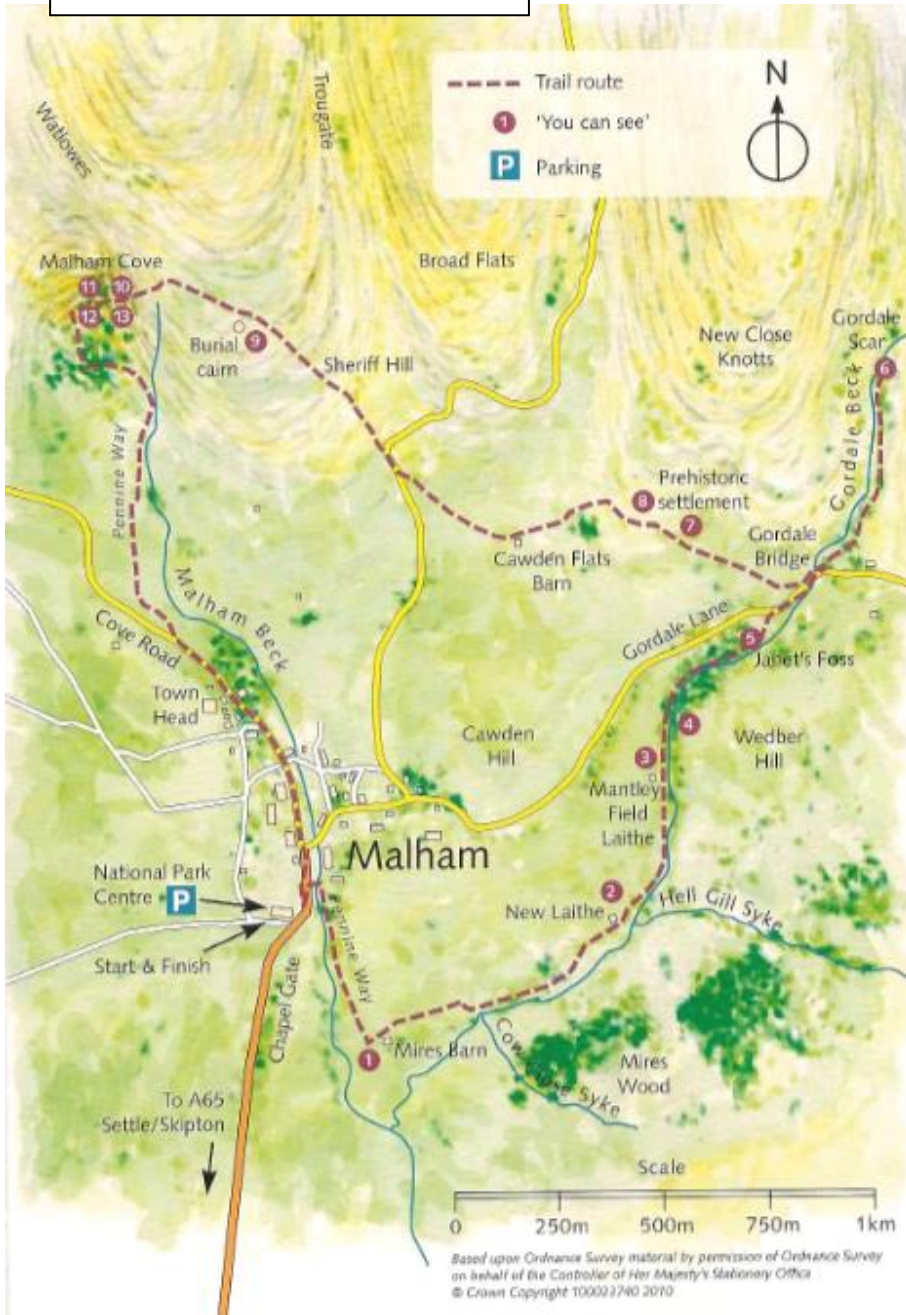


Friday afternoon walk

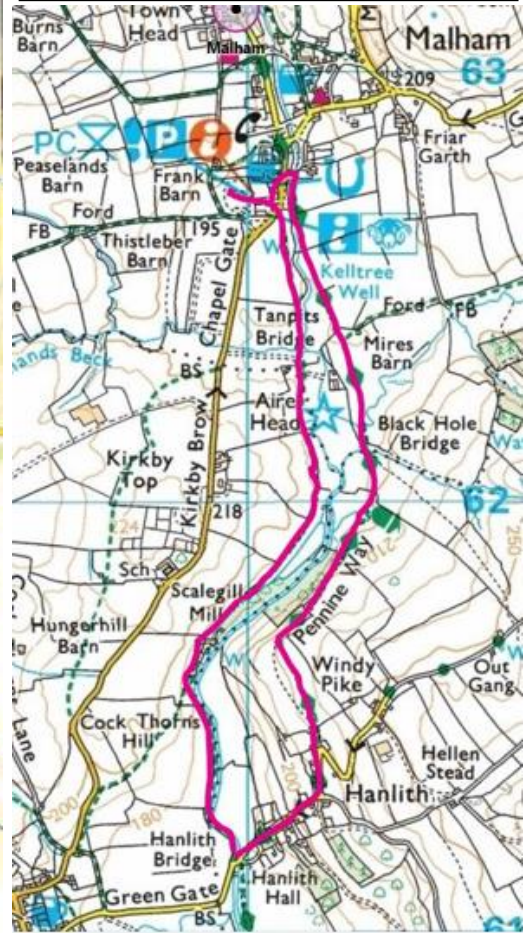
Approximately 3 miles



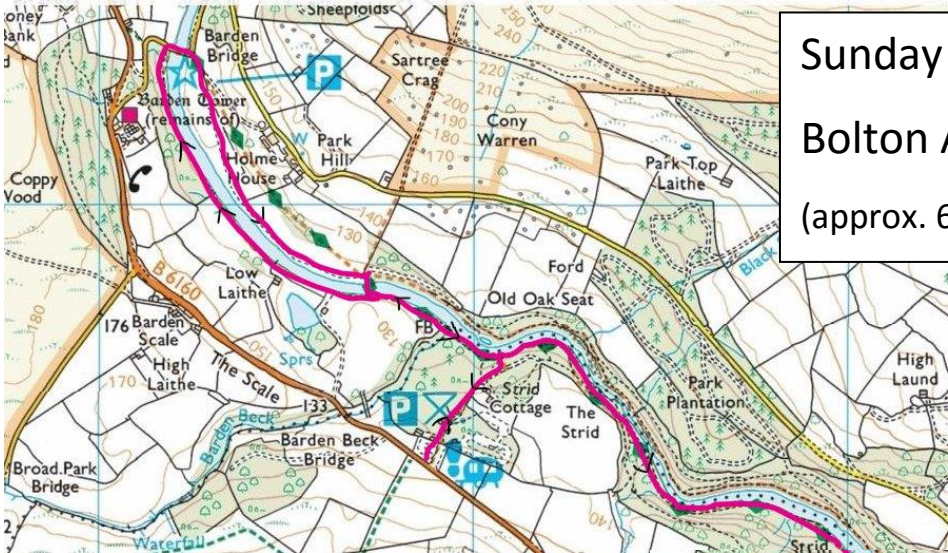
Saturday morning walk from Malham (4.5 miles)



Saturday afternoon walk from Malham (approx. 3 miles)

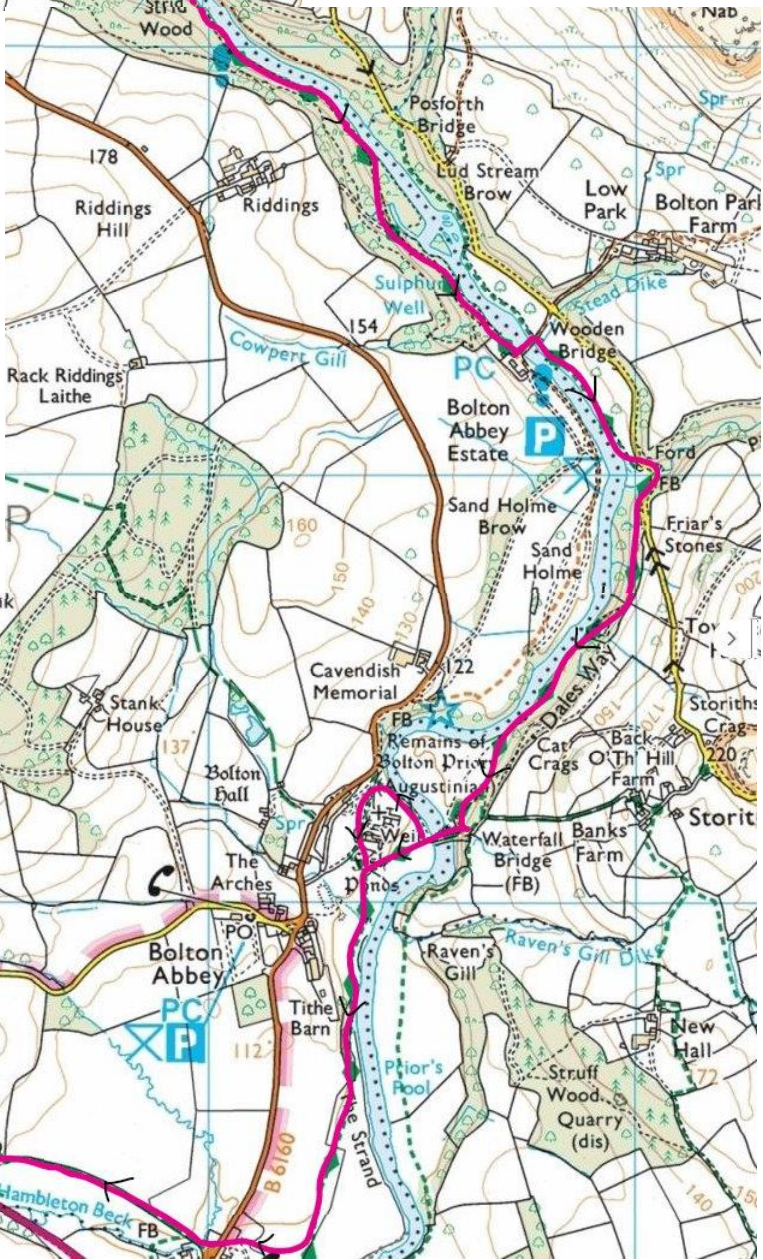


Sunday linear walk
 Bolton Abbey Estate
 (approx. 6 miles)



Stage 1
 Strid café to Barden Bridge return

Stage 2
 Strid café to Cavendish Pavilion



Stage 3
 Cavendish Pavilion to Abbey remains

Stage 4
 Abbey remains to Station via
 Devonshire Arms