



i **Brief Description:** This walk is mainly along the old A59 road which, in some places, is still in use for light, local traffic but is mostly just an accessible pathway. The route goes from Bolton Bridge past the Devonshire Arms Hotel to Bolton Abbey Railway Station where, on most weekends and weekdays in high summer, steam and diesel trains can be seen and ridden.

🔍 **Features of Interest:** Embsay and Bolton Abbey Steam Railway - wheelchair access on normal days however, Stately Train Services (when running) are accessible only to those who can transfer (01756 710614); Station Cafe; Bolton Abbey Station (when trains are running); Abbey Tea Rooms (01756 710797) with free car parking; 'A Good Idea' local produce shop and cafe (01756 711272) has seating outside and serves ice cream in the summer.

Nearby, Hesketh Farm Park is a local accessible farm attraction where you can lend a hand with the much-loved animals or enjoy the large indoor and outdoor play areas.

Nearest accessible toilets: Bolton Abbey Station (when trains are running), Abbey Tea Rooms (patrons only); Bolton Abbey Car Park; Cavendish Pavilion and Strid Visitor Centre during daylight hours only (parking charges apply).



Opening Times: Open access.



Location: Turn North from the A59 on the B6160. Take the first turning on right for free public car parking (six spaces) otherwise there may be alternative parking further along this road just over old bridge (Grid Ref: 073 528).

Use O.S. Explorer 297: Lower Wharfedale and Washburn Valley or OL2: Yorkshire Dales Southern and Western Areas (Grid Ref: 071 529).



Public Transport: Public buses run from Skipton and Harrogate (X59, Monday - Saturday, 2 buses each day) and Ilkley (74, Monday - Saturday every 2 hours) to Bolton Abbey (Buses cannot be guaranteed accessible).

Sunday and Bank Holiday service 800, 874, 883, 884 between Skipton and Ilkley (Not accessible buses).

Traveline: 0871 200 22 33

www.yorkshiretravel.net/welcome.do has a good online journey planner.



Wildlife wonders: You may see crayfish in the beck by the Devonshire Health Spa. Dipper, kingfisher and grey wagtail are common and, in winter, you may see heron, goosander, red-breasted merganser and goldeneye.

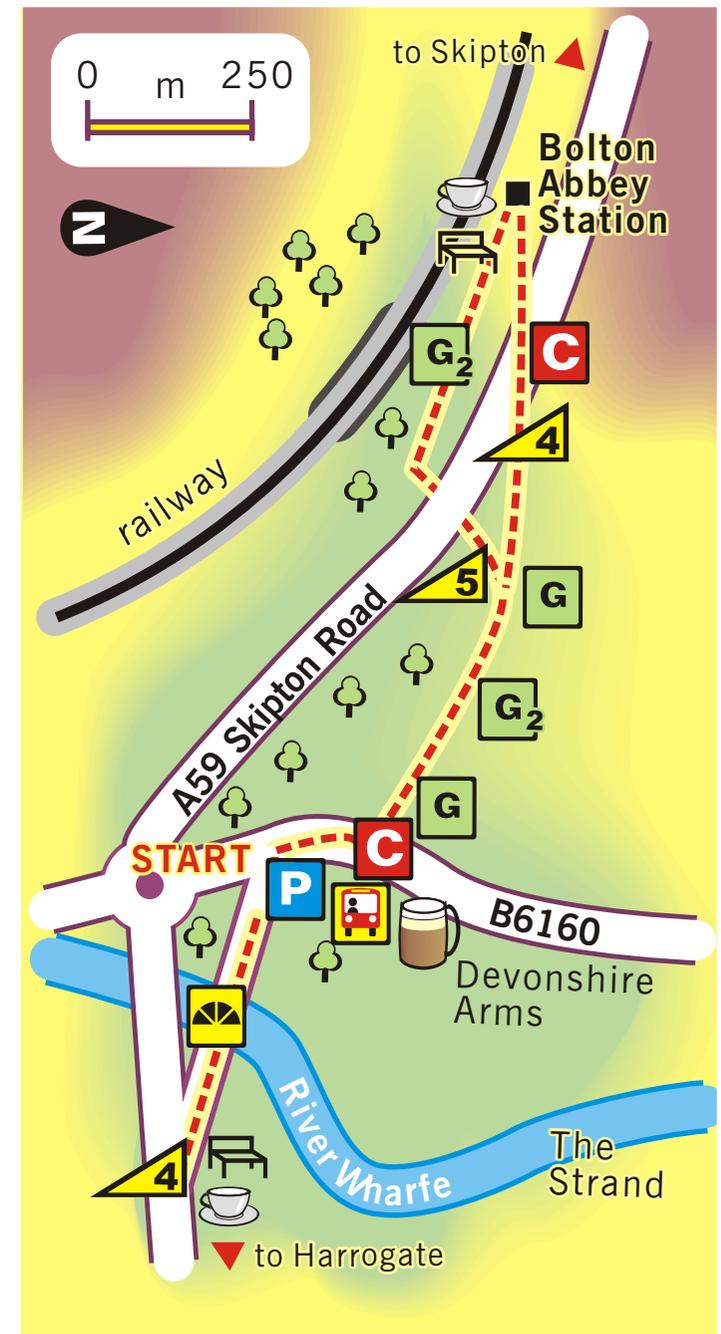


Route details: Starting from the free public parking spaces the route goes in two directions: If you head 200m east along the old road (still open to traffic) then you will cross the old bridge over the River Wharfe (maximum gradient 1:10) and come to a local produce shop and cafe. From the bridge you may see people fly fishing in the river. There is a bench just before the old road peters out and the path joins the main A59 footpath through a gap in the wall.

Alternatively, to go to Bolton Abbey Railway Station from the parking point first head north on the pavement along the right hand side of the B6160 until you reach the Devonshire Arms Hotel buildings. Cross the road with care to the gated entrance of the path which, initially, is a traffic-free continuation of the original A59. Continue on, slightly

uphill (1:25 maximum) passing through two gates along the way. About halfway along, the path narrows to 1m, but it's still based on the original road surface.

After around 500m you will come to a pedestrian gate on the left at which point you have another choice of routes. One continues for a further 100m along the old roadway but then crosses the busy A59, with a short slope of 1:10 to get down on to the road. The other route takes you into a field on the left where the path becomes compacted stone and concrete and takes you through an underpass to the other side of the A59 - it has short sections (20m) with gradient greater than 1:6. After that, the path continues on the other side of the A59 (1:14), passing through two more gates, until you join the pavement alongside the road. The path soon veers off to the left to join the old A59 road by houses. Continue up the road for 30m to the entrance to the station on your left with benches in the car park and along the platform.





i **Brief Description:** This riverside pathway connects Buckden to Hubberholme (where the ashes of famous writer and playwright, J.B.Priestley are interred). The route is partially on a road which is mostly quiet except for local traffic. On a fine day the walk offers spectacular views of Wharfedale.

🔍 **Features of Interest:** accessible toilet (RADAR key needed); disabled parking spaces (charges apply); Buckden Garth accessible picnic area; Town Head Barn free exhibition (accessible but cobbled); car parking (pay & display); information boards; magnificent views. The Buck Inn Pub (Buckden) 01756 761400; The George Inn (Hubberholme) 01756 760223.

Nearest accessible toilets at Buckden, Kettlewell (6½ km) or Hawes (16km).



Opening Times: Open access.



Location: Off the B6160 at Buckden, north of Kettlewell and Grassington. Map: Use OL30: Yorkshire Dales Northern & Central Areas (Grid Ref. 943 773).



Public Transport: Pride of The Dales (01756 753123) run a No.72/72R bus to/from Skipton on Mondays to Saturdays (eight buses a day each way).

Dalesbus run buses to Buckden from York (No. 800), Wakefield (Nos. 870/874), Leeds (Nos. 870/874/800), Ilkley (Nos. 870/874/800/884/871) and Skipton (Nos. 884/871);

Telephone Traveline: 0871 200 22 33

www.yorkshiretravel.net/welcome.do has a good online journey planner.



Wildlife wonders: Flower rich hay meadows in early summer. In springtime there are likely to be lambs in the fields.

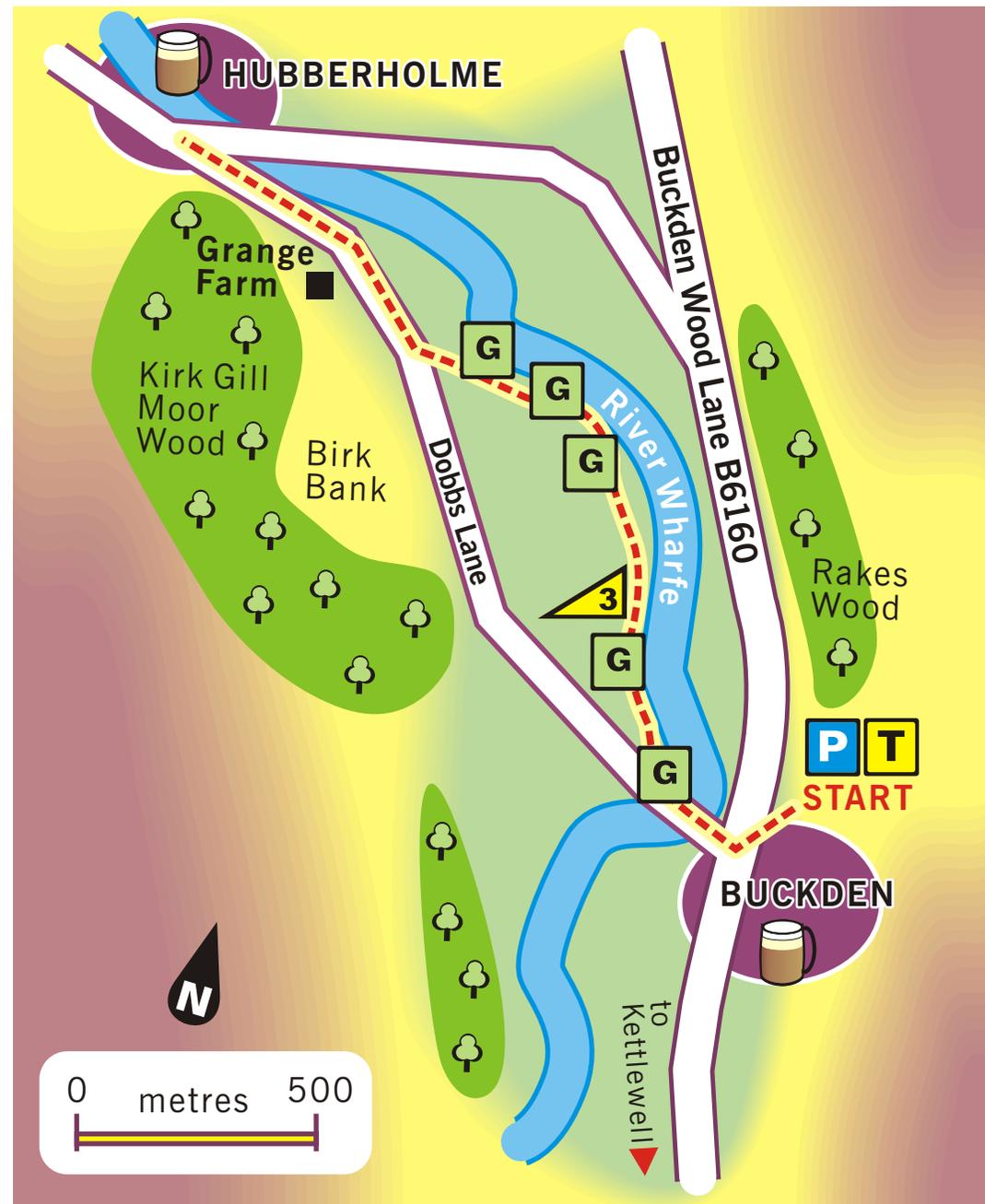




Route details: Leave the car park heading south, slightly downhill and into Buckden and take the road on the right signposted to Hubberholme. Follow the road down for 100m until you cross a bridge over the River Wharfe. Turn right, after the bridge, going through a gate onto a crushed stone path.

The path follows the riverside for the next 900m with a short uphill section (1:12 over 20m). At one section (50m) the path surface can become rough with loose gravel of roughly 30mm diameter. Going through five gates in total brings you out on the road near Hubberholme.

At the junction with the road turn right and follow the road for 600m into Hubberholme.





i **Brief Description:** A nice lateral walk (700m each way) from Burnsall Bridge up the River Wharfe and back again. The river path dates back to Viking times and is part of the Dales Way walk. Burnsall is known for its lovely mid-Dales location and much photographed early 17th century bridge across the River Wharfe. Burnsall Fell looms over the village.

🔍 **Features of Interest:** This small village hosts a pub, cafes, hotels and restaurants as well as a village shop. St. Wilfrids Church has examples of architecture and religious relics dating back to the 11th century. You may see people fishing for trout (during the game fishing season). The August Feast day games include fell running and tug-of-war.

Nearest accessible toilets: Tarmac car park on right as you enter village from south or Grassington National Park Car Park (6½km).



Opening Times: Open access.

Location: Turn North from the A59 on the B6160. Stay on B6160 for seven miles to descend into Burnsall. (Grid Ref: 033 612). Park for free (if there is space) on the roads in the centre of Burnsall or pay £3 to use the tarmac car park (on the right as you enter the village from the south).

Use O.S. Explorer OL2: Yorkshire Dales Southern and Western Areas (Grid Ref: 033 612).



Public Transport: Public buses run to Burnsall from Ilkley, Bolton Abbey and Grassington (74, Monday-Saturday every 2 hours. Buses cannot be guaranteed as accessible). Sundays and Bank Holiday service 800, 874, (not accessible buses).

Traveline: 0871 200 22 33

www.yorkshiretravel.net/welcome.do has a good online journey planner.

Skipton and Craven Action for Disability (SCAD) provide minibus transport for people with disabilities living in and around the Craven area, tel. (01756) 701005.

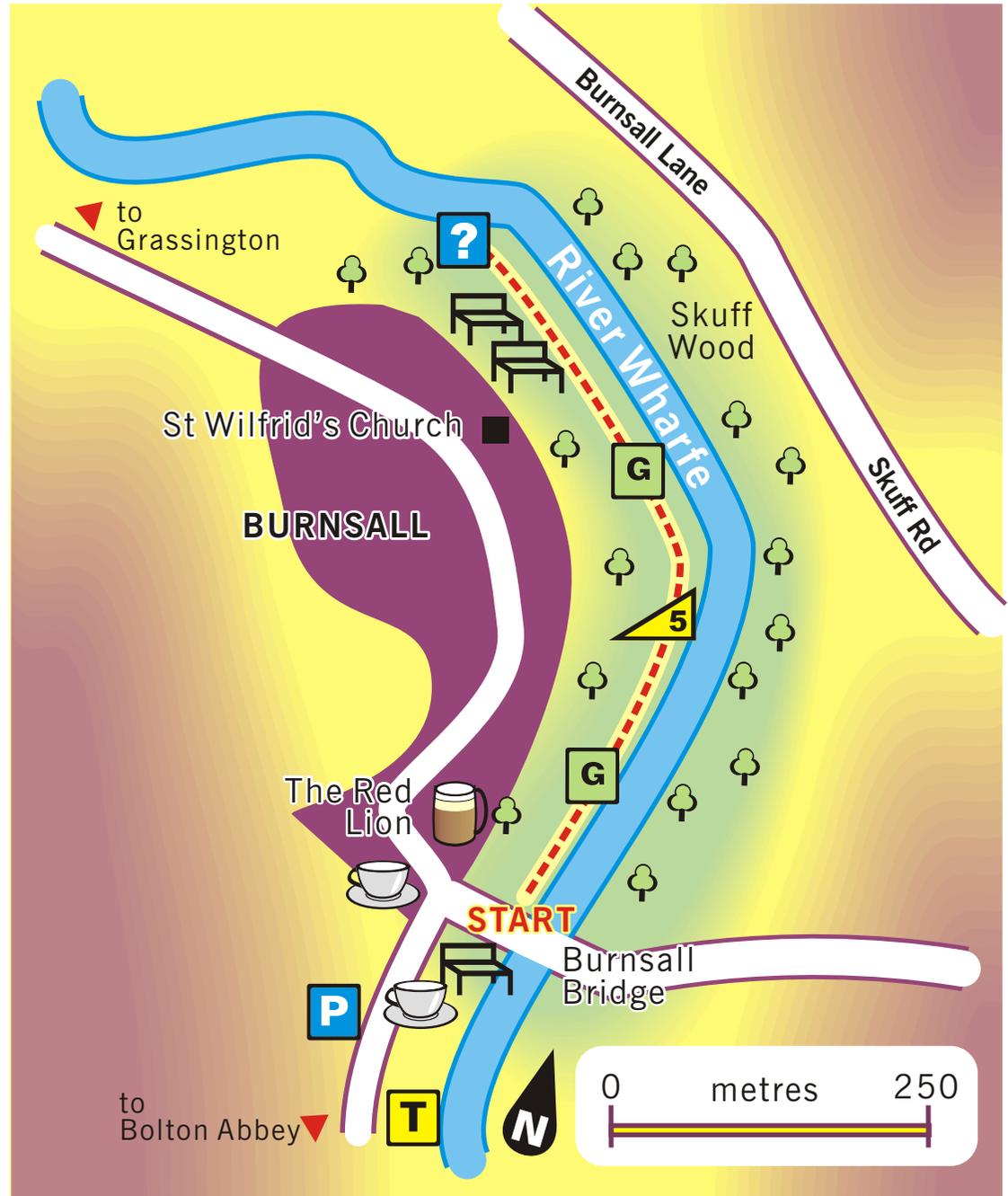


Wildlife wonders: Keep an eye out for wagtails (pied and grey), dippers, common sandpipers and oystercatchers along the way.



Route details: Start from the old bridge across the River Wharfe in Burnsall. Go down the path between the Red Lion Pub and the old bridge following it round to the left onto the riverside. From here the route continues up the riverside for about 700m. There is a section of path that has a gradient of greater than 1:6 over 10m and a section of the path narrows to 0.6m wide. Other than this stretch the maximum gradient is 1:12 over 15m.

There are two kissing gates on the way up river (the narrowest one is 97cm) and two benches and an information board at the far end of the accessible route. There are sections of the route that are made from concrete with a protective rail alongside to prevent you from going into the river. Elsewhere the route is surfaced with compacted stone.





i **Brief Description:** A scenic, 800m, circular woodland walk with bird hides and information about forestry and woodland management.

🔍 **Features of Interest:** bird hides, benches, Dusty Bluebells Tea Room & Shop, picnic benches, accessible toilets. In dry weather, scooters can be booked for a donation - book in advance on 01756 710431.

In this area, also see our accessible walk routes for 'Strid Woods' from the Cavendish Pavilion/Sandholme Car Park (n.b. parking tickets from Strid Visitor Centre car park are valid in all Bolton Abbey Estate car parks) and for 'Bolton Bridge' alongside the Embsay-Bolton Steam Railway.

Nearby, Hesketh Farm Park is a local accessible farm attraction where you can lend a hand with the much-loved animals or enjoy the large indoor and outdoor play areas.

Nearest accessible toilets: Strid Visitor Centre and Cavendish Pavilion (parking charges apply). Bolton Abbey Car Park, Bolton Abbey Station (when trains are running) and Abbey Tea Rooms (patrons only) are also nearby.



Opening Times: 9.30am-4pm all year round.

Location: Turn north from the A59 on the B6160 and go through Bolton Abbey Village and an old archway (you may see the remains of the Abbey on your right). You will see a grand fountain on your right. Stay on the B6160 for another 2½km. Strid Visitor Centre Car Park is on your right just after the caravan park - parking charges apply (£6 per car) Grid Ref: 058 564.

Use O.S. Explorer 297: Lower Wharfedale and Washburn Valley or OL 2: Yorkshire Dales Southern and Western Areas



Public Transport: Public buses run from Skipton and Harrogate (X59, Monday-Saturday, two buses each day) and Ilkley (74, Monday-Saturday every 2 hours) to Bolton Abbey (Buses cannot be guaranteed as accessible). Sundays and Bank Holiday service 800, 874, 883, 884 between Skipton and Ilkley (Not accessible buses).

Traveline: 0871 200 22 33

www.yorkshiretravel.net/welcome.do has a good online journey planner.



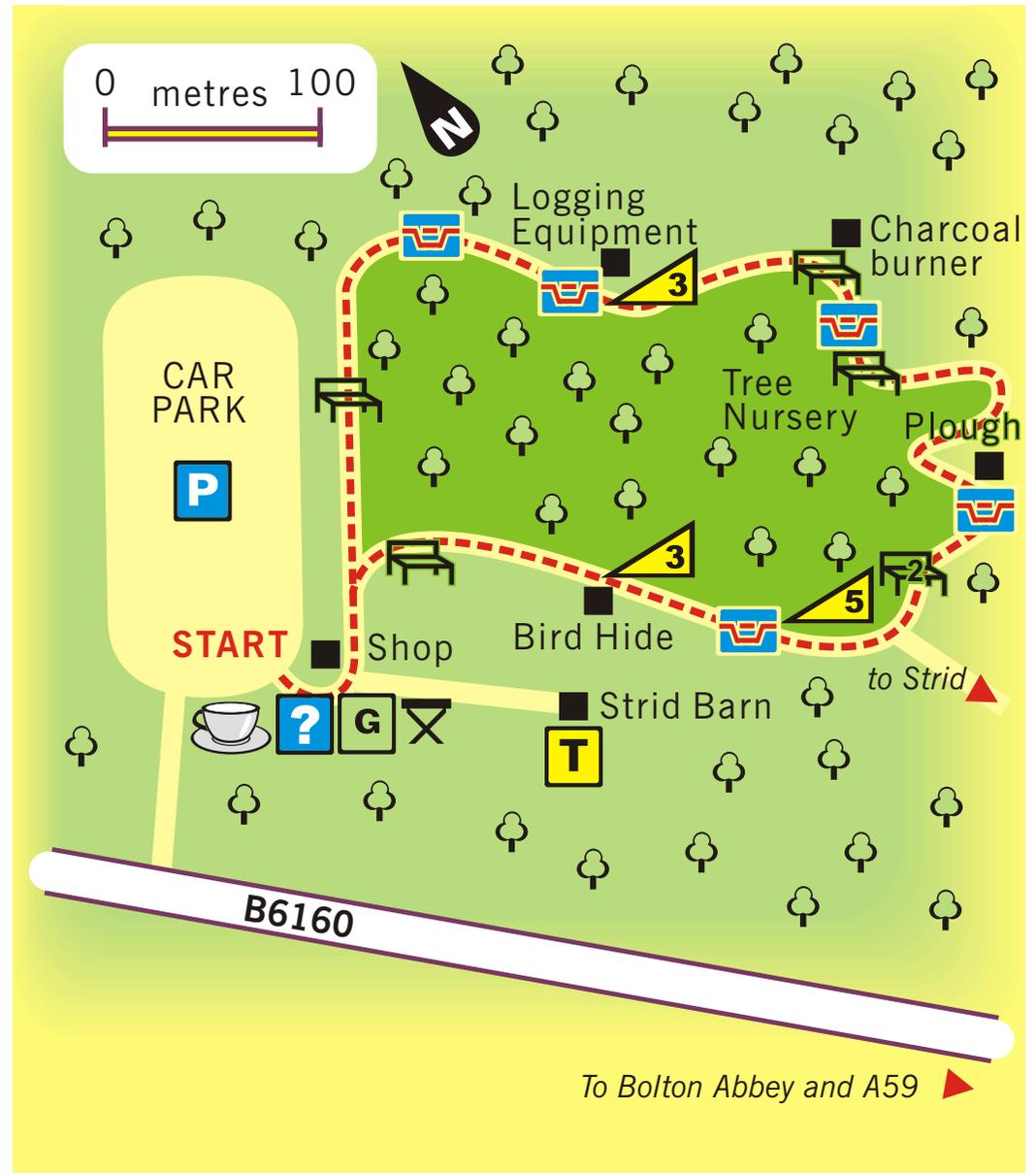
Wildlife wonders: coal, blue and great tits, nuthatch, treecreeper, heron, pied flycatcher and wood warbler. Native woodlands with an under-storey of bluebells, dog's mercury, ramsons, sanicle, golden saxifrage, mountain melick and the uncommon yellow star-of-Bethlehem.



Route details: The Cumberland Trail starts from directly behind the Strid Visitor Centre. The surface is made up of compacted stone with passing places and plenty of benches on the way round. The maximum gradient is 1:7 over 10m with 1:12 and 1:14 in other places.



Heron



Wild About Wharfedale Harland Way



Breakfree 



i **Brief Description:** This route follows the largely smooth and flat Harland Way for 8km through picturesque countryside from Spofforth to Thorp Arch Retail Park taking in Wetherby along the way. The route could also be finished or started from Wetherby to give a shorter walk or cycle.

🔍 **Features of Interest:** Spofforth Castle, disused railway, wildlife, Wetherby market town and Wetherby racecourse. There is a cafe at Thorpe Arch with an accessible toilet and there are various pubs and restaurants in Spofforth and Wetherby.

Nearest accessible toilets: The Cafe and Bistro at Thorp Arch retail park open 7 days a week from 8:00am 4.30pm (01937 845430). The Shambles, Wetherby (Grid Ref: 403 483) Wetherby Services on the A1 (Grid Ref: 413 502)



Opening Times: Open access.



Location: Entrance off the A661 down East Park Road near the Railway Inn pub in Spofforth (Grid Ref: 367 506). From Wetherby, park in Freemans Way and go in either direction (Grid Ref: 411 486). Parking at Thorp Arch although on-road route to start of path (Grid Ref 448 464).

Use O.S. Explorer 289: Leeds, Harrogate, Wetherby and Pontefract



Public Transport: Transdev run the 770 bus between Leeds and Harrogate via Thorp Arch, Wetherby and Spofforth and the 77 bus between Wetherby and Harrogate via Spofforth.

Harrogate District Travel (01423) 566061.

Little Red Bus fully accessible (01423) 526655.

Traveline: 0871 200 22 33

www.yorkshiretravel.net/welcome.do has a good online journey planner.

Wild About Wharfedale

Harland Way



Route details: The route follows solid, well maintained footpaths of tarmac and crushed stone which will present no problems for walkers or cyclists in most conditions. Although the route is largely flat, wheelchairs may struggle on short inclines as steep as 1:7 up to 25m long.

The walk between Spofforth and Wetherby is well suited to people with lower levels of mobility with benches at a maximum of 500m intervals. The route from Wetherby to Thorp Arch has no benches and a fast road to cross. Scooter users will require a RADAR key for some gates (wheelchairs and bikes can negotiate adjacent chicanes).



Wildlife wonders: A variety of wildlife and birds (including red kites), trees and wildflowers may be encountered on this route, with evidence of rabbit warrens and badger sets.



Rabbit



Bullfinch



Wild About Wharfedale
Ilkley Riverside Walk

D5

Breakfree 



i **Brief Description:** This short (2½km) circular walk follows the banks of the River Wharfe through picturesque waterside gardens and playing fields in the centre of Ilkley. The route can be walked in any direction and should present no problems for people with lower levels of mobility and wheelchair users.

🔍 **Features of Interest:** Car parking (free), views, gardens, woodlands, playgrounds, Manor House Museum, cafes, restaurants, waterfowl, the Old Bridge and the suspension bridge.

Nearest accessible toilets: Brook Lane Car Park (Grid Ref: 116 477) or Otley Swimming Pool and Lido (when open).



Opening Times: Open access.



Location: Parking is available on New Brook Street. (Grid Ref: 117 480)

Use O.S. Explorer 297: Lower Wharfedale and Washburn Valley.



Public Transport: The X84 bus runs between Leeds and Skipton via Ilkley or the X52 and X53 buses run between Harrogate and Ilkley. Trains also run between Leeds and Ilkley at intervals of around half an hour.

For details check: <http://www.wymetro.com>

Traveline: 0871 200 22 33

www.yorkshiretravel.net/welcome.do has a good online journey planner.



Wildlife wonders: A variety of bird life can be seen around this part of the River Wharfe, from ducks and herons to dippers and kingfishers. At the right time of year, tortoiseshell and red admiral butterflies can also be seen along the riverside.

red admiral



 Route details: Start at New Brook Street and descend onto the northern riverside. You have a choice of following the route clockwise or anticlockwise with the Old Bridge and the suspension bridge marking the furthest limits. Paths are smooth, well maintained tarmac or aggregate.

The route is largely flat with the exception of the Old Bridge and the New Brook Street crossings where inclines are as steep as 1:6 for up to 25m. Benches are abundant on the route with a maximum distance between resting places of 500m.

The route will present no problems for weak walkers; however, wheelchair users may struggle when crossing the old bridge and when crossing New Brook Street. Care should be taken when crossing New Brook Street as it may be busy with fast moving traffic.





i Brief Description: Otley has a wealth of wheelchair accessible parks based around the River Wharfe and close to the centre of this thriving market town. Cafes and accessible toilets abound, with activities for the whole family.

🔍 Features of Interest: accessible toilet: Farnley Lane - RADAR Key needed (Grid Ref: 203 462); car parking (free); disability friendly children's playground; views; waterfowl; weir

🚪 Opening Times: Open access.



Location: Off the B6451, park on Farnley Lane, West Lodge (Grid Ref: 205 463) or pay & display in car park off A659 Beech Hill (Blue Badge holders free)

Use O.S. Explorer 297: Lower Wharfedale & Washburn Valley (Grid Ref. 201 459).



Public Transport: West Yorkshire Metro runs accessible buses from Leeds, Skipton, Harrogate, Guiseley, Tadcaster, Wetherby. For details: www.wymetro.com

Traveline: 0871 200 22 33

www.yorkshiretravel.net/welcome.do has a good online journey planner.



Wildlife wonders: A variety of waterfowl can always be seen on the river and banks but look to the sky and you may see an impressive red kite, a large bird reintroduced to the area in recent years.



Red kite



Route details: The walk is based on both banks of the River Wharfe on opposite sides of the B6451 (Bridge Street) with parking available at each end or in the town centre (5 minutes away). On the south bank, Manor Garth Park is a pleasant strip of green space with picnic benches - remains of the Manor can be seen in places.

Cross the B6451 into Tittybottle Park - stories about where this name originated, range from the park's shape to a reference to nannies who would bring their infant charges for a walk (and presumably a feed!). There are lots of benches for people to sit and watch the river (and world) go by.

Crossing over the river on the B6451 pavement to the north bank will take you into Wharfemeadows Park. The park follows the riverside and has a crown green bowling club, tennis courts, playgrounds and a skate park.

There are also many flowerbeds for the horticulturally minded as well as a cafe, accessible toilets and many benches throughout. There are magnificent views of the Wharfe (and its weir) from many vantage points en route.





i **Brief Description:** This accessible path is just over 1½km each way, starting at the Cavendish Pavilion and ending at a viewing platform from where you can see a series of rapids and waterfalls. This route takes in Strid Woods which are part of a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI).

🔍 **Features of Interest:** The Cavendish Pavilion is open all year round and offers meals and light snacks. There is indoor and outdoor seating available as well as picnic benches on the river bank. There is also a shop with mobility scooter hire (April-October at dry times only), toilets and an ice cream kiosk. There's a bodger's camp

set up halfway along the route, at times displaying traditional methods of wood turning and selling various woodland products. Events for the whole family are run throughout the year - go to www.cavendishpavilion.co.uk for details.

Nearby, Hesketh Farm Park is a local accessible farm attraction where you can lend a hand with the much-loved animals or enjoy the large indoor and outdoor play areas. There is also Embsay-Bolton Steam Railway - for an accessible walk from Bolton Bridge see our Break Free route.

Nearest accessible toilets: Cavendish Pavilion and Strid Visitor Centre (parking charges apply). Bolton Abbey Car Park, Bolton Abbey Station (when trains are running) and Abbey Tea Rooms (patrons only) are also nearby.



Opening Times: 9am-6pm (& open later in summer).



Location: Turn north from the A59 on the B6160 and go through Bolton Abbey Village and an old archway (you may see the remains of the Abbey on your right). You will see a grand fountain on your right with the entrance to the Cavendish Pavilion and Sandholme car park just afterwards also on the right (SE 077552) - car parking charges apply (£6 per car).

Use O.S. Explorer 297: Lower Wharfedale & Washburn Valley or OL 2: Yorkshire Dales Southern & Western Areas.



Public Transport: Public buses run from Skipton and Harrogate (X59, Monday-Saturday, 2 buses each day) and Ilkley (74, Monday-Saturday every 2 hours) to Bolton Abbey (Buses cannot be guaranteed as accessible). Sunday and Bank Holiday service 800, 874, 883, 884 between Skipton and Ilkley (Not accessible buses).

Traveline: 0871 200 22 33
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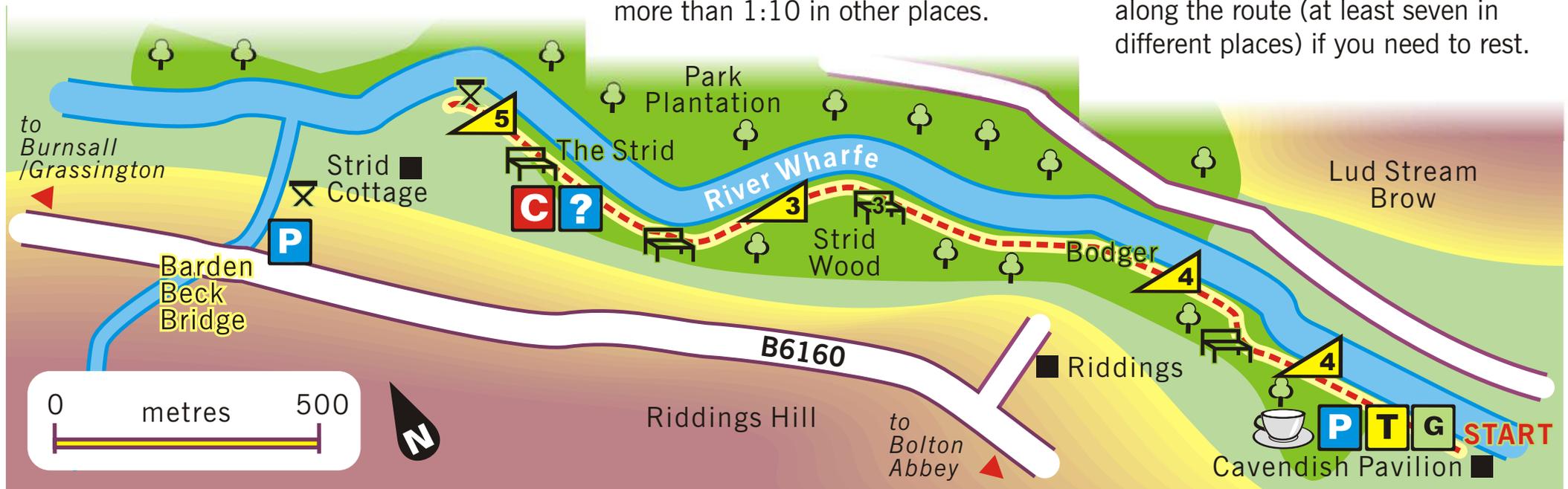
Wildlife wonders: Coal, blue & great tits. Nuthatch, treecreeper, heron, pied flycatcher, wood warbler and goosander. Native woodlands with an understorey of bluebells, dog's mercury, ramsons, sanicle, golden saxifrage, mountain melick and the uncommon yellow star-of-Bethlehem.



Route details: The surface is made up of compacted stone with passing places and benches along the full length of the route. The route undulates and includes gradients up to 1:8 over short distances with nothing more than 1:10 in other places.

From the car park follow the riverside past the Cavendish Pavilion, shop and toilets keeping the river on your right hand side.

The path meanders up and down for the next 1½km, always with the river on your right through a variety of woodland (in springtime there is a fantastic carpet of bluebells) with views to the river and the banks on the far side. If in doubt, follow the green trail markers until the sign advising no wheelchairs beyond this point. There are benches all the way along the route (at least seven in different places) if you need to rest.



General Information on Break Free walks

Each walk route has a letter and a number (for example **A3**) in the top right hand corner which describes the **surface** and **slope** of the **most difficult** parts of the main route. With the map and text, this will help you to decide whether to do the whole route or just the easier sections. The symbol  in the top right corner indicates that all or part of a route is suitable for Companion Cycling.

Surface: (in dry weather)

- A** = Smooth (tarmac, paving, concrete, etc.)
- B** = Quite smooth (short grass, compacted earth, compacted stone, etc.)
- C** = Uneven (worn grass, loose stone, some ruts and tree roots, etc.)
- D** = Rough (long grass, soft earth, sand or gravel, severe ruts and tree roots, etc.)

Slope:

-  = Gentle (up to 1:20)
-  = Quite gentle (up to 1:16)
-  = Fairly steep (up to 1:12)
-  = Steep (up to 1:8)
-  = Very steep (over 1:8)



For information about other Break Free routes in this series visit www.opencountry.org.uk

Key to Map

-  Suggested Route
-  Suitable for Companion Cycling
-  Information Board
-  Accessible Toilets
-  Gate - Accessible to manual wheelchairs and most electric scooters
-  Slope or hill with gradient value, see detail (left)
-  Viewpoint
-  Benches/Seating
-  Picnic Area
-  Bus Stop
-  Woodland
-  Pond
-  Car Parking
-  Passing Place
-  Toilets not accessible
-  Landmark buildings
-  Steps
-  Childrens Play Area
-  Cafe/Refreshments
-  Public House
-  Caution (various)
-  Motorcycle barrier

Please note: apart from 'slope', a numeral or an 'x' with a symbol indicates there are multiple features along a stretch of the route.



YORKSHIRE DALES
National Park Authority
Sustainable Development Fund

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