

NORTHERN YORKSHIRE DALES RIDING CIRCULARS

Applicabilities / Suitabilities / Useful Statistics

Circular Rides Ref.	Distance (miles) approx.	% Off Road (approx)	Applicability			Suitability / degree of difficulty for horse riders		
			Horse Riding	Mountain Biking	Walking	Option suitable for most abilities	Options comprise steep gradients & difficult terrain	Demanding sections for experienced riders
R1+2	6* - 21*	75	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	
R3	8 - 11	80	✓	✓	✓		✓ **	
R4	10	80	✓	✓	✓			✓ **
R5	9	50	✓	✓		✓		
R6	5 - 9	70	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	

Please note that by the very nature of the geology of the Northern Yorkshire Dales most of the circular networks will have some degrees of difficulty. It is advisable not to ride alone.

* Includes Richmond Link

** Not advisable in adverse weather conditions especially over winter months

The BHS recommends before undertaking any of the above routes, horse & rider should be adequately insured against public liability. The BHS can provide public & personal cover for members. For more information or to join call 02476 840506.

CODE OF RIDING

- Care of the land** - please do not stray off the line of the route.
- Courtesy to others** - pay heed to walkers, cyclists and car park users.
- Acknowledge courtesy shown by drivers; observe the Highway Code.
- Consider the landowner/farmer** - leave gates as you find them, ride slowly past livestock, and observe local and seasonal notices, especially during shooting (Aug - Feb), lambing and bird nesting times.

Following a route

- Descriptions in bespoke guide maps are correct at time of issue, but landmarks or rights of ways may change, and way marking limited esp. in the YDNP.
- Take the relevant OS Explorer 1:25000 (302,304,0L30) and compass.

Parking

- Riders are responsible for finding safe and appropriate parking.
- Start points shown on map do not guarantee suitable parking.

Preparation

- Wear BS standard hard hat, comfortable riding boots and lower leg protection.
- BHS advises riders wear high visibility clothing while riding on roads.
- Carry mobile (limited coverage), money/card, tie up string, head collar and lead rope.
- It is advisable to pack sufficient food and drink and take appropriate clothing.
- Include waterproofs. Transparent A4 map case worn around neck is useful.
- Please be mindful of rapid weather changes especially over high ground.

Feedback

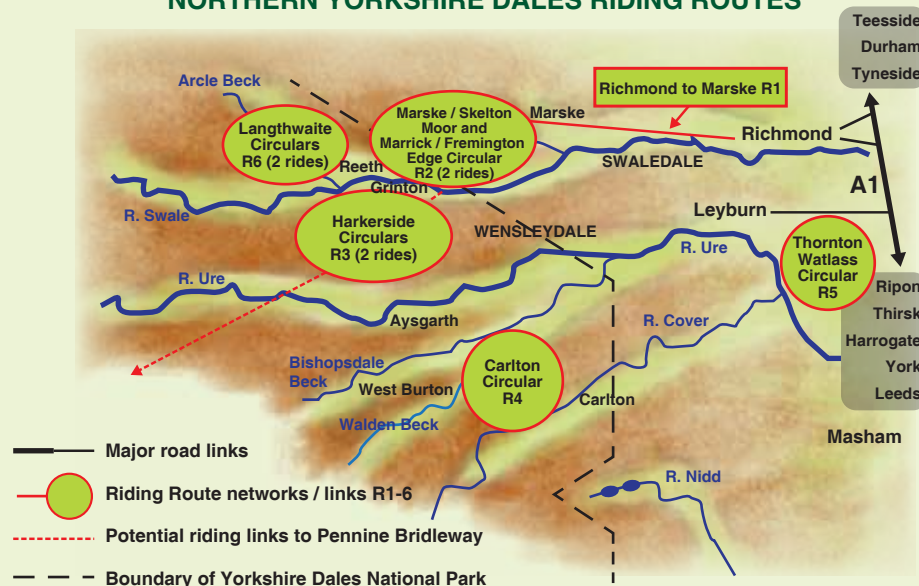
- Report back any route maintenance related problems to NYCC Rights of Way tel: 0845 8727374 or YDNP ranger service tel: 0300 4560030.

HORSE RIDING IN THE NORTHERN YORKSHIRE DALES

Swaledale, Arkengarthdale, Lower Wensleydale & Coverdale



NORTHERN YORKSHIRE DALES RIDING ROUTES



These circular rides use existing and well maintained public rights of way which take in some of the most spectacular scenery of the northern Yorkshire Dales including Swaledale, Lower Wensleydale and tributaries. The routes cater for a range of abilities and use mainly bridleways, green lanes and some unclassified county roads. The nature of the countryside in the dales means many of the routes are rugged and hilly. There are limited opportunities to canter but why rush through such fantastic scenery?

Local British Horse Society volunteer John Presgrave devised and mapped the routes with the support of Richmondshire and Bedale Bridleway Group, Public Rights of Way team at North Yorkshire County Council & Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority. The bespoke guide maps are specifically designed for horse rider use and provide an easy-to-follow route from a start point which can be reached by horsebox or trailer. Project logos are on occasional way marker and fingerposts. A PDF guide map for each can be downloaded for printout or loaded to most current smartphones via www.northyorks.gov.uk/rides. These routes are also part of the British Horse Society (BHS) National Equestrian Route Network which can be accessed via www.bhs.org.uk. Information on local accommodation and related amenities can also be found by visiting the BHS website, Welcome to Yorkshire and YDNP websites.

R1 Richmond - Marske

R2 Marske / Skelton Moor and Marske / Marrick / Fremington Edge 6-21 miles 2-7 hours

2 circulars including the demanding but rewarding Marrick-Fremington Edge loop.
Marske-Skelton Moor option is suitable for most riders.
Build in time if using the picturesque Richmond link along lower Swaledale to Marske.
Richmond to Marske and back makes for a delightful short ride.



Lower Swaledale from Richmond

R3 Harkerside / Whitaside / Grinton 8-11 miles 2-4 hours

2 circulars both taking in the remote lead mined moors with breath-taking views of Swaledale & pastoral stretches above the river Swale. Some steep, stony sections.
Be prepared for weather changes at the higher elevations.

R4 Carlton / Melmerby Moor / West Burton 10 miles 3-4 hours

Circular includes a steep and stony climb out of Walden Beck but affords fantastic vistas along most of its length, including Bishopdale, Coverdale and views across to Great Whernside and over to the North York Moors. Pubs / toilets in Carlton & West Burton.
Accommodation at Brough Farm, Middleham, nr. Leyburn (see individual guide map).



Swaledale from Whitaside on R3



Bishopdale on R4

R5 Thornton Watlass Circular 9 miles 2-3 hours

A very relaxing ride of few gradients and including green lanes. Quiet road stretches mainly offering wide verges. Especially pleasant by the River Ure and with the bonus of a pub en route in Thornton Watlass.



The Buck Inn and Green at Thornton Watlass

R6 Langthwaite Circulars 5-9 miles 2-4 hours

2 circulars either side of the impressive but remote Arkengarthdale, both of which scale the lead mined moors using old mining tracks, stony in parts, and pass through the picturesque village of Langthwaite. Pub / refreshments / accommodation at end of both circulars.

Circular 2 suitable for most riders. Circular 1 requires focus on terrain and navigation over Windegg Ings.



Riders above Arkengarthdale on R6



Please note that the promoted routes depicted are maintained to the best possible standards that the local authorities can afford, and whilst every effort has been made to ensure the routes and structures (i.e gates) are of a good standard at the time of launch, we would be grateful for ongoing feedback to ensure these routes continue to be accessible. Please see overleaf for contact numbers.

Acknowledgements

Routes devised and drawn by John Presgrave
Graphic design by Prontaprint, Darlington
Part funded and added to the National Equestrian Route Network by The British Horse Society
John Presgrave is also the author of Bridleway Rides in the South Pennines
published by The South Pennines Packhorse Trails Trust
1998 ISBN 0 9530573 13

KEYS

Map Key

	metalled road
	unmetalled double track
	single track
	footpath
	river/direction of flow
	wood
	boggy
	field wall
	cairn
	shooting butt
	steep gradient
	stony/rocky surface
	buildings

Riding Directions Key

R, L - turn right, turn left
 BW - bridleway
 ST - straight on
 RHS/LHS - right/left hand side

User Key

	recommended route C1
	recommended route C2
	start point/possible parking with grid reference
	alternative parking
	field gate
	bridle gate (5' wide)
	gate with horse latch
	bridleway fingerpost
	water/stone trough
	viewpoint

Service Key

	public house
	church
	telephone
	post office
	CB Inn car park by start point -
	Tel: 01748 884567 to park & for refreshments & accommodation



Riders above Arkengarthdale



HORSE RIDING IN THE NORTHERN YORKSHIRE DALES

Langthwaite Circulars R6 C1 approx. 5 miles - C2 approx. 9 miles



Riding Directions - (Clockwise C1, Anticlockwise C2)

Start Point S - Opposite The Charles Bathurst Inn Langthwaite for both circulars
 Parking at CB Inn car park Tel: 01748 884567

Grid Reference - NY999031

Circular 1 - Covering the east flank of Arkengarthdale (yellow line)

- 1 Through G behind PH, down BW through 2 Gs, over bridge, pass L of West House and Scar House, then L uphill, stony through G, then grassy uphill (ignore BW track on R) and on through BG and G passing Hillside West on left.
- 2 Fork R in front of next gate, uphill on less defined track with wall on L. At sheepfold in the wall, head north to road over undefined moorland terrain (uneven and a little boggy in places, though periodically flailed).
- 3 North on road for approx. 150 yards, R into BW (old mining track) and R at T junction after approx 1 mile, and then take G on right after further 1/2 mile (mining track bends left here).
- 4 South down single track, becoming double then single, through G at field bottom, then - either L down stony hollow, through BG, R at double track, R onto road, - or R, then L, down track with wall on left, to roadside gate, then R down road.
- 5 R after bridge and north on through road, past church, to start point.

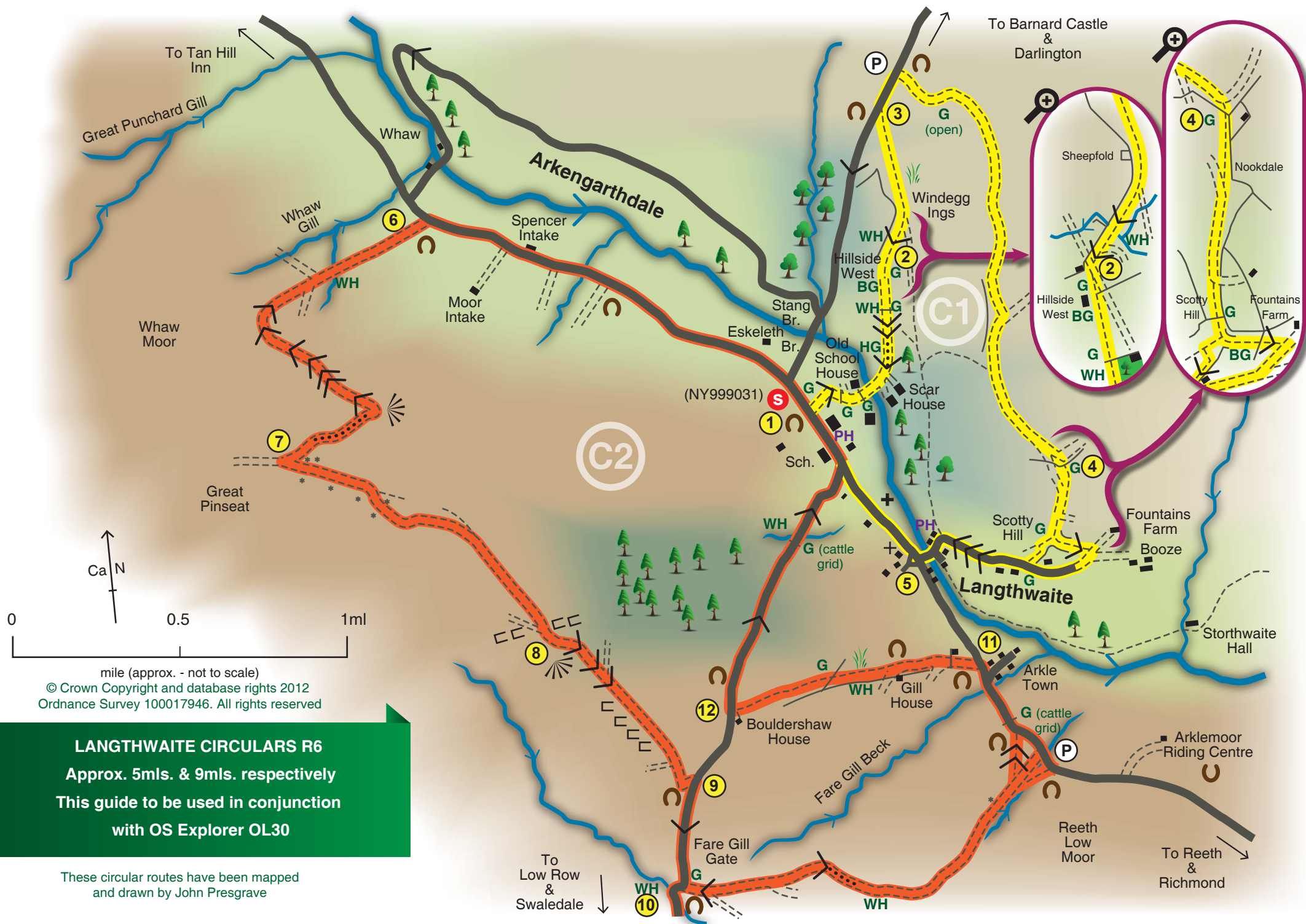
Circular 2 - Covering west flank of Arkengarthdale (orange line)

- 1 North on road for approx 1.5 miles past Spencer Intake on right, then L onto BW at bridleway sign.
- 6 Continue along BW (old mining track), ST at junctions, uphill, steep and stony in parts, until junction at top with cairns.
- 7 L following cairns on right keeping to mining track.
- 8 Bear L at next junction, crossing line of shooting butts, and continue downhill until road is reached.
- 9 R at road and downhill to next BW sign on left.
- 10 Follow double track BW east for approx 1.5 miles until road is reached, L on road, through cattle grid gate, and L at next BW sign.
- 11 Continue uphill along BW past Gill House on L, BW becoming single track and a little boggy in parts, through G, uphill past Baldershaw House on L, and onto road.
- 12 R at road then follow downhill till T-junction, then L back to start.

Acknowledgements

The route map and guide has been devised by John Presgrave with the support of the Richmondshire & Bedale Bridleway Group, North Yorkshire County Council Rights of Way team & Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority. Supported by The British Horse Society. Graphic design by Prontaprint Darlington. www.prontaprint.com/centre/darlington





LANGTHWAITE CIRCULARS R6

Approx. 5mls. & 9mls. respectively

This guide to be used in conjunction
with OS Explorer OL30

These circular routes have been mapped
and drawn by John Presgrave