

Bradford 2025  
UK CITY OF CULTURE

Welcome to Bradford 2025 UK City of Culture, a year-long celebration of culture, creativity and the arts. We're presenting more than 1,000 shows, exhibitions and events across Bradford District this year – by and for everyone, with much of it completely free. Bradford 2025 could only happen now – and it could only happen here.

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Bradford  
on Foot  
DISCOVER OUR WONDERFUL DISTRICT

WALK NAME	A Dales High Way
LOCATION	Saltaire to Ilkley
DISTANCE	12.4 km / 7.7 miles
TIME	4 hr
DIFFICULTY	Challenging
LANDSCAPE	Fields, moorland
HIGHLIGHTS	Open moors, stunning views, stone circle

**A Dales High Way:** This 12 km walk is the stunning first stage of a long-distance trail that takes walkers from the industrial landscape of the Bradford District through the glorious high country of the Yorkshire Dales to finish 145 km later in the Eden Valley.

This walk is in partnership with Chris and Tony Grogan the originators of the long distance route.

Find out more at: [daleshighway.co.uk](http://daleshighway.co.uk)

Look out for

**Victoria Hall:** Formally called Saltaire Club and Institute. Victoria Hall faces opposite the old Grammar School, now part of Shipley College. The two buildings are guarded by four stone lions named War, Peace, Determination and Vigilance.

**Trench Wood:** This ancient woodland is one of the richest wildlife habitats in Britain. Looking southwards from Shipley Glen, Lister's Mill chimney dominates the skyline of Bradford, which was once known as 'Wool City'.

**Twelve Apostles Stone Circle:** The small circle of stones is thought to date back to the Bronze Age. It's not quite Stone Henge, but it is believed to have been built to mark the Summer and Winter solstices.

**White Wells cottage:** If the flag is flying (often at weekends and holidays) walkers will find the cafe is serving light refreshments and the old Victorian Spa Bathhouse is open for viewing.

Map key

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



Access notes

Steep climbs and descents, sturdy footwear and appropriate clothing for cold, wet weather needed. Carry water and snacks for the journey.

**Parking:** Large car park at Salts Mill.  
**Train line:** Saltaire and Ilkley.  
**OS map reference:** 288 Bradford & Huddersfield, 297 Lower Wharfedale & Washburn Valley.



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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 Ilkley, Burley in Wharfedale and Bingley.





# A Dales High Way

- 1 Start in front of Victoria Hall on Victoria Road, Saltaire. Walk down the road towards Salts Mill. At the bottom turn left to join the canal towpath heading west. Leave the towpath by the lock, turning right on to Hirst Mill Crescent then right again to cross a footbridge over the River Aire.

Walk straight ahead through the housing estate along the Bowland Avenue greenway to the bus turning circle.

- 2 Cross the road to join the bridleway heading to Trench Wood. At the junction turn left into the wood. Keep straight ahead along the main track, ignoring paths which drop down towards the reservoir or cut back up Shipley Glen.

Eventually the track begins to rise gently up through the trees, narrowing to a rocky path before emerging onto Shipley Glen.

- 3 Continue north on the grassy strip between the rocks and the road. Where the wall on the opposite side of the road ends at a corner, look for A Dales High Way fingerpost ahead and follow a rough track through the bracken passing above an old quarry on your left.

Cross another track and continue straight on down to the trees. The path narrows and follows Glovershaw Beck northwards until you eventually emerge through a stile onto Bingley Road. Cross over and head up the lane towards Golcar Farm.

- 4 At Golcar Farm ignore the main footpath signed Dales Way Link which cuts around the farmhouse. Instead, bear right to follow a fenced track leading over a waymarked stile by a gate into a field.

Follow the right-hand field boundary towards another gate, turning left just before it, to continue with the fence still on your right. Cross another stile and follow the track, bearing left to a gate at the foot of the golf course. Beyond the gate are tracks used for training race horses. Follow a 'trod' path by the main track that leads straight away from the gate and swings right towards Birch Close Farm.

- 5 Go through a gate to pass the houses, then follow the lane that bears left away from the farm. At a T-junction turn left to follow the lane past Weecher Reservoir and emerge onto Otley Road.

- 6 Care is needed here, the traffic moves very fast. Cross the road and bear right to join a verge-side gravel track. About 250 metres along the busy road cross a stile/gap in the wall on the left. The way quickly climbs to another stile. The path swings in towards the wall on the right to a double stile. Beyond the stile is the meagre ruin of Horncliffe House and a boundary stone marking Horncliffe Well. Do not cross these stiles, but continue up the hill, pulling away from the wall again.

- 7 Soon, near Wicking Crag, the ground flattens and views of the moor ahead open out. The view back to Weecher Reservoir and Hope Hill is splendid. The path swings in again to meet the wall at a stile and gate. Once across, the ground becomes wet underfoot as the path continues in the same direction out onto the moor.

- 8 Eventually the track joins the main path from Eldwick at a waymark stone: "To Eldwick, Saltaire and Bingley. Ilkley 2 miles". Bear right and continue north.

- 9 Just before reaching the highest point of your journey over the moor, the Twelve Apostles stone circle beckons to the right. A little further on is the ornate boundary stone called Lanshaw Lad. The track here forks. Follow the right hand rough track dropping northwards.

- 10 The way continues northwards, dropping to cross a wet patch on a stone causeway.

The path drops to cross Backstone Beck before rising again.

- 11 At the moor edge above Ilkley Craggs cross another track running along the ridge edge and begin to descend. Follow the main path as it drops steeply through the crags on a stone stairwell. Eventually you reach White Wells Cottage. From White Wells the main path swings down to the left heading west.

- 12 Just after passing the lovely little waterfall at Willy Hall's Spout, leave A Dales High Way and continue down the main path which drops straight down to the car park by Wells Road. Turn right along the road and follow it down to Ilkley town centre and the railway station.

