

# 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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[bradford2025.co.uk](https://bradford2025.co.uk)

# Bradford on Foot

DISCOVER OUR WONDERFUL DISTRICT

## WALK NAME

Silsden Circular

## LOCATION

Silsden

## DISTANCE

5 km / 3.2 miles

## TIME

1 hr 45 mins

## DIFFICULTY

Moderate

## LANDSCAPE

Fields, villages

## HIGHLIGHTS

Fine views, big skies

**Silsden Circular:** Prepare to climb a lot of stiles on this circular walk from the Silsden.

The route starts in Silsden town centre before heading out into nearby fields, climbing gently to a spectacular view of Silsden Reservoir and upper Aire Valley towards Skipton, before descending through the pretty hamlet of Brunthwaite and heading back to town.

The walk is an adaptation of Silsden Stroll No.2 and waymarkers for that route can be spotted along the way.

For more walks in the Silsden area visit:  
[silstrolls.org.uk](https://silstrolls.org.uk)

## Access notes













Paths, tracks, tarmac and lots of stiles.

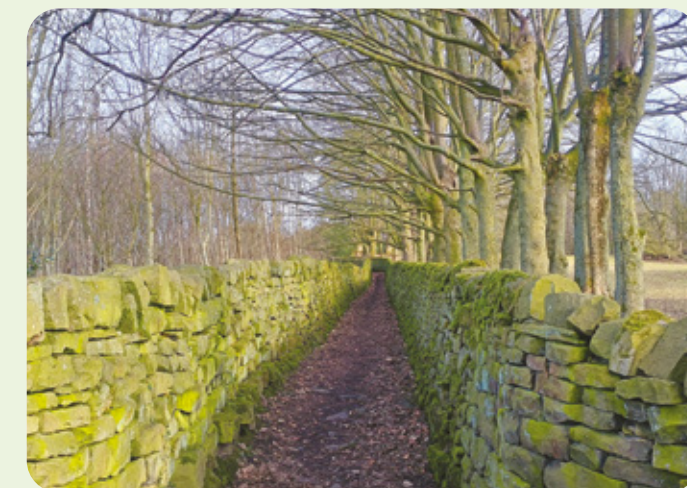
**Parking:** Pay & Display Wesley Place, Silsden.

**Bus routes:** 62, 862.

**OS Map:** OL21 South Pennines.

## 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 Riddlesden, Haworth and Ilkley.



## Look out for

**Bent Nail:** An artwork by Sam Shendi, by the car park. Nail manufacturing was first recorded in Silsden in 1761 and was a key source of employment for the following 100 years. Handmade in small forges, it's hard to imagine now that nails were once made individually, but a hand forged nail grips like no other and local farming, clog making and the building of the Leeds & Liverpool Canal needed good quality nails, and lots of them!

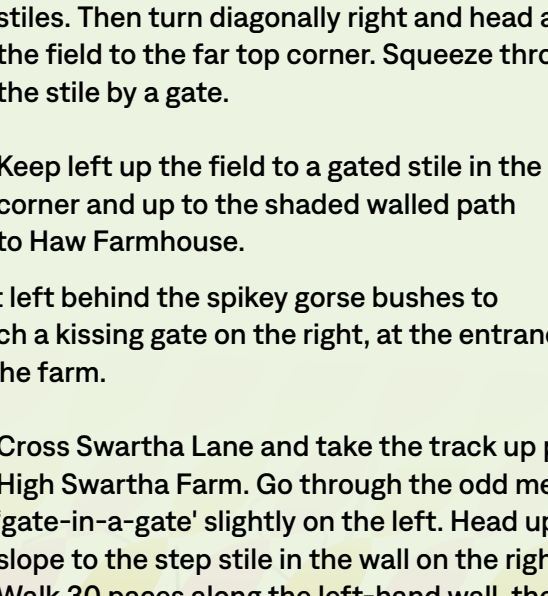
**Silsden Reservoir:** Built as a compensation reservoir in the 1850's it was designed to top up the River Aire when levels were running low to keep the mills supplied with water power. Local residents at the time were not best pleased about living under the shadow of the reservoir dam, fearing potential disaster if the dam failed.





## Silsden Circular

- 1 From the Pay and Display car park on Wesley Place turn left on Keighley Rd. When you reach Becks Cafe turn left up the side of the cafe and cross over the beck. Keep right off the footbridge, then turn left into Mitchell Lane.
- 2 Walk up to the park then turn immediately right along the snicket. At the end of the snicket turn left uphill on Craven Drive. At the top turn left then immediately right on Middleway. At the end take the signed path up the side of Silsden Primary School. Follow the path through the gate to Drabble House Farm.
- 3 Follow the track to farm. Pass the farm buildings, then left through the metal gate into the field. Track across the field to the metal footpath gate near the school building.

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- 4** Head round the back of the school to the small metal gate by the barn and head through two stiles. Then turn diagonally right and head across the field to the far top corner. Squeeze through the stile by a gate.
- 5** Keep left up the field to a gated stile in the corner and up to the shaded walled path to Haw Farmhouse.
- Exit left behind the spikey gorse bushes to reach a kissing gate on the right, at the entrance to the farm.
- 6** Cross Swartha Lane and take the track up past High Swartha Farm. Go through the odd metal 'gate-in-a-gate' slightly on the left. Head up the slope to the step stile in the wall on the right. Walk 30 paces along the left-hand wall, then go left through gate/stile and descend down Green Lane.

- 7 Climb through the squeeze stile, then keep heading uphill under the first set of power lines, past the sinkhole and over towards North End Farm. Climb the squeeze stile underneath the second set of power lines, avoid the boggy area ahead by making a wide circle to your left. Then head for the stile directly in front of house.
- 8 Climb a few meters to the obvious track in front of the farmhouse and turn right. Go through gate onto the lane. Stop a moment for the breath taking views up and down the Aire Valley and of Silsden Reservoir.
- 9 Follow the track down and over a cattle grid. A couple hundred meters further take the squeeze stile in the wall on the right. Follow the wall downhill, turning left with it, then immediately through a squeeze stile on your left.

- 10** Follow the wall on your right. Skirt around the ditch that is dug across the path – it can be boggy in wet weather. Go over the stile in corner. Follow the wall to the bottom and navigate the makeshift gates by the farm out onto Brunthwaite Lane.
- 11** Turn right on to the lane and walk down to Brunthwaite, all the way to the T-junction.
- 12** Turn right on Hawber Lane then left into Drabble House Farm. Retrace your steps down past the school and along Middleway.
- 13** Turn left then immediately right on to Craven Drive and down to the snicket. Follow the path along, turning left at the park and back through to the beck. Turn right over the beck footbridge, up the side of Becks Cafe and then right onto Keighley Road back to the car park.

