

What you can see

Gargrave is a picturesque village on the River Aire with the Leeds-Liverpool canal running through it. The canal was built to carry limestone from Skipton and woollen goods from Leeds and Bradford. It took more than 45 years to build.

The locks and bridges on the Leeds-Liverpool canal at Gargrave were built by the engineer Robert Whitworth and date back to 1790.

Gargrave was an important industrial centre: not only does the canal pass through but also the North Western Railway and the Keighley and Kendal turnpike (now the A65), which enabled the town to thrive on passing trade and to export goods from its own mills. The mills can still be seen but have now been converted to residential properties.

The walk goes through some pasture fields, with boundary hedgerows and trees. In summer you may see wildflowers such as the tall white ox-eye daisy, low-growing yellow trefoil and yellow hay rattle.

On the canal towpath, look out for birds such as mallard and coot, or the grey wagtail, which likes to make its nest on bridges.

Photos: NYCC / Liz Brown



At a glance

How far?	3.5 miles (5.5km)
How hard?	Easy—moderate
Which map?	OS Explorer OL2
Starting at?	Gargrave (SD 931 541)
Buses?	traveline 0871 2002233
Parking?	Free car park in Gargrave
Any facilities?	Gargrave –toilets, cafes, pubs

A pleasant walk across fields and along the canal towpath, with gentle hills, stiles and some muddy paths.

Contact us

North Yorkshire County Council, County Hall, Northallerton, North Yorkshire, DL7 8AD
Our Customer Service Centre is open: Monday to Friday 8.30am - 5.30pm (closed weekends and bank holidays). Tel: **0845 8727374**
Email: paths@northyorks.gov.uk
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If you would like this information in another language or format such as Braille, large print or audio, please ask us. Tel: 01609 532917
Email: communications@northyorks.gov.uk



ny walks

Leeds - Liverpool canal
short walk



1. From the centre of Gargrave, at the cross-road of the A65 and the road to Gargrave Station and Broughton, follow the road south across the river and past the church on your left. After the church, look out for a Pennine Way sign on the right. Turn right here and follow the Pennine Way footpath along the wall and then over the stone stile.
2. Follow the short paved section and then cross the field to a hand gate. Cross the next field to another hand gate, go through the gate and head uphill towards the top left corner of the field and a gate leading onto Mosber Lane.
3. Go down the steps onto Mosber Lane, turn left and walk over the railway bridge. Follow

the track up the hill to the cattle grid. The track heads to the right at this point, but our route goes over a stile towards the signpost on the brow of the hill.

4. At the signpost, turn right and walk across the field with the wire fence on your left. Go through a gate then across a field (which may be muddy), then through another gate. Follow a fence and old hedge on your right until you reach the field gate at Legaston Bank.
5. Follow the walled lane downhill towards the bridge over the Leeds-Liverpool canal at the Bank Newton Locks. From the bridge and locks follow the lane first to the left and then to the right, down to the road. Turn right and follow the road towards another bridge over the canal.
6. Cross over the bridge and turn right onto the canal towpath that spirals back under the bridge. Follow the towpath over the aqueduct and under the railway bridge. Continue along the towpath past more locks, under the A65 and on to another lock (Higherland Lock). Just beyond this lock you will emerge on to West Street.
7. On West Street, turn right and follow this road back into Gargrave, past the Village Hall and back to the crossroads where you started.

