



North

Yorkshire County Council

# North Yorkshire walks

## Leeds—Liverpool canal long walk

### About the walk

A moderately difficult walk along the canal towpath and Pennine Way, with some hills, stiles and muddy paths.



### Walk overview

**Distance:** 7.5 miles (12 km)

**Time:** 2.5 to 2.75 hours

**Stiles:** 10

**Gates:** 20

**Terrain:** Flat with some gentle inclines and uneven surfaces

**Map:** OS Map Explorer OL 2

**Local facilities:** Toilets and teashop at start/finish. Pub in village.

### Points of interest

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.

This circular walk is one of a number of walks produced by North Yorkshire County Council. If you liked this walk you can find more on our website [www.northyorks.gov.uk/walking](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/walking).

We welcome any feedback about this walk and the condition of footpaths, contact details can be found on the back page.

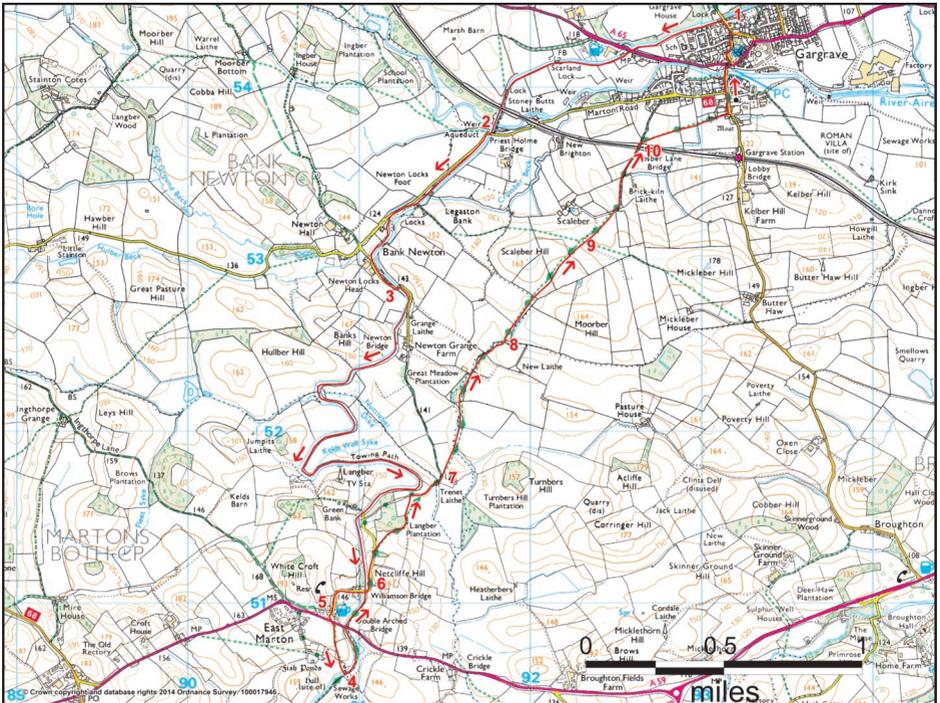
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## Route description

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 through a series of locks (Bank Newton Locks). At the bridge after Lock 41 (the locks are numbered) the route takes you up onto the road, over the canal and along a lane, until you reach a wooden gate on your right.
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. Go through a hand gate on your right and follow this path diagonally across a field and footbridge. Bear left 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.

### Points of interest

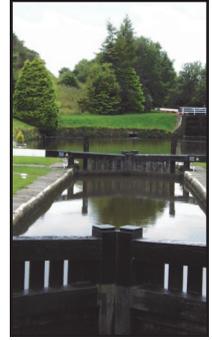
Gargrave was an important industrial centre: not only does the canal pass through but also the North Western Railway and the Keighley and Kendal turnpike (now the A65), which enabled the town to thrive on passing trade and to export goods from its own mills. The mills can still be seen but they have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

## How to get there...

**By Car:** Gargrave lies on the A65 trunk road, 4 miles north west of Skipton.

**Parking:** There is a free car park on North Street. The post code is BD23 3RL. Grid Reference SD 93183 54326

**Public transport:** There are buses from Skipton to Malham. Visit [www.dalesbus.org](http://www.dalesbus.org) for more information. There is also a Northern Rail service from Leeds.



 **Public footpath** can be used by walkers. Waymarked with a yellow arrow.

 **Public bridleway** can be used by walkers, horse riders and cyclists. Waymarked with a blue arrow.

 **Restricted byway** can be used by walkers, horseriders, cyclists and non motorised vehicles. Waymarked with a purple arrow.

 **Byway open to all traffic (BOAT)** can be used by walkers, horse riders, cyclists and motor vehicles. Waymarked with a red arrow.

## Always follow *The Countryside Code*

- Be safe - plan ahead and follow any signs
- Keep dogs under close control
- Prevent uncontrolled moorland fires
- Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home
- Leave gates and property as you find them
- Consider other people

## Walk your way to a healthier lifestyle.

Walking one mile burns virtually the same number of calories as jogging a mile, it just takes a little longer!

Walking is FREE and requires no special equipment or clothing.

Regular walking helps reduce the risk of heart disease, strokes, diabetes and high blood pressure.

## Contact us

North Yorkshire County Council, County Hall,  
Northallerton, North Yorkshire, DL7 8AD

Our Customer Service Centre is open Monday to Friday 8.00am - 5.30pm (closed weekends and bank holidays). Tel: **01609 780 780**

email: [paths@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:paths@northyorks.gov.uk)

[www.northyorks.gov.uk/paths](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/paths) or you can access all North Yorkshire County Council information online at: [www.northyorks.gov.uk](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk)

If you would like this information in another language or format such as Braille, large print or audio, please ask us. Tel: 01609 780 780

Email: [communications@northyorks.gov.uk](mailto:communications@northyorks.gov.uk)

