

# DalesBus Ramblers

## Free Guided Walks by DalesBus

### JANUARY 2026



Join us on a guided walk with an experienced leader in the Yorkshire Dales. All are welcome.

For all walks, please wear boots, carry a packed lunch and drink, rainwear and warm clothing. Distances and routes may vary depending on weather conditions and walk leaders retain the right to ask people not to join the walk if they have inadequate footwear/clothing.

Details of which bus to catch and start/finish points are given for each walk. You can also contact the walk leader using the phone number or email address given if you would like more information or advice, but there's usually no need to book in advance. For full details of all bus times, connecting services and tickets see the [DalesBus timetable](#) or visit: [friendsofdalesbus.org/dalesbus-ramblers/](http://friendsofdalesbus.org/dalesbus-ramblers/)

You don't have to be a member of Friends of DalesBus to join the walks, but we warmly welcome you as a member if you want to support our work and become a regular walker with us – visit [friendsofdalesbus.org/dalesbus-ramblers/](http://friendsofdalesbus.org/dalesbus-ramblers/)

Please note that the DalesBus Rambler walks have been regraded. Details of the new gradings follow at the end of this document.

Please check the [friendsofdalesbus.org/dalesbus-ramblers/](http://friendsofdalesbus.org/dalesbus-ramblers/) website and Facebook pages for late updates on walks. There are times when we have late information about issues including weather conditions (Winter), road closures for summer events etc.

**January 4<sup>th</sup> Dacre Banks to Pateley Bridge along The Nidderdale Way** This moderate 6mile winter walk ends at the small town of Pateley Bridge. (For anyone's who prefers to walk a bit longer we can do a further 2mile loop as others descend into Pateley for refreshments).

#### 6 miles Moderate

**Out** We need to be in Harrogate early to catch the 24 Pateley Bridge bus to Dacre Banks at 10:15am from Harrogate Bus Station. Options for travel to Harrogate: from Leeds Bus station catch bus 36 (0910) arrives Harrogate (1010) **or** from Bradford catch A2 (0815), Apperley Bridge station (0841) Yeadon (0852) arrives Harrogate (0937). **Trains** From Leeds (9:06) arrives Harrogate at (0941).

**Return:** 24 bus from Pateley Bridge (1630) arr. Harrogate at (1722). Connections in Harrogate for Leeds & Bradford using the 36 at (1730) or A2 Flyer (1755) back towards Bradford.

**Led by Amelia Letima** tebs 0113 [amelialetima@hotmail.com](mailto:amelialetima@hotmail.com)

**January 11<sup>th</sup> Starbottan-Kettlewell Racehorses** Easy 2.5 mile walk in time for the Dales Folk Music event.

### **3 miles Easy**

**Out** Catch bus 874 bus from Wetherby (0835) Leeds (0910), Otley (0950) Ilkley (1020) connection from Bradford on 864; connection at Grassington from 72 bus from Skipton, arr. Starbotton (1133).

**Return** Bus 874 from Kettlewell (1635) to Ilkley, Otley and Leeds and Wetherby (connects to 864 at Ilkley (1750) for Bradford).

**Led by Colin Speakman** - [Colinspeakman799@gmail.com](mailto:Colinspeakman799@gmail.com) 07722 162957

**January 11<sup>th</sup> Starbotton to Kettlewell** via Arncliffe. To arrive at the Racehorses in Kettlewell for part of the Dales Folk Music event

### **6 miles – Moderate / Strenuous**

**Out** Catch bus 874 bus from Wetherby (0835) Leeds (0910), Otley (0950) Ilkley (1020) connection from Bradford on 864; connection at Grassington from 72 bus from Skipton, arr. Starbotton (1133).

**Return** Bus 874 from Kettlewell (1635) to Ilkley, Otley and Leeds and Wetherby (connects to 864 at Ilkley (1750) for Bradford).

**Led by Nigel Galloway** [nigel\\_galloway@yahoo.com](mailto:nigel_galloway@yahoo.com)

**January 18<sup>th</sup> Barden Tower to Strid Wood Tearooms** via Daleshead, Simons Seat and The Valley of Desolation.

### **10 miles – Moderate / Strenuous**

**Out** Catch bus 874 bus from Wetherby (0835) Leeds (0910), Otley (0950) Ilkley (1020) ; connection from Bradford on 864; arr. Barden Tower approx. (1045)

**Return** bus 874 Strid Wood (1722) to Ilkley, Otley and Leeds and Wetherby. connects to 864 at Ilkley (1750) for Bradford.

**Led by Nigel Galloway** [nigel\\_galloway@yahoo.com](mailto:nigel_galloway@yahoo.com)

**January 25<sup>th</sup> Starbotton to Kettlewell via Great Whernside**, visiting Tor Dike which was built to repel the Romans, plus the summit of Great Whernside with excellent views including the Three Peaks and other landmarks. There should be plenty of time to socialise in the Racehorses at the end of the walk with an expected finish time around 15.30.

### **8 miles - Strenuous**

**Out** Catch bus 874 from Wetherby (0835) Leeds (0910), Otley (0950) Ilkley (1020) connection from Bradford on 864 changing at Ilkley then Grassington (1106) Arr. The Fox and

Hounds, Starbottan (1133). **Or** catch 72 from Skipton (1030) connecting with 874 at Grassington (1110).

**Return** on 874 from Kettlewell (1635) via Grassington (1700), connecting to the 72 for Skipton (1722). Then Addingham (1736) connects to 864 for Bradford at Ilkley (1750).

**Led by John Waterhouse** [John00waterhouse@gmail.com](mailto:John00waterhouse@gmail.com) 07906 105272

### **DalesBus Ramblers - Walk Gradings.**

#### **EASY**

These walks are for anyone who does not have a mobility difficulty. Walks are on clear maintained paths & any river crossings are on bridges. Walking is mostly on the flat, there are gates rather than stiles.

Comfortable shoes or trainers can usually be worn but if bad weather, winter boots may be more appropriate.

**Distance-** 3-5miles

#### **EASY-MODERATE**

If you have a bit of experience walking in the countryside and a reasonable level of fitness these walks will be suitable for you. They may include unsurfaced rural paths, open countryside and some stiles. They may include some small hills.

We recommend you bring walking boots and warm & waterproof clothing suitable for the season.

**Distance** 5-8miles

#### **MODERATE**

These walks may be in open countryside and include some steep paths, stiles, or small crossings without bridges. Walks may be at a brisker pace so you will need a decent level of fitness and some experience of walking in the countryside. Walking boots and warm & waterproof clothing essential.

**Distance** 7-9miles

#### **MODERATE-STRENUOUS**

These walks may be in open countryside with hills & steep paths, stiles or small crossings and some rough terrain. They will be at a brisk pace so are recommended only for experienced walkers with good levels of fitness.

Walking boots (or trail shoes) and warm & waterproof clothing appropriate for the season are essential.

**Distance** 8-10miles

#### **STRENUOUS**

As above but may be longer walks at a faster pace, or significant ascent or large sections of walk may be over pathless terrain.

**Distance** Between 8-12+miles

**All interested walkers, please note:**

**Whilst every care will be taken by our experienced leaders, anyone joining the walk must be responsible for their own safety. Anyone without adequate footwear or clothing will be asked not to join the walk as this could put the safety of others at risk especially during winter months. Walk leaders also reserve the right to alter or curtail the walk in the event of poor or difficult weather conditions.**