

Ingleborough Walks

Ingleborough is one of England's most famous mountains. At 724 metres above sea level, it is the second highest of Yorkshire's famous Three Peaks, but perhaps the most distinctive, a landmark visible from four counties. With some of the finest areas of limestone pavement in Britain, Ingleborough is rich in geological, archaeological and natural history interest. As well as being within the Yorkshire Dales National Park, much of the area forms the Ingleborough National Nature Reserve. But this is also a very accessible mountain, crossed by numerous public rights of way and large areas of open countryside which now enjoy public access rights on foot.

The best way to experience and enjoy this unique area is on foot, taking advantage of available good public transport to cross the summit or shoulders of the mountain without being forced to return to a parked vehicle. This series of ten Ingleborough Walks leaflets is designed to show how local buses and trains make such magnificent linear walks possible.

It is essential to use **OS Map OL 2 Yorkshire Dales Southern & Western area** and **OL 41 Forest of Bowland & Ribblesdale** to work out exact routes, using public rights of way and public access areas. These walks use moorland and mountain paths which should only be attempted with appropriate clothing and footwear and not in poor weather conditions. If you bring a dog, please keep it under control, preferably on a lead, in areas where there is livestock. Carry spare clothing, waterproofs, food and drink, and leave adequate time for your return transport which also gives time for well-earned refreshment. Walking times are for guidance only in good weather conditions.

This series of leaflets has been produced by the Dales & Bowland Community Interest Company a subsidiary of the Yorkshire Dales Society, in partnership with Friends of DalesBus and Friends of the Settle Carlisle Line, to encourage environmentally sustainable access to Ingleborough.

Ingleborough Walks forms part of the Ingleborough Dales Landscape Partnership's **Stories in Stone** project, funded by the Heritage Lottery Fund and managed by Yorkshire Dales Millennium Trust. For further details of the project and work of the Trust visit www.storiesinstone.org.uk and www.ydmt.org.

Transport information

Daily trains from Leeds, Skipton Lancaster and Morecambe on the Bentham Line call at Giggleswick and Clapham stations (but remember Clapham Station is 1¼ miles from Clapham village). Return rail tickets to Clapham can be used from Settle station. On Monday to Saturday Craven Connect Buses 580/581 operate every two hours from Skipton and Settle to Austwick, Clapham and Ingleton (supplemented by Sunday DalesBus services in the summer), give access to this walk.

For details of outward and return bus times see the Metro DalesBus booklet or www.dalesbus.org or ring 0871 200 22 33; for trains see the Northern Rail Timetable Leaflet 7 or www.northernrail.org or ring 08457 484850.

PDFs of all 10 Ingleborough Walks leaflets can be downloaded at www.dalesbus.org or www.settle-carlisle.co.uk

Car drivers can take advantage of the bus or train by parking at Settle or Giggleswick (station), taking the bus or train to the start of the walk and then taking as long as is needed to walk back to the car. You will also be safeguarding the environment by reducing your carbon footprint in the National Park.



Ingleborough Walks

Walk 1

Along Giggleswick Scar



A walk from two attractive villages on the edge of Ingleborough that follows enclosed medieval packhorse ways to the hamlet of Feizor. It then takes winding paths above and along the dramatic limestone crags of Giggleswick Scar, offering extensive views across Ribblesdale to the Bowland Fells, passing spectacular disused Giggleswick Quarry to Settle.



The Walk

From the stone bridge in Clapham village centre, walk on the right hand side of the stream northwards towards the National Park Car Park and toilets. Turn right and immediately in front of the toilet block join a narrow, enclosed path marked by gates alongside farm. Keep the same direction through parkland, the way marked by pedestrian gates and stiles, climbing slightly, before curving left up the hillside, then descending, past a bench, to stile in the wall corner. Turn left into Austwick village centre.

Continue along the Helwith Bridge road due east, but just past the village shop and hall (toilet) take the narrow lane that forks right. After 50 metres take narrow enclosed path right by wooden footpath sign, leading between gardens to a stile and paved way across a field to the main road north of Austwick Bridge. Cross the bridge and turn left into Wood Lane.

Follow this lane for 300 metres to where the lane bends north. Take the stile by the gate in the corner, follow the path across the field, bearing slightly right but below the low green hillock to the right. Keep ahead below the hillock to a stile into Hale Lane, to the south of Wood House farm. Turn right into this narrow, winding bridlepath, now carrying the Pennine Bridleway. Continue along Hale Lane past Meldings Barn. Bear left at junction of ways to the hamlet of Feizor (refreshments).

From Feizor turn right along the track north of Old Hall Farm, through a field gate, signed Stackhouse. This climbs steeply with a field wall to your left. Keep the same direction uphill for 600 metres up to a wooden footpath sign on the brow of the hill.

Bear right here, signed Buckhaw Brow. The path goes through a gate past a sheepfold then heads due south across fields, climbing slightly through more gates. After half a mile you reach the edge of Buckhaw Brow with the old road in the gorge below. Do not descend but turn left over a stile to a footpath, heading south-east.

Cross and descend limestone pavement with care - easy to twist ankles here. The path is well defined across a shallow valley and up to a stile. Follow the narrow shelf between the limestone cliff face and scar. Keep directly ahead above woodland, ascending towards a large cairn ahead, the ruined School Boys' Tower. As you approach the tower take a narrow path to the right leading to this

cairn and viewpoint.

Return to the main track, turn right, heading across tricky limestone pavement to where the path now follows the fence along the edge of the old Giggleswick Quarry. Note the remarkable exposed Carboniferous limestone strata visible from the path.

Continue to where the path leaves the quarry edge and drops steeply over loose stones east (great care needed here). Head for track into the woodland below. Go through the gate and follow this track through the woods which curves right and enters The Mains a suburban road. Follow this down to the main road, turning left to

pass Settle College, but turn right at Settle Bridge to follow the path along the riverside.

Continue to the footbridge. For Giggleswick Station turn right through the alleyway to the lane, turning left. Keep straight ahead at the crossroads along Brackenber Lane to the A65 (cross with care). For Settle Station and buses turn left across the bridge, keeping ahead past King's Mill Lane to emerge behind Booth's Supermarket. Keep directly ahead, before bearing left under the railway bridge and along Kirkgate to Settle Market Place, but for Settle Station turn right through the car park soon after the railway bridge.

