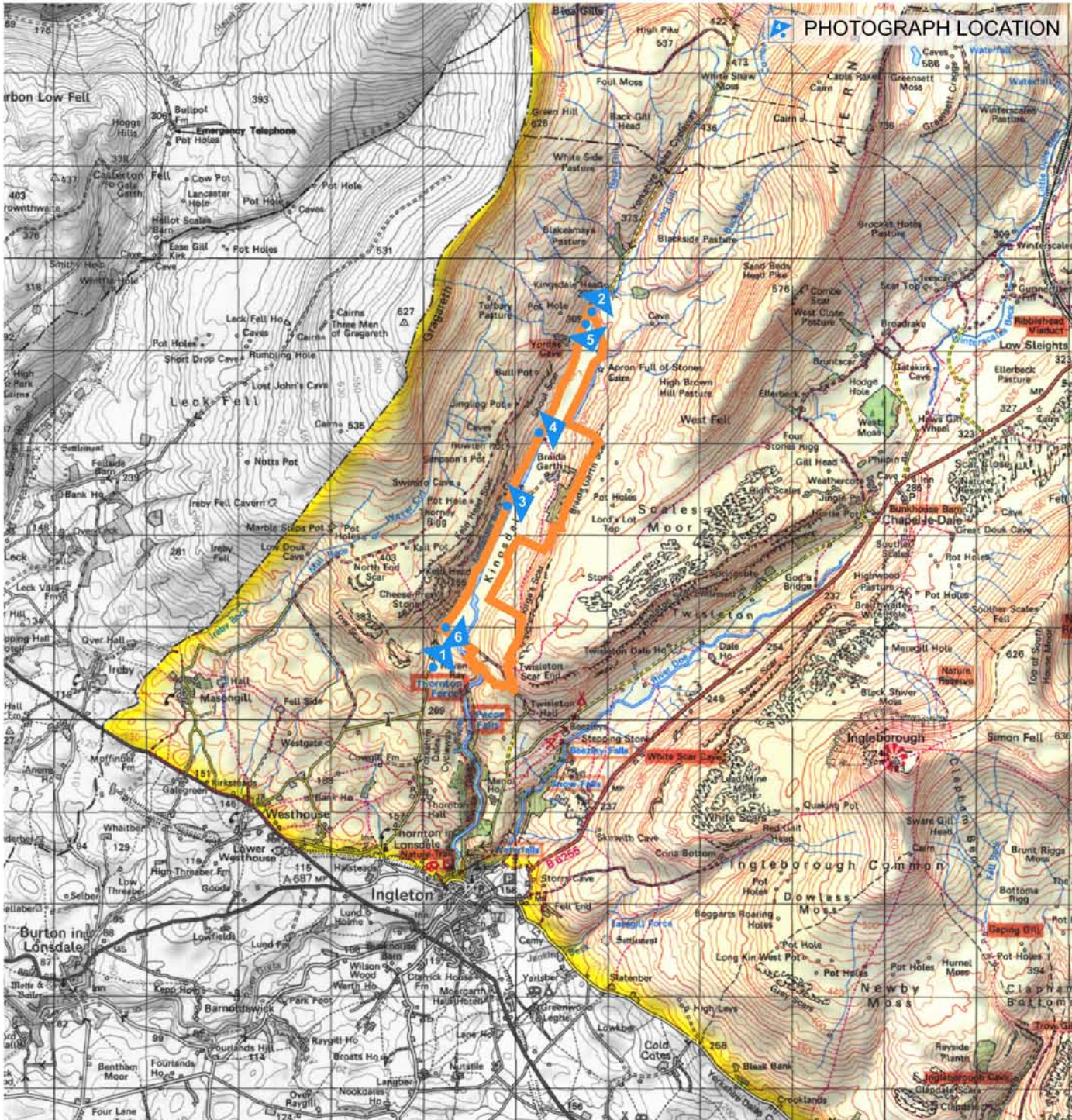
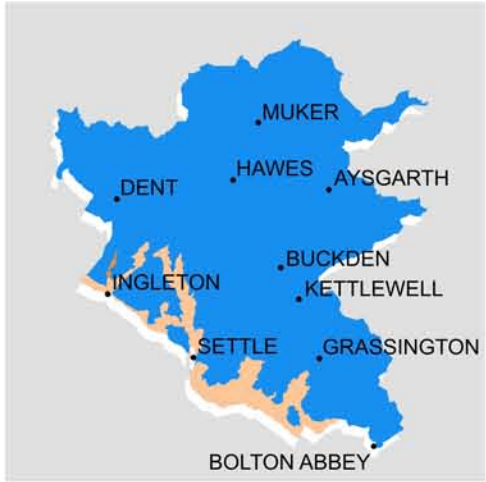


YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK



KEY CHARACTERISTICS

- Small enclosed and secluded limestone dale, steeply incised from surrounding limestone upland areas, enclosed at its lower end by glacial moraine.
- Steep valley sides, patterned by outcropping banded rock scars (more pronounced on the western valley side) dotted with trees and with screes and boulders below contrast with simplicity of the very flat valley floor.
- Open shallow beck, often dry, marked by large stones and boulders that make up its bed, joined by few streams.
- Expansive, smooth grassy flanks and summit of Wherside dominate views at the dale head.
- Dramatic potholes and caves are a feature of the valley side but seldom visible.
- A lonely dale, very sparsely settled and with a minor walled and gated little trafficked road running along its length.
- Valley floor crossed by straight limestone walls forming a striking pattern of large rectangular fields, cut for silage. In upper dale walls change to Yoredale sandstones or give way to post and wire fencing and rushes add texture to the flat valley floor. Walled enclosures extend up dale sides, crossing scars.
- Valley floor is open with very limited tree and woodland cover, trees forming accent features where they occur. An area of ancient woodland occurs at Braida Garth; small dark plantation woodlands are sited round gills at dale head.
- Wooden and post and wire fences, small modern bridges spanning the beck, farm sheds and electric wires are minor detractors.

