

BRADFORD Heritage

Burley in Wharfedale to llkley LOCATION

BRADFORD 2025

UK City of Culture

Burley in Wharfedale

6 km / 4 miles

2 hrs

DIFFICULTY

Moderate

LANDSCAPE

Fields, golf course, moorland

HIGHLIGHTS

Fantastic views, historic town, local legends



Burley in Wharfedale to Ilkley:

This walk takes us along one of the nine stages of the Bradford Fairtrade Way, a long-distance route that links all the Fairtrade towns and villages in the Bradford District.

The full route would start at Bradford Cathedral and then make its way through Shipley, Saltaire, Bingley, Baildon, Burley in Wharfedale, Ilkley, Keighley, Haworth and Thornton. If you were to walk the whole way it would be 78.5 km, but this very scenic section, from the village of Burley in Wharfedale to Ilkley can be done in a couple of hours.

Access notes

Gates, stiles, railway line crossing,

Parking: Rail Station car parks. Bus routes: 962, P98 (to start).

OS Map: 297 Lower Wharfedale & Washburn Valley.

steep uphill sections.

Look out for

Ilkley Moor and the Cow and Calf: towards the end of walk we come to the iconic Cow and Calf, a large outcrop of course gritstone with a smaller (but still very big) boulder that sits by its side.

According to folklore, Rombald The Giant was being chased across the moor by his wife when he stepped on the rocks, splitting off the calf from the rest of the outcrop.

Ilkley Moor is one of many smaller moors that make up Rombalds Moor. Owned by Bradford Council, the moor has an active 'friends of' group who work to conserve and restore the heather moorland, including its precious peat bogs. Find out more at: ilkleymoor.org

When walking on the moors remember that birds build their nests on the ground from March to July. Please keep your four-legged friends on a lead.

Map key

Route



Parking

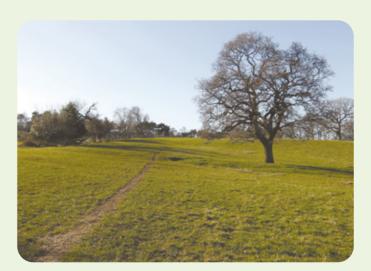








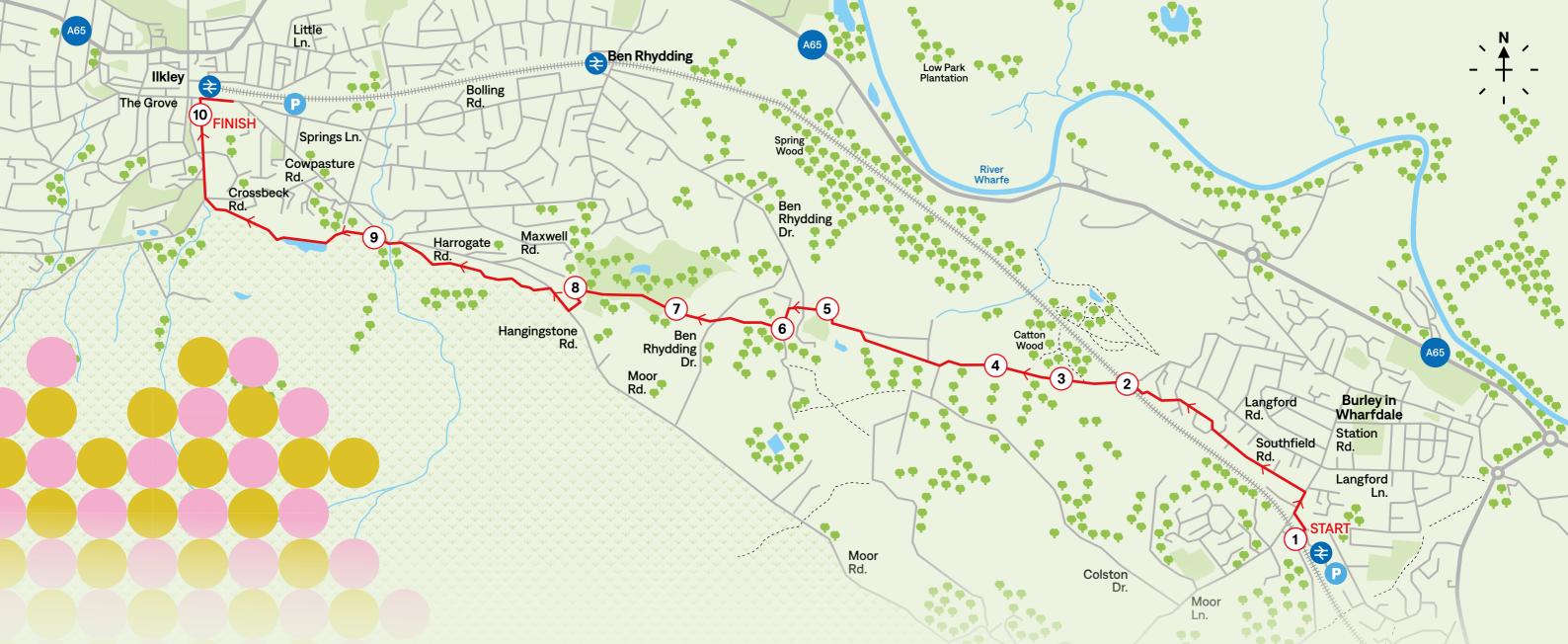
Road











Burley in Wharfedale to Ilkley

- 1 Starting from Burley-in-Wharfedale Station head along Station Approach then turn right on Station Road towards the town centre. Turn left on Southfield Road. Continue to the T-junction and turn right onto Hall Drive. Pass Hall Rise then take the snicket on left.
- 2 On reaching the bend on Greenhow Park turn left and go to the end of road. Take the snicket left towards the railway. Continue the end of the footpath and the cross railway track.

Take great care here! If you can see or hear a train in either direction wait until it has passed before crossing.

3 Go uphill following the clear path past Catton Wood on your right. At the top of the hill, pass through a metal five-bar footpath gate and carry on in the same direction to a seven-bar gate into the next field.

4 Walk on with the small stream on your left.
Pass through a six-bar metal field gate to reach a track. Go straight on along the track towards a metal seven-bar gate with a small gate on the left. Head towards some buildings now seen across the meadow in front of you. The path is well used and reasonably clear on the ground.

Head towards the right corner of the field through a small metal gate then through the next small gate onto the farm lane. Turn left into the lane.

- 5 Continue through a gate left of a cattle grid. Now continue past Clevedon House once a Licensed Victuallers School but now a retirement complex. Pass Ben Rhydding Drive and walk round the corner ahead and go up the hill, Wharfedale Grange Farm is on the right.
- 6 Just before the lane turns left, you will see a car park on the right, head through this, leading to another lane. The walk continues up the lane ahead. At a junction of paths, keep straight on to Gib Field Farm.

7 Pass right by the farm buildings and go through the footpath gate left of a five-bar wooden field gate. This path leads out on to Ben Rhydding Golf Course.

Making sure that no golf balls are heading your way, keep on in the same direction, aiming for the bunker ahead of you. The path goes between the bunker and the trees. The undulating path continues across the course. Walk with a stone wall to left for a while to a finger post pointing in the direction of the Cow and Calf rocks.

8 Pass through small wooden gate to exit the golf course and turn left, walking uphill until you reach the road. The Cow and Calf Hotel is on your left and the café is opposite you.

Turn right and walk downhill to another footpath sign pointing across the road to the moors. There are a number of well-worn paths crossing this common below the Cow and Calf rocks. Follow the small path to join surfaced path down towards likley and cross the stream near the road.

- 9 Continue ahead behind the houses and on to Ilkley Tarn. Go right along the tarn. At the junction of paths by a lamppost go right, downhill. Keep going and pass through the gate onto Crossbeck Road. Cross over and turn right down Wells Road.
- (10) Keep heading downhill to reach the town centre. Turn right on the main road, the railway and bus station are opposite Kings Hall.