

North Yorkshire walks

A walk on the Yorkshire Wolds from Thixendale

About the walk

A four mile circular walk, starting from Thixendale village, over chalk hills and through dry valleys, using tracks & field paths. Thixendale stands at the meeting place of six valleys and on the Yorkshire Wolds Way.



Walk overview

Distance: 4 miles (6.4 km)

Time: 1.5 hours

Stiles: 2 **Gates:** 7

Terrain: Surfaced tracks with some steep inclines

Map: OS No. 300 (Howardian Hills & Malton)

Local facilities: Refreshments and shop in Thixendale.

Points of interest

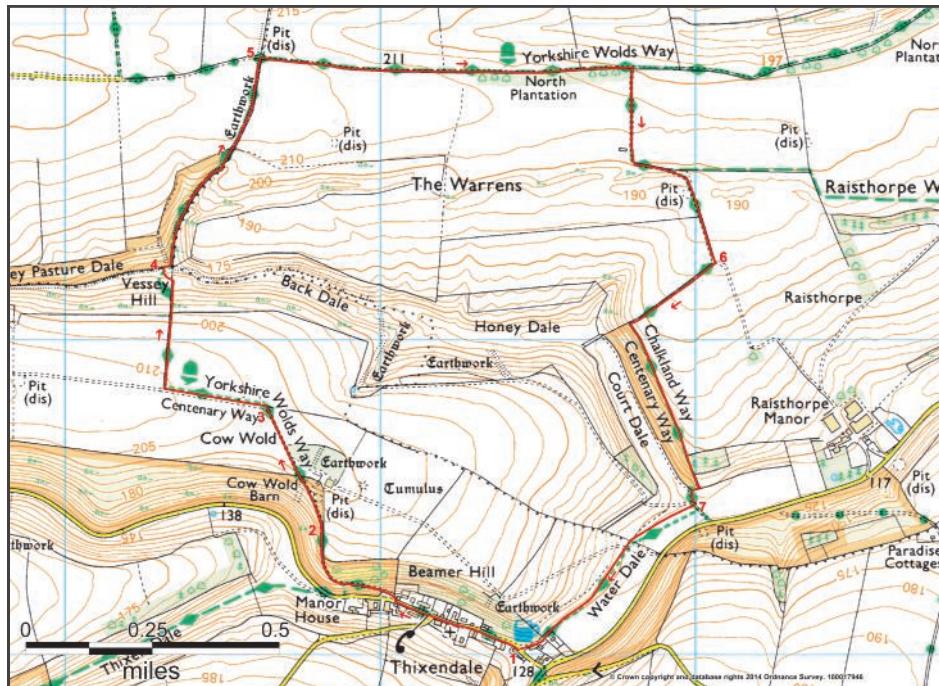
There is controversy over the meaning of the name 'Thixendale'. One suggestion is that it comes from 'sixteen dales' as there are said to be sixteen dales that lead in to Thixendale. An alternative is 'Sigsten's Valley' which is an old Scandinavian name. Thixendale was mentioned as Sixtedale/Sixtendale/Xistendale in the 1086 Domesday book.

This circular walk is produced by North Yorkshire County Council. Find more walks and rides on our website www.northyorks.gov.uk/walking. We welcome any feedback about this walk, contact details can be found on the back page.

Route description

1. From Thixendale church (grid reference SE844610), walk west along village street. Just after the last house on right go up track following the “Wolds Way/Centenary Way” sign. Take in the views to your left of Water Dale (and the road to Aldro) and Thixen Dale.
2. Towards the top of the hill, look out for a Wolds Way/Centenary Way sign and take the track to your left. Pass through a waymarked handgate and continue ahead along a track.
3. Where the track turns left follow the signage to go straight ahead into a field and turn left to walk along the field edge with the field boundary on your left. At the top of the field turn right by another sign. The path descends to reach a waymarked handgate. Pass through this and continue ahead steeply down into a dry valley and another handgate to your left. Go through this and the route curves round to your right and another handgate.
4. Go through the handgate and follow the public bridleway sign. The fence should be on your right as you turn left up the valley. Near the top of the valley is a deep earthwork ditch. Continue ahead through a waymarked fieldgate and follow the field edge path. Where the path divides go right through a patch of woodland to a track and a signpost.
5. Turn right and follow the Wolds Way. Follow a clear track for $\frac{3}{4}$ mile (1.2km). At the end of the woodland look for a signpost on the right. Turn right here and follow the Centenary Way going down the edge of a field until a track is reached. Continue ahead along the track that bears right past a signpost.
6. Follow the track passing a signposted junction with another bridleway where the track turns right. Where the track turns left turn right off it (signposted) and walk down the field side on a grassy track. At the end of the field leave the track and go through a waymarked handgate. Take in the view of Honey Dale (straight ahead) and Court Dale. The path goes left – along the hillside to descend to a handgate in the valley bottom





Route description continued

7. Follow the footpath sign straight ahead across a field and across a track. Go over a signposted stile and continue ahead crossing another track. Keep to the left of a group of trees and descend towards Thixendale's cricket field on the valley floor. Pass the club house and go over a stile, by a fieldgate, on to a lane passing houses on your left and the village pub. On reaching the road turn right, back to the starting point.

Points of interest continued

The Yorkshire Wolds are formed from chalk. The open character of the hills contrasts with enclosed valleys, many of which were created at the end of the last glacial period as meltwater created channels through the chalk. Now there are no significant watercourses in the area due to the permeable nature of chalk so ponds are present in most villages.

How to get there...

By Car: Thixendale lies to the east of York (20 miles) and south of Malton (10 miles). The postcode for Thixendale is YO17 9TG.

Parking: There is on street parking in the village.

Public transport: Summer service (Saturday, Sunday and bank holiday Mondays) between Driffield and Malton serving Sledmere, Wetwang, Thixendale and Wharram. Visit www.eyms.co.uk for more information.



- ▶ **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**

www.northyorks.gov.uk/paths or you can access all North Yorkshire County Council information online at: **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 780780

Email: communications@northyorks.gov.uk

