






Each card has a letter & number (for example **A3**) in the top right hand corner. It 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 bicycle symbol indicates all or part of the route is suitable for companion cycling.

## Surface Quality (in dry weather)

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

-  - 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)



is a partnership providing information for people who have difficulty getting out into the Countryside.

Whilst information in this pack is considered accurate as of 2024, we cannot take responsibility for any errors or omissions. This pack is free. If you would like to support Open Country in helping people to access and enjoy the countryside, please visit [opencountry.org.uk](https://opencountry.org.uk)



wakefield@opencountry.org.uk • 07426 716677

Countryside for All



## Countryside for All

### Accessible Trails in the Wakefield District



Accessible Trails in the Wakefield District

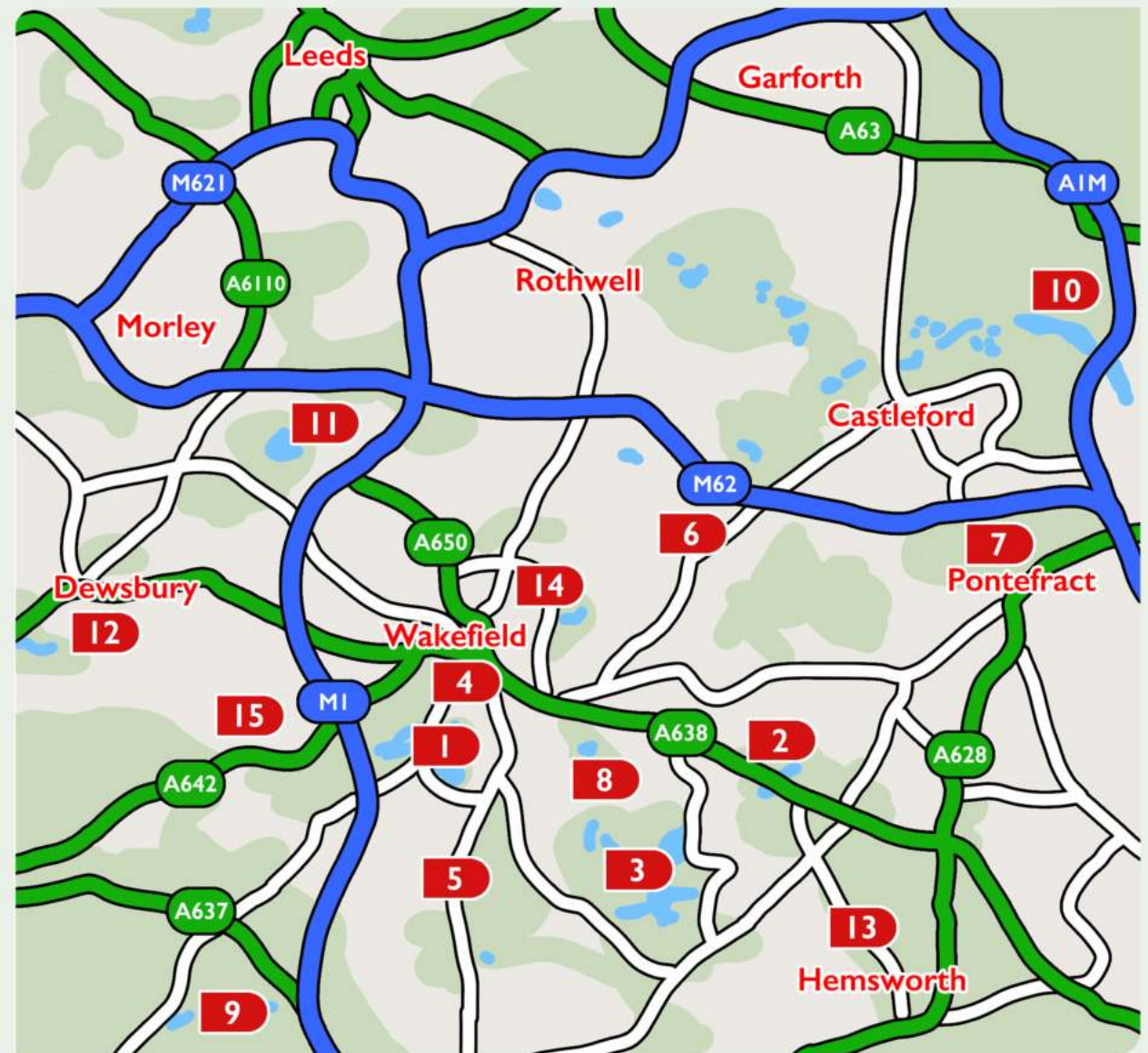




## TRAIL CARD & MAP KEY

- |  |  |  |                      |
|--|--|--|----------------------|
|  | Suggested Route                                  |  | Viewpoint            |
|  | Alternative Route                                |  | Motorcycle Barrier   |
|  | Slope/Hill (Level)                               |  | Speed Humps          |
|  | Linked Trail                                     |  | Steps (and how many) |
|  | Suitable for Cycling                             |  | Café                 |
|  | Trail Start Point                                |  | Public House         |
|  | Parking  |  | Bench/Seat           |
|  | Information Board                                |  | Picnic Area          |
|  | Bus Stop   |  | Playground           |
|  | Accessible Toilet                                |  | Cattle Grid          |
|  | Gate Accessible to most Wheelchairs and Scooters |  | Trees/Wood           |
|  | Gate not Accessible to Wheelchairs               |  | Lake/Pond            |
|  | Caution  |  | Landmark Building    |

- |                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| <b>1</b> Pugneys Country Park      | <b>9</b> Yorkshire Sculpture Park               |
| <b>2</b> National Trust Nostell    | <b>10</b> RSPB Fairburn Ings                    |
| <b>3</b> Anglers Country Park      | <b>11</b> Ardsley Reservoir                     |
| <b>4</b> Wakefield Parks           | <b>12</b> Crow Nest Park                        |
| <b>5</b> Newmillerdam Country Park | <b>13</b> Hemsworth Water Park & Vale Head Park |
| <b>6</b> Haw Hill Park             | <b>14</b> Stanley Canal                         |
| <b>7</b> Pontefract Park           | <b>15</b> Carr Lodge Park                       |
| <b>8</b> Walton Colliery           |   |



West  
Yorkshire  
Combined  
Authority

Tracy  
Brabin  
Mayor of  
West Yorkshire

Dedicated to the memory of Nicky Serlin,  
who adored walking outdoors.



**i** **Brief Description:** This 1.25 mile (2km) scenic, circular route follows the path around the lake. As well as plenty of activities for children, the site offers an array of wildlife to spot from numerous vantage points.

**♿** **Access and Facilities:** 7 Blue Badge Bays, Accessible Toilet (RADAR key) open between 9am and 4pm.

**Q** **Features of Interest:** 2 Accessible Bird Hides, Benches every 300-400m, Café, Children's Events, Cycle Parking, Miniature Railway, Outdoor Gym, Play Equipment & Trails, Seasonal Activities, Viewpoints, Visitor Centre.

**📍** **Location:** Asdale Road, Denby Dale Road, WF2 7EQ. Approximately 2 miles south of Wakefield, just off Denby Dale Road and 2 miles from the M1, junction 39.  
**What3Words:** laminated.musically.quest.





**Public Transport:** The nearest bus stop is on Denby Dale Road, a short walk from the entrance to the park. Buses 107 & X1, operate regular services from Wakefield Bus Station.



**Route Details:** There are no gates on the recommended route. Paths are at least 2m wide throughout the site, and generally flat although there is a short hill by the 'beach' (3). The paths are well compacted but there are a few areas of more uneven ground (C). Puddles can form after heavy rain.





**Public Transport:** There is a bus stop at the main entrance to the estate (10 to 15 minute walk to and from Stable Courtyard). The 496 & 485 buses depart every 15 minutes from Wakefield Bus Station.



**Route Details:** The path between the car park, Stable Courtyard and House is made of tarmac and mostly level (A1). There are cobbles inside the Stable Courtyard and the paths around the lake are rutted in places (C). The paths around the parkland are made of compacted stone (B) and are undulating in parts, including the path down to the lakes from the Stable Courtyard (4) and up to the Obelisk (3). All paths are at least 1.5m wide.



2

## National Trust Nostell

C4



**Brief Description:** This site is managed by the National Trust. You can follow the network of accessible paths around the parkland, enjoying views of wildlife, the grand stately home, parkland and ancient woodland.



**Access and Facilities:** Accessible Toilets, Admission Charge to House and Garden, Blue Badge Car Park, Braille Guides (in the House), Changing Places Toilet. Buggies and Mobility Scooters can be hired from reception; contact 01942 863892.

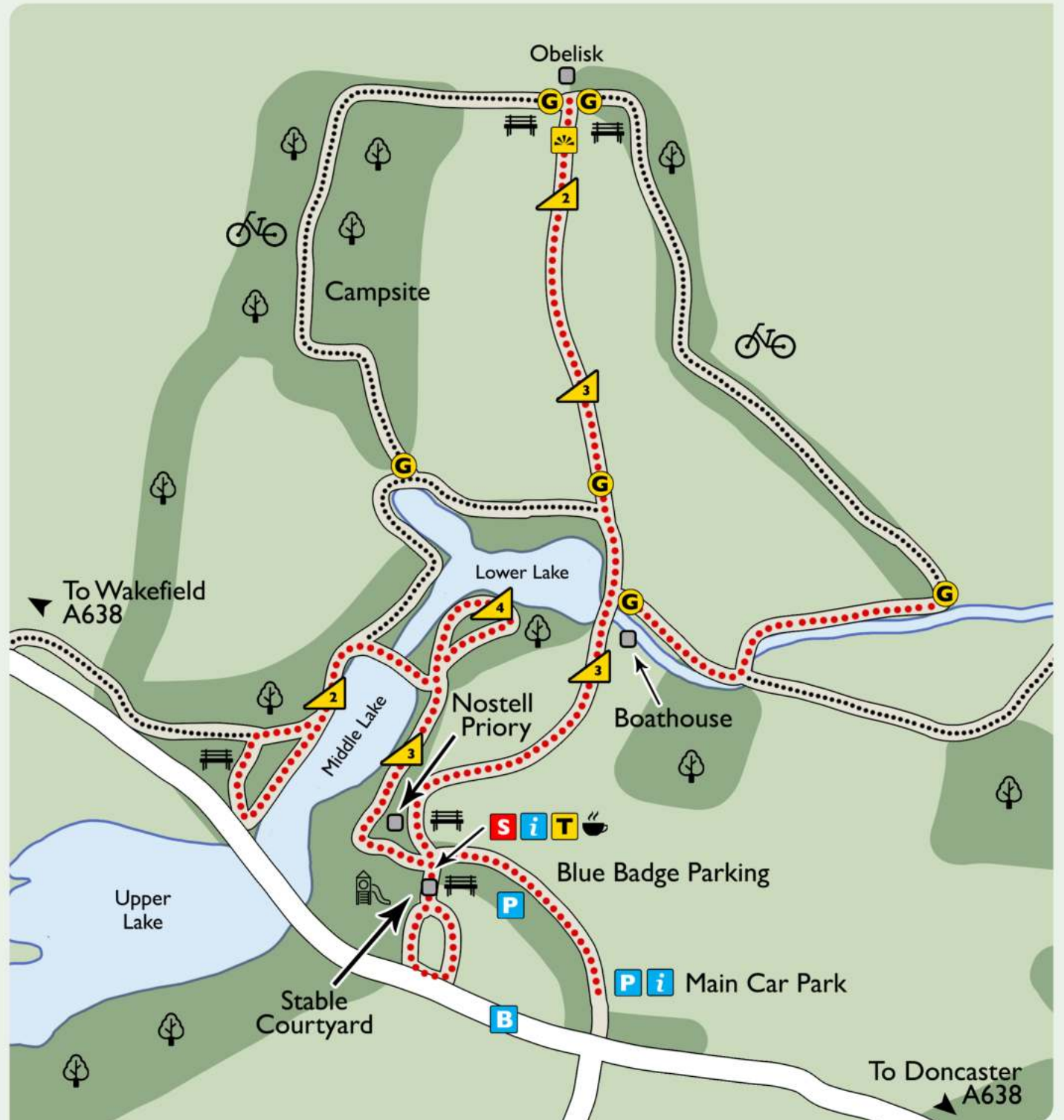


**Features of Interest:** Benches, Bird Watching, Café, Cycle Trail, Formal Gardens, Lakes, Obelisk, Parkland, Polar Adventure Play Area, Seasonal Activities, Shop, Stable Courtyard, Stately Home, Thomas Chippendale Exhibits, Viewpoints.



**Location:** Doncaster Road, Nostell, Wragby, WF4 1QE. 7 miles southeast of Wakefield on Doncaster Road.  
**What3Words:** collision.harmlessly.nightcap.









**i** **Brief Description:** A pleasant 2 mile (3.2km) walk around the lake near woodland, in a rural setting on the outskirts of Wakefield. There is a 4 mile audio tour available called the 'Waterton Trail' (not suitable for wheelchair users).

**♿** **Access and Facilities:** 5 Blue Badge Bays, Accessible Toilet (RADAR key), 2 Mobility Scooters free to hire.

**🔍** **Features of Interest:** Accessible Bird Hides, Benches, Café, Children's Playground, Picnic Area, Room on the Broom Adventure Trail, Visitor Centre, Wildlife Watching.

**📍** **Location:** Haw Park Lane, Wintersett, WF4 2EB. 4 miles southeast of Wakefield. The nearest town is Crofton  
**What3Words:** shepherds.nurtures.stolen.

**🚌** **Public Transport:** The nearest bus stop is in Wintersett village (0.5 miles). Catch the 195 or 196 bus to Newstead from Wakefield Bus Station. Sandal & Agbrigg Railway Station 3 miles away.



**Route Details:** There is a large frame swing gate by the car park which can be bypassed via a gap at the side. Pathways are at least 1.2m wide throughout and made of crushed stone (B). The route is relatively flat throughout (2). There are some muddy sections which can worsen during wet weather.







**Public Transport:** The 107, 116, 126 and 231 buses leave Wakefield Bus Station on a regular basis and stop at Horbury Road shops, adjacent to Thornes Park Stadium.



**Route Details:** The recommended route provides a circular tour of all three parks, featuring many of the points of interest listed on the front of the card. Wheelchair accessible gates can be found at three entrances to the park (see map for further details). The paths are mainly tarmac but there are some short sections of compacted soil through the woodland areas (C), where there may be tree roots. There are some short, steep inclines (4).

4

## Wakefield Parks

C4



**Brief Description:** This trail covers Thornes, Clarence and Holmfield Parks and offers a variety of different walking routes for varying abilities, close to the city centre. The recommended route is 1.8 miles (3km).



**Access and Facilities:** Free parking at all car parks, Accessible Toilets are available at Thornes Park Athletics Stadium and Leisure Centre off the A642, Horbury Road.

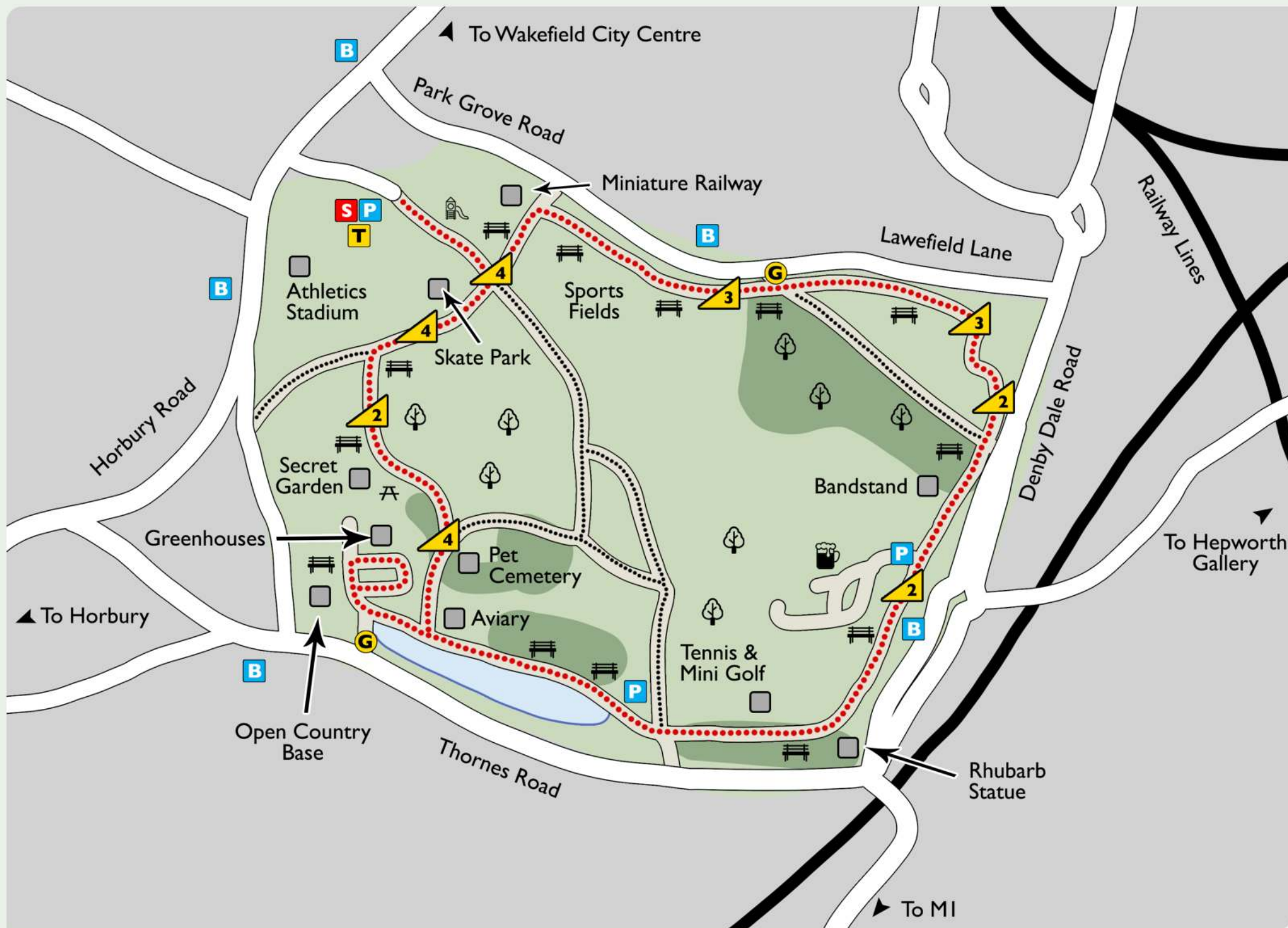


**Features of Interest:** Athletics Stadium, Aviary, Benches, Bowling Green, Cactus House, Café, Children's Playground, Duck Pond, Fountain, Gym Equipment, Miniature Railway, Mini Golf, Pet Cemetery, Plant Nursery, Pub, Rose Garden, Secret Garden, Skate Park, Tennis Courts.



**Location:** Approximately 1 mile south of Wakefield city centre and most easily accessed via the Horbury Road entrance, WF2 8TY. **What3Words:** stud.goal.sums.









**i** **Brief Description:** A fantastic 2 mile (3.2km) circular route around the lake, under ancient trees, with plenty of opportunities to watch the abundant wildlife.

**♿** **Access and Facilities:** 5 Blue Badge Bays (main car park), 1 Blue Badge Bay (toilet block), Accessible Toilet (RADAR key) adjacent to the Dam Inn on Hill Road.

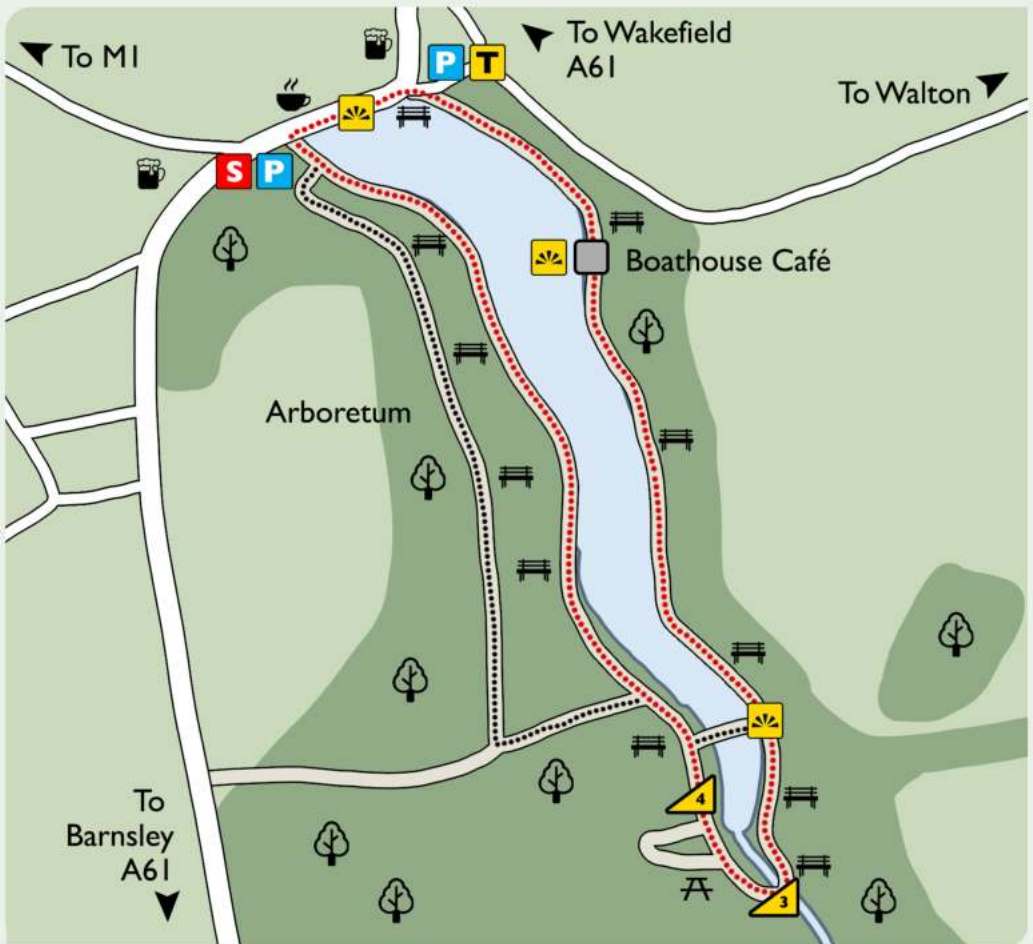
**Q** **Features of Interest:** Arboretum, Benches, Boathouse Café, Gnome Roam Trail, Information Boards, Lakeside Viewpoints, Picnic Areas, Wildlife and Wildfowl.

**🚌** **Public Transport:** The 59A Bus runs regularly to and from Wakefield Bus Station and stops on Barnsley Road.

**📍** **Location:** The site is situated just off Barnsley Road, approximately 4 miles south of Wakefield, WF2 6QQ.  
**What3Words:** invents.mealtime.satellite.



**Route Details:** The best route for wheelchair users is along the lakeside path. The paths are wide and made of well compacted stone (B). There is a steep camber in places and puddles can form after heavy rain. The paths are relatively flat apart from short slopes over bridges (4).







**i** **Brief Description:** Haw Hill Park offers a 0.75 mile, (1.2 km), trail around urban parkland. With recreational activities, wildlife and tree carved sculptures, there is something here for everyone.



**Access and Facilities:** Free Parking, Nearest Accessible Toilets are located at Notcutts Garden Centre on Wakefield Road, Featherstone, 3 miles (4.8 km) from the park.

**What3Words:** knees.unclaimed.famous



**Features of Interest:** Basketball Court, Benches, Bowling Green, Children's Playground, Foodbank, Football Pitch, Outdoor Gym, Picnic Benches, Pond, Race Track, Rose Garden, Sculptures, War Memorial, Wildlife.



**Location:** Haw Hill Park Parking, Castleford Road, Normanton, WF6 2HB.

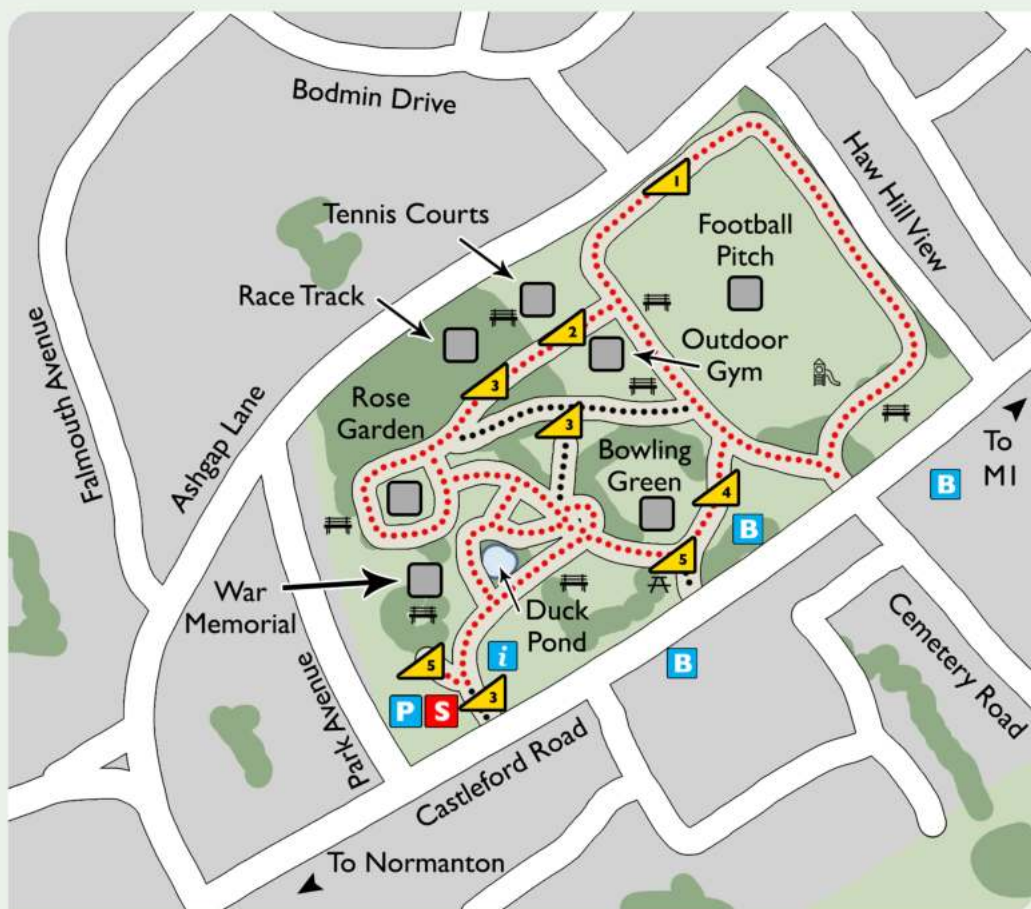
**What3Words:** pheasants.vipers.cubed



**Public Transport:** Bus Nos. 147 & 189 stop on Castleford Road, adjacent to the park entrance.



**Route Details:** Paths around the park are made of a combination of tarmac and crushed stone (B). There are some steep sections (up to 5) although the accessible route highlighted on the map is mainly flat. There are some steps out of the car park, however these can be avoided.







**Brief Description:** Home of Pontefract Racecourse, this park is known as a wildlife haven and was designated as a Local Nature Reserve in 2008.



**Access and Facilities:** Accessible Toilet (RADAR key), Free Parking, Open Access apart from on race days.



**Features of Interest:** Benches, Boating Lake, Children's Playground, Cycling, Fishing, Grassland, Picnic Area, Ponds, Regular Events, Sculpture Trail, Wildflower Meadow.



**Location:** Park Side, Pontefract, WF8 4RD. The park is situated just off junction 32 of the M62.

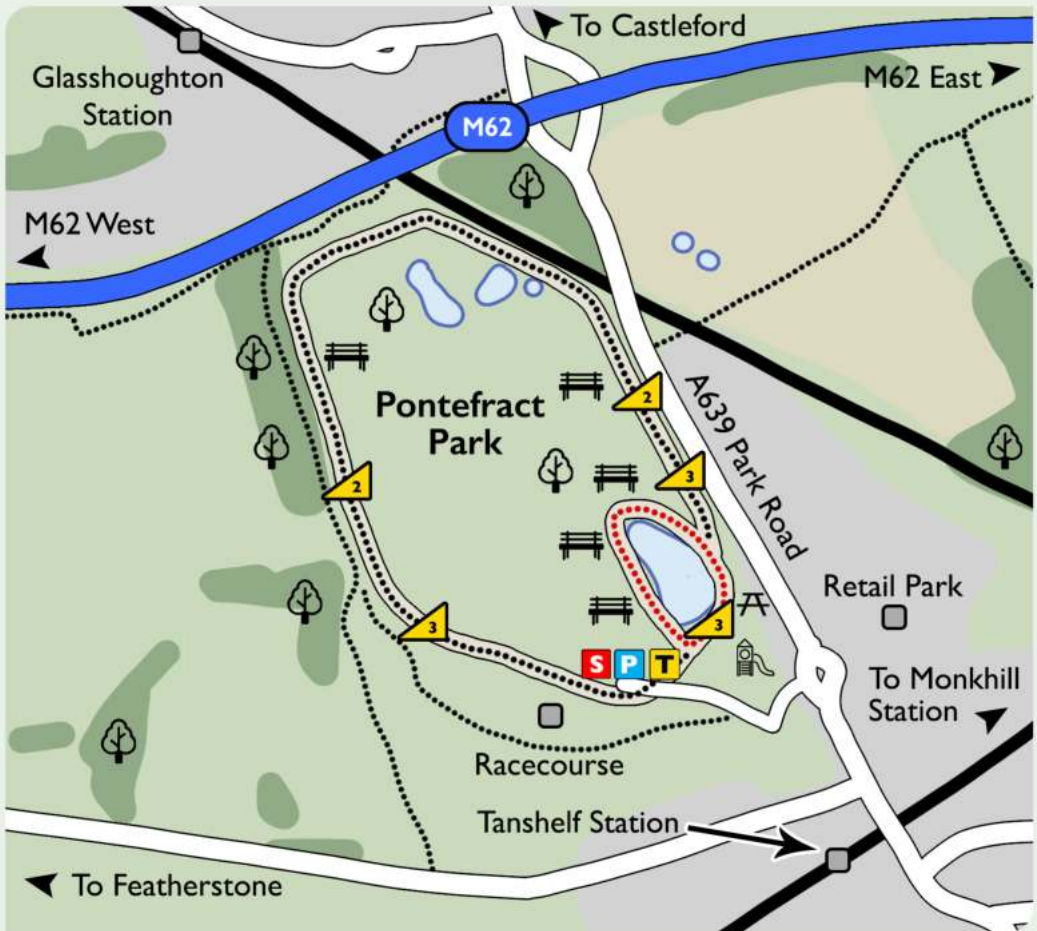
**What3Words:** fresh.smile.wells.



**Public Transport:** Approx. 1 mile from Pontefract Tanshelf and 1.5 mile walk from Pontefract Monkhill Railway Stations. Buses 48 & 149 from Wakefield Bus Station to Pontefract Bus Station and 140 & 141 from Pontefract Bus Station to Park Road.



**Route Details:** The route around the lake is relatively flat (1) with a short slope down from the car park (3). The path is made of tarmac but has some ruts (B). The path around the race course is undulating in places (3) and made from a combination of tarmac, grass and crushed stone (C).







**i** **Brief Description:** Walton Colliery is a 73.6 hectare Country Park with lakes, ponds, woodland and grassland. It features a section of the Barnsley Canal and has been designated a Local Nature Reserve. The site operated as a colliery between 1890 and 1979.

**♿** **Access and Facilities:** 3 Blue Badge Bays, Open Access at all times. Nearest Accessible Toilet is at Anglers Country Park. **What3Words:** shepherds.nurtures.stolen.

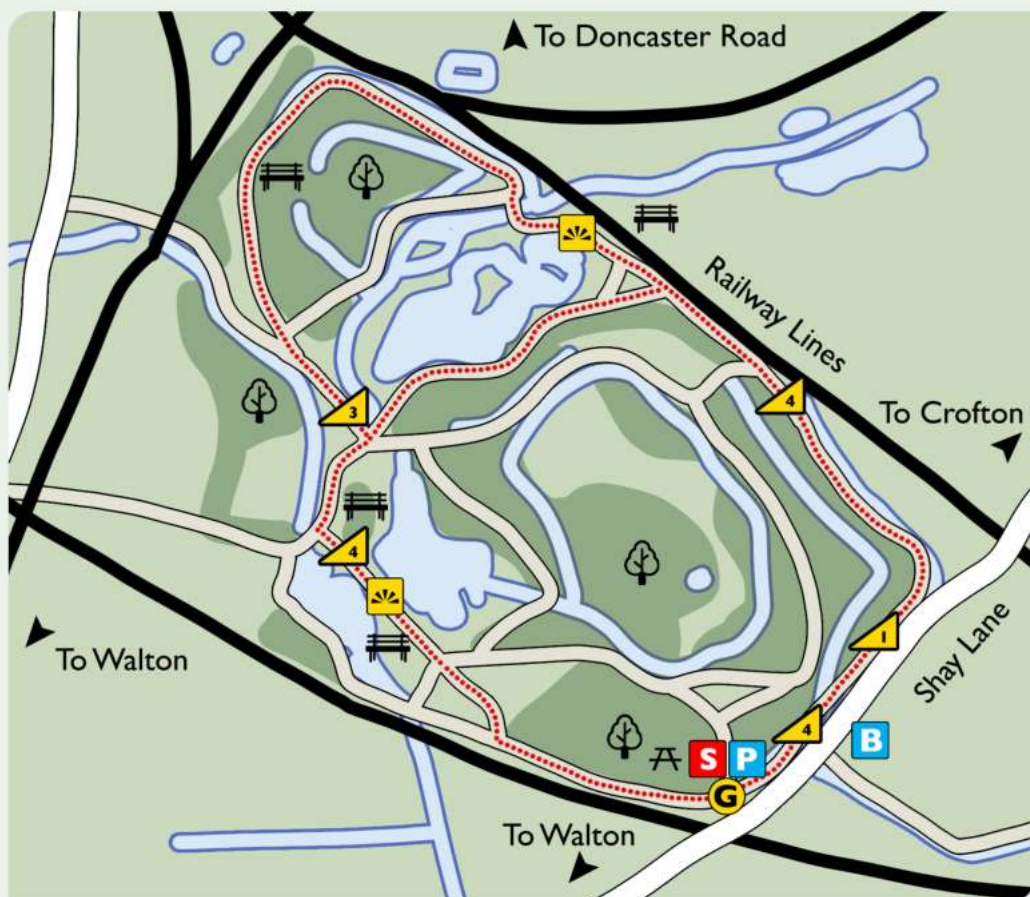
**Q** **Features of Interest:** Benches, Bird Watching, Cycling, Lakes, Views of Passing Trains, Wildlife, Woodland.

**📍** **Location:** Located 3 miles southeast of Wakefield City Centre on Shay Lane, Walton, WF2 6PR.  
**W3W:** hurtles.oiled.urban.

**🚌** **Public Transport:** There are bus stops on Shay Lane, a short walk from the Country Park. Bus No. 196 operates a regular service from Wakefield Bus Station.



**Route Details:** Most paths on the site are wide and made of crushed, compacted stone (B). There are some more uneven sections (C) at the top of the site. The suggested route is relatively flat (I) but there are some steeper sections leading up to the old spoil heaps (4).







**Features of Interest:** Art Galleries, Benches, Cafés, Shop, Nature and Heritage Viewpoints, Outdoor Sculptures.



**Public Transport:** There is a regular bus service from Wakefield Bus Station that stops at the entrance to Yorkshire Sculpture Park (96 Service). For the latest timetable information visit [travelsouthyorkshire.com](http://travelsouthyorkshire.com).



**Route Details:** There is not a set route around the park, please use the routes on the map for guidance or speak to Yorkshire Sculpture Park staff for suggested routes. The paths can get muddy at certain times of the year, especially after heavy, prolonged rainfall. The majority of the routes are on crushed and compacted stone (B). The recommended path is generally flat, there are some swing gates which are wheelchair accessible to most. All paths are at least 1m wide. There are some steep gradients throughout the park (5).



9

## Yorkshire Sculpture Park

B5



**Brief Description:** Yorkshire Sculpture Park is an award-winning art gallery, with indoor and outdoor exhibitions which change throughout the year. The Park is set within the vast grounds of a former Country Estate and offers fantastic views and walks including woodland, country parkland and lakeside trails.



**Access and Facilities:** Blue Badge Parking, Accessible Toilets, Changing Places Toilet, Access Guide & Audio Loop (available from the Information Desk), Quiet Room. Service dogs are welcome throughout the Park, cafés and galleries. Mobility Scooters can be hired for free from the Visitor Centre; contact 01924 832631.



**Location:** The site is situated on the Huddersfield Road, just off junction 38 of the M1 near the village of West Bretton. The Visitor Centre post code is WF4 4LG.  
**What3Words:** hypnotist.stump.island





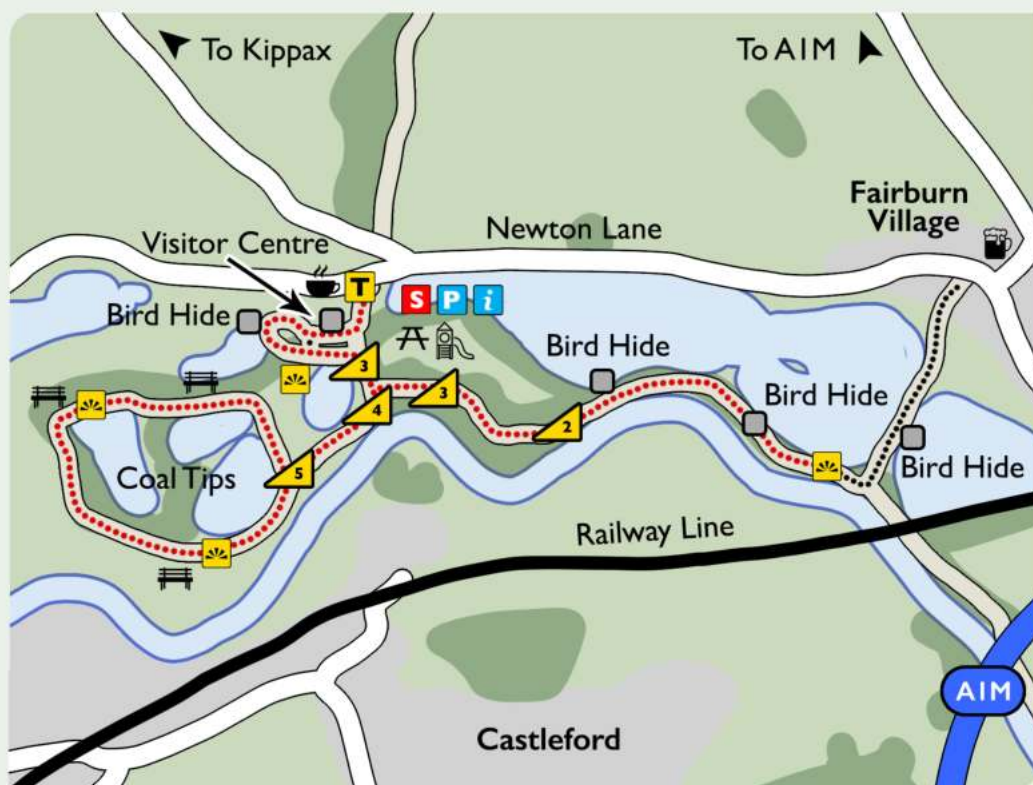




- i** **Brief Description:** This old mining site to the northeast of Castleford has been converted into an accessible wildlife haven, perfect for families and birdwatchers.
- ♿** **Access and Facilities:** 7 Blue Badge Bays, Accessible Toilet (RADAR key), Changing Places Toilet. Motorised Scooters can be hired from the Visitor Centre; contact 01977 628191.
- Q** **Features of Interest:** Accessible Bird Hides, Benches, Children's Play Area, Kingfisher Screen, Picnic Area, Seasonal Pond Dipping, Visitor Centre with Shop and Refreshments, Wildlife Garden.
- 📍** **Location:** Newton Lane, Ledston, Castleford, WF10 2BH. 2 miles northeast of Castleford, just outside the village of Fairburn. **What3Words:** degree.whites.design.
- 🚌** **Public Transport:** The 175 Bus from Castleford stops on Claypit Lane 1.5 (2.4 km) miles from the site. The 493 between Pontefract and Sherburn in Elmet stops on Rawfield Lane in Fairburn, 1.5 miles (2.4 km) from the Visitor Centre.



**Route Details:** The total distance of the suggested route is 4.4 miles (7.1km) but this can be shortened into smaller sections. There is a flat, well signposted 'Discovery Trail' (500m) around the Visitor Centre (1). There are some steep gradients up to the Coal Tips (5). Path surfaces are made of crushed stone (B) and some are liable to flooding.







**Brief Description:** A 1.6 mile (2.5km), flat circular reservoir walk in northwest Wakefield, managed by Yorkshire Water.



**Access and Facilities:** Free Parking, Open Access at all times. Nearest Accessible Toilet is at Carr Gate Garden Centre, Bradford Road, WF2 0SY.



**Features of Interest:** Benches, Bird Watching, Flat Paths, Great Views over Wakefield, Rural Setting.



**Location:** The car park and main entrance are located off Haigh Moor Road in West Ardsley, WF3 1EE. There is a 2m height barrier in place at the car park entrance.

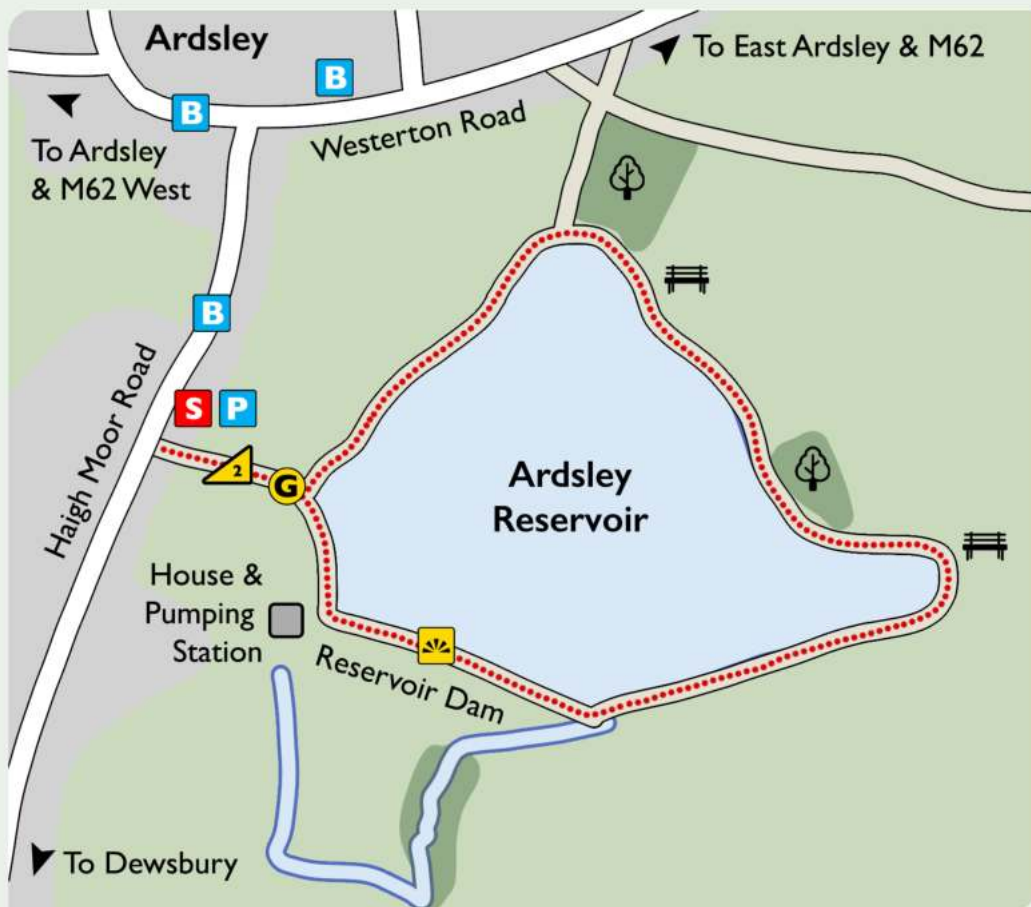
**What3Words:** nest.seated.unwanted.



**Public Transport:** Bus stops are located on Westerton Road and Haigh Moor Road. The 425 bus runs a regular service from Wakefield Bus Station to Westerton Road.



**Route Details:** This circular walk is flat throughout (1). The path to and from the car park has a slight slope (2). All paths are prone to puddles after heavy rain. The paths are made of compacted stone and are at least 1.5m wide (B). The gate at the entrance is operated by a RADAR key.







**Brief Description:** Crow Nest Park was opened in 1893 with a view to bringing the countryside into an industrial area. It is a formal park and garden with lots to see.



**Access and Facilities:** Free Parking, Open Access at all times. Nearest Accessible Toilet is at West Dewsbury Community Centre, Church Street, WF13 3LA.



**Features of Interest:** Adventure Playground, Basketball Court, Benches, Birdlife, Bowling Green, Covered Seating Areas, Greenhouse, Lake, Outdoor Gym, Statues and Sculptures, Tennis Courts, Tree Collection, War Memorial, Wildflower Garden, Wildlife Trail.



**Location:** The park is located on the outskirts of Dewsbury Town Centre on the Heckmondwike Road, WF13 2SG.

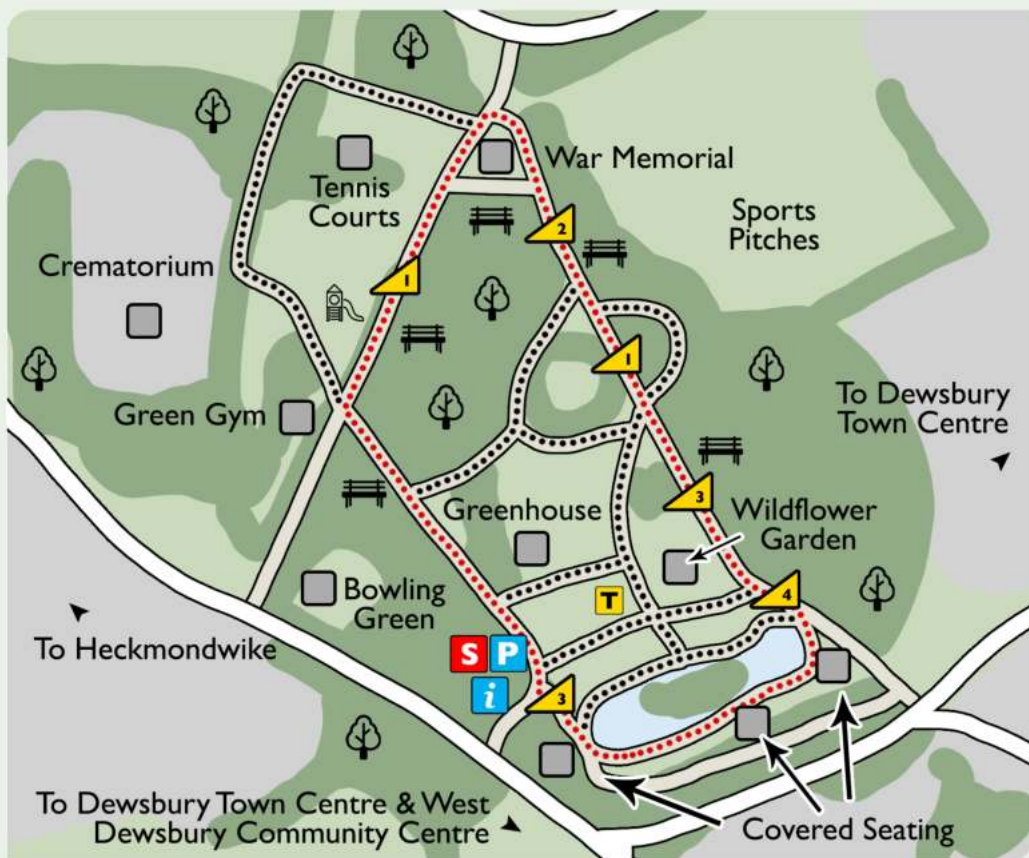
**What3Words:** mobile.moon.manliness.



**Public Transport:** The 213 Bus from Dewsbury Bus Station stops outside the park. Dewsbury Railway Station is 1 mile from the park.



**Route Details:** The park is situated on a hillside so some paths have steep inclines (4). All paths are wide and made of tarmac (A). Although there is a public toilet on site, it is not open all the time and is not accessible.







**Public Transport:** The 496 bus stops on Wakefield Road 0.2 miles (300 m) from Hemsworth Water Park.



**Route Details:** The route around Hemsworth Water Park is mainly flat, with some short slopes (3). Paths are made of a combination of tarmac and gravel and are rutted in places (C). Wheelchair access to the lake circuit is via the café (see front of card for opening hours). Paths in Vale Head Park are made of tarmac but can get slippery due to moss (B). There are some steep sections (5).



13

Hemsworth Water Park & Vale Head Park

C5



**Brief Description:** Hemsworth Water Park offers a pleasant trail around a lake. The trail also extends to Vale Head Park, which provides beautiful scenery over the surrounding countryside.



**Access and Facilities:** 5 Blue Badge Parking Bays at Hemsworth Water Park, 2 Blue Badge Parking Bays at Vale Head Pavillion, Accessible Toilets in the Café at Hemsworth Water Park (Open 9:30am to 5pm on Weekdays and 9am to 5pm at Weekends).

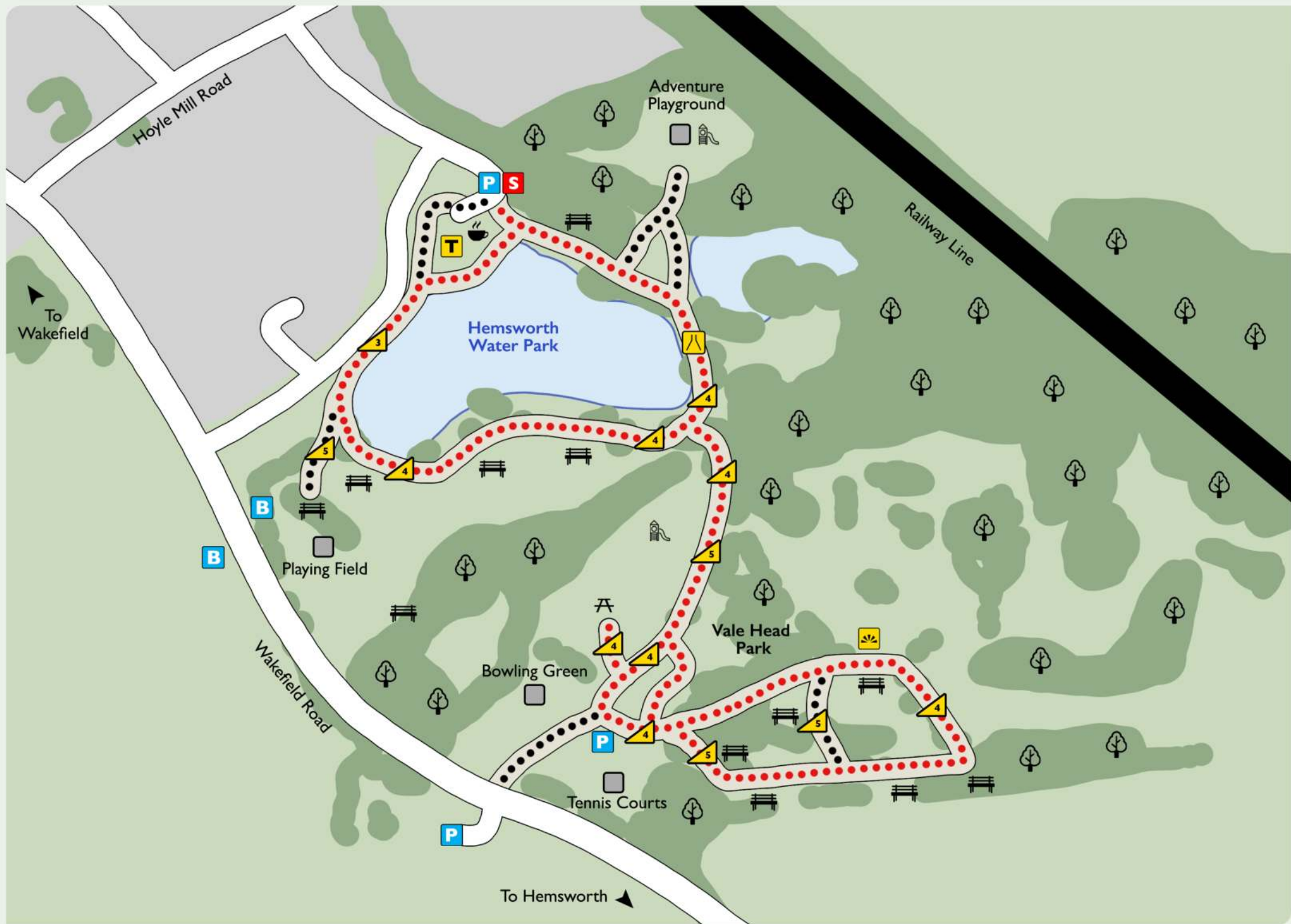


**Features of Interest:** Accessible Picnic Benches, Benches, Bowling Green, Café, Children's Playgrounds, Fishing, Pedalo Boats, Playing Field, Pond, Tennis Courts, Unique Trees, Waterfalls, Wildfowl, Wildlife.



**Location:** Hoyle Mill Road, Kinsley, Pontefract WF9 5EG.  
**What3Words:** listen.plotter.plenty









**i** **Brief Description:** Stanley Canal offers a 1.4 mile, (2.2 km) circular route alongside the Aire & Calder Navigation. It is a great place to see wildlife, watch the boats go by and enjoy being alongside the water.

**♿** **Access and Facilities:** 3 Blue Badge Parking Bays, Nearest Accessible Toilets are located in The Ridings Shopping Centre in Wakefield, 2.6 miles (4.2 km) from the start of the route. **What3Words:** dairy.decks.broken  
An Accessible Toilet is also available for paying customers at the Stanley Ferry Pub.

**🔍** **Features of Interest:** Boats, Canal Views, Fishing, Picnic Benches, Stanley Ferry Pub, Wildlife.

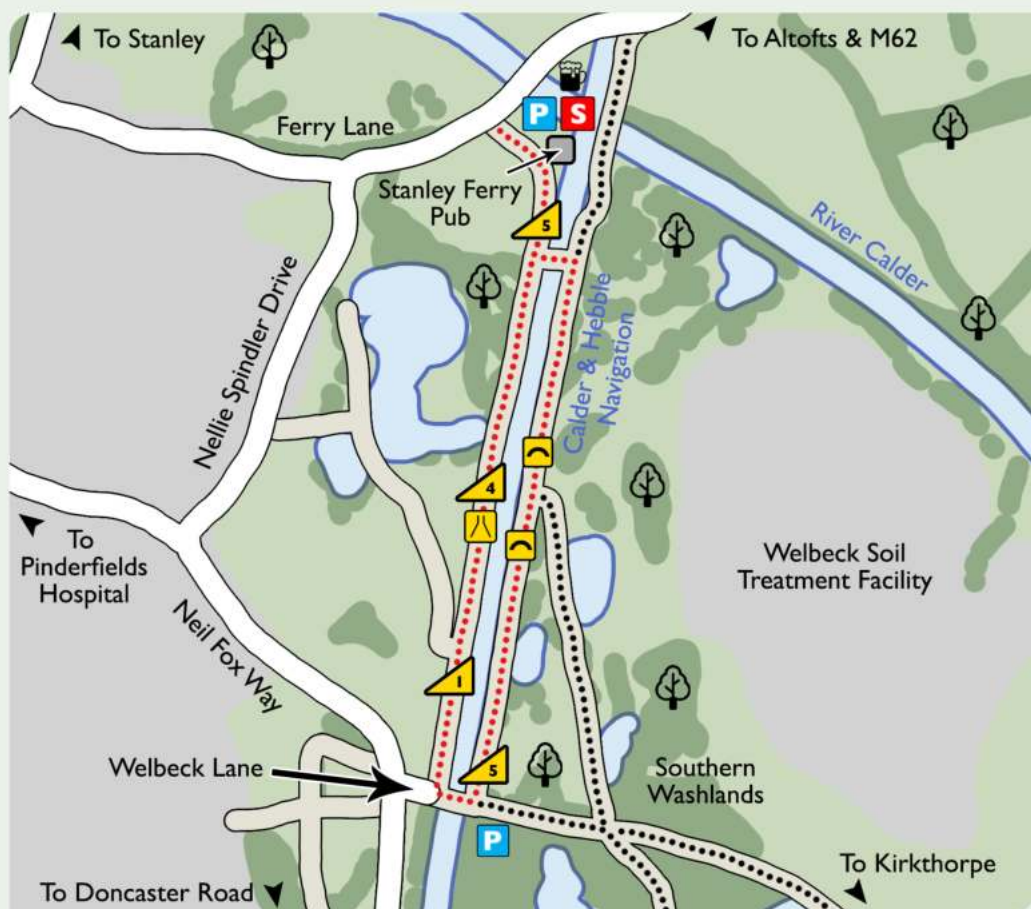
**📍** **Location:** Stanley Ferry Pub, Ferry Lane, Stanley, Wakefield, WF1 4JB. **What3Words:** blast.rots.riots



**Public Transport:** Bus Nos. 103 & 147 from Wakefield stop close to the start of the route on Ferry Lane. Bus Nos. 100 & 103 from Wakefield stop on Park Lodge Lane, 0.4 miles (0.6 km) from the turning point of the route at Wellbeck Lane bridge.



**Route Details:** The route is mainly flat (1) apart from a few steeper sections leading up to the canal bridges (5). There is also a short cobbled section on the bridge near the pub. These can be avoided by making it into a linear, out and back route.







**i** **Brief Description:** Located in the town of Horbury, Carr Lodge Park offers a 0.8 mile (1.25 km) trail through leafy parkland. The route includes activities for children, places to rest and enjoy the countryside setting and opportunities to spot wildlife.

**♿** **Access and Facilities:** Nearest Accessible Toilets are located in The Ridings Shopping Centre in Wakefield, 3 miles (4.8 km) from the start of the route.

**What3Words:** simple.producers.handfuls.

**🔍** **Features of Interest:** Basketball Court, Benches, Children's Playground, Climbing Walls, Football Pitch, Parkland, Picnic Benches, Tennis Court, Sculpture, Wildlife.

**📍** **Location:** Wakefield Road, Horbury, WF4 5HE.

**What3Words:** blast.rots.riots. On street parking is available on roads surrounding the park.



**Public Transport:** Bus Nos. 116 & 126 from Wakefield to Horbury stop on Cluntergate 0.2 miles (300 m) from the park entrance. Nos. 231 & 232 between Wakefield & Huddersfield stop on Wakefield Road, adjacent to one of the park's entrances.



**Route Details:** The route is mainly flat throughout (1) with a few steeper inclines (3). Going clockwise around the park is recommended to avoid the steepest uphill gradients. Paths are wide and made from a combination of tarmac and crushed stone (B). Caution must be taken when using surrounding roads to access the park.

