

Leyburn to Harmby Waterfall Circular Walk 5 Miles

The circular walk from Leyburn to Harmby Waterfall is one of the most popular local short walks. It is partly through quiet local roads in Leyburn, out into the countryside to Harmby and back through fields in a circular fashion.

THE walk starts from Leyburn Market Place. From here head towards the Zebra Crossing on High Street and continue north on High Street towards the King's Head pub. Turn left into Grove Square opposite the pub and cross the road walking towards Grove House bed and breakfast. About 50 metres further, turn right into the grounds of Thornborough Hall, which houses the town council offices and library.

Pass in front of the library towards a grassy area and then head for the steps in front of a OAP development to your left. The steps take you to Thornborough Wood. Continue through the small wood to steps up to a narrow path which takes you onto a road of houses on Woodburn Drive. Walk to the end of the road and then turn left onto Richmond Road. Walk up the road and you will see Wensleydale School opposite.

As you approach a mini roundabout, cross the road and walk along a path (jitty) through Dale Grove housing development. Carry on straight ahead and at the bottom of the development, you will see a stile in a wall through to a field.

Walk forward and through a gate. Walking slightly left, towards a farmhouse on the horizon. Before you reach the farmhouse, there is a wooden gate between two trees. With the wall on your left, look for a stile in the wall in front. Negotiate the stile and then right to another stile leading to a road. Turn right and continue along the road. You will pass Lower Wensleydale Caravan Park on the right, which you can make out through the trees. At one point on the left, there is the remains of an old quarry which is now a wildlife haven. You will have to peer over the wall to look down on this little paradise.

When you reach a railway bridge, turn right and take the lane to Bedale Road. To your right there is the Pheasant pub. Cross the road and walk down Harmby Bank until you reach a gap and steps leading downwards to visit Harmby Waterfall. After visiting the waterfall, continue down Harmby Bank and at the bottom of the hill where the road bears sharp left, take the path to the right by Mickley House.

Carry on through a gate into a small narrow planted area. Through a gate into a field and walk ahead until you reach a lane. If you turn right here, it will take you to Tennants Auctions. Instead, turn left down the lane towards Craken House Farm. When you reach the buildings, turn right and go through a gate onto the Craken House private road towards Middleham Road.

Through a gate onto Middleham Road and turn right. Carefully cross the road and after about 25 yards there is a stile into a field. Through another stile and you arrive in another field, now look right and you will see Leyburn Parish Church in the distance. Head towards the church through the field towards a development of bungalows, cross the road and immediately take a track between the bungalows towards steps which lead up up to a railway bridge. Over the bridge towards the church and you come out onto Bedale Road. Turn left back towards the Market Place.