

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?	7.5 miles (12km)
How hard?	Moderate
Which map?	OS Explorer OL 2
Starting at?	Gargrave (SD929 542)
Buses?	traveline 0871 2002233
Parking?	Free car park in Gargrave
Any facilities?	Gargrave & East Marton

A walk along the canal towpath & Pennine Way, with some hills, stiles and 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
Website: www.northyorks.gov.uk/paths

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
long walk**



1. From the car park, walk up West Street and turn left just before the road crosses the canal. Follow the towpath under the A65 and the railway line until it leads you up onto the lane that goes to Bank Newton.
2. Turn left and follow the lane over Priest Holme Bridge and onwards until you come to a hand gate. Go through the gate and follow the towpath as the canal climbs
3. Go through the gate and onto the towpath once again. Continue on the towpath for about two miles as the canal meanders along and eventually reaches a double-

arched bridge at East Marton. Go under the double-arched bridge and continue following the towpath to the next bridge

4. At the bridge leave the towpath and cross over the canal. Go through a gate, then over a stile on the right, then over a hill to cross the A59 opposite the Cross Keys Inn.
5. Take the lane to the left of the pub and follow it back over the canal, and continue until you see a Pennine Way signpost.
6. Turn right off the lane and follow the Pennine Way across a field and along the edge of some woods before returning to follow the lane for a short distance.
7. Cross a stone stile on your right and follow this path diagonally across a field and footbridge. Bear left, crossing a gas pipeline and continue over the fields.
8. Continue along the Pennine Way, over stiles and through gates until you reach a signpost at a junction of paths.
9. Continue straight on the path to the corner of the field, across a stile and along a track to a railway bridge.
10. After crossing the railway bridge, turn right up some steps and through a gate. Follow the path through two more gates, over a stile and out onto the road. From here it is a short walk up the road, across the bridge and back to the car park.

