

Leyburn to Redmire Via Preston Under Scar and Wood End Lane – Five miles

A Point of Interest (see below)

Facing the Shawl Information Board which is on the side of the bus shelter in Leyburn Market Place walk forward and go across the zebra crossing to the HSBC Bank turning left and then right passing Campbells grocery shop and forward onto Shawl Terrace. At the top turn left through the gate and immediate right onto Leyburn Shawl.

B Point of Interest (see below)

Walk along the Shawl with the limestone edge to your left for about a mile and a half. (Ignore the downhill path marked with a yellow arrow half way along). Go over the stile at the end of the Shawl, through the swing gate on your left and out of the woods walking downhill over the meadows bearing right through a further 2 swing gates and then forward to Gillfield Wood.

C Point of Interest (see below)

Turn left through the swing gate onto the lane then immediate right into the wood following the yellow marker signs and winding through the woods, crossing the stream several times as you go. At the end of the wood go through a gap stile in a wall and cross a large meadow with farm buildings ahead keeping to the left side of the meadow.

Go through a gate and turn right onto a lane, which brings you into Preston under Scar. Walk through the village and at the end, just before 3 bungalows on your right, turn left through a gate with a yellow marker by it and go down hill and over a ladder stile.

Keep to the left side of the next field and go over a wooden stile and onto the Wensley / Redmire road. Turn right and walk carefully alongside the road until reaching a gate with a footpath sign on the left. Go through the gate and follow the cart track down hill with a wall to your right. Shortly after the wall turns sharp right go left and continue down hill crossing the line of the Wensleydale Railway.

Walk diagonally right, over several fields via gates in the walls before passing an old stone barn that will be on your right. When you are below Wood End Farm go through a gate on your right with a yellow marker on it and then walk straight ahead with the wall to your left and go through the second gate on your left and then diagonally left and up hill and over a wooden stile on to Wood End Lane. Turn right, and follow the lane to Redmire passing St Mary's Church.

D Point of Interest (see below)

When you get to the end of the lane turn right and walk up the village to the Bolton Arms for lunch.

E Point of Interest (see below)

Leyburn to Redmire Points of Interest

A: Point of Interest: Shawl Information Board

The Shawl Information Board was devised by "Leyburn Walkers Are Welcome" committee who commissioned local artist David Nash to design it and create the artwork. The idea is to get more visitors to Leyburn to leave the market place and walk just a few steps, thus enabling them to see one of the best and most accessible views in the Yorkshire Dales.

B: Point of Interest: Leyburn Shawl

From Leyburn Shawl enjoy the spectacular view of rolling Wensleydale towards Penhill and Coverdale with the flat top of Addleborough in the distance. There are benches on which to relax and this is a splendid place to picnic. To take advantage of the views, in the year 1841 a promenade with seats and shelters was laid out. Fashionable visitors were invited to tea dances. A Leyburn Shawl Festival was held annually. In 1856 the railway came to Leyburn bringing even more visitors than ever to enjoy a stroll along the Shawl. Mary Queen of Scots, whilst escaping from imprisonment in Bolton Castle, (five miles further on) is reputed to have dropped her shawl on the way hence the name "Leyburn Shawl". However a more likely derivation is a Norse name for a settlement.

C: Point of Interest: Gillfield Wood

Gillfield Wood was a very important area for lead mining; Keldheads mine was one of the earliest recorded lead mines having been worked in the 12th century. Many French Chateaux and Roman Cathedrals have lead mined from Wensleydale on their roofs. Some signs of the old workings and part of a two-mile horizontal flue, which goes up to Cobscar chimney high on the hillside above Redmire remain today. (More about lead mining later on in the walk!)

D: Point of Interest: St Mary's Church

St Mary's Church is a pretty little church dating back to the 12th century. In the early weeks of the year the churchyard is covered in snowdrops and aconites making one think of the Spring yet to come.

E: Point of Interest: Redmire

Redmire is a very pretty village. There are lovely walks in every direction and a good picnic spot on the banks of the river Ure close to Redmire Force. The Wensleydale Railway terminates here, although it is hoped to extend the line to Hawes and on to Garsdale to join the Settle to Carlisle line in the future. (More about that later!) The Bolton Arms is in the centre of the village serving a good range of home cooked meals at lunch time and evenings, and for those just passing by, wonderful cake taken with tea or coffee all day.