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# Bradford on Foot

DISCOVER OUR WONDERFUL DISTRICT

|            |  |
|------------|--|
| WALK NAME  | Northcliffe Dike & Red Beck                  |
| LOCATION   | Shipley                                      |
| DISTANCE   | 4 km / 2.4 miles                             |
| TIME       | 1 hr 15 mins                                 |
| DIFFICULTY | Moderate                                     |
| LANDSCAPE  | Woodland                                     |
| HIGHLIGHTS | Model railway, Red Beck, roe deer, parakeets |



Northcliffe Dike & Red Beck: these tributaries of Bradford Beck join together in Heaton Woods and flow down towards Valley Road.

The two wooded valleys were once the scene of extensive industry including mining, brick manufacturing, quarrying sandstone and fireclay from the 17th to early 20th centuries.

Today, the beck's streams, surrounding woodland, and parkland provide a calm, beautiful walk that also takes in a local golf course and model railway.

This walk has been created by Friends of Bradford's Becks: [bradford-beck.org](http://bradford-beck.org)

## Access notes

Uneven paths, tricky footbridge and one short hill climb.

**Parking:** Car park in Cliff Wood Avenue, Shipley.  
**Bus routes:** 623, 626, 653, 662.  
**Rail:** Shipley.  
**OS Map:** 288 Bradford and Huddersfield.

## Look out for

The two stretches of beck and woodland are teaming with flora and fauna that changes throughout the year.

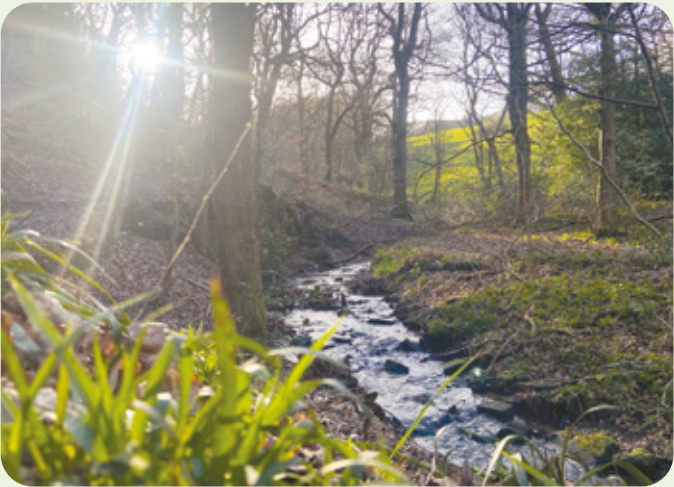
Over 100 species of plants have been recorded here, including spring flowers such as bluebells and some less common species like cuckoo-pint. In autumn, you will see fungi growing amongst the leaves and tree roots.

Jackdaws and tawny owls nest in the woodlands, and in the summer months, bats roost in the trees. The area's industrial past is echoed in the red colour of the beck water, caused by iron residue from previous mine-workings.

Bradford Model Engineering Societies model railway is open to the public in spring and summer.

## Map key

- |               |             |
|---------------|-------------|
| Route         | Road        |
| Parking       | Moorland    |
| Train line    | View point  |
| Train station | Forest      |
| Footpath      | Cafe        |
| Toilet        | Canal/River |



## Bradford on Foot

Bradford on Foot is a rich collection of walks around the 2025 UK City of Culture. Discover new places to visit and new groups to join. The walks have been selected by local people and partners from across the district. Access the maps online or pick up the free paper maps at different locations across the district, including your local library.

Look out for other routes nearby in Harden, Saltaire and Bingley.





# Northcliffe Dike & Red Beck

- 1 From the car park take the main path through the metal barrier. Follow the path past the miniature railway and the picnic area. Just past the picnic area Northcliffe Dike appears on your left.
- 2 Continue along the path beside the beck to the end where there are steps on the left and on the right.
- 3 Turn left and cross the beck.
- 4 Climb the steps and at the top take the path ahead to cross the golf course.
- 5 When the path emerges onto the road (Shay Lane), turn left and walk down the road. Cars go quite fast along this road, so take care.
- 6 Pass the footpath signposted Heaton Royds Lane and continue on.
- 7 You will see Heaton Woods unfolding. Walk down the hill and on the bend, at the bottom, go through the gap in the wall on the left. Take the steps down to Red Beck.
- 8 Cross the footbridge and continue with the beck on your left. Be careful as the footbridge is uneven and can be slippery.
- 9 After about 100 metres you come to a small tributary which gives the water an orange/red colour. This is caused by the presence of iron ochre from old mine-workings.
- 10 Continue following the path beside the beck all the way to the exit from the woods.
- 11 Go through the metal gate and turn right to reach the road.
- 12 When you reach the road, turn left into Wilmer Drive and at the end turn left into Redburn Drive.
- 13 Walk a short distance back towards the woods and turn right up a narrow snicket.

- 14 Turn right at the hole in the wall and climb the bank through Low Wood. Follow the path round the bottom of the field until you meet a short set of steps.
- 15 At the bottom of the steps you will see the miniature railway through the trees, turn right and follow the path round.
- 16 Cross the grass and re-join the path, turn right and continue back to the beginning.

