

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

Undercliffe Cemetery

LOCATION

Undercliffe

DISTANCE

1 km / 0.6 miles

TIME

30 – 40 mins

DIFFICULTY

Easy

LANDSCAPE

Historic cemetery

HIGHLIGHTS

Victorian graves, city views

Undercliffe Cemetery: High on the hill and overlooking the city, the cemetery is well known for its ornate Victorian graves and monuments.

It opened in 1854 during the height of Bradford's industrial power when the city's population had increased nearly tenfold. The site continues to be a working burial ground and is thought to contain 23,000 graves.

History fans will appreciate the themed information boards dotted around the site. Our route passes several of them but there are lots of options to take alternative paths and read all 20. This walk is in partnership with volunteers from Undercliffe Cemetery Charity who manage and care for the grounds.

Find out more and get involved with volunteering at: undercliffecemetery.co.uk













Image credits: Undercliffe Cemetery Charity

Access notes

Largely flat tarmac paths, with a gradual incline on some. Occasional benches.

Parking: Limited parking in cemetery, on-street parking on Undercliffe Lane, and Otley Road.
Bus routes: 645, 686, 687.
OS Map: 288 Bradford & Huddersfield.

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 Bradford Cathedral, Lister Park, Holmewood.



Look out for

Alfred Illingworth's Mausoleum: It's easy to spot this imposing Egyptian inspired monument from the early 1900's. Alfred Illingworth was the wealthy owner of Whetley Mills: one of the largest spinning mills in Bradford. His grave was commissioned at a time when Britain occupied Egypt. The tomb, guarded by two Sphinxes, is incongruous now but would have been at the height of fashion then.

William Mawson's Obelisk: This monument is another Egyptian design, inset at the base with a striking blue portrait of the architect William Mawson. One of Bradford's most famous architects from the 1800's, William Mawson found great success in his partnership with Francis Lockwood. Several of Bradford's most celebrated landmarks including St George's Hall, The Wool Exchange, Bradford City Hall and the layout of Saltaire Village (now a World Heritage Site), were designed by Lockwood and Mawson.



Undercliffe Cemetery

1 Start at the lodge on Undercliffe Lane and head along the entrance pathway, passing the introductory information board on your left. Look out for The Cross of Sacrifice, visible along a cobbled pathway to the right.

2 At the end of the entrance pathway, you reach a junction with the boulevard and an open space on each side where the chapels used to be, one on the consecrated side of the cemetery to your left, and one on the un-consecrated side to your right. Turn right on to the boulevard.

The cemetery's Historic Core is on your left, and includes the elaborate Swithin Anderton memorial.

3 Continue along the boulevard, then take a left turn into the pathway that sweeps down to the next level. As you walk, you will see an information board entitled 'Creatives Making a Splash' to the right of the path.

4 Take the next left heading upwards, passing by the new burials section. Please be mindful that Undercliffe is a working cemetery and funerals regularly take place here. As the path levels out the Historic Core will be to your left. Look out for the iconic Illingworth tomb, guarded by two sphinxes.

Continue as the path sweeps up towards the Boulevard. Look out for the 'Sassy Lasses' information board, celebrating women who have helped to shape Bradford, including Christine Chapple who was pivotal in saving Undercliffe Cemetery from dereliction back in the 1980s.

5 Turn right onto the Boulevard and look out for the many different styles of monument, including Celtic crosses. On your right you will see the 'Architects' information board by William Mawson's monument which is adorned by a distinctive bronze plaque.

6 Towards the end of the boulevard is the tallest monument in the cemetery, belonging to Joseph Smith, the original land agent. He chose the best plot in the cemetery for himself, with views across Bradford from this spectacular vantage point.

7 Turn around and make your way back along the Boulevard. The 'Radicals' information board is on your right, celebrating the influence of Bradford activists and politicians both locally and nationally. Look out also for the Lasser family's 'four-poster-bed' memorial. To your right is an information board about the Chapel Greens area, and a large stone commemorating the work done by the Friends of Undercliffe Cemetery.

8 Turn right between the chapel lawns and head back towards the lodge where your walk began.

