

# DalesBus Ramblers

## Free Guided Walks by DalesBus

### MARCH 2026



Join us on a guided walk with an experienced leader in the Yorks| 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.

**March 1<sup>st</sup> Barden Tower to Strid Tea Rooms** via Daleshead, Simon's Seat and The Valley of Desolation. (This walk is re-scheduled from January which was impacted by road works & a bus diversion.)

**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)

**March 8<sup>th</sup> Starbotton-Buckden** Walk linked to the music session at the Buck Inn, Buckden. (Please note that the session has now moved BACK to the Buck Inn).

**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 Buckden (1625) 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

**March 15<sup>th</sup> A Nidderdale Meander** Exploring the area above Pateley Bridge and Wath with some lovely views of the Dale and Gouthwaite Reservoir.

**8 miles Moderate** - some uphill. Generally using good tracks.

**Out** Catch bus 24 from Harrogate (1015) arr Low Laithe (1105) (connect from bus 36 from Leeds (0910) or A2 Flyer Bradford (0815)).

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

**Led by Howard Handley** [howard.handley07@ntlworld.com](mailto:howard.handley07@ntlworld.com)

**March 22<sup>nd</sup> Grassington to Gargrave via Linton, Swindon Quarry, Rylstone and Flasby.** A great walk, mostly on tracks avoiding mud with fabulous views of Linton Falls and village, Swindon Quarry, the "Cracoe Ridge", Pendle Hill and Flasby Fell. The finish is around 16.10 with plenty of time to socialize at the Olde Swan.

**10 miles Moderate** (The highest point 255 meters)

**Out** Catch bus 874 Leeds City Bus Station (0910) Headingley Opp Shopping Centre (0925) Otley Bus Station (0950) Ilkley Bus Station (1015/1020), alighting at Grassington (1106).

OR catch bus 864 from Bradford (0925) Shipley Market Place (0940) Ilkley Bus Station (1015/1020) changing to the 874.

**Return** is via the 864 from Gargrave Square (1701) Ilkley Bus Station (1750) changing to the 874 for Otley and Leeds or staying on the 864 for Shipley and Bradford.

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

**March 29<sup>th</sup> Nidderdale- Prosperous & Providence Lead Mines & Wath - a circular walk start/finish at Pateley Bridge following Nidderdale Way.** This next route stage along Nidderdale Way takes us up from Pateley Bridge to the Prosperous & Providence Lead Mines, over the hill to Heathfield & Wath then back along the river to Pateley.

**7.7 miles – Moderate**

**Out** We need to be in Harrogate to catch the 24 Pateley Bridge bus to Low Laithe (1015) from Harrogate Bus Station. Options are: From Leeds Bus Station catch bus 36 at (0910) arriving in Harrogate at (1010).

From Bradford catch bus A2 Airport bus leaving (0815) arrives in Harrogate Bus Station (0937) Apperley Bridge stn (0841) Yeadon (0852).

Trains – (0906) Leeds to Harrogate train arrives (0941) (Train Station is next to the Bus Station).

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

**NB** If you pay for the bus, it may be worth getting either a Transdev **Yorkshire 1** ticket for £7:50 for use on any Transdev routes across West & North Yorkshire or an all day **Harrogate 1** ticket if just getting Flyer/36/24 for £7 (new so some drivers not familiar). You can buy these using Transdev App - search Harrogate 1 or Yorkshire 1.

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

**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 8-12m

**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.**