

The Bentham Line Self-guided Walks

This leaflet describes one of a diverse collection of twelve walks linking neighbouring stations along the Bentham Line between Heysham Port and Skipton.



Stepping stones across the River Aire, Gargrave

Walk No.	Route	Miles
1	Heysham Port - Morecambe	5.3
2	Lancaster - Morecambe	3.8
3	Morecambe - Bare Lane	2.5
4	Bare Lane - Carnforth	5.6
5	Wennington - Carnforth	11.3
6	Wennington - Bentham	3.9
7	Clapham - Bentham	5.0
8	Clapham - Giggleswick	9.4
9	Giggleswick - Long Preston	5.6
10	Long Preston - Hellifield	3.8
11	Hellifield - Gargrave	7.0
12	Gargrave - Skipton	5.0

Timetable

For train times on the Bentham Line pick up Northern Timetable 7 or the Airedale Metro Timetable, or use the websites below.

Fares and Service Information

National Rail Enquiries:

telephone: 08457 48 49 50

textphone: 0845 60 50 600

website: nationalrail.co.uk

Customer Helpline

Northern comments and enquiries:

telephone: 0800 200 6060

contact: enquiries@northernrailway.co.uk

Rail Websites

leedslancastermorecambecrp.co.uk



lasrug.btck.co.uk



northernrailway.co.uk



Tourist Information

Leeds: visitleeds.co.uk

Skipton: skiptononline.co.uk

Bentham: aboutbentham.org.uk

Yorkshire Dales: yorkshiredales.org.uk

Lune Valley, Lancaster and Morecambe:
citycoastcountryside.co.uk

Rail to Trail Walk Guide

The Bentham Line

Walk 11 - Hellifield to Gargrave



Step stile on the fells

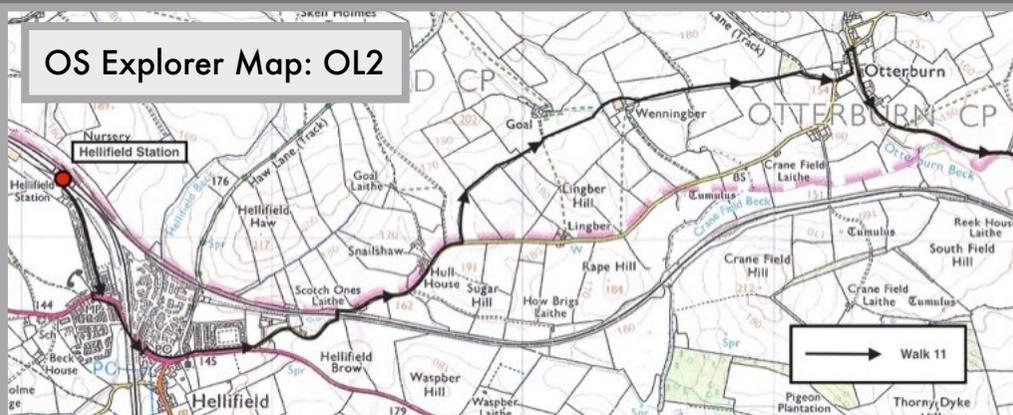


Leeds-Lancaster-Morecambe Community Rail Partnership

LASRUG
Lancaster and Skipton Rail User Group

Walk 11 - Hellifield to Gargrave

Flirting with a National Park Moderate 7.0 miles



HELLIFIELD TO GARGRAVE

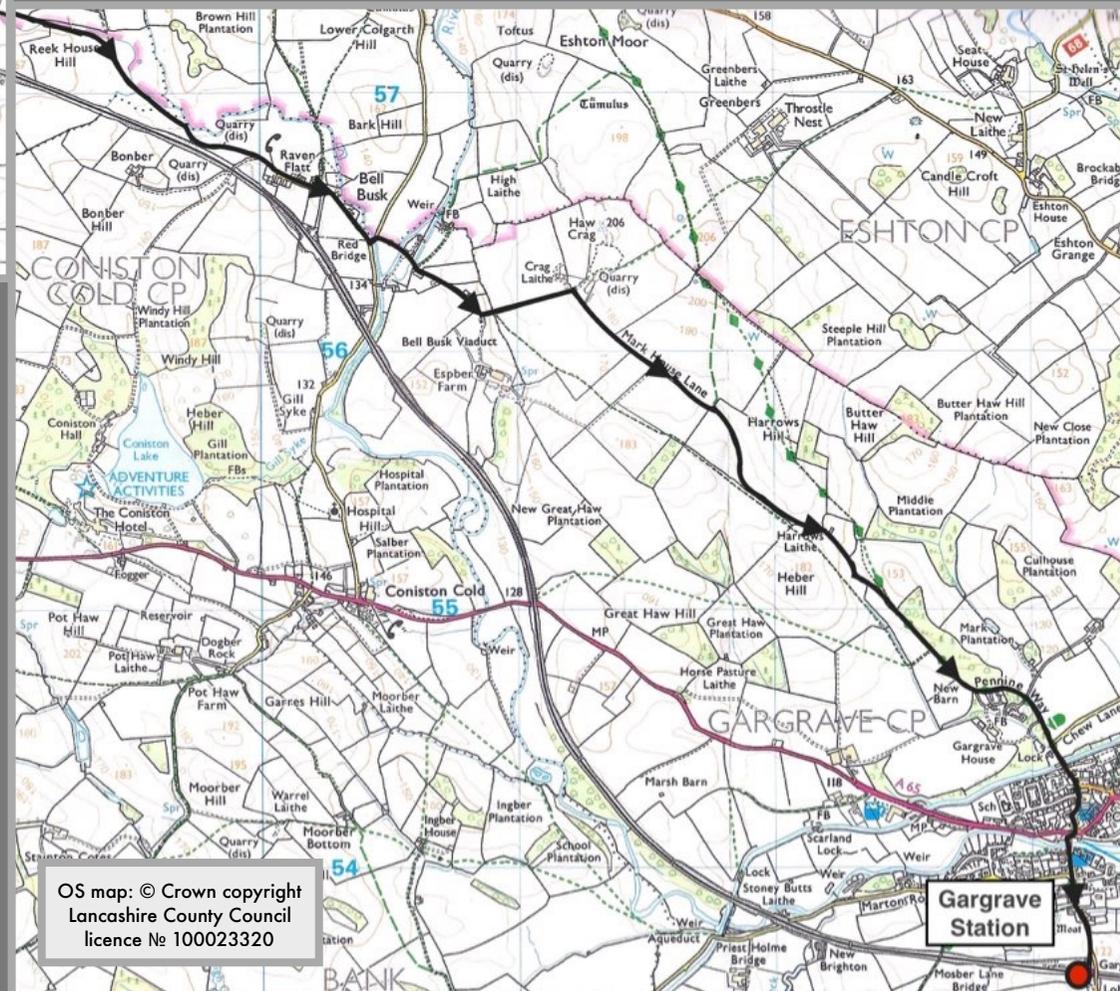
Time: 3 hours 40 minutes Distance: 7.0 miles / 11.1 kilometres
Total Ascent: 145 metres Total Descent: 177 metres Walk Grade: Moderate

Leave station by subway and turn left down Station Rd. Turn right at Main Road (A65) and cross pedestrian crossing turning left to follow pavement into village. Pass row of shops (R) and cross the pedestrian crossing to the pavement on the other side of the road. Turn right and continue through village, past bus shelter (L) and church (R).

At the end of the village, just before the main road goes up the hill, fork left on the Malham-Airton road. Cross railway bridge and pass Hull House (L). Just beyond here pass field gate and track (L) and take the next turn left, signed 'FP Otterburn', down a tarmac drive immediately crossing a cattle grid. Continue along this road and cross two more cattle grids. (Some of the cattle grids do not have side gates.) At the fourth cattle grid look right to see a FP sign and stile over a wooden fence. Cross this stile and walk down to the bottom of the paddock keeping close to the fence (R). At the bottom of the paddock veer left and go through the wooden fence into a field. Turn right and walk down the field alongside a ditch (R) to a ladder stile over a wall. Cross stile and sleepers over a beck and go straight ahead past the Wenningber farm buildings (R). Cross a double stile over two fences behind Wenningber House (R) and head towards the right hand corner of the field where the wooden fence and hedge (R) meet a stone wall. Cross this parish boundary wall by ladder stile, and immediately cross a fence by stile. Go ahead up field towards wood, keeping close to wall (R). Cross wall stile at top right-hand corner of field into wood and go down the path keeping close to the wall (R), which runs into a track coming from the left. Continue down this track to meet a tarmac road and turn left. Follow road past Otterburn House (L), cross Otterburn Beck bridge and follow road to right, signed 'Bell Busk'. Follow this road with beck and railway line to right. Cross beck again and pass through Bell Busk.

After leaving the main village, pass a FP sign (L) and a track (R) going up to 'Tudor House B&B', which used to be Bell Busk Station. Pass the Old Reading Room (L).

At road junction turn left, signed 'Airton/Malham', and cross Otterburn Beck again, and immediately turn right along lane, signed 'Public Bridleway'. Cross River Aire bridge and continue along track which turns left up hill at next cattle grid and converted barn. This is now Mark House Lane, which continues into Gargrave. At top of hill, where the lane turns to right, stop and enjoy the views, especially up the valley towards Malham Moor.



The unsurfaced track becomes a surfaced one in a dip just before a long descent into Gargrave. At the top of this hill look left to see the 'Pennine Way' sign post (L). At the end of Mark House Lane keep straight on at the road junction and cross the Leeds-Liverpool Canal bridge and go down the hill, pass car park (L), on to West St, and pass the Village Hall (L).

Continue down West St to the Main Road, pass two cafes (R). Cross the Main Road, and River Aire bridge, and follow sign to the station, passing pub (R) and St Andrew's Church (L).