

Redmire to Leyburn
Via Bolton Hall and Wensley
Five miles

With your back to the Bolton Arms turn right and take the next turn right and then first left immediately after the Old Town Hall Guest House. At the end of this lane turn right and walk carefully along the road and where it goes sharp right cross the road and go forward and then turn left straight away.

A: Point of Interest (see below)

You will pass 3 bungalows, which will be on your right. After the third turn right and follow the lane crossing 2 streams to a sharp right hand bend. Walk forward here through 2 gates passing a large modern barn, which will be on your left. Keep going forward over several meadows and passing through stiles in the walls heading for a wood in front of you. Go slightly up hill to an old metal kissing gate, which takes you into the wood.

B: Point of Interest (see below)

Go forward ignoring the paths to the left and the right. Walk along this clear track through the woods with the river below you to your right if you are quiet you may be lucky enough to see a deer running away from you through the woods. After coming out of the woods go through a gate and continue forward, passing Bolton Hall, which will be on your left, and then the gatehouse of the Hall. Carry on along a concrete road coming out in Wensley village.

C: Point of Interest (see below)

Walk to the church and forward down the road with the church on your right. When you come to Glebe Cottage after crossing a small bridge and passing a lovely vegetable garden, which will be on your left turn left with Glebe cottage on your right and walk up hill on the lane. Take the second gate on your right and walk forward with the distinct Wensley Vicarage on your left. Follow the yellow markers going over stiles and through gates going forward then turning left uphill with a small plantation on your right, Go right over a stile and then right again entering the Glebe Field.

D: Point of Interest (see below)

Turn left and go over a small wooden bridge. From here the way is forward crossing several meadows and going through stiles in the sometimes broken down walls. When you come to a dip go down the steps and up the other side. Over a stile and forward through 2 stiles. Forward and through another stile and then turn left and walk up the meadows towards the tower of Leyburn church. Over the cattle grid and cross a small road on a housing estate of bungalows. Bear slightly right and then forward up a tarmac track between 2 bungalows and then up some steps and over a railway bridge and forward to come out at the church. Turn left and walk back up to the market place in Leyburn.

E: Point of Interest (see below)

Redmire to Leyburn Points of Interest

A: Point of Interest: Redmire Force

If you want to lengthen this walk and view Redmire Falls from the north side go straight down Mill Lane and then follow the signs to the falls. This is a lovely spot for a picnic. When you return to Mill Lane turn right and immediately go over a stile in the wall on your left. Follow this path high above the river Ure until you see a yellow marker on a gate to your left. Go left and follow this cart track until the lane turns sharp left and go through a gate on your right where there is a modern barn. You are now on the original route.

B: Point of Interest: Addleborough

Turn around at the kissing gate and enjoy one of my favorite views. You are looking straight up the dale to the flat top of Addleborough 8 miles away. To your left is Penhill and to the right in the distance Bolton Castle can be seen. In the spring and summer these meadows are full of ewes and their lambs, just such a lovely sight.

C: Point of Interest: Wensley

Wensley gave its name to the dale. All the other Yorkshire Dales are named after the river that flows through them. Once an important market town it was hit by the plague in 1563, most of the survivors fled up the hill, and settled in

Leyburn. The church is well worth a visit and has many interesting features including a finely carved Rood Screen saved from Easby Abbey at the time of the dissolution.

D: Point of Interest: Glebe Field

Yorkshire Wildlife Trust manages the Old Glebe Field. In the summer it is a colourful meadow that is typical of the meadows of Wensleydale at a time before chemicals were used to enrich the fields.

E: Point of Interest: James Herriot

James Herriot wrote of Leyburn “ Architecturally it is not a glamorous place but its situation is exciting. If Bedale is the gateway to the Dales, then Leyburn is right on the doorstep. You can slip over Bellerby Moor into Swaledale, turn off through Middleham into Coverdale or go straight ahead down Wensleydale”. I must say that I agree with what he wrote and as a walker I find that there are so many places to walk that I never get bored!