

SPRING COTTAGE • TRAWDEN

The Spring Cottage Guide to *Trawden & Pendle*

Twelve walks • days out • local stories • food & drink



Spring Cottage, Trawden • **Book direct and avoid third-party booking fees**

Sleeps 4 • dogs welcome • walks from the door • thespringcottage.co.uk/book • hello@thespringcottage.co.uk

scan to book
direct



Welcome to Spring Cottage

This was our home. We hope it feels like yours.

Spring Cottage was our family home. We renovated the whole house, then the family grew, three children later, and we had to move somewhere bigger. We still miss it, so we kept it, and we've been sharing it with guests for four years now.

The cottage has stood in Trawden for somewhere between 300 and 400 years. We renovated it top to bottom, keeping the bare stone where it deserved to be seen and putting the money into the things you notice at the end of a long walk: a hot rain shower, a bath against 300-year-old stonework, a warm stove and wifi.

Trawden sits at the foot of Boulsworth Hill, in the old Forest of Trawden, right where Lancashire's green fields give way to the high moors of the Yorkshire border. It's

a village that saved itself: the pub, the shop, the library and the community centre all belong to the people who live here, and in 2022 The Sunday Times Best Places to Live guide named it the best place to live in the North West.

This guide is the one we'd give a friend. Twelve walks, five of them straight from the door; the days out we love, rain or shine; the stories behind the hills, from Wycoller's Jane Eyre ruin to the Pendle witches and Colne's Titanic bandmaster; and where to eat and drink, from the village pub to a Michelin star.

We live two minutes away, so if the stove sulks or you want to know which way the footpath goes, just ask.

Alex & family

THE COTTAGE

Sleeps 4 • a double and a twin • stove • south-facing garden

YOUR HOSTS

Holiday-letting Spring Cottage for 4 years • Airbnb Superhost

DOGS

Dogs welcome • a vestibule for muddy boots



The sitting room at Spring Cottage

How to use this guide

Every walk has its own map, directions that follow a published source, "Look out for" notes on the history and wildlife along the way, and a fuel stop. Walks marked **Route drawn from GPX** show the source's own track; walks marked **Indicative sketch** show where places are, not the path, so follow the waymarks and the OS map. Opening times and prices change, so check websites before you set off. Facts were checked in October 2026.

Each walk is also available as its own printable leaflet.



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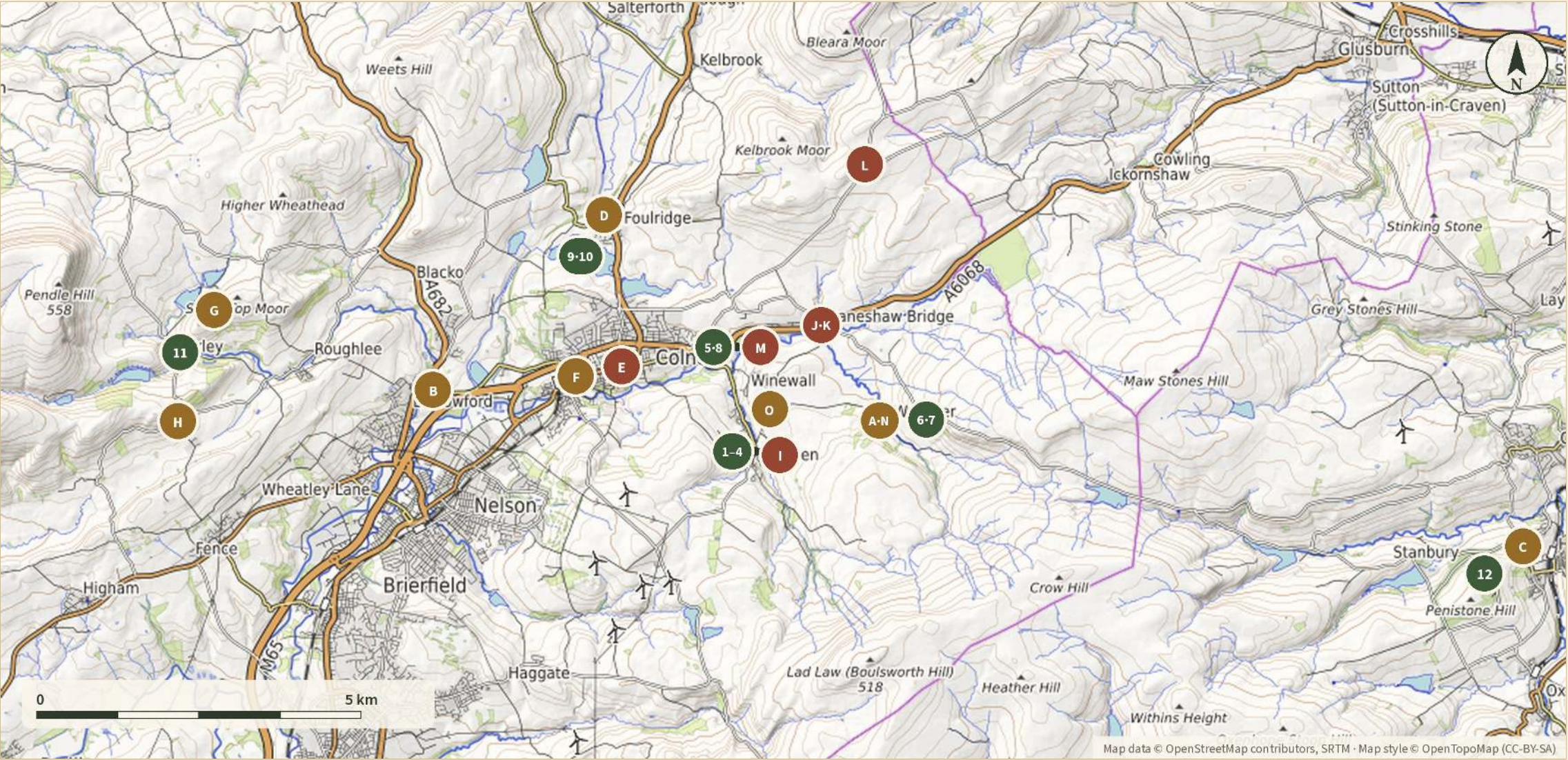
And staying safe on the tops

Book direct

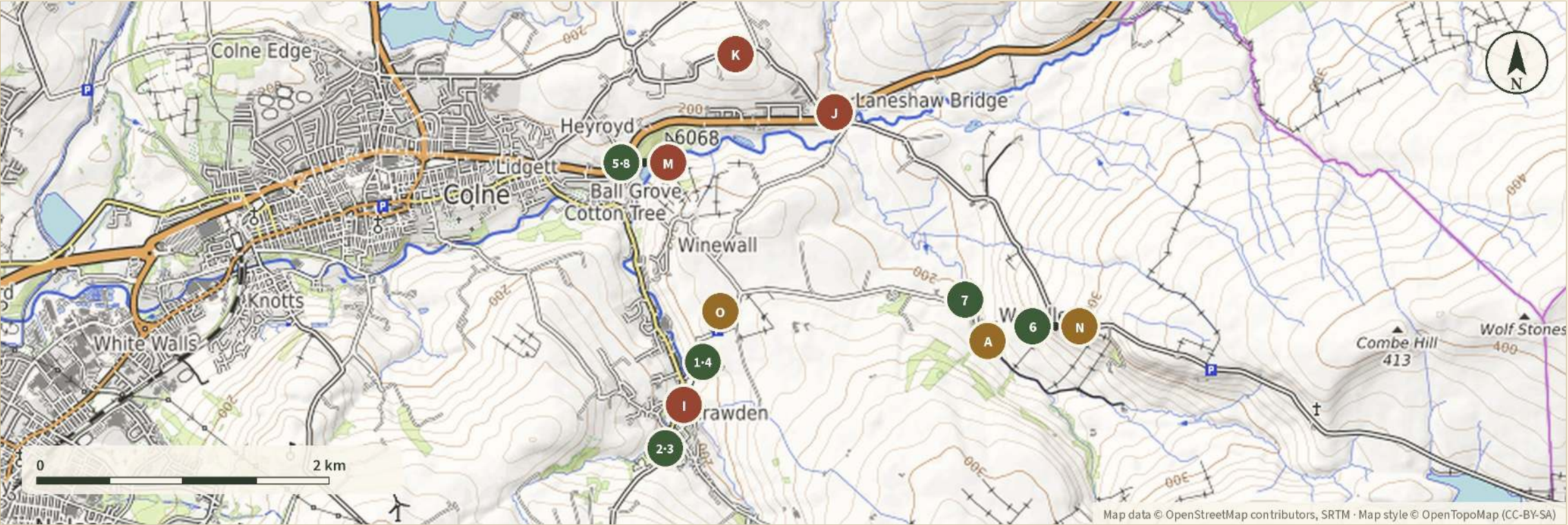
67

Come back soon, without the booking fees





CLOSE-UP: TRAWDEN, WYCOLLER, WINEWALL & BALL GROVE



Around Spring Cottage

Numbered green pins are walk starts; lettered pins are places to see (gold) and to eat and drink (red). Pins are placed from OpenStreetMap data and are approximate.

WALKS (START POINTS)

- 1 Trawden to Wycoller
- 2 Boulsworth Hill
- 3 Boulsworth Ridge & Wycoller
- 4 Coldwell, Bedding Hill Moor & Wycoller
- 5 Winewall & Laneshaw Bridge
- 6 The Wycoller Panopticon Walk
- 7 Wycoller Country Park Circular
- 8 Ball Grove & the East Colne Way
- 9 Foulridge Reservoirs
- 10 Mile Tunnel, Blacko Tower & Lake Burwain
- 11 Pendle Hill from Barley
- 12 Top Withins & the Brontë Waterfall

PLACES

- A Wycoller & the hall
- B Pendle Heritage Centre
- C Brontë Parsonage Museum
- D Foulridge Wharf & Mile Tunnel
- E Colne Market Hall
- F Wallace Hartley memorial
- G Pendle Sculpture Trail (Aitken Wood)
- H Newchurch-in-Pendle
- I Trawden Arms
- J Emmott Arms
- K Alma Inn
- L Black Lane Ends
- M Lakeside Café, Ball Grove
- N Atom panopticon
- O Trawden Show ground

FURTHER AFIELD

Skipton Castle and the Dales (about 30 min), Bolton Abbey (35–40 min), Malham Cove (45 min), Clitheroe (35 min) and Lancaster Castle (1 hr 15 min). Drive times are approximate.



PART ONE

Walks



Pull on your boots at the door. From the cottage you can walk to Wycoller, with its packhorse bridges and the ruined hall tied to Jane Eyre, climb Boulsworth Hill, the highest point in the South Pennines, or wander down to the community-owned Trawden Arms. A short drive takes you to Pendle Hill, the reservoirs and canal at Foulridge, and the Brontës' own moors above Haworth.

	WALK	DISTANCE	TIME	DIFFICULTY
<i>From the cottage door</i>				
1	Trawden to Wycoller	4 miles (6 km) one way	About 2½ hours one way	Easy to moderate
2	Boulsworth Hill	5.5 miles	About 3½ hours	Moderate
3	Boulsworth Ridge & Wycoller	10 miles (16.3 km)	About 6 hours	Moderate
4	Coldwell, Bedding Hill Moor & Wycoller	7½ miles (12 km)	About 4 hours	Moderate
5	Winewall & Laneshaw Bridge	5¾ miles (short version 4½)	2 to 4 hours	Easy to moderate
<i>Family & easy</i>				
6	The Wycoller Panopticon Walk	2.5 km (just over 1½ miles)	About 1 hour	Easy
7	Wycoller Country Park Circular	6.4 km (4 miles)	About 2 hours	Easy
8	Ball Grove & the East Colne Way	Park loop 2.4 km · East Colne Way 5 miles	30–60 min · 2–3 hours	Park loop easy
9	Foulridge Reservoirs	5.6 km (3½ miles)	1 to 1½ hours	Easy and mostly flat; very muddy when wet
<i>Big days out</i>				
10	Mile Tunnel, Blacko Tower & Lake Burwain	6 miles	About 3 hours	Easy
11	Pendle Hill from Barley	5 miles (8 km)	About 2 hours 20 minutes	Grade 2-C
12	Top Withins & the Brontë Waterfall	10.9 km (6.8 miles)	About 3½ hours	Moderate





01 Trawden to Wycoller

and on to Laneshaw Bridge

Step out of the cottage, past the community-owned Trawden Arms and up past the old tram tracks, and within the hour you'll be crossing pulpit stiles above the Wycoller valley with Pendle Hill on the skyline. Wycoller is a gem: a ruined hall said to be Charlotte Brontë's Ferndean Manor, a packhorse bridge built before 1550 and a clapper bridge polished by centuries of clogs. Walk back the way you came, or carry on past old golf links and herons to the Emmott Arms at Laneshaw Bridge.

 **DISTANCE**
4 miles (6 km)
one way

 **TIME**
About 2½ hours one way

 **ASCENT**
Not stated by the source

 **DIFFICULTY**
Easy to moderate

 **DOGS**
Farmland and pulpit stiles; lead near livestock

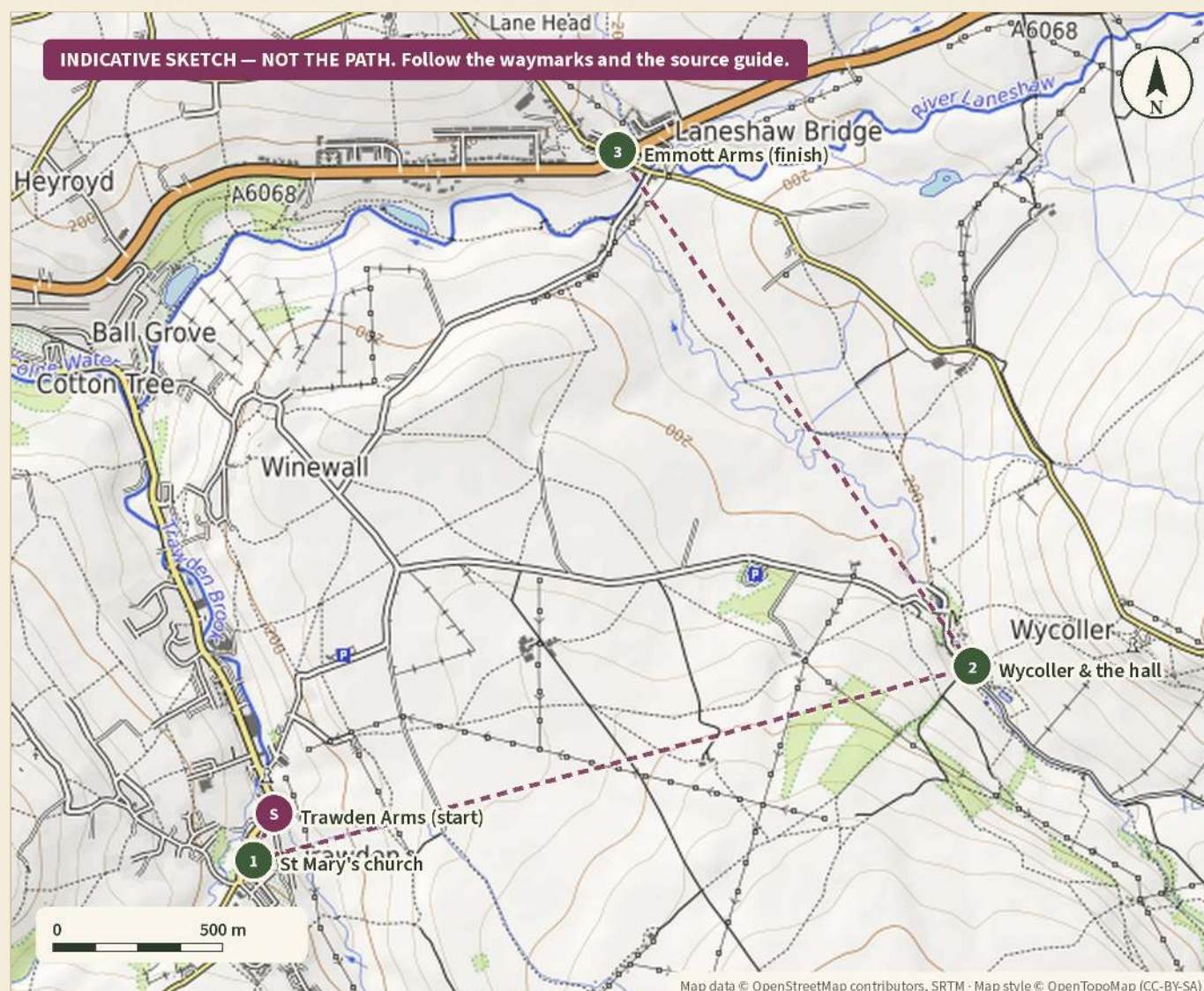
 **START & PARKING**
Trawden Arms, Church Street, Trawden. No car needed

 **PUB STOP**
Trawden Arms · Emmott Arms (finish)



The map

INDICATIVE SKETCH



Indicative only: this is not the path. The pins show where the main places named in the route sit (positions from OpenStreetMap), and the dotted line shows the order you reach them. Follow the waymarks, OS Explorer OL21 and the source guide. Base map: OpenTopoMap · © OpenStreetMap contributors.

Getting there

Walk from the cottage: the Trawden Arms is about 0.4 miles by road from Spring Cottage.

Map & kit

OS Explorer OL21 South Pennines. Waterproof boots and layers, water, snacks and a charged phone. Directions below follow the source guide step by step.

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direct



The route

STEP BY STEP, FROM THE SOURCE GUIDE

1

Start at the Trawden Arms. With your back to the pub, the old tram track is to your left. If you like, first walk about 50 yards to the right to the bottom of Rock Lane to see Poetry Corner, then retrace your steps to the pub.

Look out for...

The village's own pub

The Trawden Arms was built in 1895 on the site of a 16th-century corn mill. When it came up for sale in 2021, the village of around 2,000 people raised £520,000 to buy it. Trawden's other old pub, the Sun Inn, closed in 2013, so this is the village's last pub, and it's community-owned.



2

Take the main road on your left up the hill to the Church of St Mary the Virgin (built 1846). Keep the church on your right and carry on up to the bus terminus, where on the left you can see the top end of the tram tracks with a small section of rail. Continue on the road towards Hollin Hall, passing the White Lea Head Club (the Cockhill Club) on your left.

Look out for...

Canon Dempsey's sweets

St Mary's best-loved priest, Canon Hugh Dempsey, served the parish for 41 years until his death in 1949. He carried sweets in his pocket for the children and walked the parish in his clerical robes and clogs.



3

Where the houses finish, take the tarmac road to your left and climb to the top of the first field. A path on your right climbs beside the copse to Little Laith Farm. Pass the farm on your left and head along a straight path to Germany Farm, passing it on your right. You are now on part of the Brontës in Pendle Circular Walk. Where the farm track bears round to the left, the path continues straight on.

Look out for...

The big view

Try to do this on a clear day: with Boulsworth Hill as a backdrop, the views towards Pendle Hill are, in the leaflet's words, simply magnificent. Look for the roof of Raven Rock farm.



4

Keep the wall and then the fence on your right. Cross the two pulpit stiles. The path leads through the trees and out onto the farm road, then down into the hamlet of Wycollier.

5

Explore Wycollier, then continue left past the café and shop on your right (see Fuel stop). At Laithe Hills turn right towards the white house.

Look out for...

Ferndean Manor and Sallie's Brig

Wycollier's ruined hall is said to be Ferndean Manor in Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre*. Its last squire, Henry Owen Cunliffe, died in debt in 1818 and the hall was plundered for stone, some of it to build a cotton mill in Trawden. The packhorse bridge, Sallie's Brig, was built before 1550, and the clapper bridge is worn by generations of clogs, as villagers walked to the cotton mills of Trawden and Cottontree six days a week.



6

Follow the clearly marked track past Lowlands Farm and Dent House (note the quaint well on the right, fed by a metal pipe from across the river), then the Pump House on the right. Continue straight on for about 500 yards to a stone stile. Don't take the stile: go through the gap on the left and follow a clearly defined path over a small wooden bridge into a large field. Continue to the road and turn right.



*Look out for...**Hérons, deer and a lost golf course*

The big field was St Andrew's Golf Course until 1948. You might pick out old bunkers and tees. Look out for the resident herons and deer on the left.

7

Pass the little row of cottages called Carriers Row.

*Look out for...**Carriers Row*

The name tells you what its first residents did: they carried coal from the mine behind the houses, or stone from nearby quarries.

8

At the bridge over the River Laneshaw turn left and walk up the hill to the Emmott Arms, where the walk ends.

This is a one-way walk. Retrace your steps to Trawden, or arrange a lift. The 2009 leaflet lists Burnley & Pendle bus service 21; check current buses on Traveline before relying on it.

**Fuel stop**

- Trawden Arms (start): the community-owned village pub.
- Wycoller: older guides mention a café and tea rooms in the hamlet, but Wycoller's tearooms have closed in recent years. Check before you rely on it and pack a picnic. The Old Rock Café & Cake Shop on Keighley Road, Trawden, is a sure bet on the way home.
- Emmott Arms, Laneshaw Bridge (finish): AA Rosette farm-to-fork pub; dogs welcome in certain rooms (say when booking).
- Toilets: the leaflet lists toilets at Wycoller and Laneshaw Bridge.

**Countryside Code & safety**

- Leave gates as you find them and keep to marked paths unless you are on open access land.
- Don't block gateways or lanes when you park.
- Take your litter home, and bag and bin your dog's poo.
- Dogs: keep them under control and in sight, and on a lead around livestock. On open access land (most of the moorland here) dogs must be on a lead from 1 March to 31 July, and near livestock at any time. If cattle threaten you, let your dog off the lead so you can both get to safety.
- Moorland fires are devastating. No fires or BBQs.

These are real Pennine walks across working farmland and open moor, and the weather can change fast on the tops. Wear waterproof boots, carry a waterproof layer, water and a map (OS Explorer OL21 South Pennines covers Trawden, Wycoller and Boulsworth; OL41 covers Pendle Hill), and tell someone your route. Phone signal can be patchy.

Sources. These directions follow the guides below; check them before you go, as paths, stiles and opening times change.

Place Pendle / Colne Connected, Three Villages Walk (Trawden to Laneshaw Bridge section), 2009: https://placependle.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/3_villages_walk-2.pdf
Countryside Code: GOV.UK. Facts checked October 2026.





02 Boulsworth Hill

via Lumb Spout: the short summit loop

Boulsworth is the great moorland hill above Trawden, and this is the quickest way up it from the door. Start with a muddy little detour to Lumb Spout, a hidden waterfall that drew Victorian day-trippers, then climb the waterboard path onto the moor. Up top, gritstone tors called Little Chair Stones and Weather Stones make perfect picnic seats. From Lad Law, the highest point in the South Pennines, the view runs from Pendle Hill to the Yorkshire Three Peaks. Save your appetite for the Trawden Arms.



DISTANCE
5.5 miles



TIME
About 3½ hours



ASCENT
1,337 ft (about 408 m)



DIFFICULTY
Moderate: steady climb, open moor, wet in places



DOGS
Sheep on the moor; access-land lead rule 1 Mar to 31 Jul



START & PARKING
By St Mary's church, Trawden (SD911386)

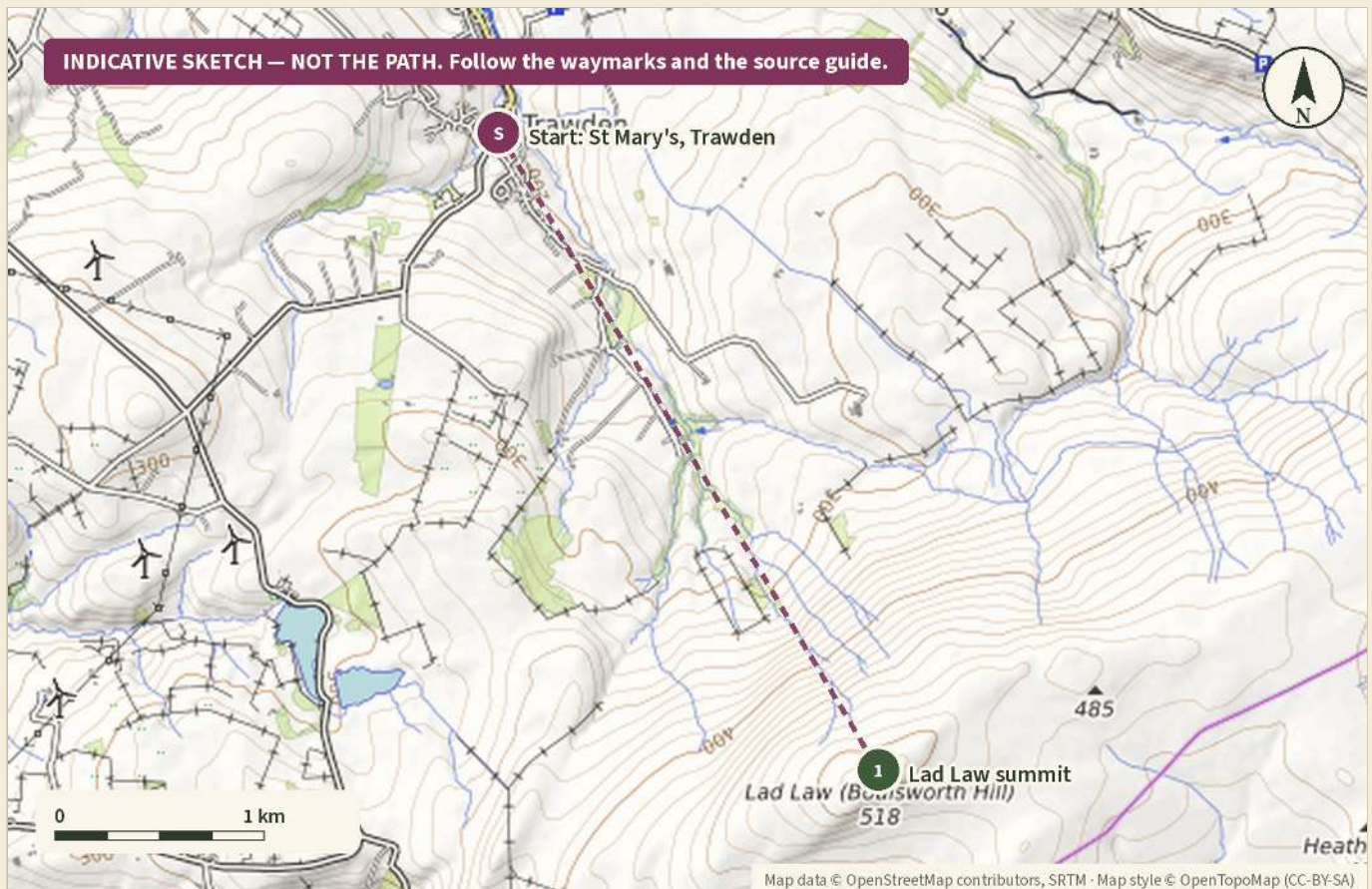


PUB STOP
Trawden Arms on your return



The map

INDICATIVE SKETCH



Indicative only: this is not the path. The pins show where the main places named in the route sit (positions from OpenStreetMap), and the dotted line shows the order you reach them. Follow the waymarks, OS Explorer OL21 and the source guide. Base map: OpenTopoMap · © OpenStreetMap contributors.

Getting there

Walk from the cottage: the start is by St Mary's church in the village. On-street parking near the church is limited.

Map & kit

OS Explorer OL21 South Pennines. Waterproof boots and layers, water, snacks and a charged phone. The source gives a route outline only, so the map and waymarks matter here.

The route

ROUTE OUTLINE

The source is a walker's report with a route outline, not turn-by-turn directions, so these notes stay at that level. Take OS Explorer OL21, follow the waymarks and check on-site signs for the concessionary path. For full step-by-step directions of a longer 8-mile Trawden, Lumb Spout, Boulsworth and Wycoller variant, see the Lancs Live article in the sources.

- 1 Start in Trawden village by St Mary's church (grid ref SD911386).
- 2 Head for Lumb Spout. The source describes the beginning as nice and easy, with a short, muddy detour to see the waterfall.

Look out for...
Lumb Spout

Visit Pendle calls Lumb Spout Pendle's highest waterfall, and it was a popular spot with Victorian visitors.



3

Continue by Spoutley Lumb and climb the waterboard's concessionary path up onto the moor.

4

On the summit plateau, pass Little Chair Stones and the Weather Stones.

Look out for...

Picnic rocks

The walk's author ate soup sheltering among the larger rocks at the Weather Stones, which is a fine plan on a breezy day.



5

Reach the top of Boulsworth Hill at Lad Law and its trig point.

Look out for...

The hill that wouldn't be tamed

Lad Law (517 m) is the highest point in the South Pennines. An Enclosure Act of 1821 allowed the whole of Boulsworth to be fenced off, but the work was begun and never finished once it was clear the land was too poor to farm. The hill was even meant to be a highlight of the Pennine Way, which in the end passed to the east.



Look out for...

What you can see

On a clear day: Pendle Hill, the Bowland moors, Ingleborough, Pen-y-ghent and Great Whernside.



6

Descend by Antley Gate and Oaken Bank. The source calls the descent fairly straightforward, with some quite wet sections.

7

Return past Pasture Springs Farm to Trawden.



Fuel stop

- Nothing on the hill: carry water and snacks.
- Trawden Arms on your return: the community-owned village pub, a few minutes from the church.



Countryside Code & safety

- Leave gates as you find them and keep to marked paths unless you are on open access land.
- Don't block gateways or lanes when you park.
- Take your litter home, and bag and bin your dog's poo.
- Dogs: keep them under control and in sight, and on a lead around livestock. On open access land (most of the moorland here) dogs must be on a lead from 1 March to 31 July, and near livestock at any time. If cattle threaten you, let your dog off the lead so you can both get to safety.
- Moorland fires are devastating. No fires or BBQs.

These are real Pennine walks across working farmland and open moor, and the weather can change fast on the tops. Wear waterproof boots, carry a waterproof layer, water and a map (OS Explorer OL21 South Pennines covers Trawden, Wycoller and Boulsworth; OL41 covers Pendle Hill), and tell someone your route. Phone signal can be patchy.

Sources. These directions follow the guides below; check them before you go, as paths, stiles and opening times change.

My Pennines walk report, Boulsworth Hill (11 Oct 2009): <http://www.mypennines.co.uk/south-pennines/walks/111009.html>

Visit Pendle: Brontë Way, Lumb Spout and Coldwell: <https://www.visitpendle.com/whats-on/bronte-way-lumb-spout-and-coldwell-p827080>

Lancs Live: longer 8-mile variant with step-by-step directions: <https://www.lancs.live/whats-on/whats-on-news/lancashire-walk-hidden-gem-waterfall-23737010>

Countryside Code: GOV.UK. Facts checked October 2026.





03 Boulsworth Ridge & Wycoller

the big Trawden day

For walkers who want the full Pennine experience without touching the car. Head out along the lane towards Hollin Hall, then make a stiff climb past the extraordinary Abbot Stone to Lad Law's trig point. From there, follow the wild ridge east among weather-carved gritstone tors and drop to lonely Watersheddles Reservoir on the Yorkshire border. The Brontë Way then leads you down to Wycoller's ruined hall and ancient bridges before the field paths home. Ten glorious miles. Pack a proper lunch.



DISTANCE
10 miles (16.3 km)



TIME
About 6 hours



ASCENT
1,400 ft (424 m)



DIFFICULTY
Moderate: stiff climb; vague ridge path, navigation needed in mist



DOGS
Ladder stiles at Watersheddles: fit dogs that can be lifted



START & PARKING
Near St Mary's church, Trawden (SD911386)

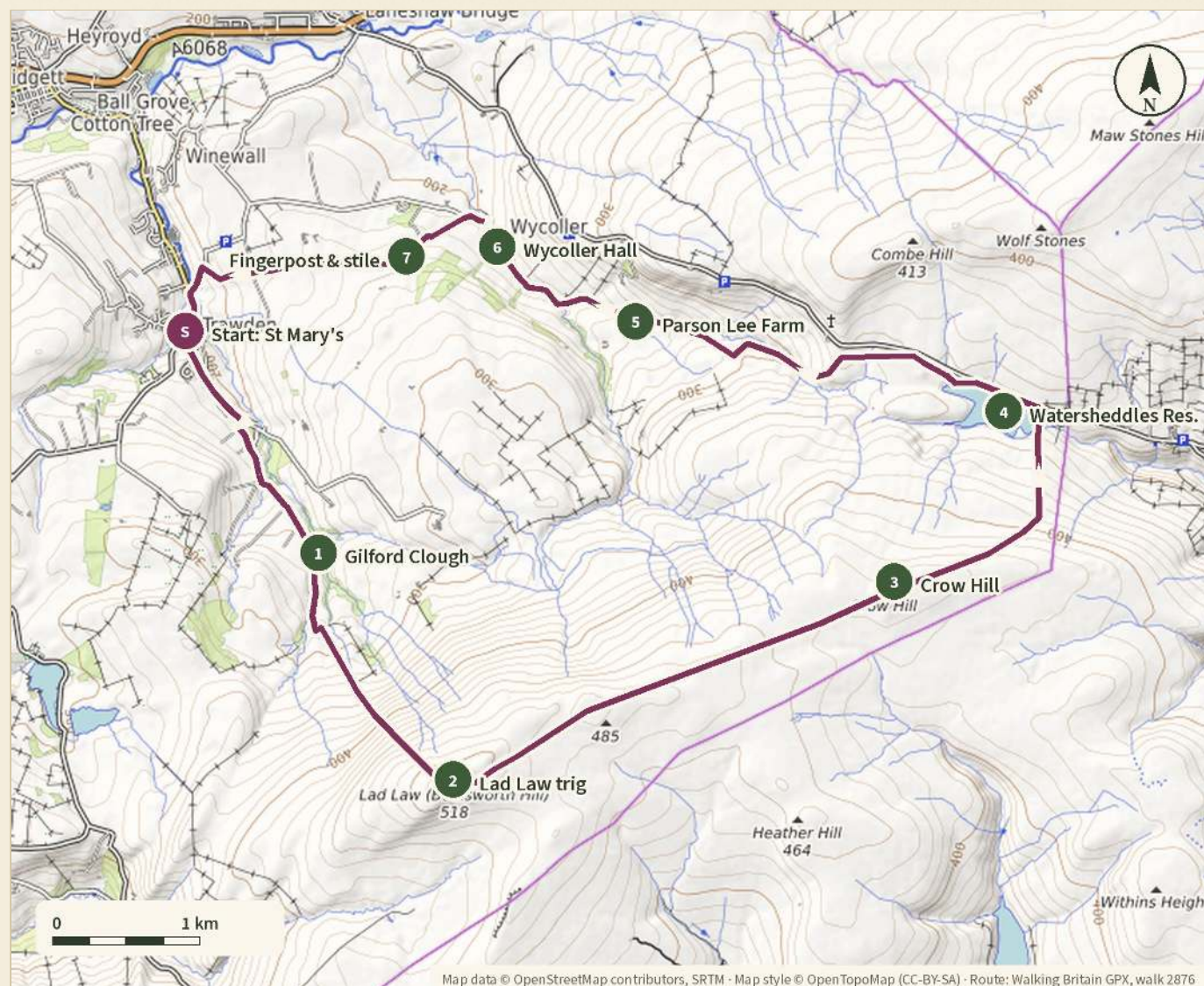


PUB STOP
Wycoller (check) · Trawden Arms (finish)



The map

ROUTE DRAWN FROM GPX



Route line drawn from the source's own GPX file (Walking Britain GPX, walk 2876). Numbered pins match places named in the directions. Still carry the OS map: GPX lines can be a few metres out. Base map: OpenTopoMap · © OpenStreetMap contributors.

Getting there

Walk from the cottage: the start is by St Mary's church in the village. Limited on-street parking if you drive.

Map & kit

OS Explorer OL21 South Pennines. Waterproof boots and layers, water, snacks and a charged phone. Directions below follow the source guide step by step.



The route

STEP BY STEP, FROM THE SOURCE GUIDE

- 1 From beside the church of St Mary the Virgin (SD911386), walk past the church (on your right) and follow the road signed to Hollin Hall. After 700 metres turn right up the access drive to Slack Laithe Farm.
- 2 After 50 metres turn left through a wall gap and cross a field with the wall on your right to a tarmac track at Meadow Bottom Farm. Walk between the farm buildings and continue south for nearly a kilometre to the buildings at Gilford Clough (SD920371).
- 3 Continue ahead on the signed footpath, which climbs a field to the Pennine Bridleway. Go straight across and start the stiff climb onto the ridge. After crossing a stile, the path climbs to the Abbot Stone, then on uphill to the OS trig column on Lad Law.

Look out for...

The Abbot Stone

A big upright slab of gritstone standing on the climb to the ridge. From the trig point on Lad Law (518 m by the source) the panorama is a full 360 degrees.



- 4 Cross the nearby stile and turn left along the fence. Take time to explore the summit area and its weathered outcrops: the Weather Stones and the Little and Great Saucer Stones.
- 5 Follow the broad ridge east-north-east on a vague path to Crow Hill (SD959369). Keep the same direction downhill for a kilometre to steeper, rough ground, then head down aiming for the right-hand end of Watersheddles Reservoir and a wall gap.

Look out for...

Saucers and weather stones

The tors along the ridge have been carved by wind and rain into extraordinary shapes. Watersheddles Reservoir sits right on the Lancashire–Yorkshire border.



- 6 Cross the dam and turn left along the Brontë Way over a ladder stile. Continue beside the water to a second ladder stile and turn left. Cross a track and continue parallel to the road (on your left) through a kissing gate onto a clear track (SD956384).
- 7 Turn left and follow the track as it bends right. Just after the next left-hand bend, turn right through a gate/stile along another track (SD949385). After 700 metres pass to the right of Parson Lee Farm to join a track (Keighley Road), which soon improves and runs beside Wycoller Beck into Wycoller.
- 8 Pass the remains of Wycoller Hall on your right and cross the two-arch bridge over the beck. Continue through the village and follow the road as it bends left over the beck. At the next right-hand bend, turn left over the stile to the right of a metal gate. Head half-right across two fields and pass to the left of Bracken Hill farm.

Look out for...

Wycoller's bridges

The two-arch bridge is the packhorse bridge, Sallie's Brig, built before 1550. The ruined hall beside it is said to be Ferndean Manor in Jane Eyre.



- 9 The path heads south-west to a fingerpost and stile (SD926391). Continue with a wall on your left, cross a track, pass through a gap, then head half-right across the field to a stile and a track. Cross into the field opposite and head half-right. Continue across the next field with a wall on your right, then between walls through Higher Stunstead Farm.



*Look out for...**A Christmas Eve tree*

Close by is Stunstead House, home of the Midgeley family from 1694 until 1869. There was an old belief that a tree at Stunstead would blossom on Christmas Eve.

10

Go straight across a track and follow a narrow track between walls into Stunstead Road. Continue downhill to Keighley Road and turn left into Trawden. At the B6250 bear left uphill, pass the Trawden Arms and continue uphill to the church.

**Fuel stop**

- Wycoller: older guides mention a café and tea rooms in the hamlet, but Wycoller's tearooms have closed in recent years. Check before you rely on it and pack a picnic. The Old Rock Café & Cake Shop on Keighley Road, Trawden, is a sure bet on the way home.
- Trawden Arms (finish): you pass it on the last stretch back to the church.

**Countryside Code & safety**

- Leave gates as you find them and keep to marked paths unless you are on open access land.
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Sources. These directions follow the guides below; check them before you go, as paths, stiles and opening times change.

Walking Britain, Walk 2876: Boulsworth Hill & Wycoller from Trawden (Lou Johnson): <https://www.walkingbritain.co.uk/walk-2876-description>

Walking Britain GPX (route used for this map): <https://www.walkingbritain.co.uk/walk-2876-gps>

Countryside Code: GOV.UK. Facts checked October 2026.





04 Coldwell, Bedding Hill Moor & Wycoller

a big moorland round with no summit to slog up

Follow the Pendle Way out of Trawden to the Coldwell reservoirs, which shine below Boulsworth's long flank, then pick up the Brontë Way across Deerstone and Will Moors. It's wide, quiet, big-sky country. The descent off Bedding Hill Moor brings you down to Dean House Farm and into Wycoller, with its packhorse bridge, before the last fields back to the cottage.

 **DISTANCE**
7½ miles (12 km)

 **TIME**
About 4 hours

 **ASCENT**
1,076 ft (328 m)

 **DIFFICULTY**
Moderate: one (avoidable) steep climb

 **DOGS**
Moorland and farmland with sheep

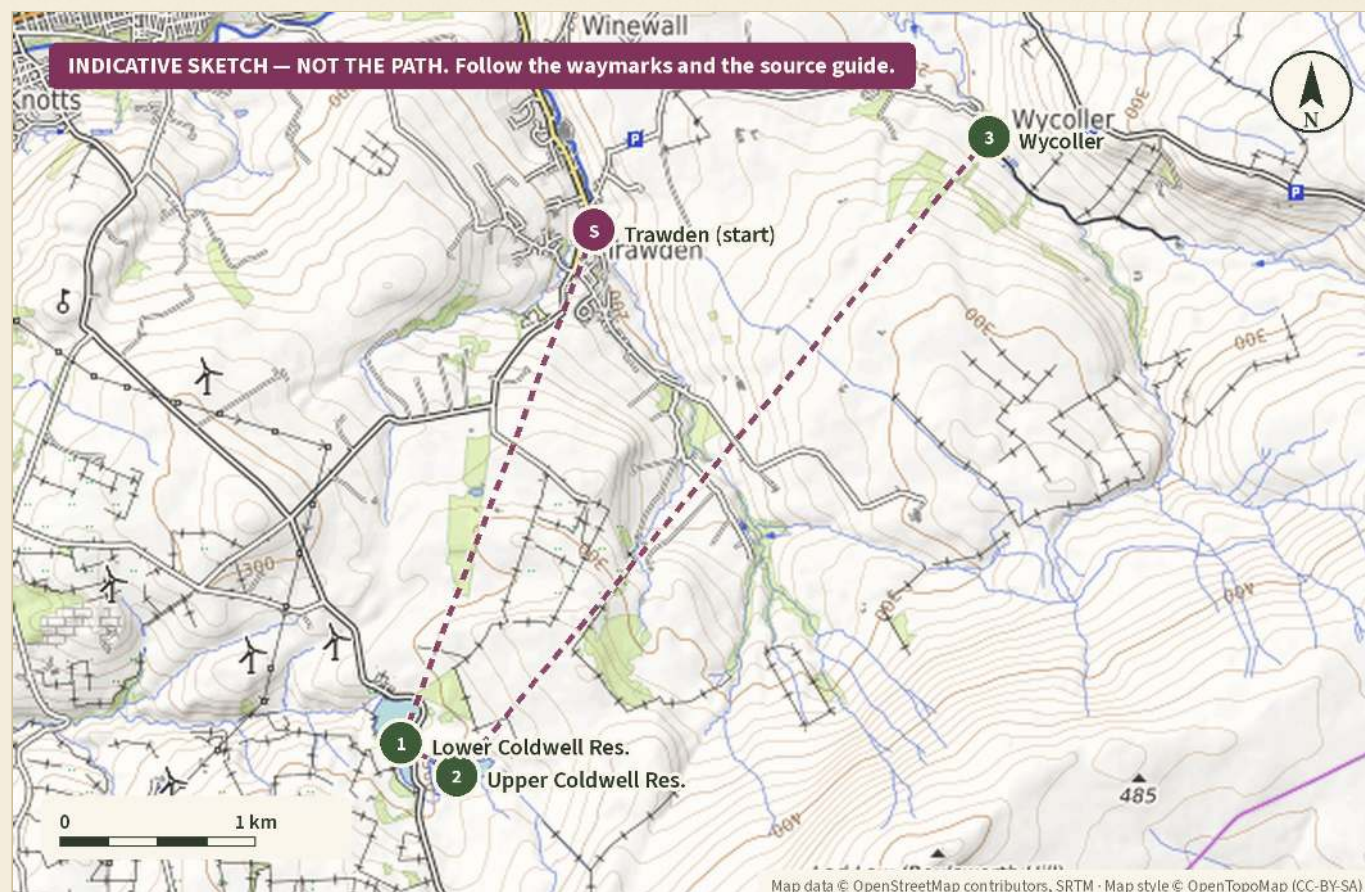
 **START & PARKING**
Trawden village

 **PUB STOP**
Wycoller (check) · Trawden on your return



The map

INDICATIVE SKETCH



Indicative only: this is not the path. The pins show where the main places named in the route sit (positions from OpenStreetMap), and the dotted line shows the order you reach them. Follow the waymarks, OS Explorer OL21 and the source guide. Base map: OpenTopoMap · © OpenStreetMap contributors.

Getting there

Walk from the cottage: the route starts and ends in Trawden village.

Map & kit

OS Explorer OL21 South Pennines. Waterproof boots and layers, water, snacks and a charged phone. The source gives a route outline only, so the map and waymarks matter here.

The route

ROUTE OUTLINE

go4awalk publishes this route as a place-name outline; its detailed PDF and GPX need an account, so these notes stay at outline level. Use OS Explorer OL21 (or Landranger 103) and follow the waymarks: the Pendle Way's black witch and the Brontë Way's named posts.

1

Leave Trawden on the Pendle Way.

Look out for...

Two long-distance trails

The Pendle Way is a 45-mile (72 km) circular path from Barrowford, waymarked with a black witch. The Brontë Way runs 40 miles (64 km) from Gawthorpe Hall in Lancashire to Oakwell Hall in West Yorkshire.



2

Pass Lower Coldwell Reservoir, then Upper Coldwell Reservoir.

Spring Cottage, Trawden · **Book direct and avoid third-party booking fees**

Sleeps 4 · dogs welcome · walks from the door · thespringcottage.co.uk/book · hello@thespringcottage.co.uk

scan to book
direct



*Look out for...**No pub at Coldwell*

The old Coldwell Inn by the reservoirs is now Coldwell Activity Centre, a charity-run group-accommodation centre, not a public café or pub. Take a picnic.

3

Cross Deerstone Moor and join the Brontë Way.

4

Continue over Will Moor and down Will Moor Clough, then onto Bedding Hill Moor.

5

Come down by Saucer Hill Clough to Dean House Farm and into Wycollier.

*Look out for...**Into Wycollier*

Wycollier was a busy hand-loom weaving community in the late 1700s, emptied as weavers left for the mills, and by the 1890s was almost deserted. Lancashire County Council bought the village in 1973.

6

Return over the fields by Bracken Hill to Trawden.

Feeling energetic? go4awalk's sister route (I105) adds the Lad Law summit: 9 miles, 533 m of ascent, about 5 hours.

**Fuel stop**

- Take a picnic: there is nothing at the reservoirs.
- Wycollier: older guides mention a café and tea rooms in the hamlet, but Wycollier's tearooms have closed in recent years. Check before you rely on it and pack a picnic. The Old Rock Café & Cake Shop on Keighley Road, Trawden, is a sure bet on the way home.
- Trawden Arms back in the village.

**Countryside Code & safety**

- Leave gates as you find them and keep to marked paths unless you are on open access land.
- Don't block gateways or lanes when you park.
- Take your litter home, and bag and bin your dog's poo.
- Dogs: keep them under control and in sight, and on a lead around livestock. On open access land (most of the moorland here) dogs must be on a lead from 1 March to 31 July, and near livestock at any time. If cattle threaten you, let your dog off the lead so you can both get to safety.
- Moorland fires are devastating. No fires or BBQs.

These are real Pennine walks across working farmland and open moor, and the weather can change fast on the tops. Wear waterproof boots, carry a waterproof layer, water and a map (OS Explorer OL21 South Pennines covers Trawden, Wycollier and Boulsworth; OL41 covers Pendle Hill), and tell someone your route. Phone signal can be patchy.

Sources. These directions follow the guides below; check them before you go, as paths, stiles and opening times change.

go4awalk, walk I119: Bedding Hill Moor and Wycollier from Trawden: <https://go4awalk.com/walks/walk-search/walk.php?walk=I119>

Coldwell Activity Centre (status of the old inn): <https://coldwell.org.uk/>

Countryside Code: GOV.UK. Facts checked October 2026.





05 Winewall & Laneshaw Bridge

a gentle, history-packed circular

A gentle loop through the farmland on Trawden's doorstep, with old farmhouses, drystone walls and a story at every turn. You'll pass the church whose young curate proposed to Charlotte Brontë (she said no), an old poor house, the house where a tree was said to blossom every Christmas Eve, and the little Inghamite chapel at Winewall where 700 came to hear a firebrand preacher in 1755.

 **DISTANCE**
5¾ miles
(short
version 4½)

 **TIME**
2 to 4 hours

 **ASCENT**
Not stated by the source

 **DIFFICULTY**
Easy to moderate: 'a
more gentle walk',
some stiles

 **DOGS**
The leaflet
asks for
dogs on a
lead

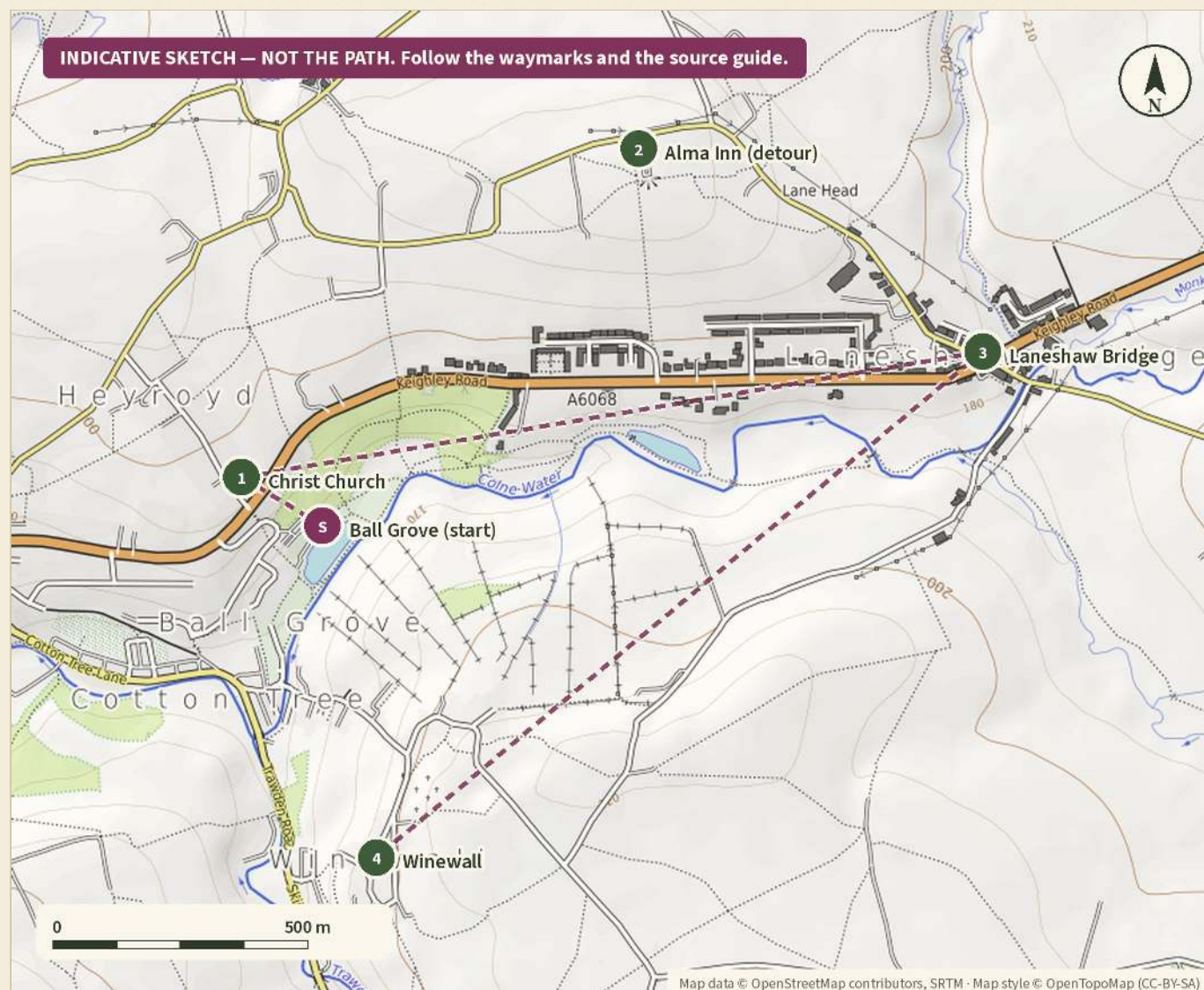
 **START & PARKING**
Lower car park, Ball Grove Park, Colne (or join on foot at
Winewall)

 **PUB STOP**
Alma Inn · Emmott
Arms · Lakeside
Café



The map

INDICATIVE SKETCH



Indicative only: this is not the path. The pins show where the main places named in the route sit (positions from OpenStreetMap), and the dotted line shows the order you reach them. Follow the waymarks, OS Explorer OL21 and the source guide. Base map: OpenTopoMap · © OpenStreetMap contributors.

Getting there

Drive to Ball Grove Park car park, Colne. Or walk from the cottage and join the loop at Winewall (BB8 8EN), on the edge of Trawden: step 9 runs through it.

Map & kit

OS Explorer OL21 South Pennines. Waterproof boots and layers, water, snacks and a charged phone. Directions below follow the source guide step by step.

Spring Cottage, Trawden · **Book direct and avoid third-party booking fees**

Sleeps 4 · dogs welcome · walks from the door · thespringcottage.co.uk/book · hello@thespringcottage.co.uk

scan to book
direct



The route

STEP BY STEP, FROM THE SOURCE GUIDE

- 1 From the lower car park at Ball Grove, take the path past the play area and bear right past the houses. Turn left up the steps, a grass slope and more steps to reach Keighley Road.

Look out for...

From mill to nature reserve

Ball Grove Mill was built in the 1780s as a water-powered spinning mill and grew into a 15-acre tannery run by the Sagar brothers. It closed in 1970, and the site is now a park and Local Nature Reserve.



- 2 Cross and go up Bents Lane, passing Christ Church. Where the road bends, continue left on the track; at the first field turn right to reach Skipton Old Road. Cross the road and turn right. Take the signposted path on the left, past the houses and through a field. Head to the left of the trees and continue to the road.

Look out for...

Charlotte said no

Christ Church was built in 1836. Its first curate, the Rev. David Pryce, met Charlotte Brontë in August 1839 and proposed; she declined. The church was caught up in the weavers' riots of 1840, when its railings were torn out by a mob marching on Colne.



- 3 Cross and go a short distance down the drive to Lower Clough. Take the path on your right through a gap in the hedge. Pass a garden, cross two fields, then turn left over a footbridge. Head slightly right to a stone bridge and gate, then go uphill on the same line through a gate to Moss Houses. Just right of the wall the path continues between the buildings. At the fingerpost turn right, and keep right until you reach the ford.

- 4 Take the stone bridge on your right, then the path left, and cross the road to the golf course. Cross it following the marker posts to a bridge over a wide ditch. Continue across the fields to the farmyard of Near Salter Syke Farm. Bear left through the yard and across fields to the farmyard of Far Salter Syke Farm. Go through the yard and turn right down the farm track.

- 5 Turn left at the road, then immediately right onto Long Lane. After 200 metres turn left down the drive towards Flass. Just before the farmyard bear right into the field. Keep the fence on your left and turn left at the gate (or take the path right to stop at the Alma Inn), down to a gate in the wall. Bear half right through the next field. Turn left down to a boardwalk and footbridge, then go through a wooden stile and a stone one. Go down a short slope, cross the ditch, turn right at a stile and follow the Pendle Way down to Laneshaw Bridge.

Look out for...

The poor house at Flass

Built in the 1820s, Flass poor house took in the aged and infirm when hard times hit Colne's weavers. It could hold 90 people and had 24 looms.



- 6 At Keighley Road turn right, then left down School Lane. Go over the bridge and turn right into Carriers Row.

- 7 Short walk: after the houses on your left, turn right through a gap stile and follow the footpath along Colne Water back to the start. Full walk: continue up the lane for a further 300 metres, then turn left at the footpath sign over a stone stile. Continue up to a field gate, then turn right to the next stile, then go diagonally left to Slack Farm. Go through the courtyard and on past the houses, part way down the drive. At the marker post go diagonally right to the road.



8

Cross and go up the drive of Great Thorn Edge to a signpost. Turn sharp right, following the signs to Trawden. Continue through the yard of Higher Stunstead Farm and on to Stunstead House. Turn right over a wooden stile to the road.

Look out for...

Stunstead's Christmas tree

Stunstead House was the home of the Midgeley family from 1694 to 1869. An old belief held that a tree here would blossom on Christmas Eve.



9

Go left down the road, then turn right at the sharp bend onto a bridleway. Follow it past Well Head (on the left) and the old Inghamite Chapel (on the right), and on through Winewall. At the road, turn left back down to the start.

Look out for...

Well Head and the chapel

In 1914 the Well Head water supply was at the centre of a typhoid outbreak: 28 cases and four deaths. Just along the bridleway, 700 people came to hear the preacher Benjamin Ingham at Winewall's chapel in 1755. Winewall itself dates back to at least 1260 as a vaccary, or cattle farm.



Fuel stop

- Alma Inn, Laneshaw Bridge (short detour at step 5): country inn; dogs on a lead welcome in the bar, not the restaurant.
- Emmott Arms, Laneshaw Bridge: AA Rosette pub; dogs in certain rooms (say when booking).
- Lakeside Café, Ball Grove (start/finish): homemade breakfasts, soups and cakes by the lake.



Countryside Code & safety

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- Moorland fires are devastating. No fires or BBQs.

These are real Pennine walks across working farmland and open moor, and the weather can change fast on the tops. Wear waterproof boots, carry a waterproof layer, water and a map (OS Explorer OL21 South Pennines covers Trawden, Wycoller and Boulsworth; OL41 covers Pendle Hill), and tell someone your route. Phone signal can be patchy.

Sources. These directions follow the guides below; check them before you go, as paths, stiles and opening times change.

Place Pendle, Winewall Circular Walk (print-friendly PDF): <https://placependle.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/Winewall-print-friendly-1.pdf>

Countryside Code: GOV.UK. Facts checked October 2026.





06 The Wycoller Panopticon Walk

Atom, Foster's Leap and the ancient bridges

The perfect hour for small legs. Start inside Atom, a strange, beautiful pod perched above the valley, where each round window frames a different view and a hidden steel ball reflects the whole landscape back at you. Then follow a narrow path past Foster's Leap, where a daredevil Cunliffe is said to have jumped a rocky chasm, and down past waterfalls to Wycoller's prehistoric Clam Bridge and the willow tunnel.



DISTANCE
2.5 km (just
over 1½ miles)



TIME
About 1 hour



ASCENT
Not stated by the source



DIFFICULTY
Easy, but a very narrow
path in places



DOGS
Ladder stile
and a private
garden: dogs
on leads



START & PARKING
Haworth Road car park, Wycoller Country Park (by
Atom)



PUB STOP
Wycoller tea rooms (check)



The map

INDICATIVE SKETCH



Indicative only: this is not the path. The pins show where the main places named in the route sit (positions from OpenStreetMap), and the dotted line shows the order you reach them. Follow the waymarks, OS Explorer OL21 and the source guide. Base map: OpenTopoMap · © OpenStreetMap contributors.

Getting there

From Laneshaw Bridge, take the minor road signposted Haworth; after about 2 miles turn into the Wycoller Country Park car park on the right. About 1.5 miles straight-line from Trawden.

Map & kit

OS Explorer OL21 South Pennines. Waterproof boots and layers, water, snacks and a charged phone. Directions below follow the source guide step by step.



The route

STEP BY STEP, FROM THE SOURCE GUIDE

- 1 From the Haworth Road car park, take the short meandering path downhill to the large entrance in the side of Atom, and look out of each of its windows.

Look out for...

Atom: a panopticon for Pendle

Designed by Peter Meacock with Katarina Novomestska and Architecture Central Workshop, Atom is made of ferro-cement with a metal-based paint. Inside, a polished steel ball reflects the views. One window looks to Foster's Leap and Parson Lee; another to Raven's Rock with Boulsworth beyond; a third to Walton's Cross on the skyline (its spire added in 1835 by the Rev. Walton); and the last to Pendle Hill in all its glory.



- 2 The walk proper begins at a waymarked post between the car park and Atom, where a footpath runs along the side of the valley towards Foster's Leap. The path is very narrow and soon divides: take the right-hand path, down towards the farmhouse and former barn of Foster's Leap Farm. From the second kissing gate there's a good view of Foster's Leap Rock above the sycamores by the barn.

Look out for...

Foster's Leap

The rock is mentioned in Colne church records of 1714. It's believed to be named after Foster Cunliffe, a relative of the Cunliffes of Wycoller Hall who claimed King Charles II as his godfather, and who made a daring (some would say insane) jump across the gap onto the top of the rock.



- 3 You enter the garden of Foster's Leap Barn. It is private property: cross the lawn on the route shown by the yellow waymark arrow to join the metalled road linking the barn with the farmhouse further down the valley side.
- 4 Next to the farmhouse is a gate. Enter the field, follow the wall to the left and cross into the next field by the ladder stile (the gateway beside it is usually open).
- 5 Two more posts show the right of way downhill to a footbridge over the stream next to Parson Lee Farm, an 18th-century farmhouse. By a stile at the end of the barn there's a great view back to Atom.
- 6 Walk down the farm track, past waterfalls and fine larch and beech trees, to Water Meetings, where two streams unite to form Wycoller Beck. A short way downstream the beck is crossed by the prehistoric Clam Bridge.

Look out for...

Water Meetings

Look for the waterfalls and the larch and beech on the way down. Seven small bridges cross Wycoller Beck; the Clam Bridge, a single great slab, is the oldest.



- 7 Beyond the Clam Bridge is Copy House Bridge, rebuilt in 1992. Choose between the live willow tunnel in the Conservation Area, or the picnic area with its duck pond to the Old Coach Road behind the Aisled Barn visitor centre.

Look out for...

Willow sculptures

Local people worked with professional artists to make a series of willow structures here, including a life-size horse and rider. Wycoller has been a conservation area since 1973.



8

Either way, follow the old road uphill to the Haworth Road car park, where the walk began.



Fuel stop

- The 2008 leaflet recommends the Wycoller Craft Centre & Tea Rooms. Wycoller's tearooms have closed in recent years, so check before you go and bring a snack.
- Old Rock Café & Cake Shop, Keighley Road, Trawden: the village café, on your way back to the cottage.



Countryside Code & safety

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- Moorland fires are devastating. No fires or BBQs.

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Sources. These directions follow the guides below; check them before you go, as paths, stiles and opening times change.

Place Pendle, The Wycoller Panopticon Walk (leaflet, 2008): https://placependle.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/Wycoller_Panopticon_Walk-5.pdf

Countryside Code: GOV.UK. Facts checked October 2026.





07 Wycoller Country Park Circular

the hamlet that time forgot

Wycoller is a hamlet that time forgot, and this easy loop shows it off beautifully. Wander the beck past the ruined Elizabethan hall that Charlotte Brontë is said to have used for Ferndean Manor, then cross some of the ancient bridges, from a single slab of stone to the humped packhorse bridge. A gentle climb brings you up onto the fell for views across to Pendle Hill before you drop back down to the hamlet. Dogs will love the shallow, sparkling beck.



DISTANCE
6.4 km (4 miles)



TIME
About 2 hours



ASCENT
About 131 m



DIFFICULTY
Easy: gradual climb, rougher on the moor



DOGS
Rated 8/10 by the Wildpack Collective; sheep, so mostly on lead



START & PARKING
Wycoller Country Park car park, Wycoller Road, BB8 8SY (free)

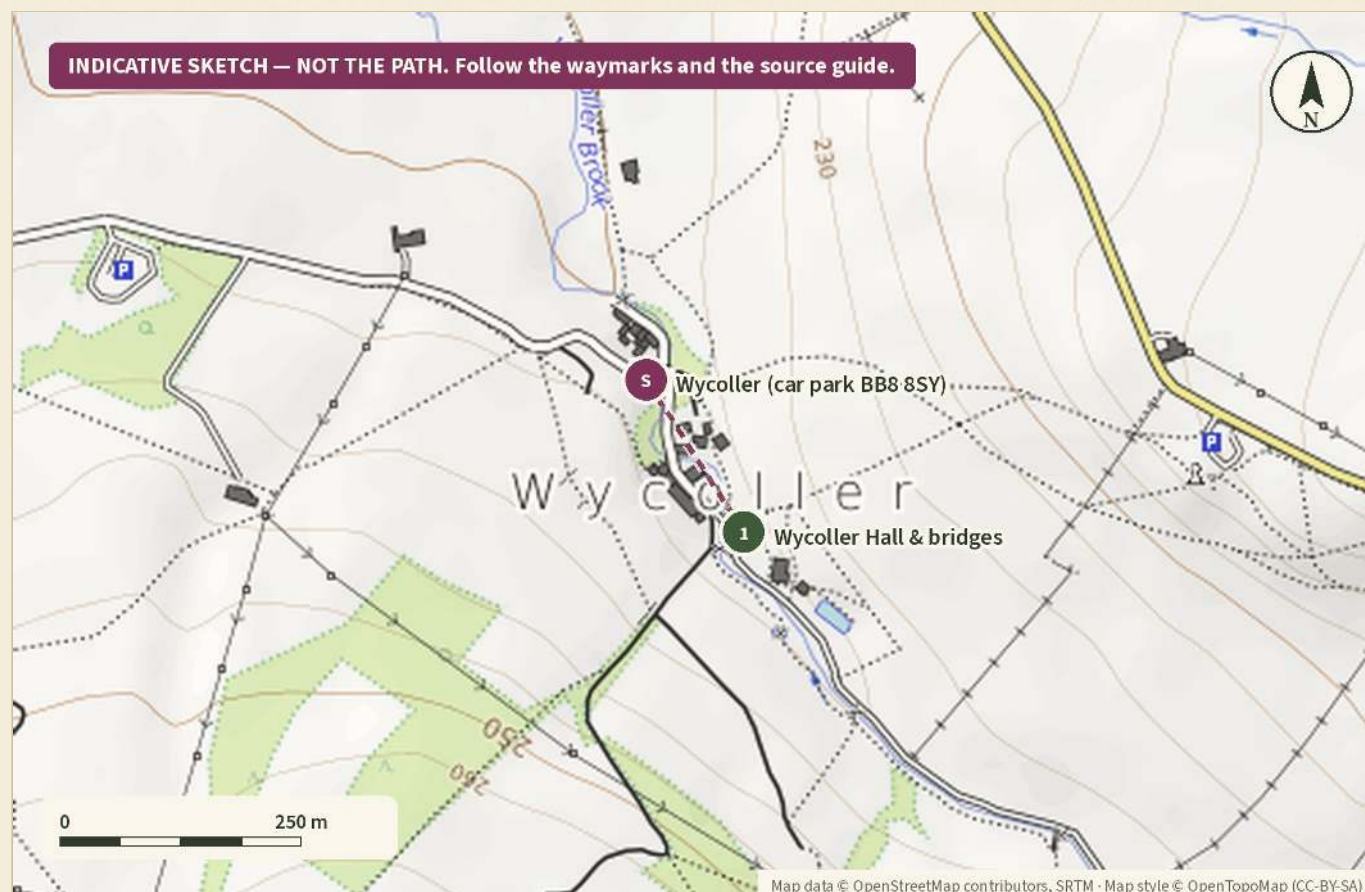


PUB STOP
Wycoller (check) · Old Rock Café, Trawden



The map

INDICATIVE SKETCH



Indicative only: this is not the path. The pins show where the main places named in the route sit (positions from OpenStreetMap), and the dotted line shows the order you reach them. Follow the waymarks, OS Explorer OL21 and the source guide. Base map: OpenTopoMap · © OpenStreetMap contributors.

Getting there

About 2 miles by road from Trawden (around 10 minutes), or walk it from the cottage on Walk 1.

Map & kit

OS Explorer OL21 South Pennines. Waterproof boots and layers, water, snacks and a charged phone. The source gives a route outline only, so the map and waymarks matter here.

The route

ROUTE OUTLINE

The source describes the shape of the loop rather than every turn, so these notes stay at that level. Use OS Explorer OL21 and the country park's own waymarks and visitor information.

- 1 Start at the free Wycoller Country Park car park on Wycoller Road (toilets here) and walk into the hamlet.
- 2 Follow the beck along the valley floor, past the ruined hall and the old bridges.

Look out for...

The hall and its fireplace

Wycoller Hall was built by the Hartley family in the 16th century; its grand fireplace survives. It was used to illustrate an 1898 edition of *Jane Eyre*.



*Look out for...**Seven bridges*

Seven bridges cross Wycoller Beck, among them the single-slab Clam Bridge (possibly over a thousand years old), the Clapper Bridge and the twin-arched Packhorse Bridge.

3

Climb gently onto the open fell, with views across to Pendle Hill.

*Look out for...**For the dogs*

The beck runs clear and shallow over stone, with lots of easy paddling spots. Sheep graze both valley and fell, so expect leads on for most of the walk.

4

Come back down through rougher moorland to the hamlet and the car park.

**Fuel stop**

- Wycoller: older guides mention a café and tea rooms in the hamlet, but Wycoller's tearooms have closed in recent years. Check before you rely on it and pack a picnic. The Old Rock Café & Cake Shop on Keighley Road, Trawden, is a sure bet on the way home.
- Toilets and a visitor centre at the country park.

**Countryside Code & safety**

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- Moorland fires are devastating. No fires or BBQs.

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Sources. These directions follow the guides below; check them before you go, as paths, stiles and opening times change.

The Wildpack Collective, Wycoller Country Park Circular: <https://wildpackcollective.com/walk/wycoller-country-park-circular/>

AllTrails, The Forest of Trawden (hall details): <https://www.alltrails.com/en-gb/trail/england/lancashire/the-forest-of-trawden>

Wikipedia, Wycoller Hall: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wycoller_Hall

Countryside Code: GOV.UK. Facts checked October 2026.





08 Ball Grove & the East Colne Way

a toddler favourite, with a five-mile option

A rainy-day saviour and a toddler favourite. Ball Grove was once a mill and tannery, and it's now a peaceful nature reserve, with a pond, a play area and riverside paths along Colne Water, and a café for hot chocolate afterwards. For a longer walk, the five-mile East Colne Way heads up past the Hartley jam family's almshouses and on by Noyna Hill and The Rough, where curlews call in spring, before looping back via Foulridge Upper Reservoir.



DISTANCE

Park loop 2.4 km · East Colne Way 5 miles



TIME

30–60 min · 2–3 hours



ASCENT

Not stated by the sources



DIFFICULTY

Park loop easy · longer loop has farmyards and stiles



DOGS

Leads on the East Colne Way; curlews nest at The Rough in spring



START & PARKING

Ball Grove Park car park, Grove Drive, Colne, BB8 7HY



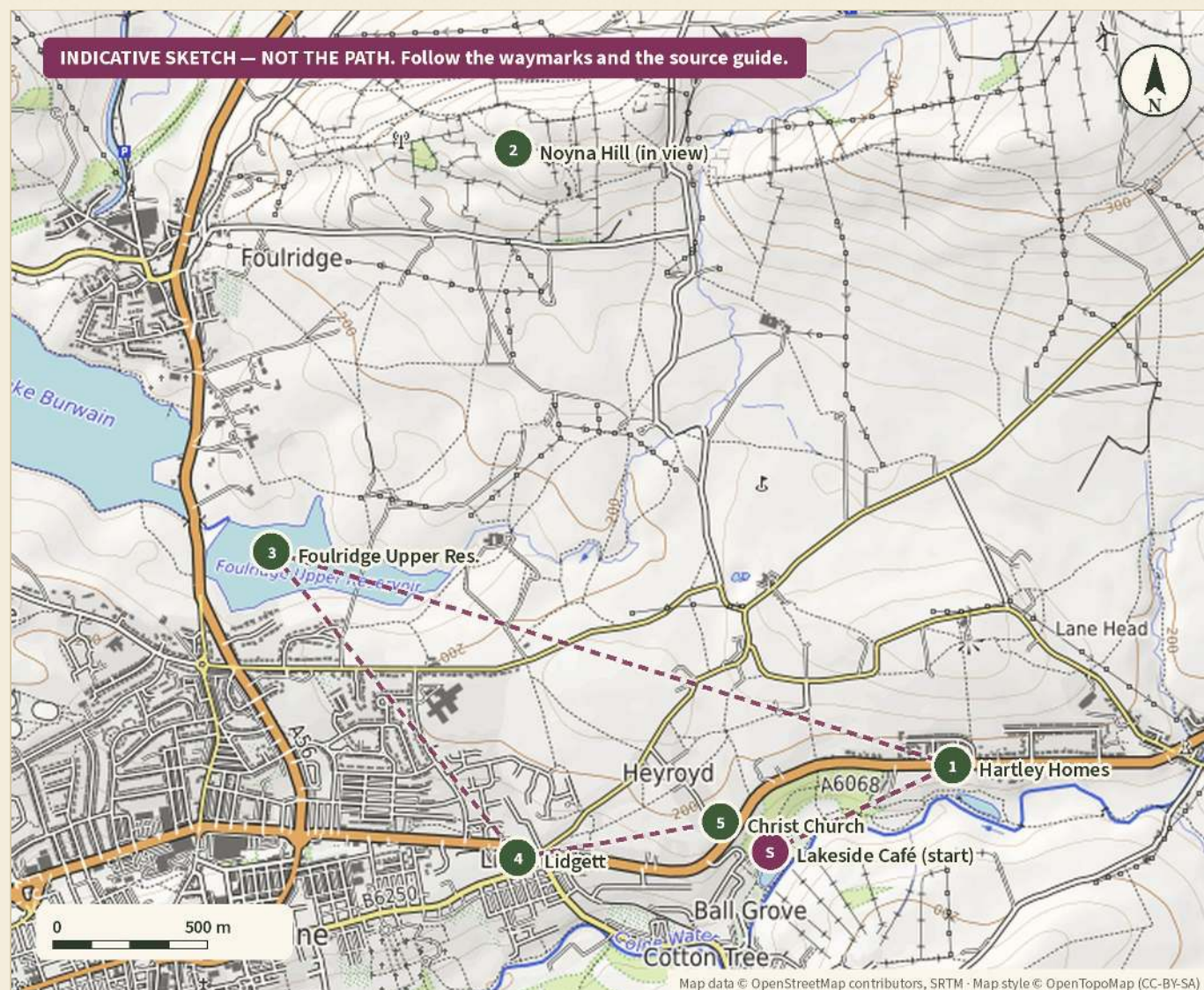
PUB STOP

Lakeside Café, Ball Grove



The map

INDICATIVE SKETCH



Indicative only: this is not the path. The pins show where the main places named in the route sit (positions from OpenStreetMap), and the dotted line shows the order you reach them. Follow the waymarks, OS Explorer OL21 and the source guide. Base map: OpenTopoMap · © OpenStreetMap contributors.

Getting there

Ball Grove Park car park, Grove Drive, Colne BB8 7HY. About 2.5 miles by road from the cottage (around 8 minutes).

Map & kit

OS Explorer OL21 South Pennines. Waterproof boots and layers, water, snacks and a charged phone. Directions below follow the source guide step by step.



The route

STEP BY STEP, FROM THE SOURCE GUIDE

Short and easy: the Ball Grove Park circular (2.4 km, 30 minutes to an hour) simply loops the park, with benches and a play area; paths can be muddy after rain. The directions below are for the longer East Colne Way, from the Friends of Ball Grove leaflet.

- 1 From the Lakeside Café, take the path to the left with Ball Grove Lake on your right to join the main track. Turn left beside Colne Water to an information board, then bear left up the hill to Keighley Road. Take care crossing to Spring Row cottages. Go right to see Hartley Homes and the Edward VII post box, then retrace your steps and continue along Keighley Road to the Crow Nest bus stop and footpath sign.

Look out for...

Jam, almshouses and a post box

Hartley Homes are 20 Grade II listed almshouses with a central clock tower, given to Colne in 1911 by Sir William Pickles Hartley, founder of Hartley's jam, and Lady Hartley. The wall box by Spring Row Cottages dates from Edward VII's reign (this plainer version, 1901 to 1904).



- 2 Follow the footpath uphill across two rough fields, turn left onto the lane and continue to a gate into a field. Go straight ahead through the next gate. Turn right, then shortly left, and keeping to the slightly higher ground cross the field to a row of cottages. Pass in front of them to the narrow road called Bents and turn right.

- 3 At Skipton Old Road turn right and pass Heyroyd House. Take the waymarked path on the left across the field to a stone stile and continue to Castle Road. Cross and follow the signposted footpath to the stone step stile onto Cockhill Lane.

Look out for...

Heyroyd House

A Grade II listed hall house whose classical front of 1777 was probably added to the back of the original house. Its name is thought to mean 'high road'.



- 4 Turn left, with Colne Golf Course on your right, and continue past the track to Cock Hill Farm to a stone stile. Noyna Hill is in front of you to the north. Take the stile and follow the path to a stone footbridge over Moss Beck, then go on to the lane.

Look out for...

Noyna Rocks

Known locally as 'Noyna', the hill's wide rocky outcrop (122 m) was once a quarry. On summer evenings swallows circle above it.



- 5 Follow the lane bearing left past Moss Houses Farm. At Little Moss House take the waymarked track right to Causeway Top. Go through two gates and yards to the Ragstones Farm track. Through the squeeze stile, follow the field edge parallel to the track down to Whitehouse, round the barn corner and join the track to a small gate on the left. Go straight down the field, then right beside the wall of Lower Clough House, through the small gate, and bear right to a gate in the hedge at the top of the field. Turn left along the track to Brownhill Lane.

- 6 Go downhill and cross Foulridge Upper Reservoir, then uphill to leave the lane by a stone stile on the left. Follow the footpath over three fields to the drive of Lower Clough House. Don't enter the drive: turn right uphill to a gate, join the drive and continue to Castle Road. Cross and follow the footpath sign opposite onto The Rough.



*Look out for...**Curlews on The Rough*

The Rough is what remains of Lob Common. Each spring countless curlews (red-listed by the RSPB) nest on the ground here, and their cry is the soundscape of the place. Keep dogs close.

- 7 Go through the gate and down the field towards an old boundary wall and rough tree line. Cross a small drainage ditch, pass two stone stile posts and keep the tree line and wall on your left as you go downhill. At an old wall and gate post turn left, keeping the ditch on your right. Pass the old Pump House on your left and follow the path down to Skipton Old Road. Turn right towards the historic Lidgett cottages.
- 8 Opposite them, take the footpath and bear left onto the fields known as the Lidgett Triangle. Head for the corner of the hedge, follow it round, then walk straight on with the wall on your right to the stone steps. Continue to the path leading to Bent Lane and turn right past Christ Church to Keighley Road. Cross carefully, go down the steps opposite, turn left at the road and go through the car park back to Ball Grove.

*Look out for...**Weavers' Lidgett*

Lidgett means 'livestock gateway' in Anglo-Saxon. Look for handloom weavers' cottages with pairs of loomshop windows, the 1749 former Lidgett Hall and the Grade II Turnpike House.

**Fuel stop**

- Lakeside Café, Ball Grove: set up in 2015 by cake-maker Tracey Bolton; homemade breakfasts, soups and afternoon teas, with a playground beside it.

**Countryside Code & safety**

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- Take your litter home, and bag and bin your dog's poo.
- Dogs: keep them under control and in sight, and on a lead around livestock. On open access land (most of the moorland here) dogs must be on a lead from 1 March to 31 July, and near livestock at any time. If cattle threaten you, let your dog off the lead so you can both get to safety.
- Moorland fires are devastating. No fires or BBQs.

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Sources. These directions follow the guides below; check them before you go, as paths, stiles and opening times change.

Friends of Ball Grove / Place Pendle, East Colne Way leaflet: <https://placependle.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/East-Colne-Way-Leaflet-A4.pdf>

AllTrails, Ball Grove Park Circular: <https://www.alltrails.com/en-gb/trail/england/lancashire/ball-grove-park-circular>

Countryside Code: GOV.UK. Facts checked October 2026.





09 Foulridge Reservoirs

Lake Burwain and the Upper Reservoir

A flat, friendly loop that's ideal for families and easy-going dogs. Lake Burwain was dug in 1793 to keep the Leeds & Liverpool Canal topped up, and today it's home to a sailing club, grebes and coots, with reed buntings singing in the margins. The path mixes waterside and field edges, with plenty of spots for a picnic.

 **DISTANCE**
5.6 km (3½ miles)

 **TIME**
1 to 1½ hours

 **ASCENT**
58 m

 **DIFFICULTY**
Easy and mostly flat; very muddy when wet

 **DOGS**
Mostly open fields; expect some livestock

 **START & PARKING**
Foulridge: limited roadside parking on a narrow lane

 **PUB STOP**
Foulridge village pubs



The map

INDICATIVE SKETCH



Indicative only: this is not the path. The pins show where the main places named in the route sit (positions from OpenStreetMap), and the dotted line shows the order you reach them. Follow the waymarks, OS Explorer OL21 and the source guide. Base map: OpenTopoMap · © OpenStreetMap contributors.

Getting there

Foulridge is about 2.8 miles straight-line from Trawden, just beyond Colne.

Map & kit

OS Explorer OL21 South Pennines. Waterproof boots and layers, water, snacks and a charged phone. The source gives a route outline only, so the map and waymarks matter here.

The route

ROUTE OUTLINE

AllTrails describes the loop but not each turn, so these notes stay at outline level. Take OS Explorer OL21, keep to the public rights of way and follow the waymarks. Walkers' reviews mention a confusing stretch close to a farm, so keep an eye on the map.

- 1 Park considerably on the lane at the trailhead in Foulridge: roadside parking is very limited and the lane is narrow. The sailing club car park is for members only.
- 2 Walk the circular route around Foulridge Lower Reservoir (Lake Burwain) and the Upper Reservoir, on a mix of waterside and farmland paths.

Look out for...

The canal's reservoir

Lake Burwain was built in 1793 to supply water to the Leeds & Liverpool Canal.



*Look out for...**On the water*

Watch for sailing dinghies, great crested grebes and coots, and listen for reed buntings in the margins.



3

It's mostly flat, with just 58 m of climbing, but very muddy in wet weather. Good boots, please.

**Fuel stop**

- Foulridge has village pubs, for example the Hole in the Wall by the canal wharf.
- Hare & Hounds, Skipton Old Road, Foulridge: Thwaites village pub serving breakfast every day.

**Countryside Code & safety**

- Leave gates as you find them and keep to marked paths unless you are on open access land.
- Don't block gateways or lanes when you park.
- Take your litter home, and bag and bin your dog's poo.
- Dogs: keep them under control and in sight, and on a lead around livestock. On open access land (most of the moorland here) dogs must be on a lead from 1 March to 31 July, and near livestock at any time. If cattle threaten you, let your dog off the lead so you can both get to safety.
- Moorland fires are devastating. No fires or BBQs.

These are real Pennine walks across working farmland and open moor, and the weather can change fast on the tops. Wear waterproof boots, carry a waterproof layer, water and a map (OS Explorer OL21 South Pennines covers Trawden, Wycolter and Boulsworth; OL41 covers Pendle Hill), and tell someone your route. Phone signal can be patchy.

Sources. These directions follow the guides below; check them before you go, as paths, stiles and opening times change.

AllTrails, Foulridge Lower and Upper Reservoirs: <https://www.alltrails.com/en-gb/trail/england/lancashire/foulridge-lower-and-upper-reservoirs>

Countryside Code: GOV.UK. Facts checked October 2026.





10 Mile Tunnel, Blacko Tower & Lake Burwain

canal history, witch country and a folly

Canal history, witch country and a folly tower in one easy six-mile loop. First, a tip: locals say 'Foal-ridge'. Start at the wharf by the mouth of the Mile Tunnel, where bargemen once 'legged' boats through the darkness, and amble along the towpath. Then climb past a working cotton mill and the Fanny Grey pub to a high lane with views to the Dales, pass Blacko Tower, a grocer's folly, and finish along the shore of Lake Burwain.

 **DISTANCE**
6 miles

 **TIME**
About 3 hours

 **ASCENT**
Not stated by the source

 **DIFFICULTY**
Easy

 **DOGS**
Stiles (one tricky), farm dogs and curious young cattle: lead on

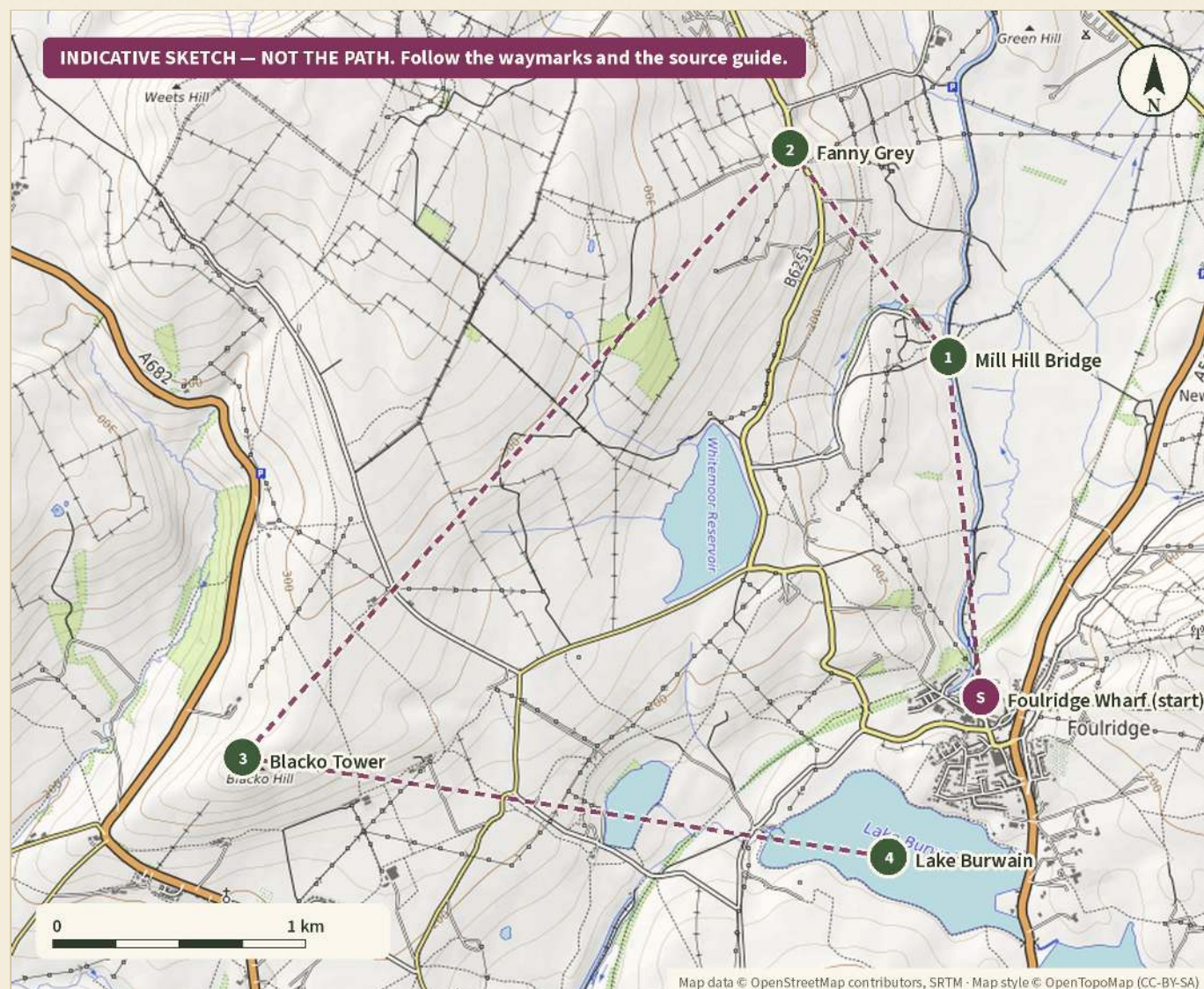
 **START & PARKING**
Foulridge Canal Wharf car park (by the lime kiln)

 **PUB STOP**
Fanny Grey (on route) · Foulridge pubs



The map

INDICATIVE SKETCH



Indicative only: this is not the path. The pins show where the main places named in the route sit (positions from OpenStreetMap), and the dotted line shows the order you reach them. Follow the waymarks, OS Explorer OL21 and the source guide. Base map: OpenTopoMap • © OpenStreetMap contributors.

Getting there

Foulridge Canal Wharf, Warehouse Lane, Foulridge: about 3 miles from the cottage (around 10 minutes by car).

Map & kit

OS Explorer OL21 South Pennines. Waterproof boots and layers, water, snacks and a charged phone. Directions below follow the source guide step by step.



The route

STEP BY STEP, FROM THE SOURCE GUIDE

- 1 From Foulridge Canal Wharf, walk away from the village and the tunnel entrance along the canal towpath for about a mile to the third bridge, Mill Hill Bridge. Cross the bridge and ignore the footpath sign pointing right through the canalside meadow. Instead, walk up the field towards the mill and go through the gate into the mill yard.

Look out for...

Legging the Mile Tunnel

The wharf sits at the eastern end of the Foulridge 'Mile Tunnel' (1,630 yards, says Wikipedia). It has no towpath, so barges 'legged' boats through, lying on their backs and walking along the tunnel roof while the horses were walked over the hill. Local legend says a cow once fell in and swam the whole tunnel, to be revived with brandy at the far end.



- 2 Walk up past the mill and into the access road. Follow it until it bends left. Keep ahead there, dropping down to cross a footbridge over a stream. Walk up the other side, keeping to the left of the field, go through the gate, then across a narrow field to a stile. Keep ahead past farm buildings on the right, through two more stiles to a field gate. Don't go through the gate: turn left and walk up the wall side to the road.
- 3 Turn right at the road, walk past the Fanny Grey pub and immediately turn left up a track. Continue up it to pass a farm on the right, immediately before the gate. Go through the gate and up the walled green track to another gate and stile. From here head slightly right to a gate on the skyline, and beyond it join a moorland track to a gate into Lister Well Road (a walled lane).
- 4 Turn left on Lister Well Road and stay with it for about a mile until it meets Gisburn Old Road. Go left and walk on past the farm (Peel's House) and pond on the right, to follow a footpath sign to the right. Over a stile, go left and walk on with the wall, and soon trees, on your left to cross another stile. Keep ahead to another stile, just beyond a waymark post near the left-hand corner of a large field, with Blacko Tower a couple of hundred yards away to the right over a wall.

Look out for...

The tower that was too short

Blacko Tower (properly Stansfield Tower) was built in 1890 by local grocer and landowner Jonathan Stansfield, so he could see into the Ribble Valley. 'I've never drunk nor smoked in my life, so I am making this my hobby,' he said. Sadly it wasn't tall enough.



- 5 Go over this stile and turn right, soon leaving the wall to follow a waymark and treeline downhill. Before the left-most farm building, go sharp left to a sturdy wooden stile and keep ahead to another stile. Keep ahead to a wooden gate into a car park in front of the cottages.

Look out for...

Old Demdike's country

This is Pendle witch country. Malkin Tower was the home of Elizabeth Southernns, 'Old Demdike'; friends of her family met there on Good Friday 1612, and ten people were later hanged after the Lancaster trials. The 2013 article places a holiday cottage near here on its site, though historians say nobody knows exactly where it stood.



- 6 Cross the access track and go through the gate into the field. Keep ahead to another (tricky) stile; over it, head diagonally right down the field to pass the end of the treeline, and continue to a stile in the wall on the left. Again go diagonally down the field, heading to the immediate left of the cottages.



- 7 Cross the road with care and climb the stile opposite. Walk down the left of the field with the hedge on your left for about 100 yards, then go left down steps, cross a stream and climb the other side to a road. Cross and walk in front of the houses into a field. Keep ahead with a wall on your right, through a gateway and across the next field to a stile. Over it, bear right to another stile.
- 8 Pass the house, then turn left through the stile into a tree-lined path. Follow it until it comes out on the driveway of Holly Bush Farm. Continue ahead, passing the entrance to Ball House on the left, until the drive meets the road. Dogleg left to walk up the drive to the sailing club, passing the clubhouse on your right, and join the paved footpath around Foulridge Lower Reservoir.
- 9 Where the footpath eventually narrows, go left over the stile and walk up the field side with a hedge on your left, crossing via a stile so the fence is on your right. Go through the gate just beyond a modern house into a green lane and walk on into a yard. Turn right in the yard, then immediately left to follow a track to the road. Turn right, then left at the junction to return to Foulridge Canal Wharf.

*Look out for...**Lake Burwain*

The paved path follows the shore of Foulridge Lower Reservoir, built in 1793 to feed the canal. The car park lime kiln is said to date from the canal's building.



The source article dates from 2013. Paths, stiles and pubs can change, so carry OS Explorer OL21 and follow the waymarks.

**Fuel stop**

- Fanny Grey: on the route at step 3.
- Foulridge: the Hole in the Wall by the wharf, and the Hare & Hounds on Skipton Old Road (breakfast served every day).

**Countryside Code & safety**

- Leave gates as you find them and keep to marked paths unless you are on open access land.
- Don't block gateways or lanes when you park.
- Take your litter home, and bag and bin your dog's poo.
- Dogs: keep them under control and in sight, and on a lead around livestock. On open access land (most of the moorland here) dogs must be on a lead from 1 March to 31 July, and near livestock at any time. If cattle threaten you, let your dog off the lead so you can both get to safety.
- Moorland fires are devastating. No fires or BBQs.

These are real Pennine walks across working farmland and open moor, and the weather can change fast on the tops. Wear waterproof boots, carry a waterproof layer, water and a map (OS Explorer OL21 South Pennines covers Trawden, Wycoller and Boulsworth; OL41 covers Pendle Hill), and tell someone your route. Phone signal can be patchy.

Sources. These directions follow the guides below; check them before you go, as paths, stiles and opening times change.

Craven Herald, 'Legging it around Foulridge' (2013): <https://www.cravenherald.co.uk/daleslife/walking/10874413.legging-it-around-foulridge/>

Wikipedia, Foulridge Tunnel: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Foulridge_Tunnel

Canal & River Trust, History of the Leeds & Liverpool Canal: <https://canalrivertrust.org.uk/canals-and-rivers/leeds-and-liverpool-canal/history-of-the-leeds-and-liverpool-canal>

Countryside Code: GOV.UK. Facts checked October 2026.





11 Pendle Hill from Barley

the classic circuit

You'll see Pendle from all over the valley, so you may as well climb it. This is the classic circuit: a gentle warm-up past the Ogden reservoirs, then a steady, cairn-marked climb onto the great whaleback summit. On a clear day you can pick out Blackpool Tower, the Lake District and the Yorkshire Three Peaks. Come down the famous stone steps into Barley, where the Pendle Inn and a cosy café wait.

 **DISTANCE**
5 miles (8 km)

 **TIME**
About 2 hours 20 minutes

 **ASCENT**
380 m

 **DIFFICULTY**
Grade 2-C: rugged, with steep climbs; slippery when wet

 **DOGS**
Sheep all year: lead for the whole route; no water on top

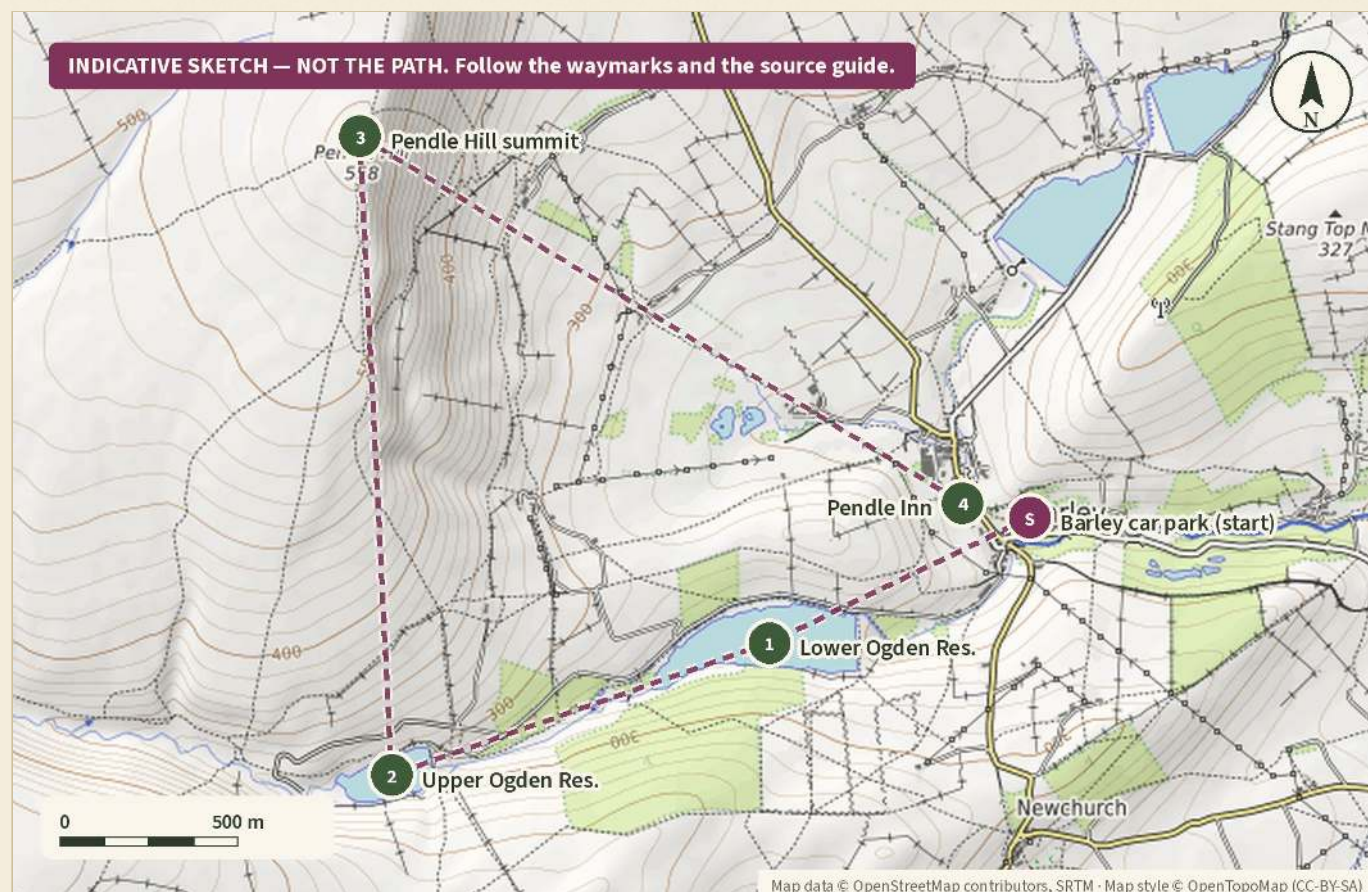
 **START & PARKING**
Pay & display car park, Barley (SD 823 403, BB12 9JX)

 **PUB STOP**
The Cabin · Pendle Inn · Barley Mow



The map

INDICATIVE SKETCH



Indicative only: this is not the path. The pins show where the main places named in the route sit (positions from OpenStreetMap), and the dotted line shows the order you reach them. Follow the waymarks, OS Explorer OL41 and the source guide. Base map: OpenTopoMap · © OpenStreetMap contributors.

Getting there

Barley is about 7 miles from the cottage (allow 20 to 25 minutes on narrow lanes). The car park gets busy at weekends and bank holidays; check the current parking charge on arrival.

Map & kit

OS Explorer OL41 Forest of Bowland & Ribblesdale. Waterproof boots and layers, water, snacks and a charged phone.

Directions below follow the source guide step by step.

The route

STEP BY STEP, FROM THE SOURCE GUIDE

- 1 Leave the car park and turn right along the pavement into Barley. Over the bridge at the T-junction, cross the road and pass along the right-hand side of the village hall, down the lane signed 'Barley Green'. Follow the lane left in front of some terraced cottages and on through the gateposts, past the water works, then more steeply up to Lower Ogden Reservoir.
- 2 Keep on the track along the right-hand side of the reservoir and over a cattle grid towards Ogden Clough. Just past the reservoir the Pendle Way joins: you follow it for the rest of the walk. The track climbs, levels into partial tree cover, then descends towards Upper Ogden Reservoir. Cross a stone stile by a metal gate and go the few yards up to the reservoir.
- 3 Follow the yellow arrow along the right-hand side of the reservoir, close to a fence (boggy in places). Go through a wooden kissing gate and continue beside the wall, then leave it and climb gently into Ogden Clough on a wide, grassy path to a wooden gate in a wall, the boundary with the bracken-covered moor.



- 4 Go through the kissing gate and head diagonally right, climbing a stony path. It climbs slowly, then dips to a small stream. Ahead is some wooden fencing with a very eroded path heading up from it: ignore it and keep on. About thirty yards past the fencing, turn right up an initially sketchy path towards a wooden waymarker just visible on the horizon (a small cairn marks the turn).
- 5 Pass the waymarker and keep the same direction as the path slowly pulls across towards Boar Clough on your right. It climbs gently, marked here and there by small cairns, follows an old watercourse (badly eroded in places) and slowly bends right.
- 6 Continue across Barley Moor following the line of cairns as it swings sharply right. Follow it for about 600 yards, until the path swings left and the summit is visible a couple of hundred yards ahead. The source gives the trig point as 558 m (1,831 ft).

*Look out for...**George Fox's vision*

In 1652 the young preacher George Fox climbed Pendle: 'I was moved of the Lord to go atop of it ... and the Lord let me see atop of the hill in what places he had a great people to be gathered.' His vision is remembered as the beginning of the Quaker movement.



- 7 Continue past the trig point, down the wide path towards the wall ahead. Don't climb the stile: turn right along the near side of the wall. A few yards on, at the Pendle Way stone guide post, turn right directly away from the wall on an initially gravelled path.

*Look out for...**Three Peaks on the skyline*

On a clear day, as you approach the wall, Yorkshire's Three Peaks are all visible straight ahead. From the summit you may even pick out Blackpool Tower and the Lakeland fells.



- 8 The path grows rougher and descends much more steeply down a series of man-made steps. As it eases, it bends left alongside a wall: follow the wall down and through a kissing gate. Head diagonally right (yellow arrow) across the field, on a line just right of a large tree to the right of the farm buildings. Pass the fence around the tree and go through the wooden kissing gate beside a larger gate.
- 9 Descend through the field beside the left-hand wall to another kissing gate. Go through, head diagonally right past the telegraph pole to another kissing gate, then keep ahead on the narrow path to a kissing gate in a wall. Turn left along the gravelled path by the wall and through the next kissing gate.
- 10 Turn immediately right along a track towards a couple of cottages. Just before them, turn left through the wooden kissing gate and continue down the lane. After a few yards take the path straight on past the large tree, ignoring the lane left over the cattle grid and the stile to the right.
- 11 Follow the gravelled path beside the wall on the left, through another kissing gate, on through a field, through another kissing gate and over a wooden footbridge. The path, now between fences, passes under trees and beside a line of conifers and becomes cobbled. At the end, go through the metal kissing gate and turn left down the lane.
- 12 Walk down past the houses with their white-stone-edged gardens and out through the stone gateposts. Where the lane bends left, turn right over the wooden footbridge following the yellow Pendle Way arrows. The path bends uphill to the left behind a large tree, past a wall and a waymarker, over a footbridge, through a kissing gate and along the stream to the road.



13

Turn right along the road through the centre of Barley for about a hundred yards. Just before the Pendle Inn, go through the gap in the wall on the left by the children's play area, follow the path over the footbridge and back round to the car park.

Look out for...

The Pendle witches

In 1612 ten people from the farms and hamlets around Pendle were hanged after the Lancaster witch trials. Above Barley, the Pendle Sculpture Trail in Aitken Wood has ten plaques, one for each of them.



Fuel stop

- The Cabin, Barley car park: the classic walkers' refuel stop, with toilets beside it.
- Pendle Inn, Barley: hearty pub classics and Pendle Inn pies; pets welcome.
- Barley Mow, Barley: cosy country pub with a doggy menu.



Countryside Code & safety

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- Don't block gateways or lanes when you park.
- Take your litter home, and bag and bin your dog's poo.
- Dogs: keep them under control and in sight, and on a lead around livestock. On open access land (most of the moorland here) dogs must be on a lead from 1 March to 31 July, and near livestock at any time. If cattle threaten you, let your dog off the lead so you can both get to safety.
- Moorland fires are devastating. No fires or BBQs.

These are real Pennine walks across working farmland and open moor, and the weather can change fast on the tops. Wear waterproof boots, carry a waterproof layer, water and a map (OS Explorer OL21 South Pennines covers Trawden, Wycoller and Boulsworth; OL41 covers Pendle Hill), and tell someone your route. Phone signal can be patchy.

Sources. These directions follow the guides below; check them before you go, as paths, stiles and opening times change.

Lancswalks / Walks4all, Pendle Hill walk from Barley: <https://www.lancswalks.co.uk/walks/pendle-hill-walk-from-barley>

The Wildpack Collective, Pendle Hill from Barley (dog notes): <https://wildpackcollective.com/walk/pendle-hill-from-barley/>

Quaker faith & practice 19.06 (George Fox): <https://qfp.quaker.org.uk/passage/19-06/>

Countryside Code: GOV.UK. Facts checked October 2026.





12 Top Withins & the Brontë Waterfall

over the border onto Haworth Moor

Make the short hop over the border for the walk Brontë lovers travel the world to do. From Penistone Hill above Haworth, follow the moor down to the Brontë Waterfall, a string of little gritstone cascades beside a stone footbridge, then climb steeply to Top Withins. Its lonely ruin, long linked with Wuthering Heights, sits on the Pennine Way with nothing but moor in every direction. Come in late summer for the heather, or in an autumn mist for the full Emily experience.



DISTANCE
10.9 km (6.8 miles)



TIME
About 3½ hours



ASCENT
About 308 m



DIFFICULTY
Moderate: rough, boggy and exposed; steep climb



DOGS
Open access: short lead 1 Mar–31 Jul and near sheep



START & PARKING
Penistone Hill Country Park car park, Haworth, BD22 8QR (free)

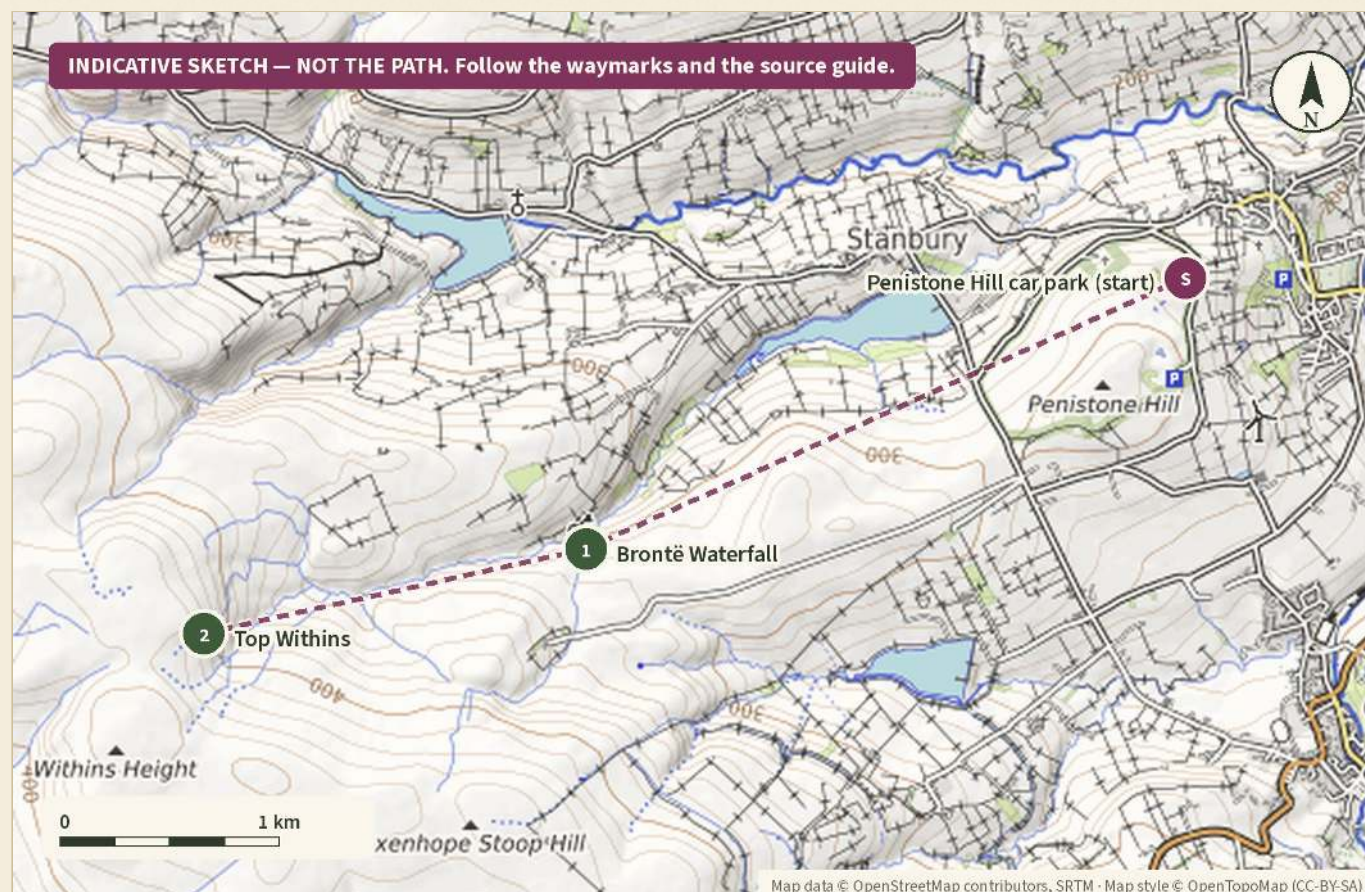


PUB STOP
None on the moor · plenty in Haworth



The map

INDICATIVE SKETCH



Indicative only: this is not the path. The pins show where the main places named in the route sit (positions from OpenStreetMap), and the dotted line shows the order you reach them. Follow the waymarks, OS Explorer OL21 and the source guide. Base map: OpenTopoMap · © OpenStreetMap contributors.

Getting there

About 10 miles by road over the moor (around 25 minutes), into West Yorkshire.

Map & kit

OS Explorer OL21 South Pennines. Waterproof boots and layers, water, snacks and a charged phone. The source gives a route outline only, so the map and waymarks matter here.

The route

ROUTE OUTLINE

The source describes the circuit rather than every turn, so these notes stay at outline level. Haworth Moor is well signed (Top Withins is on the Pennine Way); still, carry OS Explorer OL21 and be ready for mist.

- 1 Start at the free Penistone Hill Country Park car park above Haworth.
- 2 Cross Enfield Side onto Haworth Moor.
- 3 Drop down to the Brontë Waterfall, a series of small stepped falls over gritstone beside a rebuilt stone footbridge.



*Look out for...**Water for the dog*

The beck at the waterfall is the place for a drink and a paddle. There's no shade on the tops, so carry water in summer.

4

Climb steeply out of the valley to Top Withins, the ruined farmhouse on the Pennine Way.

*Look out for...**Wuthering Heights?*

Top Withins has long been linked with Emily Brontë's *Wuthering Heights*. The sisters grew up in the parsonage at Haworth, writing as Currer, Ellis and Acton Bell; their home is now the Brontë Parsonage Museum.

*Look out for...**Bold sheep*

The flocks are especially bold around Top Withins. The heather is at its best in mid to late summer.

5

Loop back over the quiet moor around Harbour Hill and Wether Hill to the start.

**Fuel stop**

- None on the moor. Haworth has plenty of cafés, pubs and toilets.
- The Hawthorn, 103 Main Street, Haworth: seasonal food and cask ales halfway up the cobbled Main Street, with a big Sunday roast reputation.

**Countryside Code & safety**

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Sources. These directions follow the guides below; check them before you go, as paths, stiles and opening times change.

The Wildpack Collective, Haworth Moor, Brontë Waterfall and Top Withins: <https://wildpackcollective.com/walk/haworth-moor-bront-waterfall-and-top-withins/>

Brontë Parsonage Museum: <https://www.bronte.org.uk/>

Countryside Code: GOV.UK. Facts checked October 2026.



PART TWO

Things to do



Steam trains and castles, spa days and soft play, Michelin dinners and a village scarecrow festival. Here are our favourite days out, grouped by who they suit best. Distances are approximate drive times from the cottage; check each website for opening times and prices before you go.

Couples

The Freemasons at Wiswell

about 15 miles / 30–35 min by car • **Also good for:** Foodies

Tucked down a narrow lane in the Ribble Valley, the Freemasons is the place for a proper date night. The Michelin Guide praises its open fire, antique furnishings and bold, inventive modern British cooking. For something unforgettable, ask about the four-seat Chef's Bench right in the heart of the kitchen. Make a night of it and stay over in one of its bedrooms.

freemasonsatwiswell.com

The Woodland Spa, Burnley

about 9 miles / 20 min by car

Twenty minutes from the cottage, The Woodland Spa sits in 100 acres of rolling countryside with Pendle Hill on the skyline. Its thermal "Experience" takes you through heat and ice, and unlike many spas you're not limited to two hours: stay as long as you like. Add a treatment or lunch and you have the perfect lazy couples' day. Booking ahead is wise.

thewoodlandspa.com



Nàdarra Spa at The Coniston, near Skipton

about 14 miles / 30 min by car

Over the border in Yorkshire, Nàdarra Spa is wrapped in hills and set around a lake on The Coniston estate near Skipton. Think a 15m indoor pool, two outdoor infinity pools, three saunas, private garden bathing and a couples' treatment room. The spa is adults-only (18+), so it's a genuinely peaceful escape, and Skipton is close by for a wander afterwards.

theconistonhotel.com/spa-wellness

Brontë Parsonage Museum & Haworth

about 10 miles / 25 min by car • **Also good for:** Rainy days

Charlotte, Emily and Anne Brontë grew up in this Georgian parsonage, and walking its rooms is genuinely moving. The museum's collection is 'Designated as Outstanding', and there are talks and events through the year. Haworth is only 25 minutes from the cottage, over the moors, and pairs beautifully with Wycoller back home, whose landmarks the sisters wove into Jane Eyre and Wuthering Heights.

bronte.org.uk

The Alma Inn, Laneshaw Bridge

about 3 miles / 10 min by car • **Also good for:** Dog owners

Ten minutes from the cottage, the Alma Inn is a rural coaching inn dating back to 1725, set in the Pendle countryside near Wycoller. It's a relaxed spot for a long lunch or a cosy evening out, with rooms if friends are visiting. Well-behaved dogs on leads are welcome in the bar (not the restaurant), so the whole party can come along.

thealmainn.com

Stargazing: your own back garden, then Gisburn Forest

cottage garden: 0 miles. Gisburn Forest Hub: about 20 miles / 45–50 min by car • **Also good for:** Families

Trawden's dark skies mean the south-facing garden is a fine place to start. For the real thing, the Forest of Bowland's skies are among the darkest in England, with Dark Sky Discovery Sites including Gisburn Forest Hub. Winter is best, when nights are longest; in August look for the Perseid meteor shower. Wrap up warm with a blanket and a cup of cocoa.

forestofbowland.com/visit/star-gazing

Families with kids

Wycoller Country Park

about 2 miles / 10 min by car (or walk it from Trawden, see entry 17) • **Also good for:** Dog owners, Couples

Practically on the cottage's doorstep, Wycoller is one of Lancashire's prettiest country parks. Cars stop at the car parks, so little ones can roam the hamlet safely, cross the old bridges over Wycoller Beck and explore the ruins of Wycoller Hall, linked to Jane Eyre. There are toilets and a picnic area. It's working farmland, so dogs on leads, please.

lancashire.gov.uk/environment-and-planning/countryside/country-parks/wycoller-country-park

Thornton Hall Country Park

about 7.5 miles / 20 min by car • **Also good for:** Rainy days

Twenty minutes away on the Lancashire–Yorkshire border, Thornton Hall is a working farm built for families. Expect animal encounters and a deer park, outdoor play areas and jumping pillows, an indoor soft play centre and a diner, plus a busy calendar of event days. It's open year-round and works rain or shine. Note it's a working farm, so only guide dogs are allowed.

thorntonhallfarm.co.uk

Skipton Castle

about 14 miles / 30 min by car • **Also good for:** Couples, Dog owners, Rainy days

Over 900 years old and one of England's best-preserved medieval castles, Skipton Castle withstood a three-year Civil War siege. Families follow a self-guided route from the Dungeon to the top of the Watch Tower, with free illustrated tour sheets. Dogs are welcome on a short lead (not in the tearoom or shop). It's cashless and there's no wheelchair access. Book online to save.

skiptoncastle.co.uk

Embsay & Bolton Abbey Steam Railway

about 15 miles / 30–35 min by car to Embsay station

Ride behind a vintage steam engine in restored Victorian and Edwardian carriages through Yorkshire countryside, or hop off at Holywell Halt for a picnic and watch the trains go by. The railway runs family event days with characters such as Bluey and Hey Duggee, and Polar Express trains in winter. For grown-ups there are cream teas and dining trains too.

embsayboltonabbeyrailway.org.uk



Bolton Abbey Estate

about 20 miles / 35–40 min by car · **Also good for: Dog owners**

Bolton Abbey is a classic Dales day out: priory ruins, the River Wharfe, Strid Wood and more than 80 miles of footpaths. There are family trails such as the Welly Walk, a Pumpkin Trail in late October and Father Christmas visits in December. Well-behaved dogs are welcome, on leads in Strid Wood and on the Priory Trail. Swimming in the river isn't recommended.

boltonabbey.com

Malham Cove

about 23 miles / 45 min by car to Malham National Park Centre · **Also good for: Dog owners**

Malham Cove is one of the Dales' great sights: a 70-metre curving cliff of white limestone carved by ice and water, where peregrine falcons nest in summer. It's a short walk on good paths from Malham village; older children can climb the 400 stone steps to the "lunar" limestone pavement on top, a Harry Potter filming location. Add Janet's Foss waterfall and Gordale Scar.

yorkshiredales.org.uk/places/malham_cove

Pendle Heritage Centre, Barrowford

about 4 miles / 10–15 min by car · **Also good for: Rainy days**

Just down the road in Barrowford, the Pendle Heritage Centre tells the true story of the Pendle witches and the 1612 trial that shocked the nation. After the museum, wander the 18th-century walled garden and Bluebell Wood, then refuel in the tea room with homemade cakes and Lancashire dishes. It's also the start of the long-distance Pendle Witches Walking Trail. Closed Mondays.

pendleheritage.co.uk

Pendle Wavelengths, Nelson

about 5 miles / 15 min by car · **Also good for: Rainy days**

Pendle Wavelengths is the local favourite for family swimming: a twisting 130ft slide, regular wave sessions (listen for the "Jaws" music!) and an interactive waterplay area added in 2025 in the beach-style shallow end. Inflatable sessions run too. For a quieter swim, Pendle Leisure Centre in Colne has a 25m pool and a warm learner pool. Children aged 7 and under must have an adult in the water.

pendleleisureplus.co.uk/swimming

Giddy Kippers soft play, Nelson

about 6 miles / 15 min by car · **Also good for: Rainy days**

When the Pennine weather sets in, Giddy Kippers is 15 minutes away. Its extended play frame has big slides, a zip wire, soft football and dedicated areas for toddlers and babies, while the café serves fresh food for children and adults alongside proper coffee and free wifi. It's for children up to 11 (height limit 148cm). You must book online first: no walk-ins.

giddy-kippers.com

Keighley & Worth Valley Railway

about 10 miles / 25 min by car to Haworth station · **Also good for: Dog owners**

Board at Haworth and steam through the Worth Valley on a heritage line full of character. Oakworth station starred in *The Railway Children*, and a Day Rover ticket includes the railway museums at Ingrow West. Dogs travel free on standard trains (not on seats), which makes it a rare all-in family outing. Combine it with the Brontë Parsonage, also in Haworth.

kwvr.co.uk/visit

Eureka! The National Children's Museum, Halifax

about 22 miles / 50 min by car · **Also good for: Rainy days**

Eureka! is built for children aged 0 to 11, with hands-on galleries to explore and the station right next door. In term time it opens Tuesday to Sunday (closed Mondays); in school holidays it's open every day. Booking online is recommended, as walk-up tickets depend on space, and paying for your first visit gets you a free Annual Pass with unlimited return visits for 12 months.

play.eureka.org.uk



Dog owners

"Brontës in Pendle" walk from Trawden village

starts in the village, walkable from the cottage · **Also good for: Couples**

No car needed: this circular walk starts in Trawden near the Trawden Arms, passes 17th-century farmhouses and the waterfall at Lumb Spout, and follows an old packhorse trail down to Wycoller. Fit walkers can add the summit of Boulsworth Hill. It's sheep country, so keep dogs on leads near livestock, and finish with a well-earned pint back in the village.

letswalkinpendle.co.uk/walks

Pendle Hill & the Pendle Sculpture Trail, Barley

about 7 miles / 20–25 min by car to Barley · **Also good for: Families, Events (Halloween)**

From the village of Barley you can tackle Pendle Hill via the very steep "Big End", or take the gentler walk up to Aitken Wood for the Pendle Sculpture Trail: stone witches, bats, mythical creatures and ten plaques for the Pendle people hanged in 1612. Children love the riddles; dogs love the woods. Download the free trail guide before you go.

visitpendle.com/things-to-do/pendle-sculpture-trail

Foulridge reservoirs & the Leeds and Liverpool Canal

about 3 miles / 10 min by car to Foulridge

For a flatter leg-stretch, head to Foulridge just beyond Colne. Pendle Canal Walks 3 and 4 follow the Leeds and Liverpool Canal past Foulridge Wharf, built in 1796, the entrance to the Mile Tunnel (watch for the traffic lights) and Lake Burwain, the reservoir that feeds the canal, with views of Pendle Hill. Free downloadable route guides make it easy.

letswalkinpendle.co.uk/walks

Foodies

The Trawden Arms (the village's community-owned pub)

under half a mile, walkable from the cottage · **Also good for: Couples, Events (beer festival)**

Trawden made national news when villagers raised half a million pounds to buy their last pub in 2021. Today the Trawden Arms is community-owned, alongside the village shop, library and community centre. The kitchen cooks fresh to order using local suppliers wherever possible. It's a short stroll from the cottage, so nobody has to drive. Follow its Facebook page for events.

trawden-arms.mydirectstay.com

The Emmott Arms, Laneshaw Bridge

about 3.5 miles / 10 min by car · **Also good for: Foodies, Couples**

Ten minutes from the cottage, the Emmott Arms holds an AA Rosette for its farm-to-fork cooking, built around Lancashire producers. Menus run from lunch and Sunday roasts to a tasting menu, with children's and vegan menus too. Dogs are welcome in certain rooms, so mention your four-legged friend when booking. Ideal after a walk on the Pendle Way.

emmottarms.co.uk

Trawden Recreation Ground

in the village, walkable

Trawden Recreation Ground is a big field ringed by sturdy drystone walls, with sweeping views to Pendle, and local dog walkers love it. Pendle Council's dog rules place no restrictions on dogs here, and in November 2024 the parish council decided not to add limits on dog numbers or leads. It's walled rather than a secure dog field, so off-lead is best for dogs with good recall. Football pitches are in use from August to May, mostly at weekends: keep dogs clear of matches, and please pick up after your dog.

pendle.gov.uk/directory_record/679282/trawden_recreation_ground

Colne Market Hall

about 2 miles / 10 min by car · **Also good for: Families, Rainy days**

Colne Market Hall brings six independent food and drink operators under one roof, with local craft beers, wine and artisan coffee in a relaxed communal setting. Food traders include Boroughs, Panko & Sushi and Agroa, alongside modern market stalls, and a monthly market celebrates local makers and producers. Perfect when everyone in the party fancies something different, and it's open into the evening.

colnemarkethall.co.uk



Eight at Gazegill, Rimington

about 11 miles / 25 min by car · **Also good for:** Couples (Friday and Saturday evenings are adults only)

At the foot of Pendle Hill, Eight at Gazegill holds a Green Michelin Star and sits on a working organic farm, so much of what's on your plate has travelled zero food miles. Chef patron Doug Crampton cooks heritage beef from the farm's meadows, home-grown vegetables and hedgerow herbs. Families are welcome for brunch and lunch, with an outdoor play area; Friday and Saturday evenings are adults only.

eightatgazegill.co.uk

Rainy days

Queen Street Mill Textile Museum, Burnley

about 6 miles / 15–20 min by car · **Also good for:** Families

Queen Street Mill is the world's last surviving 19th-century steam-powered weaving mill, and its weaving shed still holds 308 Lancashire looms. Guides demonstrate the machines, and you can see the mighty steam engine 'Peace' and the coal-fired boilers. It starred in *The King's Speech*. Under-18s go free. It opens on limited days, mainly March to October, so check before setting off.

lancashire.gov.uk/museums/queen-street-mill-textile-museum

Clitheroe Castle Museum

about 16 miles / 35 min by car · **Also good for:** Families, Couples

Clitheroe Castle has dominated the town's skyline for 800 years. The award-winning museum below it tells the Ribble Valley's story, from the landscape's formation 350 million years ago to local legends, with touchscreen animations and oral-history points, and children go free. Note the keep itself is currently closed for restoration; the museum and park are unaffected.

lancashire.gov.uk/museums/clitheroe-castle-museum

Holmes Mill, Clitheroe

about 16 miles / 35 min by car · **Also good for:** Rainy days, Dog owners (Beer Hall only)

Clitheroe's Holmes Mill is a food-and-drink playground. The Bowland Beer Hall's bar stretches an impressive 105ft 4in, pouring ales brewed just metres away at Bowland Brewery alongside guest beers. Bowland Food Hall is café, deli and farm shop in one, ideal for stocking the cottage fridge. Dogs are welcome in the Beer Hall and Mill Yard, but not the Food Hall.

jamesplaces.com/holmes-mill/bowland-beer-hall

The Muni Theatre, Colne

about 2 miles / 10 min by car · **Also good for:** Couples, Families

When the weather turns, Colne's Edwardian Muni Theatre is ten minutes away. Its year-round programme runs from live music and big-name comedians to children's shows, dance nights and local and national theatre, plus National Theatre Live screenings. It's also one of the main stages of the Great British Rhythm & Blues Festival. Check what's on during your stay and book ahead.

themuni.co.uk

FUNDA LAND, Brierfield

about 6 miles / 10–15 min by car · **Also good for:** Families

For energetic children who need more than a ball pit, award-winning FUNDA LAND at Brierfield packs giant active soft play, UV laser tag, bumper cars, a VALO climbing wall, VR rides and a baby, toddler and sensory space under one roof, with a café for the grown-ups. It's open seven days a week, and play sessions can be booked online before you go.

fundaland.com

Events

The Great British Rhythm & Blues Festival, Colne

August Bank Holiday weekend (2026: 28–30 August; 35th festival) · about 2 miles / 10 min by car

Every August Bank Holiday, Colne fills with music for the Great British Rhythm & Blues Festival, named UK Blues-Based Festival of the Year and inducted into the UK Blues Hall of Fame in 2026. More than 50 artists from the UK and abroad play the Pendle Hippodrome, the Muni and the Little Theatre, and the Official Fringe spreads music across town. Tens of thousands come, so book early.

bluesfestival.co.uk

Trawden Garden Festival & Scarecrow Trail

traditionally a weekend in early July (2025's ran on the first weekend of July) · in the village, on foot

Each summer Trawden's Scarecrow and Garden Festival fills the village with home-made scarecrows. Everyone joins in: in 2025 the primary school's pupils built a giant clown and invited festival-goers to stroll through the school garden too. Staying at Spring Cottage, you're right in the middle of it, with no parking to worry about. Check the village's social pages for this year's dates and theme.

trawden.lancs.sch.uk/news/2025-07-04-our-scarecrow-is-festival-ready

Spring Cottage, Trawden · Book direct and avoid third-party booking fees

Sleeps 4 · dogs welcome · walks from the door · thespringcottage.co.uk/book · hello@thespringcottage.co.uk

scan to book
direct



Trawden Arms Music & Beer Festival

annually in September (2026: Friday 11 to Sunday 13 September) · under half a mile, walkable

Each September the community-owned Trawden Arms throws a three-day music and beer festival, listed by the East Lancashire branch of CAMRA. Expect live music and plenty of beer, a short stroll from the cottage so nobody needs to drive. Dates for next year haven't been announced yet; the pub's Facebook page is the place to watch.

eastlancs.camra.org.uk/viewnode.php?id=279022

Trawden Agricultural Show

a Sunday in August (2026: 9 August; 2027: Sunday 8 August) · Trawden Recreation Ground, under a mile, walkable

Set against the backdrop of Pendle Hill, Trawden Show is a proper country day out with 34 years behind it. Expect more than 1,300 animals, from rare breeds to heavy horses, plus dog shows, horticulture, dry-stone walling, a fell race, vintage vehicles, 70+ trade stands and 20+ food and drink vendors. Under-sixes go free and dogs are welcome on a lead. You can walk there.

trawdenshow.co.uk

Pendle witches at Halloween

around Halloween each year (late October) · Barley about 7 miles / 20–25 min; Pendle Heritage Centre about 4 miles / 10–15 min · **Also good for: Families (older children), Couples**

In 1612, twelve people from around Pendle Hill were accused of witchcraft, and ten were executed after the trials at Lancaster. Autumn is the time to explore their story: walk from Barley to Newchurch-in-Pendle and the "witches' grave", find the stone witches on the Sculpture Trail, or start the long-distance Pendle Witches Walking Trail at the Pendle Heritage Centre. Spooky and spectacular.

lancashiretelegraph.co.uk/news/26559384.pendle-witch-walk-takes-visitors-witch-trial-history



PART THREE

A corner of Lancashire steeped in stories



Spring Cottage has been part of Trawden's story for three to four hundred years. When its stones were laid, this valley was still known as the Forest of Trawden: medieval cattle farms were giving way to yeoman farmhouses, and families were working hand-loom by the window to make ends meet.

Step outside today and you are within a short drive of some of the most remarkable tales in English history. The Pendle Witches, tried at Lancaster in 1612, lived in the farms and hamlets below Pendle Hill, the very hill where George Fox had the vision that founded the Quakers forty years later. Over the moor, the Brontë sisters wrote *Jane Eyre* and *Wuthering Heights*, and Wycoller's ruined hall, a pleasant walk from the cottage, is thought to be Charlotte's Ferndean Manor. In Colne, the town remembers Wallace Hartley, the Titanic's bandmaster, who played on as the ship went down.

Here are our favourite local stories, with tips on where to see them for yourself.



1 Trawden: a medieval hunting forest

Trawden's name lives on in the parish of Trawden Forest. This was never a forest of trees in the modern sense, but a hunting ground. Around 1100 it was granted to Robert de Lacy, and by the end of the 1200s five "vaccaries" (great cattle farms) were established here, at Over and Nether Wycoller, Winewall and Over and Nether Beardshaw, while deer roamed the land between. When the Earl of Lancaster was executed in 1322 the forest passed to the Crown, and in 1507 it was formally "disafforested" and divided among the tenants.

What followed shaped the village you see today. In the first half of the 1600s a new class of yeoman farmer began building substantial stone houses, and the earliest homes still standing in the parish date from this period. Hand-loom

weaving became the staple industry, reaching its peak in the early 1800s. Then came the mills: Pave Mill in 1844, Hollin Mill in 1855, Brook Mill in 1860, strung along Trawden Brook like beads on a thread. Spring Cottage, with its 300-year-old stonework, belongs to that older world of farmhouses and weavers' cottages.

Visit it: You're already here. Wander up the lanes and look for mullioned windows, chunky gritstone quoins and old drystone walls. The council's Trawden Forest conservation appraisal is a fascinating read before you go. **From the cottage:** none, it's on the doorstep.

Sources: pendle.gov.uk/download/downloads/id/6052/trawden_forest_conservation_area_character_appraisal.pdf

2 Trawden today: the village that saved itself

Trawden made national headlines for the best of reasons. In 2014, with the community centre about to close and the last shop close to shutting, a group of villagers decided to fight back. One by one they took over the community centre, the shop and the library, run by a pool of around 120 volunteers working two-hour shifts. Then, in 2021, the village's last pub came up for sale. Residents had it listed as an asset of community value, and the village of around 2,000 people raised £520,000 to buy it. The Trawden Arms reopened in November 2021, and the Observer reported that Trawden had become the first village in Britain to buy and run its own shop, library, community centre and pub.

The next spring, the Sunday Times Best Places to Live guide named Trawden the best place to live in the North West, asking: "Is this the most community-spirited village in the country?" We think so.

Visit it: Pop into the Trawden Arms for a pint and the community shop for local produce. Every penny helps keep the village thriving. **From the cottage:** a few minutes' stroll from the cottage (about 0.4 miles by road to the Trawden Arms).

Sources: theguardian.com/society/2021/nov/21/lancashire-village-buys-its-own-pub-to-add-to-its-shop-and-library · lancs.live/whats-on/whats-on-news/beautiful-lancashire-village-named-best-23610775

3 Boulsworth Hill: the moor above the cottage

The great whaleback of moorland rising behind Trawden is Boulsworth Hill. Its summit, Lad Law, stands at 517 metres, the highest point in the South Pennines, and on a clear day the view takes in Pendle Hill, the Forest of Bowland and the Yorkshire Dales. The hill has a stubborn streak: an Enclosure Act of 1821 allowed the whole of Boulsworth to be fenced off, but the work was begun and never finished once it became clear the land was too poor to farm. It was even meant to be a highlight of the Pennine Way, which in the end

passed to the east. Today the Brontë Way and the Pendle Way both run along its slopes, and Trawden is the nearest settlement to the summit.

Visit it: Walk straight from the door. Walks 2 and 3 in this guide are two routes up Lad Law from the cottage. Take a map and proper boots: the weather changes fast on the tops. **From the cottage:** none, on foot from the cottage.

Sources: en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Boulsworth_Hill



4 Wycoller and Jane Eyre

Hidden in a wooded valley just over the hill from Trawden, Wycoller feels like a village that time forgot, and in a sense it was. A busy hand-loom weaving community in the late 1700s, it emptied in the 1800s as weavers left for the new mills, and by the 1890s it was almost deserted.

At its heart lie the romantic ruins of Wycoller Hall, a late 16th-century manor house built on land held by the Hartley family. Its last squire, Henry Owen Cunliffe, a keen gambler, died heavily in debt in 1818. The estate was broken up and the hall slowly plundered for stone; some of it went to build a cotton mill in Trawden. Wycoller Hall is thought to be the inspiration for Ferndean Manor, where Mr Rochester retreats in Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre*, and the hall was used to illustrate an 1898 edition of the novel.

Seven bridges cross Wycoller Beck, among them the single-slab Clam Bridge, possibly over a thousand years old, and the twin-arched packhorse bridge. Lancashire County Council bought the village in 1973 and it is now a country park.

Visit it: Wycoller is closed to visitors' cars, so park at the country park car park and stroll in, or walk all the way from the cottage (see Walk 1). Wycoller's tearooms have closed in recent years, so check before relying on a cuppa there. **From the cottage:** about 10 minutes (around 2 miles), or a lovely walk.

Sources: historic-uk.com/HistoryMagazine/DestinationsUK/Wycoller-Lancashire · en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wycoller_Hall

5 Haworth and Brontë Country

Only a few miles separate Trawden from the moors that made the Brontës. Charlotte, Emily and Anne grew up in the parsonage at Haworth, where their father Patrick was the minister, and there, under the pen names Currer, Ellis and Acton Bell, they wrote some of the most extraordinary novels in English, among them *Jane Eyre*, *Wuthering Heights* and *The Tenant of Wildfell Hall*. Their home is now the Brontë Parsonage Museum.

The sisters knew this side of the border too. The long-distance Brontë Way runs from Wycoller over the moor to Haworth, and Charlotte is thought to have passed through

Wycoller on her way to Gawthorpe Hall. There's even a Colne connection: the first curate of Christ Church in Colne, the Reverend David Pryce, proposed to Charlotte in 1839. She turned him down.

Visit it: Book Brontë Parsonage Museum tickets on its website, then wander Haworth's steep cobbled Main Street. Pair it with Wycoller for a perfect Brontë day. **From the cottage:** about 25 minutes (around 10 miles).

Sources: bronte.org.uk/the-lives-of-the-brontes · bronte.org.uk · en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colne · placependle.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2025/08/Winewall-print-friendly-1.pdf

6 The Pendle Witches: what really happened in 1612

Forget pointed hats. The real story of the Pendle Witches is one of poverty, fear and a frightening legal system. In March 1612 a young woman named Alizon Device, out begging near Colne, asked a pedlar from Halifax, John Law, for some pins. He refused, and moments later collapsed, probably from a stroke. Alizon believed she had cursed him, and confessed.

The local magistrate, Roger Nowell, soon drew in two rival families, each headed by an elderly woman with a long local reputation for witchcraft: Elizabeth Southernns, "Old Demdike", Alizon's grandmother, and Anne Whittle, "Old Chattox". On Good Friday 1612 friends of the Demdike family met at Malkin Tower, Demdike's home, where they were

accused of plotting to blow up Lancaster Castle to free the prisoners.

At the August trials in Lancaster, the star witness was Alizon's nine-year-old sister, Jennet. Ten people were found guilty and hanged on the moors above the town on 20 August 1612. Demdike never stood trial: she died in the castle's cells. The court clerk, Thomas Potts, published a detailed account, which is why the case is among the best documented in English history.



Visit it: Lancaster Castle, where the accused were held and tried, runs guided tours (check its website). Closer to home, see the next section. **From the cottage:** Lancaster Castle is about 1 hour 15 minutes (around 53 miles).

Sources: visitlancashire.com/the-lancashire-witches · lancastercastle.com/history-heritage/further-articles/the-pendle-witches · en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malkin_Tower

7 In the footsteps of the witches: Barley, Newchurch and the Witch Trail

The villages beneath Pendle Hill are where the story lived, and they're wonderfully atmospheric to explore. Nobody knows exactly where Malkin Tower stood. The only firm record says it was somewhere in the Forest of Pendle, and digs have failed to find it, though in 2011 water engineers uncovered a 17th-century cottage, with a mummified cat sealed in its wall, near Lower Black Moss reservoir by Barley.

In Newchurch-in-Pendle, look up at the tower of St Mary's Church. On its west face is an oval carving known as the "Eye of God", said to watch over the village and ward off evil. In the churchyard, local legend links a Nutter family headstone to Alice Nutter, one of the accused, though historians doubt she was buried there.

Above Barley, the Pendle Sculpture Trail winds through Aitken Wood. It opened in 2012 for the 400th anniversary, with ten ceramic plaques, one for each of the Pendle people who were hanged, among the sculptures.

For the full journey, follow the 45-mile self-guided Pendle Witch Trail driving route from Pendle Heritage Centre in Barrowford all the way to Lancaster Castle.

Visit it: Park in Barley village car park and walk up to Aitken Wood. Download the sculpture trail guide and the Witch Trail leaflet first. **From the cottage:** Barley about 20 to 25 minutes (around 7 miles); Newchurch about 20 minutes.

Sources: en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Malkin_Tower · en.wikipedia.org/wiki/St_Mary's_Church,_Newchurch_in_Pendle · visitpendle.com/things-to-do/pendle-sculpture-trail · visitlancashire.com/business-directory/pendle-witch-trail-lancaster-to-pendle · letswalkinpendle.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/sculpture_trail_print_friendly_2019_v2.pdf

8 Pendle Heritage Centre, Barrowford

If you want the whole story in one place, start at Park Hill in Barrowford, home of the Pendle Heritage Centre. The centre is set in a historic farmhouse with its own walled garden and woodland.

The museum tells the story of the Pendle Witches, George Fox and the Quakers, and the vernacular buildings of Pendle Forest, the same kind of stone farmhouses and cottages

you're staying among in Trawden. There's an 18th-century walled garden, a bluebell wood and a tea room too.

Visit it: It's the official starting point of the Pendle Witch Trail. Check opening days on its website (it closes on Mondays). **From the cottage:** about 10 to 15 minutes (around 4 miles).

Sources: pendleheritage.co.uk/pendle-heritage-centre · pendleheritage.co.uk/pendle-heritage-centre/museum · historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1258959

9 Pendle Hill and George Fox's vision

Pendle Hill rises to 557 metres, a great isolated whaleback that dominates the skyline for miles around, and you'll see it from all over Trawden. In 1652 a young preacher named George Fox was travelling through Lancashire when he felt compelled to climb it. "I was moved of the Lord to go atop of it," he later wrote, "and when I came atop of it I saw Lancashire sea; and there atop of the hill I was moved to sound the day of the Lord; and the Lord let me see atop of the hill in what places he had a great people to be gathered."

That vision is remembered as the beginning of the Quaker movement, and Quakers still make pilgrimages to the hill today. Pendle has also given its name to a Quaker study centre near Philadelphia.

Visit it: The most popular climb starts from Barley. It's steep in places but the view from the top is unforgettable. Choose a clear day. **From the cottage:** Barley is about 20 to 25 minutes (around 7 miles).

Sources: qfp.quaker.org.uk/passage/19-06 · en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pendle_Hill



10 Colne: market town on the hill

A mile and a half down the road, Colne has been a market town for centuries. Its parish church, St Bartholomew's, dates from before 1122, when the market was held in the churchyard, and it is Grade I listed. By the 1400s Colne was the main market town of the area and a centre of the woollen trade, famous for a lightweight cloth called kersey. In 1775 the town built a grand Piece Hall (later the Cloth Hall) for the sale of woollen and worsted cloth. It was demolished in 1952.

The Industrial Revolution brought cotton, helped by the completion of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal in 1816 and the railway in 1848. By 1891 Colne had 30 cotton mills, with more in Trawden and Laneshaw Bridge. Lancashire's dependence on American cotton brought hardship during the Cotton

Famine of the 1860s, when the American Civil War cut supplies and mills across the county fell silent.

Today Colne is best known for its music. Every August bank holiday since 1990, the Great British Rhythm & Blues Festival has filled the town with live music.

Visit it: Wander up the main street past the Town Hall and St Bartholomew's, and look out for the old market cross outside the Market Hall. Festival tickets sell on the festival website.

From the cottage: about 5 to 10 minutes (around 1.5 to 2 miles), or a 30-minute walk.

Sources: en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colne · discovery.nationalarchives.gov.uk/details/r/e01fb012-529e-4e90-8ade-680a046eb5e4 · bbc.com/news/world-21057494 · bluesfestival.co.uk/the-great-british-rhythm-blues-festival-returns-to-the-muni-theatre-for-35th-anniversary-in-2026

11 Wallace Hartley: the Titanic's bandmaster

Colne's most famous son was born in the town in 1878, the son of a mill manager and a worsted weaver. Wallace Hartley learned the violin at school, sang and played at the Bethel Independent Methodist Chapel where his father was choirmaster, and went on to play on Cunard liners. In April 1912 he was asked to lead the band on the White Star Line's newest ship, the RMS Titanic.

As the Titanic sank on 15 April 1912, Hartley and his seven bandmen played on to calm the passengers, and none of them survived. Early reports said their last tune was the hymn "Nearer, My God, to Thee". Hartley's body was recovered with his music case strapped to him and brought home to Colne. On 18 May 1912 around a thousand people

attended his funeral, and 30,000 to 40,000 more lined the route of the procession.

His grave in Colne Cemetery is carved with a violin and an open music book bearing the words of that hymn. In 1915 the town raised a memorial bust of him, paid for by public donations. Both are now listed buildings.

Visit it: See the memorial off Albert Road in the town centre, then visit his grave at Colne Cemetery on Keighley Road. **From the cottage:** about 5 to 10 minutes to either (under 2 miles).

Sources: historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1423584 · historicengland.org.uk/listing/the-list/list-entry/1423381 · bbc.co.uk/news/uk-england-lancashire-17663459

12 The canal and the cow in the Mile Tunnel

Just north of Colne, the Leeds and Liverpool Canal crosses the Pennines, and it was a colossal undertaking: the first trans-Pennine canal to be proposed, it took 46 years to complete, finally opening in 1816. At Foulridge the canal plunges into a tunnel nearly a mile long, opened in 1796 and known locally as the "Mile Tunnel". Built without a towpath, boats were "legged" through by men lying on their backs and walking along the tunnel roof.

It's also home to a favourite piece of local folklore. A cow is said to have fallen into the canal and swum the whole length of the tunnel, emerging at the far end to be revived with brandy.

Visit it: Stroll the towpath at Foulridge Wharf and peer into the tunnel mouth. **From the cottage:** about 10 minutes (around 3 miles).

Sources: canalrivertrust.org.uk/canals-and-rivers/leeds-and-liverpool-canal/history-of-the-leeds-and-liverpool-canal · en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colne



13 Tolkien and the Ribble Valley "Shire"

During the Second World War, the English College in Rome, which trains Catholic priests, moved for safety to Stonyhurst College in the Ribble Valley. Among its students was John Tolkien, son of the Oxford professor J.R.R. Tolkien. His father visited him several times, staying at New Lodge in the college grounds, and his name appears in the Stonyhurst visitors' book. He was working on *The Lord of the Rings* during these years. His other son, Michael, later taught classics at the college, and planted a copse in his father's memory after Tolkien's death in 1973.

Did the countryside shape the Shire? Tolkien never said so himself, but locals have spotted some tempting clues: there's a Shire Lane in Hurst Green; the Shireburn family built Stonyhurst, and Middle-earth has a River Shirebourn;

and an old ferry near Hacking Hall, still running in Tolkien's day, may have inspired the Bucklebury Ferry. Make up your own mind on the Tolkien Trail.

Visit it: The circular Tolkien Trail (around 5.5 to 7 miles depending on the version) starts and finishes at the Shireburn Arms in Hurst Green, passing Stonyhurst College and following the Rivers Hodder and Ribble, with Pendle Hill in view. Allow two and a half to three hours. **From the cottage:** about 40 minutes (around 19 miles).

Sources: christianheritagecentre.com/projects/the-tolkien-trail · dc-lancashire.files.svdcn.com/production/trails/Tolkien_Trail.pdf · christianheritagecentre.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/CHC-Tolkien-Booklet.pdf · thetolkienrail.com/j-r-r-tolkien · bbc.com/travel/article/20240917-a-tolkien-trail-where-to-find-the-real-life-middle-earth · visitlancashire.com/trails/the-tolkien-trail-in-the-footsteps-of-j-r-r-tolkien



PART FOUR

Eating & drinking



From the village pub the villagers bought, to cake at the Old Rock Café, a chippy supper delivered to the door and a Michelin star fifteen minutes away. Ratings are shown only where we could read them on the source page (October 2026); menus, prices and opening times change, so check before you go, and book the special ones well ahead.

Pubs in Trawden & on the doorstep

Trawden Arms

0.4 miles. A few minutes' walk. • **Dog-friendly: welcome.**

Trawden's own local, and a proper one. The village bought the pub in October 2021, raising half a million pounds through more than 400 shares, so every pint helps keep it going. Food is made fresh to order from local suppliers wherever possible. Follow its Facebook page for events. It's the easiest night out from the cottage door.

Tripadvisor 4.5 (214 reviews) • trawden-arms.mydirectstay.com

The Emmott Arms

about 3.5 miles / 10 min by car • **Dog-friendly: in certain rooms only. Mention it when booking.**

Laneshaw Bridge's AA Rosette pub follows a true farm-to-fork approach, with dishes built around Lancashire's fields, farms and producers. Menus run from relaxed lunches to a tasting menu, steak nights and Sunday roasts, with vegan and children's options too. Book ahead, ask for a high chair if needed, and let them know if the dog's coming.

Tripadvisor 4.7 (813 reviews), #1 of the Colne-area restaurants on Tripadvisor • emmottarms.co.uk

Spring Cottage, Trawden • **Book direct and avoid third-party booking fees**

Sleeps 4 • dogs welcome • walks from the door • thespringcottage.co.uk/book • hello@thespringcottage.co.uk

scan to book
direct



The Alma Inn

about 3 miles / 10 min by car · **Dog-friendly: in the bar area on a lead. Not in the restaurant.**

A handsome stone inn on the lane towards Wycoller, part of the Seafood Pub Company. It serves breakfast as well as lunch and dinner, which makes it handy for an early start before a walk. Well-behaved dogs are welcome in the bar. Staff will even suggest local dog-walking routes, and there's a towel if paws come in muddy.

thealmainn.com

Hare & Hounds Inn, Foulridge

about 3 miles / 8 min by car

A friendly Thwaites village pub on the edge of Foulridge, close to the reservoir and canal. Breakfast is served every day. The menus run from homemade cheese and onion pie to small plates, pizza and afternoon tea, alongside cask ales and cocktails. It's a good shout for a Sunday roast with the family or a pint by the fire.

hareandhoundsfoulridge.com

Colne restaurants & bars

Little Italy – Truly Authentic

about 2 miles / 6 min by car

Award-winning and family-run, Little Italy brings proper Neapolitan pizza and handmade pasta to Albert Road, with a gluten-free pasta option. Steaks, grills and seafood follow, then handmade desserts and artisan gelato. Italian coffee and pastries make it a good daytime stop too. Ask about the separate café and lounge.

Tripadvisor 4.8 (64 reviews) · little-italy.co.uk

Meechok Thai

about 2 miles / 6 min by car

A small, cosy Thai restaurant a few doors along Albert Road, cooking traditional dishes from fresh ingredients. Eat in, or take it back to the cottage: you can order online, and the restaurant offers a takeaway discount. Ask about its early-bird menu on quieter evenings.

meechok-thai.co.uk

Tubbs Restaurant and Bar

about 2 miles / 6 min by car

A Colne favourite for around ten years with a fresh new chapter. Long-time manager Oliver and head chef Adam took over in March 2025 and fully refurbished it that September. Adam's kitchen puts the emphasis on local produce, served in a lively room that still shows traces of the building's past. It's a reliable choice for a relaxed dinner in town.

Tripadvisor 4.4 (209 reviews) · tubbsrestaurantandbar.co.uk

Colne Market Hall

about 2 miles / 6 min by car

Ideal when everyone wants something different. Colne's revamped market hall brings together six independent food and drink traders under one roof, including Panko & Sushi, Boroughs and Agroa. There's also The Trig Point bar for local craft beer, wine and coffee. Browse the market stalls while you're there, and look out for the monthly makers' market.

colnemarkethall.co.uk

Boyce's Barrel

about 2 miles / 5 min by car. Colne station is about 650 m away. · **Dog-friendly.**

Colne's first micropub, and the local real-ale crowd's favourite. CAMRA describes an ever-changing line-up of cask ales and real ciders, with a dark and a light ale always on. It has tall wooden sleeper tables like an old railway staging post, plenty of banter and occasional live music. Combine it with nearby Mojo's and Cask 'n' Keg for a gentle crawl.

camra.org.uk/pubs/boyces-barrel-colne-176193



Country pubs

Black Lane Ends Tavern

about 4.5 miles / 15 min by car • **Dog-friendly: in the bar area.**

High on the hills between Colne and Skipton, this traditional pub has roaring log fires in winter. In summer there's a sunny beer garden with big views. Expect local real ales and homemade food. Children will make a beeline for the outdoor play area, and dogs are welcome in the bar. The pub asks you to phone to book a table.

blacklaneendstavern.co.uk

The Craven Heifer Inn, Kelbrook

about 4.5 miles / 10 min by car

Freshly refurbished, the Craven Heifer mixes traditional features with comfortable modern style. The kitchen cooks everything on site from local suppliers, putting a contemporary spin on British classics. Diners single out the Sunday roasts. There's a big car park, and the pub suggests booking because it gets busy, especially at weekends.

Tripadvisor 4.5 (851 reviews), Travellers' Choice 2025 • thecravenheiferinnkelbrook.co.uk

The Pendle Inn, Barley

about 7 miles / 25 min by car (narrow lanes) • **Dog-friendly.**

A long-standing walkers' and cyclists' favourite in the heart of Barley, perfect after climbing Pendle Hill. Expect hearty pub classics, including its famous Pendle Inn pies, plus a selection of real ales. There's plenty of space inside and out for families, and pets are welcome. In busy periods, use the village car park rather than the roadside.

pendle-inn.co.uk

The Barley Mow, Barley

about 7 miles / 25 min by car (narrow lanes) • **Dog-friendly. Look out for the doggy menu.**

A cosy, hunt-lodge-style country pub at the foot of Pendle Hill, with log burners when it's cold and hearty pub classics on the menu. Walkers rave about it as a post-Pendle stop. Four-legged friends are clearly welcome, and the pub even has a doggy menu. It sits just along the lane from the Pendle Inn.

barleymowpendle.co.uk

The Assheton Arms, Downham

about 11 miles / 30 min by car

In the timeless village of Downham, on the far side of Pendle Hill, this classic country inn has flagstone floors, low beams and crackling fires. The seasonal menus mix comforting classics with changing specials, and the bar keeps local ales and a well-chosen wine list. Pair it with a walk in one of Lancashire's prettiest villages.

jamesplaces.com/assheton-arms

Cafés & breakfast

Jackie & Francesca's Old Rock Café & Cake Shop

0.5 miles. A short walk.

The village café, and a real gem. Jackie and Francesca serve home-cooked breakfasts and lunches: jacket potatoes, soups, quiche and generous sandwiches. The star is the ever-changing counter of homemade cakes. Visitors heading back from Wycoller love it. There's a lovely gift shop through the connecting door. Reviewers' tip: come early if you want a scone.

Tripadvisor 4.4 (78 reviews), #1 restaurant in Trawden, Travellers' Choice • facebook.com/jackiemakesandbakes

Lakeside Café, Ball Grove Park

about 2.5 miles / 8 min by car. You can also walk the Ferndean Way along the river.

Set up in 2015 by cake-maker Tracey Bolton, this welcoming café sits right by the lake in Ball Grove park. Everything is homemade from locally sourced ingredients: all-day breakfasts, soups, sandwiches and rather special afternoon teas. Children can let off steam in the playground. The riverside Ferndean Way links it on foot towards Wycoller.

Tripadvisor 4.4 (96 reviews) • ballgrove.org/visit.html



Pavilion Café at Alkincoats Park

about 2.5 miles / 8 min by car · **Dog-friendly.**

A much-loved community café in Alkincoats Park, serving fresh food, home-baked cakes and desserts every day to eat in or take away. Its homemade cheese and onion pie has a local following, and there's a different lunch special daily. Afternoon tea must be booked. There's free parking and seating outside.

Tripadvisor 4.8 (192 reviews) · Travellers' Choice · [facebook.com/Thepavilioncolne](https://www.facebook.com/Thepavilioncolne)

About Coffee

about 2 miles / 5 min by car

A small, cosy coffee shop on Colne's busy high street of independent shops. As merchants too, they stock 19 different single-origin and blended beans, plus loose teas and Austrian and Belgian hot chocolate to take home. It's the place in town for a properly good flat white while you browse. Buy a bag for the cottage cafetière.

Tripadvisor 4.9 (131 reviews) · aboutcoffeecolne.co.uk

Takeaways

North Valley Chippy

about 2 miles / 6 min by car

Colne's top-rated chippy serves traditional fish and chips with excellent service. Best of all for a lazy first night, you can order online or through its app and have it delivered. You also earn loyalty points on every order. Collect in person if you'd rather; it's a short drive into Colne.

Tripadvisor 4.8 (115 reviews) · northvalleychippy.online

Cemetery Chippy

about 1.5 miles / 5 min by car

The nearest chippy to the cottage, on the Keighley Road as you head into Colne, and one of Tripadvisor's best cheap eats in the town. Expect traditional Lancashire fish and chips to take back to the cottage. It's perfect when nobody fancies cooking after a long walk.

Tripadvisor 4.3 (46 reviews)

The Cabin, Barley

about 7 miles / 25 min by car

The classic refuel stop for Pendle Hill walkers: a cosy cabin at Barley picnic site, open every day. Expect a full English, broth and ploughman's platters, plus tea, cakes, generous ice creams and hot chocolate piled with cream and marshmallows. There's a handful of little witch-themed gifts too. Its car park is right beside it.

Tripadvisor 4.5 (139 reviews) · [lancashiretelegraph.co.uk/news/24678976.cabin-cosy-cafe-bottom-pendle-hill](https://www.lancashiretelegraph.co.uk/news/24678976.cabin-cosy-cafe-bottom-pendle-hill)

ESSE Factory Café, Barnoldswick

about 7 miles / 15–20 min by car

A quirky find: a café in the grounds of the ESSE stove foundry, right beside the Leeds and Liverpool Canal. Its cakes are baked on ESSE cookers. It pairs nicely with a towpath stroll or a visit to Barnoldswick's independent shops.

barnoldswick.uk/esse-factory-cafe

Jaipur Indian Restaurant & Takeaway

about 2 miles / 5 min by car

A long-standing Colne curry house on Albert Road, cooking freshly prepared Indian favourites to eat in or take home. You can order online and pay in advance, so a curry night at the cottage takes very little organising. Collect on your way back from a day out.

cometocolne.co.uk/business/jaipur-indian-restaurant

Albert Road Fisheries, Barnoldswick

about 6.5 miles / 15 min by car

Worth knowing if you're out Barnoldswick way. This town-centre chippy has a fiercely loyal following, and reviewers rave about fish cooked to order, generous portions and the steak pudding and chips. They also praise the friendly owners. It makes a satisfying end to a day on the canal or at Earby and Thornton.

[facebook.com/p/Albert-Road-Fisheries-100049818471298](https://www.facebook.com/p/Albert-Road-Fisheries-100049818471298)



Special occasions (worth the drive)

The White Swan at Fence

about 6.5 miles / 15–20 min by car · **No dogs.**

The nearest Michelin star to the cottage, and still very much a lively local pub. Chef Tom Parker cooks a small, seasonal set menu, which the Michelin Guide praises as unpretentious yet refined. It's the only Timothy Taylor pub in Lancashire, so expect a superb pint too. Book well ahead; it's small and much sought after.

1 Michelin Star (2026 guide); its own site also cites 3 AA Rosettes · whiteswanatfence.co.uk

The Freemasons at Wiswell

about 15 miles / 30–35 min by car

A slice of country refinement with contemporary flair, tucked in a quaint Ribble Valley village. The aim is the ultimate gastronomic experience in a pub that feels as relaxed as your own front room. Choose from set menus, a six-course menu or the celebrated Sunday lunch, and stay over in one of its rooms for a proper treat.

Michelin-listed; named in Harden's top Sunday roasts · freemasonsatwiswell.com

Eight at Gazegill

about 10.5 miles / 25 min by car

At the foot of Pendle Hill, chef-patron Doug Crampton cooks on a working organic farm. Many ingredients travel zero food miles from field to plate, alongside foraged finds from meadow, moorland and hedgerow. It won a Michelin Green Star in 2026 for its sustainability work. Note that some evening sittings are adults-only.

Michelin Green Star (2026 guide) · eightatgazegill.co.uk

The Rum Fox, Grindleton

about 16 miles / 35 min by car

Named one of Britain's cosiest pubs by the Good Food Guide, the Rum Fox crashed into the Top 50 Gastropubs at No. 9 in 2026. The Michelin Guide praises its "well-sourced produce and textbook execution". There are seasonal and tasting menus plus a Sunday lunch. The Den private dining room seats up to ten for a celebration.

Michelin Guide 2026 (selected); No. 9 in the Top 50 Gastropubs 2026 ("Highest New Entry") · therumfox.com

Northcote, Langho

about 17.5 miles / 35 min by car

The grande dame of Ribble Valley dining. Chef patron-director Lisa Goodwin-Allen leads the Michelin-starred kitchen with exquisite seasonal menus, served in an elegant dining room with garden views. Add the cocktail bar, a famous wine cellar and a Chef's Table in the heart of the action. It's the place for a milestone birthday or anniversary.

Michelin Star (retained in the 2026 guide) · northcote.com/dining-at-northcote

The Angel at Hetton

about 16 miles / 35 min by car

Over the border in the Dales, two-Michelin-star chef Michael Wignall leads the kitchen here. The Angel holds one Michelin star and five AA Rosettes. Choose elegant five- or ten-course seasonal tasting menus, a lunch menu, or a modern take on Sunday lunch by roaring fires. It's a dinner to plan a day in Skipton or the Dales around.

1 Michelin Star and 5 AA Rosettes; listed in Harden's Top 100 UK Restaurants · angelhetton.co.uk/dine

The Hawthorn, Haworth

about 10 miles / 25 min by car over the moor road

Halfway up Haworth's famous cobbled Main Street, The Hawthorn serves seasonal food with cask ales, fine wines and cocktails, and it has a private dining room for celebrations. Its Sunday roast has a big reputation. It's the perfect way to finish a Brontë day out: the Parsonage is just up the hill.

OpenTable Diners' Choice 2025 badge on its site · thehawthornhaworth.co.uk

Le Caveau, Skipton

about 13.5 miles / 30 min by car

Skipton's hidden treasure sits beneath the historic cobbled High Street: Yorkshire produce cooked with a French twist. Chef Mark and his wife Esther have run this cosy, characterful cellar restaurant for about a decade. It's ideal for a romantic dinner after a day at Skipton Castle and the market. Booking is by phone.

The site describes it as "multi award winning" · lecaveau.co.uk



BEFORE YOU GO

The Countryside Code

These are real Pennine walks across working farmland and open moor, and the weather can change fast on the tops. Wear waterproof boots, carry a waterproof layer, water and a map (OS Explorer OL21 South Pennines covers Trawden, Wycoller and Boulsworth; OL41 covers Pendle Hill), and tell someone your route. Phone signal can be patchy.



Respect, protect, enjoy

- Leave gates as you find them and keep to marked paths unless you are on open access land.
- Don't block gateways or lanes when you park.
- Take your litter home, and bag and bin your dog's poo.
- Dogs: keep them under control and in sight, and on a lead around livestock. On open access land (most of the moorland here) dogs must be on a lead from 1 March to 31 July, and near livestock at any time. If cattle threaten you, let your dog off the lead so you can both get to safety.
- Moorland fires are devastating. No fires or BBQs.

Source: GOV.UK, The Countryside Code (updated 26 May 2023). In an emergency on the hills, call 999 and ask for the police, then mountain rescue.



COME BACK SOON

Book direct and avoid third-party booking fees

Booking straight with us means no guest booking fees, a real person at the other end, and the family who own the cottage two minutes up the road.



thespringcottage.co.uk/book

Questions, or something in this guide that has changed? Email
hello@thespringcottage.co.uk

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SRTM · Walk 3 route: Walking Britain GPX.

