

DalesBus Ramblers

Free Guided Walks by DalesBus

August 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/train 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/

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/

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/ 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.



August 1st Saturday - Garsdale to Hawes via Cotterdale. Heading from Garsdale we will first climb up to the High Way, enjoying views of Mallerstang, Garsdale & Upper Wensleydale, before descending into the quiet valley of Cotterdale, and onward to Hardraw and Hawes - with time to enjoy Hawes at the end of the walk.

9.5 miles Moderate/ Strenuous

OUT: Train from Leeds (0918) & Skipton (0955) alight Garsdale (1052).

or Yorkshire Dales Explorer train from Manchester Victoria (0815) change Hellfield (0953) for Carlisle train via Ribbleshead. Alight Garsdale (1052).

RETURN: Catch DalesBus 80 from Hawes (1725) to Ribbleshead Station (1750) for train at (1805) to Manchester arr. (2008) **OR** Change from Manchester Train at Hellfield (1828) for (1842) train to Skipton (1859) & Leeds arr (1937).

Led by Paul Wood paul_wood91@hotmail.co.uk

August 2nd Sunday - Starbotten to Buckden Walk linked to the Thriddingfest Music session at the Buck Inn, Buckden.

3 miles. Easy

OUT Catch bus 874 bus from Wetherby (0835) Leeds (0910), Otley (0953) Ilkley (1020), Grassington (1110) alight Starbotten (1133). **OR**

Catch bus 864 from Bradford Interchange (0925), Shipley (0940), Ilkley (1015) change to bus 874. **OR**

Catch bus 72 from Skipton bus stn (1030). Alight Grassington NP Centre (1050) change to bus 874 alight Starbotten (1133).

RETURN Bus 874 from Buckden (1723) to Ilkley, Otley, Leeds and Wetherby. Change at Grassington (1753) for bus 72 to Skipton dep (1800). Change at Ilkley for train (1835) to Bradford, changing at Shipley. Arr Bradford Forster Square Stn. (1939).

Led by Colin Speakman Colinspeakman799@gmail.com 07722 162957

August 2nd Sunday Nidderdale Way- Scar House to Lofthouse

Starting at the Scar House reservoir we track back down the valley towards Lofthouse with great views up & down the top of Nidderdale. If time allows as we approach Lofthouse we divert to make a short visit to Middlesmoor, a hilltop village before descending towards Lofthouse where we will pick up our bus home.

Start Scar House (with toilets). **Finish** Lofthouse.

8 miles – Moderate

Out catch bus 821 from Keighley Bus stn (0925), Shipley Mkt Square (0950), Otley Bus Stn. (1015), Pateley Bridge (1108) alight Scar House (1150)

Or Catch bus 820 (0910) from Bradford Interchange, alight Shipley Mkt Squ.(0925) catch bus 821 (0950), Otley Bus stn (1015) etc as above. Alight Scar House (1150).

RETURN Lofthouse catch bus 821 (1604) Otley (1715), Shipley (1742), Keighley arr (1805). Alight Shipley for 820 (1822) for Bradford Interchange. arr (1840).

Led by Amelia Letima amelialetima@hotmail.com

August 9th Scar House to Kettlewell (for the Scarecrow Festival): This walk has fabulous views of the two reservoirs and surroundings that lead up to the summit of Great Whernside then down to Kettlewell with plenty of time to view the scarecrows and enjoy a pint / ice cream / coffee at the end.

8 miles – Moderate/Strenuous.

OUT catch bus 821 from Keighley Bus stn (0925), Shipley Mkt Square (0950), Otley Bus stn (1015), Pateley Bridge (1108) alight Scar House (1150).

OR Catch bus 820 (0910) from Bradford Interchange, alight Shipley Mkt Squ.(0925) catch bus 821 (0950), Otley Bus stn (1015) via Pateley Bridge as above. alight Scar House (1150).

Or Catch bus 822 from York (0930) alight (1110) Pateley Bridge for bus 821 (1115) to alight Scar House (1150).

Or Catch bus 874 from Wetherby Bus Stn. (0835), alight Otley Bus Stn (0953), catch bus 821 (1015) via Pateley Bridge as above, alight Scar House (1150)

Or Catch bus 875 from York Railway Stn.(0820), alight Menston opp Sainsbury's (0957), catch 821 (1005) via Otley & Pateley Bridge, alight Scar House (1150).

Or Catch bus X84 from Ilkley (0941), alight Otley Bus Stn, catch 821 (1015) via Pateley Bridge, alight Scar House (1150).

RETURN From Kettlewell: Catch bus 874 (1634) to Ilkley (1747), Otley (1808) Leeds (1840) & arr Wetherby (1910).

Or Catch 874 (1634) alight Ilkley train/bus station (1747), catch 864 bus (1750) to Shipley Mkt Place (1818) arr Bradford Interchange (18 36).

Or catch 874 (1634) alight Ilkley (1747), catch 864, alight Shipley Mkt place (1818), catch Bus 60 (1828) to arr Keighley (1953).

Or catch 875 (1735) to Ilkley, Menston and arr York (2014).

Or for Keighley catch bus 874 (1635), alight Ilkley bus / train station (1747), catch train (1753) alight Shipley stn (1817) for Aireline bus 60 (1838), from Shipley Town Square (10 min walk), to Keighley bus station arr. (1902).

Led by John Walerhouse 07906 105272 or john00waterhouse@gmail.com

August 16th Sunday Gunnerside to Muker via Swinner Gill

7.5 miles – Strenuous

OUT Catch train from Leeds (0909) Skipton (0954) with connections at Shipley & Bingley, alight Ribbleshead stn (1033) then catch bus 830 from Ribbleshead Stn (1042), alight Gunnerside (1142).

RETURN on 830 bus from Muker (1742), alight Ribbleshead station (1832) for (1851) train via Settle & Shipley to Leeds arr (2028).

Led by Friends of the Settle to Carlisle Line (FoSCL). guidedwalks@settle-carlisle.com

August 23rd Sunday. Scar House to West Burton. A great walk visiting 3 dales! Starting in Scar House in Upper Nidderdale we will head over into Coverdale, climbing up and over again to finish at West Burton in Bishopdale.

9.5 miles - Strenuous

OUT: catch bus 821 from Keighley (0925) Shipley Mkt Square (0950) & Otley (1020) & Pateley Bridge (1115) to alight Scar House (1150).

OR bus 874 from Leeds (0910), alight at Otley (0953). Catch bus 821 (1020) from Otley & alight Scar House (1150)

OR bus 822 from York (0930) alight (1110) Pateley Bridge for bus 821 (1115) to alight Scar House (1150)

OR bus 820 from Bradford Interchange (0910) to alight Shipley Mkt Squ (0925). Change to bus 821 (0950) & continue as for bus 821 above to Scar House

RETURN: Bus 875 from West Burton (1655) to Ilkley (1835) -change to bus X84 to Otley, Leeds arr (1925) and York (2020). Change at Ilkley for train (1853) to Shipley and Bradford Foster Square, arr. (1925).

OR For Keighley catch Aireline bus 60 from Shipley Town Square (1928), 10 minute walk from Shipley train stn, to Keighley. Arr (1953).

Led by Paul Wood paul_wood91@hotmail.co.uk

August 23rd Sunday Great Shunner Fell: Muker to Hawes

11 miles - Strenuous

OUT Catch train from Leeds (0909) Shipley (0922) Skipton (0954) alight Ribbleshead Station (1033). Catch bus 830 from Ribbleshead Station (1042) alight Muker (1132).

RETURN on bus 830 from Hawes (1810) to Ribbleshead stn. (1832) for (1851) train via Settle & Shipley to Leeds arr (2008).

Led by FoSCL - guidedwalks@settle-carlisle.com

August 30th Sunday - Monks Walk Guided walk following on the footsteps of the Cistercian Monks to Fountains Abbey Along the way, you'll be met with expansive views from Riva Hill to Brimham Rocks.

8 miles Moderate/Strenuous

OUT Catch bus 825 York Railway Stn (0917), Harrogate (1015), Ripley Cross (1028) alight Brimham Rocks (1043). Meet at the Welcome Hut in the car park at 11am.

RETURN on bus 825 from Fountains Abbey (1639) via Brimham Rocks to Ripley Cross to Harrogate (1727) & York arr. (1815).

Led by National Trust brimhamrocks@nationaltrust.org.uk tel:01423 780688

August 31st Bank Holiday Monday. The Abbots way Be a pilgrim walking old tracks and footpaths near Fountains Abbey. Bring some cash to spend at the farm shop

9 miles Moderate to strenuous - Some uphill terrain. One short steep section.

OUT Catch bus 820 Bradford Interchange (0910), Shipley Mkt Square (0925), Otley Bus Stn (0950), Pateley Bridge (1036), alight Fountains Abbey Visitor Centre (1102).

OR bus 822 York opp Rail Station (0930), Ripon Bus Stn (1030), alight Fountains Abbey (1045).

OR bus 825 York opp Rail Station (0917), Harrogate Bus Station, (1011), alight Fountains Abbey (1115).

RETURN from Fountains Abbey Catch bus 820 (1650), Otley Bus Stn (1800), Shipley Mkt Squ (1822), arr. Bradford Interchange (1840).

OR Bus 822 (1652), Ripon (1705), arr York Rail Stn (1800).

OR Bus 825 (1639), Harrogate (1727), arr York Rail Stn (1815).

Led by Howard Handley howard.handley07@ntlworld.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 for **Moderate / Srenuous** 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.