THE VISITOR

Yorkshire Dales National Park 2026

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Welcome to the Yorkshire Dales National Park



Whether you're visiting for the first time or returning to a beloved place, we invite you to immerse yourself in the Yorkshire Dales' breathtaking beauty and rich heritage.

Every dale, fell and village has a story to tell, offering endless opportunities to explore, connect and be inspired.

Find your path

With over 2,600km of rights of way, the Yorkshire Dales is an outdoor explorers' paradise. Find the perfect path to match your pace and passion, whether on foot, bike or horseback.

Everyone should be able to enjoy the countryside, and our new online access hub has information to help those with a wide range of disabilities plan their trip - read more on page 46.

This year sees the launch of the newly designated Coast to Coast Path National Trail, a route first devised by writer Alfred Wainwright 50 years ago. There is no better time to explore.

Our Story

Designated in 1954, the Yorkshire Dales National Park is recognised for its extraordinary natural beauty, wildlife diversity, rich cultural heritage, and fantastic opportunities for outdoor recreation.

Covering 2,179 square kilometres (841 square miles), this living, working environment is home to 24,000 people, who each help shape its identity.

It is the job of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority to care for this special place, including managing and maintaining rights of way on behalf of landowners.

The Yorkshire Dales is part of a family of 15 UK National Parks, protected for future generations to enjoy. We hope *The Visitor 2026* helps you discover all that it has to offer.

What makes it special

The Yorkshire Dales landscape has many moods; it can be wild and windswept or quietly tranquil.

It is a place to pause and breathe. Whether standing on a high moorland top, wandering through ancient woodland, or listening to the gentle flow of a river, you'll find moments of peace and wonder.

It is a farming landscape, with a distinctive patchwork of lush valleys and rolling hills divided by drystone walls and field barns. Former lead mine workings and historic features, such as magnificent Ribblehead Viaduct on the Settle-Carlisle Railway - marking its 150th anniversary in 2026 - remind us of its industrial past.

The National Park has amazing wildlife, some of the UK's finest limestone scenery from crags to caves, and the three mighty peaks of Pen-y-ghent, Whernside and Ingleborough to challenge and inspire.

Together, nature and people have created a landscape of immense beauty and character.

Stay a while

The Yorkshire Dales is more than a landscape: it's a thriving community, and local people and businesses are the heartbeat.

Don't just come for the day, come for the stay, allowing time to soak in the scenery and enjoy the best of local food and drink. Every purchase helps support the people who make this place so special.

Discover Yorkshire Dales National Park and plan your visit at www.yorkshiredales.org.uk

Wharfedale

Wharfedale is a classic Dales landscape where miles of drystone walls zigzag up seemingly impossible-looking slopes leading to striking limestone scars above.

Below, the River Wharfe gathers the waters of Langstrothdale and the becks above Cray and runs south to Bolton Abbey down a classic u-shaped glacial valley. Picturesque villages, each with its own character, are strung out along the valley bottom.

Grassington is the main settlement and still retains its old world village charm alongside being a lively centre with shops, cafés and a regular farmers market. If it looks familiar, that's because it is one of the main filming locations as the fictional town of Darrowby in Channel 5's *All Creatures Great and Small*. The annual Christmas markets in December are a highlight of Grassington's year.

A short walk from the village, Linton Falls showcases the power of the River Wharfe as it cascades over limestone ledges. Upstream, a restored century-old hydro-electric plant harnesses the river's energy and generates electricity once again.

Tucked quietly away in Lower Wharfedale is the small yet historic village of Hebden. A few years ago 33 silver dinari coins were found suggesting that the Romans had occupied the region at some point between 30 and 170AD. Look out for the gold village post box, painted to commemorate the Olympic medal won by local rower Andrew Tiggs Hodge in 2012.

For those fascinated by underground worlds, Stump Cross Caverns on the moors above Hebden offers the opportunity to explore caves formed more than half a million years ago, and discovered by a group of miners in 1860. One of Britain's premier show caves, it offers themed events throughout the year, plus a hearty local menu.

Further up the dale, Buckden - once the centre of a Medieval hunting forest - is the location for some of Wharfedale's most rewarding walks, both on the valley floor and the surrounding hilltops, including the famous Dales Way.



Approaching the cool depths of Troller's Gill: the narrow limestone gorge has inspired several folk tales, including one about a magical dog, the Barghest

Nearby, Kettlewell is a pretty riverside village with welcoming pubs and tearooms, but perhaps best known for its popular annual Scarecrow Festival in August.

Further down the dale the spectacular overhanging rock face at Kilnsey watches over the annual show held in the fields below at the end of August, which celebrates rural life with traditional competitions and displays.

At Kilnsey Park Estate you can meet alpacas, see red squirrels that are part of a breeding programme on site, try your hand at fishing in the well-stocked angling lake, or go on the family nature trail, before enjoying fine food and drink in the café. There's pony trekking at nearby Conistone - or you could just marvel at the height of Kilnsey Crag and the climbers trying to scale it.

The southern part of the dale offers riverside scenery and walking experiences like no other.

Burnsall, with its five-arched bridge and expansive village green by the water, is a popular spot in summer. Bolton Abbey's romantic priory ruins on the riverside make it the perfect location for a picnic or a stroll. The grandstand view from Simon's Seat over the village of Appletreewick makes the rocky outcrop well worth the climb.

Tucked away near Skyreholme lies a ravine known as Troller's Gill. Local folklore tells that it was home to a tribe of evil trolls that would wait at the top of the cliffs and throw boulders on to the heads of anyone that dared to pass by!

Perhaps even more unsettling is the tale of the barghest, a mythical monstrous black dog said to live here - and able to turn people to stone with a look. It has been suggested that the story influenced Sir Arthur Conan Doyle when he wrote *The Hound of the Baskervilles*.

Popular Wharfedale trails include the Dales Way along the River Wharfe, Grass Wood Nature Reserve, and the fascinating leadmining remains on Grassington Moor at Yarnbury, where their story is brought to life through a series of interpretation panels.

Find out the story of the land-letting candle at The George in Hubberholme. and don't miss the tranquil valley of Littondale with its famous pubs - the Falcon at Arncliffe and the Queens Arms at Litton.

The peaceful gardens of Parceval Hall - recently seen in the Channel 5 series *Yorkshire Great and Small* with Helen Skelton and Dan Walker - are well worth a visit. The Yorkshire manor house - now the retreat house of the Anglican diocese of Leeds - is surrounded by native and

Looking for a walk?

Download Buckden to Starbotton (5 miles) from our free walking app - there are 35 short walks to choose from. Visit **www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/yorkshiredales-walkingapps**

exotic plants and trees, laid out from 1927 onwards by Sir William Milner, from specimens collected from around the world. Visitors will find woodland walks, formal south facing terraces, a bedrock limestone rock garden and a beautiful rose garden amid the 24 acres.

The accessible paths around Grimwith Reservoir are home to many species of wild bird - including canada geese, teal and reed bunting - as well as a sailing club.

Visit our National Park Visitor Centre at Grassington or **www.buckden.org** and **www.grassington.uk.com** for more information.





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We hope you enjoy your free copy of *The Visitor*. If you have any comments or suggestions, please contact the editor Sarah Nicholson on 01756 751618 or email sarah.nicholson@yorkshiredales.org.uk

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© Wendy McDonnell

YOUR VISIT STARTS HERE



Call into one of our **National Park Visitor Centres** at Aysgarth Falls, Grassington, Hawes and Malham to make the perfect start to your visit.

Our knowledgeable staff have all the essential information to steer you in the right direction, as well as local know-how on what to see and do.

Alongside displays about the area you'll find maps, books and official National Park merchandise - including a range of clothing and exclusive Three Peaks products - and mini gifts for smaller pockets. And there are tempting on-site cafés at Aysgarth Falls and Hawes too.

Each of our centres is in a fantastic setting, so you'll find loads to do close by to make a proper day of it.

Opening Times

Open daily from 10am.

1 November to 31 March, Saturday and Sunday only (closed January)

Opening times can vary, with additional hours during school holidays and for special events.

To confirm, please ring ahead or visit **www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/national-park-centres**

Dont miss...

- ☐ Taking a stroll around the shops and cafés on the cobbled village square, one of the filming locations for Channel 5's *All Creatures Great and Small*
- ☐ Meandering along the riverbank to discover the bird and plantlife in the ancient woodland of Grass Wood Nature Reserve
- ☐ Visiting the old lead mining remains at Yarnbury and seeing if you can recognise part of the landscape from the Harry Potter films.

Grassington

Hebden Road, Grassington, Skipton BD23 5LB (grid ref. SE003637)
01756 751690
grassington@yorkshiredales.org.uk

Take a stroll down narrow walled Sedber Lane to the river, bridge and stepping stones at Linton. Enjoy a picnic in the meadow, before browsing the well-stocked visitor centre gift shop for a souvenir of your day.

Malham

Malham BD23 4DA
(grid ref. SD900627)
01729 833200
malham@yorkshiredales.org.uk

Learn about the area's amazing limestone geology, and the peregrine falcons that have nested and raised chicks at Malham Cove for over 20 years.

Dont miss...

- ☐ Climbing the 400 stone steps to the top of Malham Cove to see its amazing lunar landscape of limestone pavement
- ☐ Being enchanted by Janet's Foss, a gladed waterfall, and lovely Malham Tarn, with its boardwalk and bird hide.
- ☐ Being wowed by the dramatic surroundings as you walk through towering gorge Gordale Scar.

Aysgarth Falls

Aysgarth, Leyburn DL8 3TH
(grid ref. SE012888)
01969 662910
aysgarth@yorkshiredales.org.uk

The famous three-stepped waterfalls are the main attraction here. Find out how they were created, before discovering them for yourself on a short walk. Then enjoy a tasty treat on the Coppice Cafe's wooded outdoor terrace.

Dont miss...

- ☐ Wandering through the canopy of Freeholders' Wood looking for hazelnuts nibbled by passing dormice, listening for tapping woodpeckers, and trying to spot shy roe deer
- ☐ Visiting the nearby villages of Askrigg and Carperby, both with connections to Alf Wight - creator of fictional vet James Herriot
- ☐ Exploring stunning late Medieval Bolton Castle, with its daily archery and falconry displays.

Remember! Every time you make a purchase from one of our National Park Visitor Centres or our online shop at **www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/shop** you make a valuable contribution to the conservation of the Yorkshire Dales National Park. Treat yourself - treat the National Park!

Dont miss...

- ☐ Catching a glimpse of the Museum's gold Viking ring, found in a farmer's field near Sedbergh
- ☐ Jumping on board the Little White Bus to the Snaizeholme red squirrel trail to see these native creatures in their favourite habitat
- ☐ Tasting Wallace and Gromit's beloved cheese at the famous Wensleydale Creamery.

'Changing Places' toilet facilities at Grassington, Hawes and Malham National Park Visitor Centres offer extra equipment for people with more profound and multiple learning disabilities or complex care needs.

We support four **partnership centres** across the Dales, which are managed independently with experienced staff and volunteers offering local information and advice for visitors.

Kirkby Lonsdale

The Information & Gift Shop, LA6 2AH
015242 97177
lovethelune@gmail.com

Kirkby Stephen

Upper Eden Visitor Centre, CA17 4QN
01768 371199
visit@uecp.org.uk

Reeth

Information Centre & Shop, DL11 6TB
01748 884485 (Option 1)
reethinformationcentre@gmail.com

Sedbergh

Information Centre & Howgills Bookshop, LA10 5AD
015396 20125
tic@sedbergh.org.uk

Hawes

Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes
DL8 3NT (grid ref. SD875899)
01969 666210
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk

The Victorian former railway buildings and goods shed house the Dales Countryside Museum and visitor centre, with interactive displays in the old railway carriages.



Follow our WhatsApp channel for walks, inspiration for things to see and do, and some of our favourite photo and video content.

All-terrain electric Trampers for visitors with mobility needs are available to book at Malham and Aysgarth Falls National Park Visitor Centres - and are coming to Hawes and Grassington this summer.

For more information about planning your visit, what's on, food and drink, where to stay, and how to enjoy the National Park safely and sustainably, head to **www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/plan-your-visit**

Kirkby Lonsdale & the Lune Valley



The ancient market town of Kirkby Lonsdale has beautiful views, historic buildings, and plenty of great shopping and places to eat and drink

With buildings dating back hundreds of years clustered around narrow cobbled streets the bustling town of Kirkby Lonsdale offers independent shops, a vibrant community and a warm welcome.

Its weekly Thursday Charter Market has been held since 1227, and special celebrations are planned for next year.

The town has excellent food and drink options, including AA rosette restaurants, cosy pubs and stylish bars. Dales Traditional Butchers has won several industry awards.

As you approach from the east along the A65, the span of 14th century Devil's Bridge across the River Lune is a spectacular introduction. Enjoy a riverside picnic here - perhaps with a mug of tea from the famous snack wagon. A short walk away is Ruskin's View, named for nineteenth century writer, art critic and philanthropist John Ruskin. The location also inspired JMW Turner's celebrated landscape painting, *Crook of Lune*.

In 2020, Kirkby Lonsdale featured in Dolittle, starring Robert Downey Jr., when its market square was transformed into Victorian-era Britain for a chase scene. The town boasts two new annual festivals alongside its Christmas Fair: *Illuminate* features theatre, family activities and creative workshops, while *South Lakes Live* is a micro music festival.

Walkers and beer enthusiasts will appreciate the work of Kirkby Lonsdale Brewery, which supports the Pennine Way National Trail through sales of its official beer - the Pennine Ambler. The popular amber ale can be enjoyed at many pubs along the trail - which enters the National Park at Gargrave and exits at the famous Tan Hill Inn - as well as at the Royal Barn Brewery pub in Kirkby Lonsdale.

There are two golf courses to play on in the area: Kirkby Lonsdale Golf is an 18-hole course, while Casterton Golf Club has 9 holes.

The wild and exposed fells of Middleton, Barbon, Leck and Casterton further north hide a secret: the longest cave system in Britain. The Three Counties system stretches 89km under Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cumbria.

Intersecting these fells is the peaceful valley of Barbondale. The village of Barbon was the childhood home of the poet Catherine Grace Godwin, who died here in 1845, and is the location of Barbon Manor Speed Hillclimb, a car sprint race with a loyal following. The Barbon Inn, in the centre of the village, is a hotel, pub and restaurant and was built as a coaching inn in the seventeenth century.

Continuing north, the Lune gorge forms a natural pass between the Howgills and the Lake District fells. Used by travellers for thousands of years, it is now part of the long distance trail, the Dales Way.

A number of dramatic viaducts which span the valley are evidence of the old railway line which once linked Clapham to Tebay. Once a bustling railway junction town, Tebay is now a convenient stopping point, making it a good base for walkers and cyclists.

Looking for a walk?

Download the Devil's Bridge Wander (1 ½ miles) from our free walking app - there are 35 short walks to choose from. Visit **www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/yorkshiredales-walkingapps**

More information can be found at **www.kirkbylonsdale.co.uk**

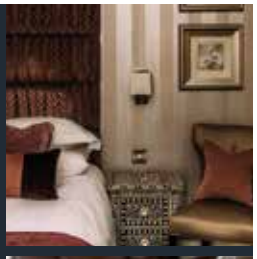
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Destination Dales



Heritage passenger train at Embsay & Bolton Abbey Railway

Travelling to and around the National Park by public transport means you can relax and enjoy the scenery - and see over the top of drystone walls too!

Many of the most scenic and popular parts of the National Park can be explored by train, bus, bike, foot or horseback.

With its central UK location, the Yorkshire Dales is very accessible by road. The M6 skirts it to the west, the A66 is to the north, the A1 to the east, and the A65 and A59 south *(see map on centre pages)*.

But car travel can have an impact on this special environment, so why not give your car a holiday, too.

By leaving your car behind for just a few days during your holiday you will be making a valuable contribution to the Dales' future wellbeing, and to your carbon footprint. There is so much more to explore from your door.

Make tracks

The Yorkshire Dales is a magical place to arrive by train. And, with plenty of onward connections from local bus services, bike hire and tours and excursions, train travel is the perfect mode of transport.

Details on routes to and through the National Park - plus walks and other activities to do from railway stations - can be found at **www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/the-dales-by-train**

There are heritage rail routes to enjoy, all lovingly restored and run by enthusiasts. Take a ride on the vintage Wensleydale Railway, Embsay & Bolton Abbey Steam Railway, or Eden Valley Railway in the Westmorland Dales. Kirkby Stephen East station and steam railway opened in 1861. Now cared for by Stainmore Railway Company volunteers, there are Victorian locomotives, a glamorous 1930s buffet car and a small museum to explore.

Whatever you do don't miss a trip on the famous Settle-Carlisle Line, celebrating 150 years of passenger travel in 2026. This takes you into the National Park on one of the most spectacular train journeys in England, rumbling over Ribblehead Viaduct and through Blea Moor Tunnel. Read more on pages 43-45.

Daily timetables - and information on special steam services - can be found at **www.settle-carlisle.co.uk.**

The new **Yorkshire Dales Explorer** connects Rochdale, Manchester, Salford, Bolton and Clitheroe with Settle and the Yorkshire Dales.

Launched in 2025, this Saturday rail service ends at Ribblehead Station, with two services a day. For details, visit **www.northernrailway.co.uk**

All aboard

Taking the bus is an excellent way to soak up the views without having to worry about keeping your eyes on the road. It helps reduce congestion and parking problems, as well as opening up the possibility of some fantastic linear walks back to your car.

For a relaxed ride and truly local experience, jump on one of the services that provide links between the main towns and villages and surrounding area. These are supplemented by extra services during the summer, mainly Sundays and Bank Holidays.

Visit **www.dalesbus.org** or **www.traveline.info** for timetables and more information.

Get the buzz

Visit **www.zapmap.com** for EV charging points across the National Park - including our car parks at Hawes, Grassington, Aysgarth Falls and Malham.

Sweet dreams

Don't just come for the day, come for the stay. There is a fantastic range of accommodation available in the Yorkshire Dales to suit every taste and pocket, from hotels and B&Bs to bunk barns, youth hostels and yurts.

Browse **www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/where-to-stay** and check out the advertisers in this edition.

For more on travel to and around the Yorkshire Dales National Park, visit **www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/travel-information**

Location, Location, Location!

From the spectacular limestone landscape of Malhamdale to tumbling Aysgarth Falls and dramatic Devil's Bridge, for centuries the Yorkshire Dales National Park has provided inspiration to poets, writers, artists and musicians. And it's no wonder TV and film makers have fallen in love with it, too.

Dales on film

This year, the new adaptation of *Wuthering Heights* (2026) is showcasing the landscape of the northern Dales to movie goers, with wild and windswept locations like Old Gang Smelt Mill in Swaledale - a protected Scheduled Monument - providing a brooding backdrop for Catherine (Margot Robbie) and Heathcliff (Jacob Elordi).

Meanwhile, horror movie sequel *28 Years Later: The Bone Temple* (2025) sees lovely Aysgarth Falls, Redmire and the heritage Embsay & Bolton Abbey Steam Railway transformed in apocalyptic scenes.

Malhamdale has always been a popular filming location. Back in 1951, Bette Davis visited the area to shoot *Another Man's Poison*, which featured Malham village and tarn. Jump forward half a century and the fantastical 'lunar landscape' of limestone pavement at the top of Malham Cove naturally made an appearance in *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 1* (2010).

Eagle-eyed watchers of season two of Netflix's fantasy series *The Witcher* (2019) will have spotted both the towering gorge of Gordale Scar (where Ciri is chased by a monster) and nearby gladed waterfall Janet's Foss. Gordale Scar also featured as the entrance to the secret valley of the Mystics in *The Dark Crystal* (1982), the first fully-animatronic feature film, directed by Jim Henson and Frank Oz, the creators of the Muppets.

The 2003 hit film *Calendar Girls* - starring Helen Mirren and Julie Walters - is based on the true story of a group of Yorkshire women who fell upon the idea of an



The steep-sided gorge of Gordale Scar in Malhamdale has inspired both writer JRR Tolkein and artist JMW Turner (below), while Medieval Bolton Castle in Wensleydale featured during filming of *Anne Boleyn* (2021) (right)





Grassington has been regularly transformed into the fictional village of Darrowby for *All Creatures Great and Small* (Channel 5)

Small screen, big love

Thirty years after the BBC1 aired its final episode of the hugely popular Yorkshire-Dales based veterinary series *All Creatures Great and Small*, a whole new series arrived on our screens in 2020 and was an immediate hit.

The original BBC series was mostly filmed in Askrigg. You can still visit the King's Arms which became the Drovers Arms in the show, just over the road from the veterinary surgery Skeldale House - now a B&B bearing the same name.

The new Channel 5 series continues to bring the stories of James Herriot to life alongside the colourful ensemble of farmers, animals and townsfolk living in the Dales in the 1940s. It has seen Grassington regularly turned into fictional Darrowby, with The Stripey Badger bookstore becoming its greengrocer, and Walkers Bakery the ironmongers. The Devonshire Inn took over as the new Drovers Arms, while the pub's interior scenes were filmed at the Green Dragon Inn, Hardraw.

Filming for series seven is taking place this year, so keep your eyes peeled if you're in the area.

alternative WI calendar in order to raise funds for Leukaemia Research. Kettlewell, as the fictional village of Knapely, takes centre stage, while Settle, Skipton and the real annual village shows at Burnsall and Kilnsey also feature.

Fourteenth century Bolton Castle in Wensleydale provided interior scenes for Channel 5's period drama *Anne Boleyn* (2021). In real-life, Mary Queen of Scots (first cousin once removed to Anne Boleyn's daughter, Queen Elizabeth I) was held prisoner there in the 1560s.

Perhaps one of the most well-loved Hollywood blockbusters filmed in the Dales remains *Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves* (1991). As well as shooting scenes around Malham, Kevin Costner - as the title character - fights Little John at Aysgarth Falls and is seen swimming by Maid Marion at Hardraw Force. Locals still remember children enthusiastically playfighting with sticks by the water that summer!

The art of nature

Landscape artist J.M.W. Turner (1775-1851) was deeply inspired by the Yorkshire Dales. His many works captured its waterfalls, rivers, castles and abbeys, and its changing light and weather.

In 'Ruskin's View' (1822) he portrayed the panorama over the Lune Valley from Kirkby Lonsdale, which his contemporary, art critic John Ruskin, called "one of the loveliest views in England, and therefore the world".

Charles Kingsley was inspired to write the 1863 classic *The Water-Babies* while visiting his friend at Malham Tarn House. The steep limestone cliffs of Malham Cove and 'sooty' marks on its sides, alongside the area's unique water systems and disappearing stream, shaped the adventures of Tom, the child chimney sweep.

JRR Tolkien recuperated in Yorkshire after being sent home from the war in 1916, later taking up a position at Leeds University. He would often take his family to explore the Yorkshire Dales and particularly loved hiking around Malhamdale. Gordale Scar, with its narrow V-shaped valley and famous waterfall, is widely believed to have been his inspiration for Helm's Deep in *The Lord of the Rings*.

Out on the wily, windy moors

While Emily Bronte's classic 1847 novel *Wuthering Heights* was inspired by the moors around her home in Haworth, it was the changing moods and wild locations of the Yorkshire Dales that the filmmakers chose to set the latest adaptation.

The northernmost dales of Swaledale and Arkengarthdale found themselves in the starring role, providing a powerful backdrop - and arguably stealing the limelight.

The most identifiable location is Old Gang Smelt Mill, the atmospheric ruins of which are seen throughout the film. Found in one of the more remote and higher moorland areas of the National Park, it is a Scheduled Monument, protected for its special historic interest.

A remnant of the leadmining industry, the Mill was built around 1846. The site became one of the largest smelt mill complexes in the area, processing lead ore from local mine workings using water power and peat as fuel.

Good to know

While beautiful, these locations are remote and weather conditions can be changeable. Dress for 'four seasons in one day' - and take a map and compass when striding out.

There is no public transport to Old Gang Smelt Mill and no car park. There is a small area for 5 or 6 cars to pull in at Surrender Bridge.

From the bridge to Old Gang Smelt Mill it is an uphill 1 mile walk along a stone track. It is accessible by an all-terrain 4x4 electric wheelchair. There's a steep climb (1 in 10) to start with, but the surface of the track is good.



Old Gang Smelt Mill is legally protected as a Scheduled Monument. This means that it is an offence to damage it in any way. Please do not touch, sit, walk or climb on it, or remove anything from the site, to ensure that it is protected for future generations to enjoy.

Margot Robbie as Catherine Earnshaw at Old Gang Smelt Mill in Swaledale, *Wuthering Heights* (2026), a Warner Bros. Pictures Release (Jaap Buitendijk)

Find out more about Old Gang Smelt Mill - and many other fascinating historic sites in the National Park - at **www.outofoblivion.org.uk**

A short distance away lies Bouldershaw Lane, winding up the moorland above the village of Langthwaite. Old Bouldershaw House, a barn in a field off the lane, can be seen in a striking scene where Margot Robbie as Catherine Earnshaw strides out in a white wedding gown and veil.

The land is privately owned and there is no access to the field or barn, but it can be easily viewed from the road.

Another building seen in the film is Lady Mary Hut, which lies in a very remote location on Gunnerside Moor, around 4 miles from Surrender Bridge.

High Booze Moor in Arkengarthdale was used for some of the open moorland scenes. There is a public bridleway that crosses the moor, starting near Langthwaite - the name of which means 'the long meadow' in Old Norse.

Download Old Gang (5 ½ miles) from our walking app. This circular route from Surrender Bridge, takes in Old Gang Smelt Mill and Reeth High Moor before dropping down onto Bouldershaw Lane. **www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/yorkshiredales-walkingapps**

Malhamdale



The clints (blocks) and grikes (gaps) of limestone pavement create a unique habitat for rare ferns and wildflowers, such as wood sorrel and Herb Robert

With some of the most iconic natural wonders in the Yorkshire Dales National Park, it's no surprise that Malhamdale is such a popular destination.

Within walking distance of the village of Malham lies the towering 70-metre-high limestone amphitheatre of Malham Cove. It was formed by a waterfall carrying meltwater from glaciers at the end of the last Ice Age.

For those eager to reach the top, a climb up 400 stone steps on the left-hand side rewards adventurers with a spectacular limestone pavement. The unique karst landscape, with its clints (blocks) and grikes (fissures), provides a dramatic contrast to the lush valley below.

A short distance away is awe-inspiring Gordale Scar, a limestone gorge with sheer cliffs rising nearly 100 metres. You'll be met with a hidden waterfall emerging through a natural rock archway - a true wonder of nature.

A tranquil woodland walk leads to enchanting Janet's Foss. This picturesque waterfall is said to be the home of a fairy queen, adding to its magical allure.

The Malham Landscape Trail, a self-guided walk covering all these incredible sites, is available from the National Park Visitor Centre, offering an ideal way to explore the area's highlights at your own pace.

Above the Cove lies Malham Tarn - the highest natural lake in England. This serene expanse of uniquely alkaline water is a haven for wildlife. A peaceful boardwalk winds through the nature reserve.

Visit **www.malhamdale.com** for further information.



Malham Wellbeing Escape



Looking for a walk?

Download Malham Tarn (3 miles) - a 'Miles Without Stiles' route - from our free walking app. There are 35 short walks to choose from. Visit **www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/yorkshiredales-walkingapps**



Sedbergh, Dentdale & The Howgills



Looking down the valley from Cautley Spout waterfall in the Howgill Fells

Walker and writer Alfred Wainwright once described the Howgill Fells - the distinctive, rolling hills overlooking Sedbergh in the western reaches of the Yorkshire Dales National Park - as looking like "a herd of sleeping elephants."

Their smooth, sweeping slopes provide a striking backdrop to this historic market town, England's only official Book Town. Sedbergh's literary heritage is reflected in its many bookshops, including Westwood Books, which houses over 70,000 titles.

Beyond its bookish appeal, the town boasts a thriving food scene, from traditional tea rooms to award-winning dining experiences, including the Black Bull, a former 17th-century coaching inn. Returning for 2026, the bi-annual Sedbergh Music Festival fills the town with an eclectic mix of local talent and internationally-acclaimed artists.

Just a mile outside Sedbergh, restored Victorian wool mill Farfield Mill Arts & Heritage Centre is home to working artist studios, changing exhibitions, and a well-stocked shop and tearoom - entry is free.

For those seeking dramatic scenery, Cautley Spout is just a few miles to the northeast. A scenic walk from the 400-year-old

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Located at the base of Cautley Spout in the heart of the Howgills, within the Yorkshire Dales National Park, this lovely 400-year-old National Trust Temperance Inn offers B&B (two comfortable en suite rooms). Delicious home-cooked food sourced from local, fresh produce. Sunday lunch, light lunches and snacks available. BOOKING essential.

In summer enjoy dining al fresco with the spectacular view, looking across to the rolling Howgills and Cautley Spout - England's highest cascading mountain waterfall above ground.

The Cross Keys
Temperance Inn

OPEN:
Check our Facebook page (times differ seasonally).

Cautley, Sedbergh LA10 5NE
Tel: 015396 20284
crosskeyscautley1@outlook.com

www.cautleyspout.co.uk

Cross Keys Inn, a historic temperance inn now owned by the National Trust, leads to this breathtaking cascade.

The area also holds deep historical significance, particularly for the Quaker movement. A climb to Fox's Pulpit - the hillside location where George Fox preached in 1652 and considered the start of the society - offers stunning views.

Visitors can also explore the peaceful Brigflatts Meeting House, one of the oldest Quaker meeting houses in England, open to all who seek quiet reflection.

Dentdale's steep-sided valley offers a striking contrast of flower-filled meadows, lush riverside pastures, and rugged uplands.

Dent Station, on the historic Settle-Carlisle line, stands as the highest mainline station in England at 1,100ft above sea level. The impressive viaducts at Dent Head and Arten Gill showcase carry the railway line before it plunges into long, dark tunnels at either side of the dale.

At the head of the valley, the hamlets of Cowgill and Stone House offer a charming escape, home to a fine chapel, a welcoming pub - the Sportsman's Inn - and a scenic campsite.

Further down the valley, the cobbled streets of Dent village are rich in character, featuring the award-winning George & Dragon pub. The village's centrepiece, a memorial fountain, pays tribute to Adam Sedgwick, a pioneering geologist regarded as the father of modern geology.

The Dent Village Heritage Centre & Museum provides an insight into the area's past, from the mining of the famous black marble to the stories of the 'terrible knitters of Dent.' The Woolshed showcases high-quality handcrafted wool products, from raw fleeces to intricate knitwear and specialty yarns.

For walkers and cyclists, Dentdale is a dream destination. The Dales Way follows the River Dee through the valley, while higher-level routes such as the Occupation Road offer breathtaking views. Quiet valley bottom roads provide a perfect introduction to cycling.

Flowing westward, the River Dee eventually meets the River Rawthey near Sedbergh.

Looking for a walk?

Download Dent (7 ½ miles) from our free walking app - there are 35 short walks to choose from. Visit **www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/yorkshiredales-walkingapps**

For more information, visit **www.discoverdentdale.co.uk** and **www.sedbergh.org.uk.**

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Starry, starry night

When was the last time you stopped and looked up at the sky at night?

Gazing at tranquil dark skies, alive with stars, and imagining a vast tantalising world beyond is the perfect way to lose yourself, put the daily hustle and bustle in perspective and let your senses take over.

Yorkshire Dales National Park is a very special place to experience a truly dark sky. With its remote location and large expanses completely free from light pollution, it gained international recognition as an official Dark Sky Reserve in 2020. This status helps us conserve, celebrate and raise awareness of this special quality through events like our annual Dark Skies Festival each February.

On a clear night it is possible to see the Milky Way, as well as the planets, meteors and our Moon. You could see as many as 2,000 stars, pick out the red glow of Mars, or view the finer details of constellations such as Orion the Hunter. You might even catch the brilliant dance of the Northern Lights when activity and conditions are right, as well as the International Space Station travelling at 17,000mph overhead.



Stargazer, Hard Level Bridge, Old Gang Lead Mine (Paul Clark IG@paulastroimages)

What will you do differently tonight?

The awe-inspiring night sky is a source of wonder and tranquillity - but today only 2% of people in Great Britain can experience a truly dark sky at night.

Artificial lighting is making the night sky brighter than it has ever been, disrupting the natural day-night pattern and shifting the delicate balance of our environment. It can be linked to the decline in numbers of certain bat, bird and insect species - two-thirds of all animal species are nocturnal. It disturbs our biological rhythm, affecting sleep patterns and stress, and it increases our energy consumption.

Light pollution is the only form of pollution that is reversible. Even simple actions like closing the curtains at night to shield internal lighting can help.

Visit **www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/dark-sky** to find out why our dark sky needs protecting and what we can all do to help, plus our good lighting guide.

Many local businesses are now officially 'Dark Sky Friendly', meaning they've gone the extra mile to up your stargazing experience. Think telescopes, reclining chairs, cosy blankets, star maps and expert-led events.

They're also helping protect our night skies by reducing light pollution, making your view of the Milky Way even clearer.

Look out for the logo.

Protecting dark skies starts with you

- Light just the area you need
- Choose less bright light bulbs
- Use timers and sensors
- Shield and point lights down
- Use warm-white bulbs



Keep your owl eyes on **www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/dark-skies-festival** for all the details on our Dark Skies fringe festival from 23 October to 1 November, as well as the main event returning 5 to 21 February 2027.

With night hikes, astrophotography workshops and stargazing safaris, you can explore the beauty of our night sky and the universe we live in.

Star gazer, dream chaser

The best time to view the stars is from mid-August through to early May. A great excuse - as if you needed one - to visit the Yorkshire Dales in autumn and winter.

Winter is the best time to see star clusters and constellations, spring is best for planets, and autumn for the Milky Way. And any time is good for simply standing still and taking a quiet moment to connect under the blanket of a vast night sky.

The National Park has four official **Dark Sky Discovery Sites** - Hawes and Malham National Park Visitor Centres, Buckden National Park car park, and Tan Hill Inn. Open to the public, accessible to all abilities, and with car parking and other facilities on site, these sites offer a grandstand view of the starry sky in all its glory.

Specialised websites and apps can pinpoint upcoming celestial happenings, such as when to catch large meteor showers. The bright Perseids, which appear every August, were first observed 2,000 years ago.

Getting started does not require a lot of expensive gear. There is plenty to see with the naked eye, while a set of binoculars or a simple telescope make it possible to pick out details on heavenly bodies that would be invisible from a city.

Be patient. As your eyes adjust to the darkness, the more you will see. And wear warm clothing as clear nights are also the most chilly!

For tips on viewing the sky at night, and what to look for and when, pick up our 'Stargazing' leaflet from National Park Visitor Centres or visit **www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/stargazing**

Skipton & Bolton Abbey

Skipton - the southern gateway to the Dales - grew wealthy as a trading centre for sheep and wool. Its old name Sceap Tun means 'sheep town'.

Skipton began life when the owners of Skipton Castle acquired a market charter in 1204. The town still keeps its essentially medieval layout dominated by the magnificent 900-year-old castle, parish church, and traditional high street market place with radiating alleys and covered passages.

Today it remains busy, with shops, boutiques, inns and courtyards, a four times weekly market in the high street, and farmers and artisan markets held at the canal basin, as well as having a lively music scene.

In the eighteenth century, the 130-mile-long Leeds-Liverpool Canal was built right through the heart of the town, one of the early achievements of the Industrial Revolution. Today the towpath offers easy walking routes, and narrowboats can be hired for day trips and guided tours. An artisan market is held on the first Sunday of the month between March and December in the canal basin.

Skipton Castle, built in the late eleventh century, was carefully located in the Aire Gap between the Craven limestone dales to the north and the gritstone moors to the south. It is one of the most complete and best preserved medieval castles in the country, and visitors can enjoy re-enactments and other historic events in the castle grounds.

The history of the castle is inseparable from that of the Clifford family who were granted the property by Edward II in 1310. Following the English Civil War, the damaged castle was skilfully restored by the redoubtable Lady Anne Clifford. In 1659 she planted the yew tree in the central courtyawrd to mark its repair.

Stepping stones at Bolton Abbey in front of the magnificent 12th century priory ruins (Stephen Garnett Photography)



Owning vast estates in the old county of Westmorland during the seventeenth century, she travelled repeatedly between her castles. This inspired the Lady Anne's Way - a long distance walking route, which starts at Skipton Castle on its 100-mile journey north to Penrith and takes in these once magnificent buildings.

Lady Anne made grants to repair buildings close to the Castle which had been damaged during the bombardment, including 3 Mill Bridge which was re-built in 1675 as evidenced by the date stone above the rear door. At the time it served as the local blacksmith's and is now a gallery and studio space for local artists.

'A gentle and picturesque short walk along the canal's Springs Branch towpath takes you under Mill Bridge and the castle cliffs, into delightful Skipton Woods.





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Narrow boats on the Skipton stretch of the 130-mile long Leeds-Liverpool canal, built in the 18th century

Down a ginnel off the High Street, a new attraction, The Hidden Castle, is an immersive medieval role-play centre with themed rooms where children are free to explore, imagine and create their own adventures. It is open on weekends and school holidays.

The town boasts the outstanding, recently refurbished Craven Museum, located in the Town Hall with a variety of exhibits relating to many aspects of Dales life. It is home to a rare Shakespeare First Folio. Dating back to 1623, there are only 230 copies in the world and the museum's is one of only four on permanent display in the world.

Skipton has a thriving creative community, art venues and gallery spaces. The livestock auction mart, on the edge of the town, transforms into an unusual venue for annual events such as Art in the Pen and Yarndale - a must for wool lovers - as well as hosting plays, comedians and bands.

The cobbled high street is closed off to traffic for fun annual events such as Sheep Day, this year taking place on 28 June, and its Christmas Markets on 6 and 13 December.

The 20 acres of parkland at Aireville Park contain skateboard and pump tracks, and Raven Tree Top Adventure - a high ropes adventure course. Skipton Leisure & Wellbeing Hub, also in the park, has two swimming pools, a fitness centre, café, sauna and steam room. The park hosts a weekly 5km Parkrun on Saturdays.

Just a bike or bus ride away from Skipton is Embsay & Bolton Abbey Steam Railway. Now restored and run by enthusiasts, on most weekends and during holiday periods you can take a ride in a 1950s coach behind a sturdy, puffing steam locomotive.

At the end of the line, an easy walk awaits you to Bolton Priory, part of the Bolton Abbey Estate. Covering 30,000 acres of moorland, woodland and agricultural land, the estate has served as the Yorkshire home of the Duke and Duchess of Devonshire since the 18th century.

At its heart lies the 12th-century ruins of Bolton Priory overlooking the River Wharfe. The ruins of Barden Tower are close to the magnificent 17th-century three-arched humpbacked Barden Bridge, which crosses a scenic section of the river.

Enjoy woodland nature trails and riverside walks - suitable for wheelchair users - before indulging in a tasty treat at the Cavendish Pavilion.

Not far from Bolton Abbey, Hesketh Farm Park, with lots of animals and fun tractor rides, provides a great family day out - a hands-on experience of farm life.

Visit **www.welcometoskipton.com** for more information.

Looking for a walk?

The Bolton Abbey Estate website suggests three good routes ranging from 2 to 7 miles. Visit **www.boltonabbey.com** for details.

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Or escape to one of our three cottages that sleep 6-8 people, all with spectacular views.



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Parklife

Yorkshire Dales National Park is a very special place, home to some rare and fascinating animals, plants and insects.

Some are sadly endangered. In fact, there are almost 400 species of conservation concern that we know about in the National Park. These include red squirrels, peregrine falcons, and the beautiful lady's-slipper orchid.

The places where these species live need our care too. From moorland and caves to hay meadows and woodlands, the National Park contains internationally important habitats that provide shelter and food for its precious wildlife.

Follow us

@WildlifeDales

Nature in the Dales



Left: Muker wildflower meadow. Above: Red squirrel (Paul Fowlie)

Reserved for reds

Red squirrels - with their distinctive ear tufts - are our only native squirrel in the UK, and have strongholds in the north-west and central areas of the National Park.

They live in all types of woodland, but are now most associated with coniferous forests, where there is less competition from the grey squirrel, introduced from North America in the 19th century.

Reds are extremely agile, weighing only 100-350g, and climb amongst the smallest branches to reach their preferred food of nuts and seeds. The larger greys are geared up to broadleaved woodland such as oak and hazel and struggle to get enough nutrition from conifer seeds.

Squirrels do not hibernate and may be seen all year round. They have two litters of young - known as kittens - a year.

Best place to see?

Watch these little creatures at the Snaizeholme reserve near Hawes - jump on the Little White Bus from the Dales Countryside Museum.



Glorious grasslands

The Yorkshire Dales is a farmed landscape, and grasslands cover up to three quarters of the National Park. As well as supporting livestock, these are vital habitats for wildlife and plants.

Hay meadows, dotted with stone field barns, are an iconic feature of the National Park. Left to grow in the summer, they are cut and harvested to provide winter feed for livestock. If sensitively managed, they can support a huge diversity of plants. The flowers provide abundant nectar for pollinators like bees and butterflies, and the tall grasses shelter ground-nesting birds like curlew.

The limestone uplands support specialist plants that thrive on the thin calcareous soils. These grasslands are usually grazed in the summer, creating a mix of vegetation heights. This provides habitats for invertebrates, and on shorter grasses nesting lapwing thrive, filling the air with their tumbling display flights and 'pee-wit' calls.

Species-rich grasslands like these are under threat due to the intensification of agricultural practices. Here in the Dales we are working with landowners to protect and preserve these special habitats, ensuring they remain a celebrated part of the National Park's heritage.

Best time to see?

Most grassland flowers are in bloom from June. Be sure to see them in their full glory before the hay meadows are cut in mid-July!

Special to the Dales

English sandwort - the entire UK population of this tiny flower are found on and around Ingleborough.

Yorkshire feather moss is endemic to one gorge in the Yorkshire Dales National Park and found nowhere else.

Black grouse are found no further south in England than here.

Lady's slipper orchid - the only native population in the country exists within the Yorkshire Dales.

Limestone pavement - half of the total area of limestone pavement in the country is found in the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

Wading in

The distinctive curlew is easy to identify by its large size and its long, downward-curving bill, which it uses to probe into the ground for food such as worms and insects.

Europe's biggest wading birds arrive at their upland breeding grounds in early spring. They may gather in flocks of several hundred in the lower dales, making a dramatic sight.

The curlew's haunting, bubbling 'curl-ee' call gives it its name and can be heard as the birds perform their territorial displays.

Best time to see?

Curlew are most evident from April to July when they are breeding. These are ground-nesting birds, so please keep dogs on a short lead and stick to marked paths to avoid disturbance to nests and chicks.

Listen to the call of the curlew - its first cries in February as it returns to the uplands is a sure sign that spring is near **www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/hear-the-curlew-calling**



Curlew (Brian Rafferty)

Fabulous fungi

In the autumn months, as the wildflowers are dying back for the year, some special grasslands in the Yorkshire Dales still abound with colour from small mushrooms known as waxcaps.

These eye-catching fungi can be bright red, orange, green, pink or yellow, making them stand out like jewels as winter descends and other colours begin to drain from the landscape.

Look out for them in short, mossy grasslands where they are less likely to have been disturbed by ploughing or fertiliser application.

Best time to see?

The fungi start to emerge from late August and may be found until the first frosts appear.



Wax caps



House Martins (Whitfield Benson)

Homes for house birds

Swifts, house martins, house sparrows and starlings are a feature of Dales towns and villages, making their nests in or on buildings. But their numbers have declined, and all are now on the UK Red List for Birds of Conservation Concern.

Building renovations can block up and destroy old nest sites, and new buildings lack suitable crevices for nesting. This has led to fewer available nesting sites, making it difficult for them to breed. These birds also need abundant insects to feed their chicks, which are becoming scarce due to habitat loss and insecticide use.

We are working with local communities to protect and enhance populations of these birds in the National Park, providing bed and breakfast - more places to nest and more places to feed.

Specialist nest boxes are being installed on houses, and insect-rich feeding grounds are being created. This will help to ensure the chirps of sparrows and the shrieks of swifts remain a key part of our summer soundscape.

Explore more about this project at **www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/homes-for-house-birds**

Want to know more? Discover the wildlife and habitats of the Yorkshire Dales National Park, and the important work being done to look after them through our Nature Recovery Plan, at **www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/about/wildlife**

Kirkby Stephen & the Westmorland Dales



The magical ruins of Pendragon Castle, dating back to at least the 12th century - it's no wonder that local legend connects it to Uther Pendragon, the father of King Arthur

In the Cumbrian north-west corner of the National Park lies the beautiful Westmorland Dales.

Stretching from Tebay in the south-west to Kirkby Stephen in the east and Maulds Meaburn in the north-west, at its heart are the limestone fells above Orton and Asby, rich in natural and cultural heritage, and with magnificent views to the Howgill Fells, the Pennines, and the Lake District.

A stunning backdrop to wonderful walking, cycling and horseriding country, there are both easy going valley routes and more challenging climbs to take on. Two long distance trails converge here - the Coast to Coast and Lady Anne's Way.

Kirkby Stephen makes a great base for exploring the area. The market town's annual Westmorland Dales Festival offers guided walks, an artisan produce market, and storytelling. Running from 25 to 26 July, this year marks its 10th anniversary. Call in at the Upper Eden Visitor Centre for more information.

Wild Boar Fell dominates the skyline of the remote Mallerstang valley, and it is here too that you will find the atmospheric ruins of Pendragon Castle with its reputed connection to Uther Pendragon - the father of King Arthur. Nearby Lammerside features a pele tower - a defensive building against Scottish raiders, and the old fortified settlement of Castle Folds, can be found high on the fells of Great Asby Scar, with its huge expanse of limestone pavement.

Looking for a walk?

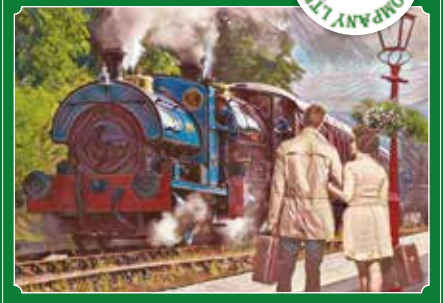
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The lovely village of Orton has a village shop, pub, café and Kennedy's Chocolate Shop, plus a regular farmers market held the second Saturday of every month. And there are many other delightful villages to explore, including the charmingly named Maulds Meaburn, Ravenstonedale, Great Asby and Crosby Garrett.

More information can be found on **www.visiteden.co.uk** and **www.ravenstonedale.org**



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KIRKBY STEPHEN
Saturday 25 – Sunday 26 July 2026

Join us to celebrate the wonderful Westmorland Dales!

We're marking the Festival's 10th anniversary with a weekend of exploration, events & entertainment for all in & around Kirkby Stephen & the Westmorland Dales. It's free to attend & everyone's welcome.



Photograph: Kingsley Singleton

For all the latest news & info head to: westmorlanddalesfestival.org.uk
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WHAT'S ON IN THE YORKSHIRE DALES 2026

A bumper crop of fantastic events await as organisers across the National Park look forward to welcoming you.

Challenge yourself to learn a new skill, like rag rug making or scything, or discover what makes the Dales so special on a walk with local guides.

The Dales Countryside Museum in Hawes has a host of family-friendly activities, from Hands-on History drop-in sessions and craft workshops to drystone walling demonstrations, as well as a changing programme of exhibitions.

A visit to a traditional agricultural show or village gala is a must for a real slice of Dales life - many have been taking place for over a century.

And don't miss out on two very special events that bring businesses throughout the National Park together: Yorkshire Dales Cheese Festival in October, and Dark Skies Festival in February.

Before setting out, it is essential to contact the individual event provider using the details given to confirm that your chosen activity is going ahead, as well as to receive further key information.

Remember to dress appropriately for walks and outdoor activities - the weather in the Dales can be changeable. Bring drinks and snacks, wear suitable footwear, and carry clothing to suit all conditions.



Ravenstonedale Show

Disclaimer

The Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority cannot be held responsible for any omissions, subsequent changes or revisions that may occur with events information supplied by external agencies.

You are STRONGLY ADVISED to contact the event provider to confirm the information given BEFORE setting out. Booking is essential for some events. All information included is believed to be correct at the time of going to print.

Visit **www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/events** to find out more. We hope to see you there!

Events with a green background are hosted by the **Dales Countryside Museum** in Hawes, and led by our knowledgeable Dales Volunteers and invited experts. This handy key will help you make your choice.

Key

- Family-friendly
- Talk
- Walk
- Special Event
- Demo

Give your car a holiday too!

Many events in the National Park can be reached by bus or train.
For public transport information visit **www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/travel** or **www.dalesbus.org**

Dogs are welcome at many events, but always contact the organiser beforehand to avoid disappointment.

Where dogs are allowed they must be fit enough to negotiate stiles and steep ascents, be well-behaved, and be kept under close control on a short fixed lead at all times. Assistance dogs are always welcome.

Be safe

Our event leaders have discretion not to accept participants who are not suitably equipped or whom they consider unable to participate safely. Although all reasonable steps have been taken to ensure safety, participants join in at their own risk.



Exploring the National Park's dark skies, Bolton Castle

Dark Skies Festival (+ Fringe)
Celebrating the National Park's extraordinary night skies - free from light pollution - our annual Dark Skies Festival will return for its 12th big bang edition in February 2027 - make a date in your diary!
Meanwhile, our Fringe Dark Skies Festival is back this autumn from 23 October to 1 November with a stellar line-up of star-studded events and activities.
www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/dark-skies-festival

March

Sunday 01 March
Dark Skies Night Hike
18:00 to 22:30
Meet: Kettlewell BD23 5QZ
Gaze in awe at the Milky Way, marvel at millions of stars and soak up the unique atmosphere of a night hike into the heart of the Yorkshire Dales National Park, where there are exceptionally dark skies and a magnificent nocturnal environment. Guided by experienced mountain leader Mark Reid. If there is cloud cover, a route will be chosen that showcases the very best of night walking - differing terrains, historic remains and nocturnal wildlife. £45.
07711 264019
mark.reid@teamwalking.co.uk
www.teamwalking.co.uk

Sunday 01 March
Stargazing at Meadow Falls
18:00 to 20:00
Meadow Falls Campsite, Ingleton LA6 3PD
Whether you're a curious beginner, a nature-lover or simply want a memorable night with the family, join this friendly introduction to stargazing with visiting astronomer Rob Cockcroft. Spot constellations, planets and dark sky wonders (no experience needed). If cloudy, we'll head indoors for an interactive night-sky session. Homemade soup and sausage roll to keep you warm. Fire pit marshmallows and s'mores to finish. Bring warm layers. £10.
07894 596 523
info@meadowfalls.co.uk
www.meadowfalls.co.uk

Friday 06 March
Stargazing at Tupgill
18:00 to 21:30
The Saddle Room, Tupgill Park, Leyburn DL8 4TJ
Join Neill from Go Stargazing for a relaxed and inspiring evening under the stars. The night begins with a delicious pizza and, once darkness falls, Neill will guide you on a fascinating tour of the night sky, highlighting constellations, stars and celestial sights as they reveal themselves overhead, and observation through professional telescopes. £27.
01969 640596
events@tupgillpark.co.uk
www.thesaddleroom.co.uk

Saturday 07 to Sunday 08 March
Living History Tudor Weekend
10:00 to 17:00
Bolton Castle, Leyburn DL8 4ET
The Wars of the Roses and early Tudor England. £15, children free, concessions £12.50.
01969 623981
info@boltoncastle.co.uk
www.boltoncastle.co.uk

Sunday 08 March
Mosses of Upper Swaledale
13:00 to 16:00
Keld Heritage Centre DL11 6LJ
An easy going 1 mile walk led by Sue and Les Knight, starting with an introductory session with hand lenses in the visitor centre to allow familiarisation with some species. £8.
07986 580475
helen.guy@keld.org.uk
www.keldheritage.co.uk

Tuesday 10 March
Recipes & Remedies from the Archives
11:30 to 12:30
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Join Jane Sammells for a pop-up session to talk about some weird and wonderful recipes from the museum archives. Recipes for tasty traditional favourites, writing ink or poisons and remedies for aches, pains, coughs and colds for humans and animals. Included in museum admission.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Wednesday 11 March
Charity Bingo Nights
19:30 to 21:30
Hawes Market House DL8 3QN
Raising funds to support a local Wensleydale cause. Hall opens at 7pm for eyes down at 7.30pm. All welcome. Tea, coffee, cake, biscuit provided by the Bainbridge Lights team. £10 entry buys 6 standard games, 1 extra game and 2 raffle tickets. Additional games and raffle tickets can be purchased at the door. Junior and high school children half price.
dalescharitybingo@gmail.com

Saturday 14 March
Orton Farmers' Market
09:30 to 14:00
Orton Market Hall CA10 3RU
Over 25 local farmers, growers, producers and artisan craftsmen offering a tremendous variety of high quality and speciality local produce and crafts. Themed markets each month.
07969 335598
info@ortonfarmers.co.uk
www.ortonfarmers.co.uk

Saturday 14 March
Sketchbook and Journalling Class (Full Day)
09:30 to 16:00
Yore Mill Craft Shop & Gallery DL8 3SR
Using creative and expressive mixed media approaches, students will create a sketchbook or journal. Different techniques will be used such as mono-printing using found objects. The emphasis is on mark-making and exploration rather than drawing and so is suitable for every level of experience. A very free explorative experience and calm in the countryside beside the River Ure.
01969 662829
www.yoremillcraftshopandgallery.co.uk

Sunday 15 March
Lichens of Upper Swaledale
13:00 to 16:00
Keld Heritage Centre DL11 6LJ
An easy 1 mile walk led by Sue and Les Knight, starting with an introductory session with hand lenses in the visitor centre to allow familiarisation with some species. £8.
07986 580475
helen.guy@keld.org.uk
www.keldheritage.co.uk

Friday 20 March
Lead Mining: Gerard Marsh
14:00 to 15:30
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
A Friends of the Museum free afternoon talk. Donations welcome. No booking required.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Friday 20 March
Blackbeard's Tea Party
20:00 to 22:30
Reeth Memorial Hall DL11 6QT
Folk-rock rebels celebrate 10 years of their seminal album 'Reprobates', a collection of stories about wrong'uns from history. You're guaranteed a loud and energetic performance that will bring out the devil inside you. Drums, electric guitars, fiddle, melodeon and 4-part vocal harmonies combine to create music that is drenched in tradition, but filtered through a kaleidoscope of modern rock and pop. £17 (£19 on door), under 16s half price.
01748 884132
memorialhall@swaledale.org
www.reethmemorialhall.co.uk

Sunday 22 March
Bedale Book and Postcard Fair
10:00 to 16:00
Bedale Hall DL81AA
Collectors fair. Around 15 dealers with a wide range of books, maps, postcards and more. Home-made refreshments.
www.bedalebookfair.co.uk

Friday 27 March to Sunday 26 April
From the Earth: NYOS 2026 Exhibition
11:00 to 16:00
Craven Arts House, Otley Street, Skipton BD23 1ET
Ahead of opening their studio doors as part of North Yorkshire Open Studios in June, 30 participating artists showcase a diverse collection of works interpreting the natural world. Drawing on subjects as vast as tectonic shifts and as intimate as moss-covered boulders, the exhibition brings together an inspiring range of 2D and 3D artworks, including glass, ceramics, paper, print, painting, textiles, bronze, and mixed media. Each piece is accompanied by a short written insight from the artist, offering visitors a glimpse into the techniques, materials and ideas that shape their creative process. The exhibition will run each week from Thursday to Sunday.
info@cravenarts.co.uk
www.cravenarts.co.uk

Saturday 28 March
Malham Cove Magical Moon Bathing Walk
18:45 to 22:15
Malham
A 5 mile night walk discovering the myth and magic of the area. Guided by Fabian, a mountain leader and dark skies enthusiast, and Alison, a mindfulness instructor, find out about the universe, planets, stars, geology and deep time. Reconnect to this big wide-world and dark sky above. £49.
07968 763398
alison@adventuresforthesoul.co.uk
www.adventuresforthesoul.co.uk

Monday 30 March
Stonewalls Melt & Pour Soap Workshop
10:30 to 13:30
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Join Tabby of Swaledale Soapworks for this half day introduction to soap making. Replicate the distinctive Yorkshire Dales drystone wall in soap, using a non-chemical melt and pour soap base. This family-friendly event can be enjoyed by accompanied children aged 5+. £35 (accompanying adult free) - booking essential.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

April

Wednesday 01 April
Curlew Dairy
10:30 to 16:00
Aysgarth Falls National Park Visitor Centre DL8 3TH
Meet the makers of traditional farmhouse Wensleydale cheese, crafted in a micro-dairy in Wensleydale using milk from a small local farm. Learn about their cheesemaking process and enjoy tasting their delicious range. With samples and sales of Yoredale Wensleydale, Extra Mature Wensleydale, Millerwood Smoked Wensleydale, and Wetherfell Frying Cheese.
sam@curlewdairy.co.uk.
www.yorkshiredales.org.uk

Wednesday 01 April
Easter Badges
13:00 to 16:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Embrace spring and design your own Easter badges. Included in museum admission Family drop-in sessions. No booking required.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Thursday 02 April
Hands on History: Viking Cord
13:00 to 16:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Have a go at making Viking cord, perfect for key chains and friendship bracelets. Drop in sessions. Included in museum admission
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Friday 3 April
Admissions donated to charity
10:00 to 17:00
Skipton Castle BD23 1AW
Good Friday - Admissions to St Gemma's and Martin House for the 38th year
Adult £12.80, child £8.60, con £11.80
01756 792442
info@skiptoncastle.co.uk
www.skiptoncastle.co.uk

Key for National Park Authority-organised events. For more advice, see page 25.

Family-friendly
Talk
Walk
Special Event
Demo

Saturday 4 to Sunday 5 April
Easter Fayre & Classic Vehicle Rally
Free admission. Refreshments in the buffet car. Charges for train rides.
Stainmore Railway Company at Kirkby Stephen East
017683 71700
www.kirkbystepheneast.co.uk

Sunday 05 April
Collectable and Craft Fair
Gargrave Village Hall BD23 3RD
Monthly fair with antiques, collectables, vintage, books, jewellery, gifts, crafts and a plant stall. Food served all day. 50p entry.
07989 585564
caroline@sandjsthompson.co.uk
www.gargravevillagehall.org.uk

Sunday 05 April
Ingleton Antiques & Crafts Fair
10:00 to 15:00
Ingleborough Community Centre, Ingleton LA6 3HG
New for 2025 and proving popular. Free entry.
015242 42113
www.thisisingleton.co.uk

Monday 06 April
The Gigspanner Big Band
19:30 to 22:30
Settle Victoria Hall BD24 9DZ
A unique force in British folk music. Beginning life as a trio - with legendary Steeleye Span fiddle player Peter Knight being joined by percussionist Sacha Trochet and guitarist Roger Flack - the line-up has been expanded, with acclaimed multi-instrumental duo Edgelarks (Phillip Henry and Hannah Martin - BBC Folk Awards 'Best Duo') and Bellowhead co-founder and melodeon player extraordinaire, John Spiers joining the fray. £30.
01729 825718
www.settlevictoriahall.org.uk

Tuesday 07 April
Drystone Walling Demonstration
11:00 to 15:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Join Dales Volunteers as they showcase the traditional craft of drystone walling. They will explain the construction of this iconic feature of the National Park landscape. Free demonstrations throughout the day. Included in museum admission.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Tuesday 07 April
Recipes & Remedies from the Archives
11:30 to 12:30
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
For details, see 10 March.

7, 14 April, 26 May, 28 July, 4, 11, 18, 25 August
Drystone Walling Demonstrations
11:00 to 15:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Join Dales Volunteers as they showcase the traditional craft of drystone walling, explaining the construction of this iconic feature of the National Park landscape. Included in Museum admission.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Wednesday 08 April to Wednesday 23 December
Askrigg Studios: Judith Bromley and Robert Nicholls
10:00 to 17:00
Beech House, Askrigg DL8 3HG
Well-known local artists Judith and Robert welcome you into their home to view paintings and prints, books and greetings cards. Open most Wednesdays from Easter to Christmas - call ahead to confirm.
01969 650266
askrigg@askrigg-studios.co.uk

Wednesday 08 April
Easter Baskets
13:00 to 16:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Make and decorate a woven paper Easter basket at these family-friendly drop-in sessions. No booking required. Included in museum admission.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Wednesday 08 April
Charity Bingo Night
19:30 to 21:30
Hawes Market House DL8 3QN
For details, see 11 March.

Thursday 09 April to Sunday 24 May
Connection with Nature
11:00 to 16:00
Mill Bridge Gallery, Skipton BD23 1NJ
An exhibition of artwork in a variety of media focussing on the more hidden aspects of nature.
07702 309144
contact@millbridgegallery.co.uk
www.millbridgegallery.co.uk

Thursday 09 April
Hands on History: Viking Clothing
13:00 to 16:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Find out what we know about Viking clothing and make a peg doll to take away with you. Family drop-in sessions. No booking required. Included in museum admission.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Saturday 11 April
Orton Farmers' Market
09:30 to 14:00
Orton Market Hall CA10 3RU
For details, see 14 March.

Sunday 12 April
In Search of the Source of the Swale
14:00 to 16:00
Keld Heritage Centre DL11 6LJ
Although the source of the River Swale is often given as the point where Birkdale and Great Sleddale Becks meet, a variety of other locations have also been suggested. Local academic Prof. Mark Rutter has been trying to get to the bottom of this puzzle, reviewing old maps and literature, alongside a state-of-the-art hydrological analysis of Upper Swaledale, and his intriguing findings will be presented for the first time in this talk. £10.
07986 580475
helen.guy@keld.org.uk
www.keldheritage.co.uk

Tuesday 14 April
Drystone Walling Demonstration
11:00 to 15:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
For details, see 7 April.

Friday 17 April
Small Object, Big Story
19:30 to 21:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
A Friends of the Museum evening talk with Roger Martlew. No booking required.
Free - donations welcome.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Saturday 18 April
An Evening with Craig and Willoughby
19:30 to 22:00
Leyburn Arts & Community Centre DL8 5DL
Entertainers at their best! Cathryn Craig has sung with Chet Atkins and The Righteous Brothers. Brian Willoughby is best known for his virtuoso performances on electric and acoustic guitar, with progressive folk/rock band Strawbs. £15.
01969 624510
admin@oldschoolhouseleyburn.com
www.leyburnartscentre.com

Saturday 18 April
The Haar
20:00 to 22:30
Reeth Memorial Hall DL11 6QT
With their radically fresh, boundary-pushing take on traditional songs, the Anglo/Irish quartet combine the formidable singing talent of Molly Donnery with three of the most exciting instrumentalists on the folk and traditional music scene, Cormàc Byrne, Adam Summerhayes, and Murray Grainger. £20 (£22 door), under 16s half price.
01748 884132
memorialhall@swaledale.org

Sunday 19 to Monday 20 April
Easter Exhibition by West Burton Art Group
West Burton Village Hall DL8 4JY
This talented group of artists from the Dales produces some amazing art work. All members of the group are amateurs but the quality of their work in watercolour, oils and acrylics is well worth seeing. Refreshments. Free entry - donations welcome for Herriot Hospice.
01969 624873
dinahfrancis307@btinternet.com

Sunday 19 April
Cyanotype Printing Workshop
10:00 to 15:00
Keld Heritage Centre DL11 6LJ
Jane Beaumont will introduce you to cyanotype printing on paper, producing one or two 'negative' images on a rich blue background from objects sourced that morning from Keld and surrounding area. You will then develop one of your images as a stitched or embroidered piece. Bring packed lunch, or sandwiches/salads available to order and pay on the day. £60.
07986 580475
helen.guy@keld.org.uk
www.keldheritage.co.uk

Tuesday 21 April
Barns, Walls & Bridges
13:30 to 16:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Join Dales Volunteers for a 4 mile guided walk to discover the important features of Wensleydale, its local industry and agriculture. £6 - booking required. Sorry, no dogs.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Saturday 25 April
The Rosie Hood Band
20:00 to 22:00
Reeth Memorial Hall DL11 6QT
A former BBC Performing Arts Fellow and Horizon Folk Award nominee, Rosie Hood's captivating performances combine her poetic writing with dynamic and honest interpretations of traditional songs. Rosie is joined by long-term collaborator fiddle-player Nicola Beazley, melodeon-player and percussionist Robyn Wallace and fiddle-player Rosie Butler-Hall. £17 (£19 on door), child £8.50.
01748 884132
memorialhall@swaledale.org

Sunday 26 April
Proddy Craft Workshop
10:00 to 15:30
Keld Heritage Centre DL11 6LJ
Join Anne Hewitt for a hands-on workshop where you'll learn the very traditional skill of proddy rug work. Anne will guide you step-by-step through the process of creating a small project - perfect as a decorative chair pad for a charming keepsake. All materials provided. Bring packed lunch, or order from Keld Green Café. £65.
07986 580475
helen.guy@keld.org.uk
www.keldheritage.co.uk

Tuesday 28 April to Monday 4 May
Ride2Stride Walking Festival
Walks, talks and music along the fabulous Settle-Carlisle railway line, a week-long celebration of the wonderful landscape and culture of the western Dales and Eden Valley.
www.ride2stride.co.uk

May

Saturday 02 May
The Bar Steward Sons of Val Doonican
20:00 to 22:30
Reeth Memorial Hall DL11 6QT
Founded in Barnsley in 2006 and far from being your typical folk ensemble, this cult-like collective of like-minded knit-wear enthusiasts are determined to follow in their spiritual father's immortal footsteps by Bar-Stewardizing other famous people's songs on folk instruments with new satirical comedy lyrics. £20 (£22 on door), child £10.
01748 884132
memorialhall@swaledale.org

Tuesday 05 May
Hawes Town Trail
14:00 to 16:00
Start: Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Join our experienced Dales Volunteers on this short 2 ½ mile (3 ½km) guided walk exploring the history of Hawes and the village of Gayle. Walking through this lovely market town, discover the origins of Wensleydale cheese, see where the railway once went, and follow a

section of the Pennine Way. Please note, there are steps and uneven paths.
£5 - booking required. Sorry, no dogs.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Saturday 09 May
Orton Farmers' Market
09:30 to 14:00
Orton Market Hall CA10 3RU
For details, see 14 March.

Saturday 09 May
Felt Plant Pot Cover Workshop
10:00 to 16:00
Keld Heritage Centre DL11 6LJ
An opportunity to create a truly unique item, under the expert guidance of Louise Curnin. Spend the morning learning how to coax sheep's wool and other exotic fibres into fabric, inspired by the beautiful landscape of Upper Swaledale. After lunch, turn your handmade wool fabric into a plant pot cover which can be made to hang up outside or used inside. All materials provided. No experience necessary. Bring packed lunch or order from Keld Green Café. £60.
07986 580475
helen.guy@keld.org.uk
www.keldheritage.co.uk

Sunday 10 May
Swaledale Geology and Landscape
10:00 to 16:00
Keld Heritage Centre DL11 6LJ
Led by enthusiastic local geologists, Stephen Clark and Les Knight. The morning will comprise of two short talks covering the rocks of Swaledale, the geological structure of the Pennines, local ore mineral deposits including lead, and the impact of glaciers on the shape of the valley. The afternoon will include a guided field trip around the Keld area looking at geology, landscape and lead mining. Bring packed lunch, or order from Keld Green Café. £20.
www.keldheritage.co.uk

Tuesday 12 May
Recipes & Remedies from the Archives
11:30 to 12:30
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
For details, see 10 March.

Wednesday 13 May
Charity Bingo Night
19:30 to 21:30
Hawes Market House DL8 3QN
For details, see 11 March.

Friday 15 May
Quaker mining pioneers in the Yorkshire Dales
19:30 to 21:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
A free Friends of the Museum evening talk with Pip Pointon. No booking required. Donations welcomed.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Saturday 16 May
CRO Ingleborough Challenge
Ingleborough Marathon & Short Clapham Circuit - an event to raise money for the local cave and mountain rescue team, formed in 1935. An event for everybody - walk it or run it - 12 or 26 mile routes.
www.cro.org.uk/the-cro-challenge

Friday 22 May
Over the Moon
20:00 to 22:30
Reeth Memorial Hall DL11 6QT
Canadian roots/swing duo Suzanne Levesque and Craig Bignell are award winning multi-instrumentalists and vocalists. Their music is a wild ride from 40s sounding western swing and Appalachian old-time, to cowboy blues. £16 (£18 door), child £8.
01748 884132
memorialhall@swaledale.org

Friday 22 May
Clapham Art Group Annual Exhibition: Preview Evening
20:00 to 21:00
Clapham Village Hall LA2 8HR
claphamart51@gmail.com

Saturday 23 to Wednesday 27 May
Clapham Art Group Annual Exhibition
10:00 to 17:00
Clapham art group has been running for over 74 years and the annual exhibition is both a celebration of our long tradition and an invitation for the wider community to share in the joy, reflection, and wellbeing that art brings.
Admission £1. Refreshments available.
claphamart51@gmail.com

Saturday 23 May
Rag Rug Demonstration
11:00 to 16:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Demonstrations throughout the day of rag rugging using two techniques, hooking and prodding using traditional tools and fabrics, and have a go at using an old peg to prod a rug. Included in museum admission.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Saturday 23 to Friday 29 May
Gaping Gill Winch Meet
Experience the thrill of descending down the stunning cavern of Gaping Gill on bosun's chair, with Bradford Pothole Club. From 8am until book is full.
www.bpc-cave.org.uk

Key for National Park Authority-organised events. For more advice, see page 25.

Family-friendly
Talk
Walk
Special Event
Demo

Sunday 24 May
Swaledale Festival: Guided Walk: Calver Hill Circular
13:00 to 17:00
Reeth village green DL11 6QT
A 6-mile walk led by Helen Guy from Keld Heritage Centre, casting light on local geology, archaeology, and history. Featuring panoramic views of Swaledale and Arkengarthdale, a moorland walk to Healaugh past Thiernswood, a former shooting lodge, and a descent to the River Swale following the old Corpse Way to Grinton. Moderate difficulty with one steep climb up Calver Hill. £12, child £3.
01748 880019
enquiries@swalefest.org
www.swalefest.org

Sunday 24 May
Swaledale Festival: Muker Silver Band
15:30 to 16:30
Muker Public Hall DL11 6DN
At the heart of the Swaledale Festival as always, and with inspirational new bandmaster Allan Guy, the band presents an afternoon of music to uplift and excite.
£12, child £3.
01748 880019
enquiries@swalefest.org
www.swalefest.org

Young visitors explore Wharfedale



Sunday 24 May
Swaledale Festival: SYSTIR
19:30 to 21:30
St Andrews Church, Grinton DL11 6HL
The ethereal sound of Systir - meaning "sister" in Icelandic - bridges old and new, telling timeless stories in captivating new ways. They perform original songs and arrangements alongside works by the 11th-century abbess Hildegard of Bingen and contemporary artists such as Janelle Monáe and Kate Bush. The Festival proudly presents their debut UK performance. £25, under-25s £3.
01748 880019
enquiries@swalefest.org
www.swalefest.org

Sunday 24 to Monday 25 May
The Yorkshire Highwayman
10:00 to 17:00
Skipton Castle BD23 1AW

23 May to 6 June
Swaledale Festival
Across 15 vibrant days, a record 75 events will burst across the spectacular northern Yorkshire Dales. A kaleidoscope of incredible music alongside compelling visual art, intriguing film and literature, hands-on opportunities to get creative, and a wealth of guided walks exploring local scenery and stories.
www.swalefest.org

John Nevison was a famous late 17th century Yorkshire highwayman who robbed the length of the Great North Road
Adult £12.80, child £8.60, con £11.80
01756 792442
info@skiptoncastle.co.uk
www.skiptoncastle.co.uk

Monday 25 May
Swaledale Festival: Leyburn Band
15:30 to 17:00
Bolton Castle, Leyburn DL8 4ET
The award-winning band performs in the stunning surrounds of Bolton Castle, with a selection of greatest hits and classic brass-band favourites that will delight all ages. Bring a picnic and enjoy an afternoon of family-friendly music on the castle lawns. £15, under 25s £3.
01748 880019
enquiries@swalefest.org
www.swalefest.org

Monday 25 May
Austwick Street Market & Cuckoo Festival
09:30 to 16:00
The Green, Austwick LA2 8BH
Thwaites Dray Horses, Settle & Giggleswick Brass band, live music, vintage cars, local crafts, produce and plants, plus Austwick Amble Fell Race. Donations welcome.
www.austwick.org

Tuesday 26 May
Drystone Walling Demonstration
11:00 to 15:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
For details, see 7 April.

Wednesday 27 May
Spring Tote Bags
13:00 to 16:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Carry Spring around with you by making a seasonally-inspired tote bag. Family-friendly drop-in sessions. No booking required. Included in museum admission.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Wednesday 27 May
Swaledale Festival: All-Age Musical Seasons Safari
14:30 to 15:30
Georgian Theatre Royal. Richmond DL10 4DW
Eleanor Grant is one of four brilliant musicians presenting this sparkling afternoon of music for all ages, exploring the magic of the seasons through excerpts of Vivaldi's Four Seasons and other music. Interwoven with poetry by local people, this playful concert invites audiences of all ages to experience the joy of live performance. £10, under 25s £3.
01748 880019
enquiries@swalefest.org
www.swalefest.org



Saying hello to a Shire horse at Malham Show



Meet the Maker: Curlew Dairy at Aysgarth Falls National Park Visitor Centre

Thursday 28 May
Hands on History: Iron Age Roundhouses
13:00 to 16:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Explore Iron age round houses and make your own. Family drop-in sessions. No booking required. Included in museum admission.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Friday 29 May
Gruffalo's Child themed woodland activity session
14:00 to 16:30
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Try your hand at whittling and learn new knife skills, build a shelter, and use flint and steel to start a fire. Take part in story time and listen to facts and folklore based on the fauna and flora from the story. Make a clay model, play in the sand activity tray, or have a go at bead threading, with optional survival bracelet for older children. All finished off with campfire snacks of popcorn, marshmallows, and damper bread, washed down with campfire hot drinks, such as hot chocolate, tea and coffee. Children must be accompanied by an adult. £5. Booking required.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Saturday 30 May
Stir the Air: creative writing for all ages
14:00 to 15:30
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Writer Beth Daley leads an creative-writing workshop inspired by music, images and the changing world around us. Through playful props, prompts and gentle guidance, you'll create your own poems inspired by the seasons. For all ages and all levels of experience. £10, under 25s £3. Booking required.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Saturday 30 May
Swaledale Festival: Reeth Lecture - Alison O'Neill
14:00 to 15:30
Reeth Memorial Hall DL11 6QT
The celebrated shepherdess reflects on the seasons of life and the seasons of the year, describing the "labour of love" that is her way of life. She carries on high-nature-value farming in the stunning landscape of Shacklabank Farm and the magnificent Howgill Fells, offering an antidote to fast fashion and intensive farming, and encouraging wildlife to flourish. £20, under 25s £3.
01748 880019
enquiries@swalefest.org
www.swalefest.org

Sunday 31 May
Swaledale Festival: Richmond Chamber Orchestra - Bach & Max Richter
15:30 to 17:15
St Marys Church, Richmond DL10 4JX
This special collaboration brings together the local chamber orchestra with two starry violinists, Fenella Humphreys and Philippa Mo. Be hypnotised as the violins dance magically with each other in Bach's timeless concerto - playful, romantic, and joyful by turn. £25, under 25s £3.
01748 880019
enquiries@swalefest.org
www.swalefest.org

June

Monday 01 June
Swaledale Festival: Katherine Priddy
19:30 to 21:30
St Andrews Church, Grinton DL11 6HL
A star of the British folk scene, Katherine Priddy is celebrated for her haunting vocals and distinctive finger-picking guitar. £22, under 25s £3.
01748 880019
enquiries@swalefest.org
www.swalefest.org

Tuesday 02 June
Flora & Fauna
11:30 to 15:00
Start: Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Join Dales Volunteers for a 4 mile guided walk exploring plants, waterfalls and possibly red squirrels. £6. Sorry, no dogs.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Wednesday 03 June
Swaledale Festival: Take Part - Drystone Walling Experience
09:30 to 16:30

Key for National Park Authority-organised events. For more advice, see page 25.

Family-friendly
Talk
Walk
Special Event
Demo

Reeth Green DL11 6QT
An all-day masterclass in the timeless Dales tradition of drystone walling with expert craftsman Rodney Marsh. This special hands-on experience offers bespoke personal guidance and coaching, as you learn to deconstruct and rebuild a section of wall from start to finish in the course of the day. £80.
01748 880019
enquiries@swalefest.org
www.swalefest.org

Thursday 04 June
Swaledale Festival: Rachel Parris
19:30 to 21:30
Garden Rooms at Tennants, Leyburn, DL8 5SG
Join award-winning comedian and musician Rachel Parris for an evening of razor-sharp wit, glorious musical comedy and inventive satire. Known for her blend of clever lyrics, warmth, and relatable humour, Rachel brings her trademark charm and piano-powered songs to Swaledale Festival for this special one-off performance. £25.
01748 880019
enquiries@swalefest.org
www.swalefest.org

Saturday 06 June
Ben Saunders
19:00 to 20:30
St Michael the Archangel, Kirkby Malham BD23 4BS
A concert of organ and accordion music from internationally-acclaimed organist Ben Saunders. Free - donations welcome.
01729 830293
sue.mcwhinney@leeds.anglican.org
www.kirkbymalhamchurch.org

Saturday 06 June
Swaledale Festival: Mishra + Deepa Shakthi
19:30 to 21:30
St Andrew's Church, Grinton DL11 6HR
Do not miss global folk collective Mishra with international fusion vocalist and Sufi singer Deepa Shakthi as they close the festival with infectious rhythm, style and grace. A rich soundscape of Indian ragas, folk melodies and contemporary rhythms including tracks from their new album. £22, under 25s £3.
01748 880019
enquiries@swalefest.org
www.swalefest.org

Tuesday 09 June
Recipes & Remedies from the Archives
11:30 to 12:30
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
For details, see 10 March.

Wednesday 10 June
Charity Bingo Night
19:30 to 21:30
Hawes Market House DL8 3QN
For details, see 11 March.

Friday 12 June
Knitting Study Day
10:30 to 15:30
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
For knitters, textile enthusiasts and Dales fans, this study day is led by knitting writer and researcher Dr Angharad Thomas. Knitting was a key part of making a living in the Yorkshire Dales. This workshop is an opportunity to learn more about how it was done and what was knitted from thick socks to intricately patterned gloves. Learn to knit in the Dales way using a traditional knitting stick with double pointed needles. You should be able to knit at a basic level of skill using any type of needle. £50. Booking required.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Saturday 13 June
Orton Farmers' Market
09:30 to 14:00
Orton Market Hall CA10 3RU
For details, see 14 March.

Saturday 13 June
Chris Bannister
19:00 to 21:30
Renowned singer-songwriter Chris Bannister is best known for singing John Denver songs, but he will also be singing songs by Bob Dylan, Bruce Springsteen, Cat Stevens, Kris Kristofferson, Gordon Lightfoot, Nick Drake, Paul Simon and many others. £15. Drinks served at interval for donation towards church maintenance costs.
01729 830293
sue.mcwhinney@leeds.anglican.org
www.kirkbymalhamchurch.org

Monday 15 to Friday 26 June
Sedbergh Music Festival
The biennial music festival returns for 2026. A celebration of local music-making interspersed with internationally-renowned artists who are coming to our corner of the world. Performers include Jess Gillam and Jenebeh Kanneh-Mason, in addition to festival favourites Sedbergh Town Band, Sedbergh Orchestra, and musicians from Sedbergh School.
www.sedberghmusicfestival.com

Tuesday 16 June
Hawes Town Trail
14:00 to 16:00
Start: Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
For details, see 5 May.

Wednesday 17 June
Friends of the Museum talk
14:00 to 15:30
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Free afternoon talk.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Saturday 20 June
Soap Workshop
10:30 to 15:30
Keld Heritage Centre DL11 6LJ
Learn how to make your own cold process soap from scratch using fats and oils. The workshop will explain how soap is made and what simple equipment you need to do it yourself, which ingredients to use and where to get them. Bring packed lunch, or order from Keld Green Café. £45.
07986 580475
helen.guy@keld.org.uk
www.keldheritagecentre.co.uk

Saturday 20 June
Buckden Gala
12:30 to 16:30
Buckden BD23 5JA
A traditional village gala including fell race, fun dog show, children's races and activities, egg throwing competition, hot and cold refreshments, beer tent, music, crafts, stalls and plants, as well as the famous Buckden Pike Fell Race. Free - donations welcome.
01756 761155
peter@vetch.co.uk
www.buckdengala.co.uk

Sunday 21 June
Glacial Walk
10:00 to 16:00
Keld Heritage Centre DL11 6LJ
The landscape around Kisdon includes some well-preserved glacial features from the last ice age. This 7 mile moderate walk, led by local academic Prof. Mark Rutter, explores these features to help build a picture of Upper Swaledale around 15,000 years ago as the glaciers retreated leaving the landscape we know today. Bring packed lunch. Dogs welcome on leads. £8.
07986 580475
helen.guy@keld.org.uk
www.keldheritage.co.uk

Sunday 21 June
Father's Day - Model Railway Show
Free admission. Refreshments in the buffet car. Charges for train rides.
Stainmore Railway Company at Kirkby Stephen East
017683 71700
www.kirkbystepheneast.co.uk

Tuesday 23 June
River Lines Linocut Workshop
10:30 to 15:30
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
A lino workshop using rivers and their natural history as inspiration. Printmaker Sally Zaranko from Ashford Cottage Design will demonstrate mark making which will result in lino cutting a simple river themed print. Suitable for beginners. Bring along locally foraged treasures or images to form the basis of your artwork into a postcard sized print. All materials provided. £50. This workshop is linked to the Rivers4Life exhibition with Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust. Booking required.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Saturday 27 June to Monday 27 July
Dixon County
08:00 to 17:00
Reeth Memorial Hall DL11 6QT
Country music quintet Dixon County was initiated in 2021 by drummer and percussionist Roger Jones. Joining Roger are lead vocalist Sue Parks, Rob Hall guitar, mandolin and vocals, Jeff Brown bass and Jesse Caine guitars and vocals. The result is an all-live and kicking country band with not a backing track in sight., spanning the decades and guaranteed to get you dancing.
£14 (£16 door), child £7.
01748 884132
memorialhall@swaledale.org

Saturday 27 to Sunday 28 June
Tournee Re-enactors
10:00 to 17:00
Skipton Castle BD23 1AW
Re-live 1380 Medieval Life
Adult £12.80, child £8.60, con £11.80
01756 792442
info@skiptoncastle.co.uk
www.skiptoncastle.co.uk

Sunday 28 June
Skipton Sheep Day
10:00 to 16:00
Skipton's heritage as 'Sheep Town' is celebrated annually with sheep displays and racing and many other sheep related activities which fill the High Street. With the famous Sheep Show, falconry, and petting zoos as well as tractors and ice cream making. live music and fabulous food and drink.
www.facebook.com/skiptonsheepday

July

Friday 03 to Sunday 05 July
Ingleton 1940s Weekend
17:00
Ingleborough Community Centre, Ingleton LA6 3HG
Step back in time and join us for a weekend full of nostalgic entertainment, stalls and live music.
07772 812910
ingleton1940sweekend@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/Ingleton1940s

Saturday 04 July
Needle Felting Sheep Workshop
10:00 to 16:00
Keld Heritage Centre DL11 6LJ
Spend a relaxed, creative day learning how to needle felt your own charming 10cm sheep with breed-specific wool, guided step-by-step by the talented Clare Gaukroger. Learn about some of the sheep breeds found around Swaledale and then choose to make your own Swaledale, Herdwick or Swiss Valais Blacknose. No experience necessary. Bring packed lunch or order from Keld Green Café. £50.
07986 580475
helen.guy@keld.org.uk
www.keldheritageco.uk

Saturday 04 July
Silent Auction of Art and Crafts
11:00 to 15:00
The Drill Hall, Settle BD24 9ET
Original art and craft items donated by local artists and crafters to raise funds for 1st Castleberg (Settle) Scout Group. Bids placed in sealed envelope, opened at 3pm. Refreshments available, hot drinks, cakes, soup, bacon and sausage butties.
07894 955488
settledrillhall2040@gmail.com

Saturday 04 July
Jewellery Making
13:00 to 16:00
Yore Mill Craft Shop & Gallery DL8 3SR
Use silver, copper and brass to create a beautiful pair of earrings in this half day workshop with Diane Stewardson, using techniques such as sawing, filing, drilling and texturing. Choose on the day which of two designs you would like to make and which combination of metals you would like to use. All tools and materials provided. No experience necessary.
01969 662829
www.yoremillcraftshopandgallery.co.uk

Tuesday 07 July
Recipes & Remedies from the Archives
11:30 to 12:30
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
For details, see 10 March.

Tuesday 14 to Friday 17 July
Great Yorkshire Show
The 167th annual county show sees the finest animals in the country competing, including national breed shows, as well as machinery, food and first-class entertainment to celebrate the very best of farming, produce and the countryside.
www.greatyorkshireshow.co.uk

Wednesday 08 July
Charity Bingo Night
19:30 to 21:30
Hawes Market House DL8 3QN
For details, see 11 March.

Thursday 09 to Sunday 12 July
Art in the Dale
09:00 to 18:00
St Michael the Archangel, Kirkby Malham BD23 4BS
An exhibition by 10 professional artists who are all inspired by the landscape and who live or work in Malhamdale. Original paintings (oils and watercolours), etching, photography, cards, stained glass, sculpture, and wrought iron work will be on display and for sale. Free - donations welcome.
01729 830293
sue.mcwhinney@leeds.anglican.org
www.kirkbymalhamchurch.org

Friday 10 July
The Everlys & Friends Tribute Show
20:00 to 22:30
Reeth Memorial Hall DL11 6QT
The Temple Brothers are proud to announce the return of their theatre show dedicated to the music of one of the greatest ever harmony duos, the Everly Brothers. Like the Everlys, Colin and Steve Temple are real life brothers, with voices which blend perfectly and sound uncannily like their musical heroes. Join them on a walk back down memory lane with all the classic songs. £18 (£20 door), child £9.
01748 884132
memorialhall@swaledale.org

Saturday 11 July
Orton Farmers' Market
09:30 to 14:00
Orton Market Hall CA10 3RU
For details, see 14 March.

Saturday 11 July
Voices of Craven Summer Concert
19:00 to 21:30
St Michael the Archangel, Kirkby Malham BD23 4BS
The community choir, directed by Elaine Dave, present a varied programme of summer music ranging from classical to contemporary. £15, children free.
01729 830293
sue.mcwhinney@leeds.anglican.org
www.voicesofcraven.org

Saturday 11 to Sunday 12 July
Meet the Governor
10:00 to 17:00
Skipton Castle BD23 1AW
Come and meet Sir John Mallory the Governor of Skipton Castle during the English Civil War and hear about Skipton Castle's siege and skirmishes.
Adult £12.80, child £8.60, con £11.80
01756 792442
info@skiptoncastle.co.uk
www.skiptoncastle.co.uk

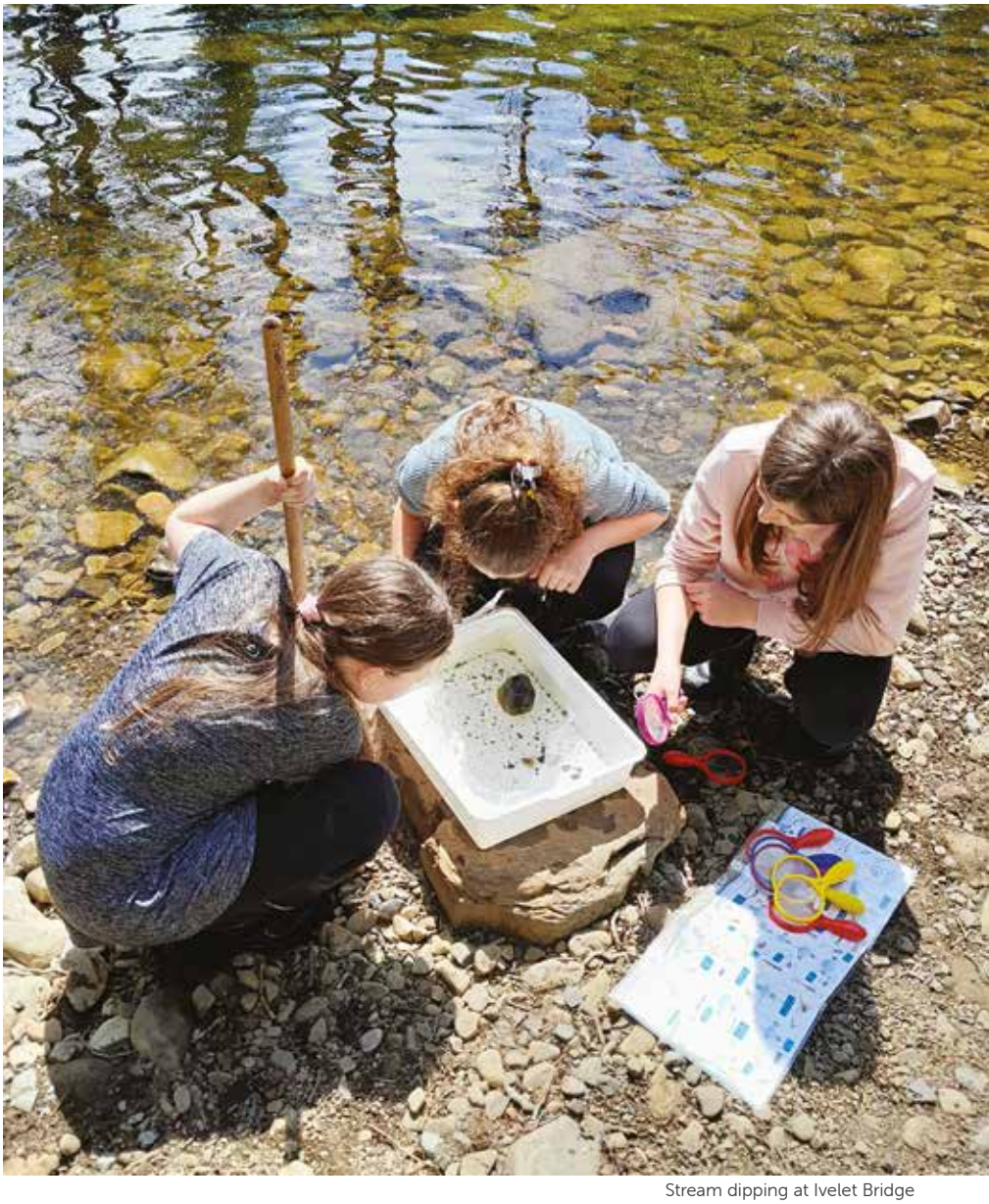
Saturday 11 to Sunday 12 July
Kirkby Stephen in the 1940s
Stainmore Railway Company at Kirkby Stephen East Free event. Showcasing the home front in the Eden Valley. Free vintage bus service in operation.
017683 71700
www.kirkbystepheneast.co.uk

Sunday 12 July
Wildflower Walk and Talk
10:00 to 16:00
Keld Heritage Centre DL11 6LJ
An introduction to Swaledale Wildflowers led by Martin Hughes and assisted by Sue Knight, this combined talk and walk will cover the basics of wildflower identification, with photos of common Swaledale wildflowers and grasses. An introduction to the 'Seek' plant app, followed by a field walk to spot the wildflowers in the natural habitats and explore the rich and varied flora of the Upper Dale. Bring packed lunch, or order from Keld Green Cafe. £15.
07986 580475
helen.guy@keld.org.uk
www.keldheritage.co.uk

Key for National Park Authority-organised events. For more advice, see page 25.

Family-friendly
Talk
Walk
Special Event
Demo

Tuesday 14 July
How the Dales were made
11:00 to 16:00
Start: Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Join our experienced Dales Volunteers on this 5 mile (8 km) guided walk to discover the geological forces which formed the Yorkshire Dales. Walk through the site of former stone mines, Shaw Ghyll, and visit spectacular Hardraw Force, the highest single drop waterfall in England. £10, plus waterfall entrance - booking essential. Sorry, no dogs.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk



Stream dipping at Ivelet Bridge



Top tip! Weekly car park tickets are great value if you are staying more than a few days. They are valid at all National Park car parks and are available from ticket machines and National Park Visitor Centres for £20.

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TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRES

Appleby-in-Westmorland	017683 51177	tic@applebytown.org.uk
Aysgarth Falls	01969 662910	aysgarth@yorkshiredales.org.uk
Grassington	01756 751690	grassington@yorkshiredales.org.uk
Hawes	01969 666210	hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
Ilkley	01943 436232	ilkley.vic@bradford.gov.uk
Ingleton	01524 241701	ingletontic@outlook.com
Kirkby Lonsdale	015242 97177	lovethelune@gmail.com
Kirkby Stephen	017683 71199	visit@uecp.org.uk
Malham	01729 833200	malham@yorkshiredales.org.uk
Pateley Bridge	01423 714953	admin@nidderdaleplus.org.uk
Richmond	01748 826468	ric@richmondinfo.net
Sedbergh	01539 620125	tic@sedbergh.org.uk
Settle	01729 825192	settle@ytbtic.co.uk
Skipton	01756 706397	skiptontownhall@northyorks.gov.uk



Haymaking at Keld in Swaledale (Stephen Garnett Photography)

MAP KEY

- NATIONAL PARK VISITOR CENTRE
- PUBLIC PARKING
- PUBLIC TOILET
- RADAR TOILET
- TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE
- CASH POINT
- PETROL STATION
- EV CHARGING POINT
- RAILWAY LINE
- POINT OF INTEREST
- PEAK



Swaledale sheep showing class at Ravenstonedale Show

Friday 17 July
Go with the Flow Weaving Workshop
10:30 to 16:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Think of babbling streams, raging rivers and cascading waterfalls as your inspiration for this free form weaving. In this adult workshop you will learn techniques such as tabby, clasp weave, ria, tassels and giordes knots. All materials and instructions provided. Bring own lunch. £40, Booking required.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Friday 17 July
Rivers4Life Exhibition: Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust
19:30 to 21:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
A free Friends of the Museum evening talk. No booking required. Donations welcome.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Saturday 18 July
Ingleton Gala
12:00 to 17:30
Ingleton LA6 3HG
A day to remember, with traditional games, stalls, parade and more. Bring all the family, cheer along, enjoy the village while you're here. We'd love to see you here in Ingleton, whether you're local or visiting.
www.facebook.com/ingletongala

Saturday 18 July
Sherburn, Bartley, Sanders
20:00 to 22:30
Reeth Memorial Hall DL11 6QT
Following a chance meeting at Whitby Folk Festival in 1993, Chris Sherburn (concertina) and Denny Bartley (vocals and guitar) created one of folk music's most enduring partnerships, both as a duo and with their well-loved band, Last Night's Fun. In 2016, they teamed up with Emily Sanders (fiddle/viola and vocals) to form this exciting trio, for the first time incorporating vocal harmonies and strings. £17 (£19 door), child £8.50.
01748 884132
memorialhall@swaledale.org

Tuesday 21 July
Hawes Town Trail
14:00 to 16:00
Start: Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
For details, see 5 May.

Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 July
Summer Felt at the Falls
10:30 to 16:00
Aysgarth Falls National Park Visitor Centre DL8 3TH
Meet Elli from Blue Mouse Art, a contemporary textile artist who creates sustainable felt paintings using wool and silk and drawing inspiration from the landscape and wildlife of the Yorkshire Dales, where she lives and works. Enjoy live demonstrations and browse a beautiful selection of handcrafted felt paintings, animal sculptures and kits.
aysgarth@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.yorkshiredales.org.uk

Saturday 25 to Sunday 26 July
Westmorland Dales Festival (10th Anniversary)
Kirkby Stephen
Come and celebrate the landscape, heritage and people of the wonderful Westmorland Dales, with a packed programme of events, activities and entertainment for all the family.
www.westmorlanddalesfestival.org

Saturday 25 to Sunday 26 July
15th Century Castle Life
10:00 to 17:00
Skipton Castle BD23 1AW
Buckingham's Retinue recreates life as it may have been in Skipton during the Wars of the Roses.
Adult £12.80, child £8.60, con £11.80
01756 792442
info@skiptoncastle.co.uk
www.skiptoncastle.co.uk

Tuesday 28 July
Drystone Walling Demonstration
11:00 to 15:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
For details, see 7 April.

Wednesday 29 July
Curlew Dairy
10:30 to 16:00
Aysgarth Falls National Park Visitor Centre DL8 3TH
For details, 1 April.

Wednesday 29 July
Marbling
13:00 to 16:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Make marbled bookmarks, inspired by the Dales' rivers. Included in museum admission. Family drop in sessions. No booking required.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Thursday 30 July
Hands on History: Roman Clothes
13:00 to 16:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Find out what we know about Viking clothing and make a peg doll to take away with you. Family drop in sessions. No booking required. Included in museum admission.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

August

Saturday 1 to Sunday 2 August
The Trayned Bands
10:00 to 17:00
Skipton Castle BD23 1AW
See this Civil War Regiment prepare for battle against the Parliamentarian army
Adult £12.80, child £8.60, con £11.80
01756 792442
info@skiptoncastle.co.uk
www.skiptoncastle.co.uk

Sunday 02 August
Great Sleddale Hurricane Crash Site Walk
10:30 to 16:00
Keld Heritage Centre DL11 6LJ
On 12 Jun 1942 a Hawker Hurricane crashed in Great Sleddale while en-route from Henlow to Silloth. Its pilot, Alexander Ronald Leslie-Manville, was killed. Join us as we visit Great Sleddale, largely abandoned for over 50 years, and the isolated crash site on this moderate/hard 9 mile walk. We will also visit a lead mine, copper mine and field enclosures on a grand scale. We need to ford the beck several times (there are no bridges) so please wear appropriate footwear. Bring packed lunch. Dogs welcome on lead. £8.
07986 580475
helen.guy@keld.org.uk
www.keldheritage.co.uk

Tuesday 04 August
Drystone Walling Demonstration
11:00 to 15:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
For details, see 7 April.

Tuesday 04 August
Gayle Beck Waterfalls Walk
11:00 to 15:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Join our experienced Dales Volunteers on this 4 mile (6 ½km) walk to visit the waterfalls on Gayle Beck in Hawes and Gayle village and the scenic Aysgill Force up the beck valley. Discover how the valley was formed by glaciers in the last ice age. £6. Sorry, no dogs.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Wednesday 05 August
Felted Rivers
13:00 to 16:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Make your own needle-felted river scene, before exploring our Rivers4Life exhibition. Included in museum admission. Family drop-in sessions. No booking required.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Thursday 06 August
Watery Weavings
10:30 to 12.30/14:00 to 16:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Free morning and afternoon family art workshops on rivers and wildlife. After a short and informative walk, you will be invited to collect materials - feathers, leaves, grasses, twigs - to weave into a watery-themed piece.
Booking required. Linked to the Rivers4Life exhibition with Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Thursday 06 August
Hands on History: Roman Toys and Games
13:00 to 16:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Come and play with Roman toys and boardgames. Family drop-in sessions. No booking required. Included in museum admission.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Saturday 8 to Sunday 16 August
Kettlewell Scarecrow Festival
Look out for wacky and wonderful scarecrows in gardens and doorways, peeking over walls, clambering up drainpipes, and popping up in every corner of the village. A wonderful family day out.
kettlewellscarecrowfestival.co.uk

Saturday 08 August
Orton Farmers' Market
09:30 to 14:00
Orton Market Hall CA10 3RU
For details, see 14 March.

Sunday 09 August
Ripley Show
Ripley Showground HG3 3EA
Traditional agricultural and horticultural show, held in the beautiful grounds of Ripley Castle Park near Harrogate. Classes for cattle, sheep, heavy horses, horses and ponies, donkeys and dogs, plus gardening, flower arranging, produce and handicrafts. Something for all the family with drystone walling demonstrations, have a go at fly fishing, giant tortoises or and craft tent and trade stands. £12, child £5.50.
07519 585475
sec@ripleyshow.co.uk
www.ripleyshow.co.uk

Tuesday 11 August
Drystone Walling Demonstration
11:00 to 15:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
For details, see 7 April.

Key for National Park Authority-organised events. For more advice, see page 25.

Family-friendly
Talk
Walk
Special Event
Demo

Tuesday 11 August
How the Dales were made
11:00 to 16:00
Meet: Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
For details, see 14 July.

Tuesday 11 August
Recipes & Remedies from the Archives
11:30 to 12:30
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
For details, see 10 March.

Wednesday 12 August
Clay Scenes
13:00 to 16:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Capture river scenes from around the Dales in clay. Included in museum admission Family drop in sessions. No booking required.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Wednesday 12 August
Charity Bingo Night
19:30 to 21:30
Hawes Market House DL8 3QN
For details, see 11 March.

Cooling off at Gordale Scar



Thursday 13 August
Hands on History: Roman Finds
13:00 to 16:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Handle Roman finds and find out what they tell archaeologists. Family drop in sessions. No booking required. Included in museum admission.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Friday 14 to Friday 21 August
Gaping Gill Winch Meet
The extensive system of caves 100 metres under this moorland are usually only accessible to cavers, except for a week in May (with Bradford Pothole Club) and a week in August (with Craven Pothole Club) when the public can experience the thrill of the descent into the chamber of Gaping Gill. Excludes Bank Holiday weekend. £30 - advance booking only.
www.cravenpotholeclub.org

Friday 14 August
Scything with Steve Tomlin
Broadrake Bunkbarn, Chapel-le-dale LA6 3AX
Spend a day learning to use an Austrian Scythe with Steve, who has been scything for over 20 years and first taught at Broadrake in 2013. His course will guide you to scythe efficiently and give you the confidence to mow safely. Suitable for beginners or those looking to refresh their skills. All equipment provided. Refreshments with home-baking included. Bring lunch. Broadrake is a stunning location beneath the slopes of Whernside, with views of Ingleborough and Ribblehead Viaduct. We have restored an upland hay meadow which is a joy to scythe with lots of traditional meadow species abundant with butterflies and bumblebees. £125.30.
015242 41357
info@broadrake.co.uk
www.broadrake.co.uk

Sunday 16 August
Watercolour Landscape Painting Workshop
10:00 to 12:30
Keld Heritage Centre DL11 6LJ
Learn to paint watercolours with Matt Scott in a relaxed environment with like-minded people, inspired by the stunning views. You will start with some warm-up exercises in colour mixing and watercolour techniques, before putting these into practice in a full watercolour landscape painting that you'll be able to take home with you at the end of the session. All materials provided, together with refreshments. £50.
07986 580475
helen.guy@keld.org.uk
www.keldheritage.co.uk

Tuesday 18 August
Drystone Walling Demonstration
11:00 to 15:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
For details, see 7 April.

Tuesday 18 August
Barns, Walls & Bridges
11:00 to 15:00
Start: Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
For details, see 21 April.

Wednesday 19 August
Suncatchers
13:00 to 16:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Explore the 'Rivers4Life' exhibition and be inspired to make a river sun catcher. Included in museum admission. Family drop in sessions. No booking required.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Thursday 20 August
Hands on History: Roman Surveying
13:00 to 16:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
How did the Romans make their roads so straight? Find out and have a go. Family drop in sessions. No booking required. Included in museum admission.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Saturday 22 August
Gargrave Show
Nestled in a picturesque Yorkshire village, the 120th Gargrave Show stands as a testament to the region's rich agricultural heritage and community spirit. Held annually in the scenic grounds fronting Eshton Hall, this event has become a cornerstone of local tradition, drawing attendees from near and far to celebrate rural life.
www.gargraveshow.org.uk

Saturday 22 August
Paul Thompson
20:00 to 22:30
Reeth Memorial Hall DL11 6QT
Paul returns with 'To Absurdity and Beyond!' a celebration of classic comic songs by Victoria Wood, Jake Thackray, Flanders and Swann, Tom Lehrer and Tim Minchin, along with some of his own satirical material. A night of laughter, not to be missed. He has also authored two books on Thackray. £14 (£16 door), child £7.
01748 884132
memorialhall@swaledale.org

Saturday 22 August
Ravenstonedale Agricultural Show
With sheep judging, rural crafts, drystone walling, vintage tractors and children's sports.
www.facebook.com/RavenstonedaleAgriculturalShow

Saturday 22 to Sunday 23 August
Flores Ce Chevalerie
10:00 to 17:00
Skipton Castle BD23 1AW
Flores De Chevalerie brings the 13th century medieval tournament to life, featuring genuine competitive combat combined with historical authenticity.
Adult £12.80, child £8.60, con £11.80
01756 792442
info@skiptoncastle.co.uk
www.skiptoncastle.co.uk

Tuesday 25 August
Drystone Walling Demonstration
11:00 to 15:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
For details, see 7 April.

Wednesday 26 August
Magic Water
13:00 to 16:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
To coincide with the 'Rivers4Life' exhibition, we'll be conjuring up some magic water. Included in museum admission. Family drop-in sessions. No booking required.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Thursday 27 August
Hands on History: Roman Tiles
13:00 to 16:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
From hypocausts to roofing, find out about Roman tiles, handle 2,000 year old tiles, and make your own. Family drop in sessions. No booking required. Included in museum admission.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Thursday 27 August
Crosby Ravensworth Agricultural Show
With classes for horses and ponies, sheep, poultry and horticulture, plus Cumberland and Westmorland wrestling, and vintage tractors.
crosbyrshow@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/crosbyravensworthshow

Saturday 29 August
Malham Show
Traditional Dales agricultural show, featuring cattle and sheep classes, horticulture and handicrafts, and culminating with the auction of produce and popular speed-shearing competition at the end of the day.
www.malhamshow.co.uk

Saturday 29 August
Wensleydale Agricultural Show
A great day out for all ages. Nestled in the beautiful heart of North Yorkshire, this traditional Dales show near Leyburn showcases the finest equine, livestock, horticulture and handicrafts. Enjoy fun and educational attractions in the main ring, and witness captivating displays like drystone walling and Wensleydale Sheep throughout the day. Don't forget to visit our large variety of trade stands while enjoying the sounds of Leyburn Band. Adult £12, child £6, under 5s free, family (2 adults, up to 3 children) £30.
07949 989976
secretary@wensleydaleshow.org.uk
www.wensleydaleshow.org.uk

Saturday 29 to Monday 31 August
Settle Photographic Group Annual Exhibition
10:00 to 17:00
Clapham Village Hall LA2 8HR
This popular exhibition presents images covering our members' wide range of interests. Many shine a light on the stunning flora, fauna and landscapes of the Yorkshire Dales. The varied subject matter, together with a wide range of techniques and styles, combine to create an exciting and stimulating exhibition. The majority of prints will be available for purchase, along with other images and greetings cards, all created by SPG members. Free - donations welcome. Refreshments available.
07963 308333
tombilly.tf@gmail.com
www.settlephotos.org

Saturday 29 to Monday 31 August
The Yorkshire Highwayman
10:00 to 17:00
Skipton Castle BD23 1AW
John Nevison was a famous late 17th century Yorkshire highwayman who robbed the length of the Great North Road
Adult £12.80, child £8.60, con £11.80
01756 792442
info@skiptoncastle.co.uk
www.skiptoncastle.co.uk

Sunday 30 August
Village Songs of Praise
15:00 to 16:00
Reeth village green DL11 6QT
Open air Songs of Praise with Reeth Brass Band on the village green - in the Memorial Hall, if wet. Free - a collection is taken for future events.
01748 884132
wwplacehill@yahoo.co.uk
www.reethmemorialhall.weebly.com

Monday 31 August
Reeth Show
A traditional agricultural show in beautiful Swaledale with a wide range of displays, entertainment, stalls and refreshments. The Great Fremington Edge Fell Race will be taking place as usual, a fixture of the national fell race runs every year. There will be the popular horse, sheep and cattle classes, vintage tractors, cars and motorbikes, and an open drystone walling competition.
www.reethshow.co.uk

September

Tuesday 1 September
Kilnsey Show
Held under the shadow of Kilnsey Crag since 1897, with keenly contested livestock competitions, equine events and sheepdog trials, and of course the famous Crag Race.
www.kilnseyshow.co.uk

Wednesday 02 September
Muker Show
A small and traditional agricultural show full of community spirit in idyllic Upper Swaledale. Enjoy a day of sheep showing, sheep dog trials, produce, crafts, horticulture, children's sports and the famous fell race, accompanied by the magnificent sounds of Muker Silver Band. Finish your day by joining the band in the village for community singing at 5pm.
www.mukershow.co.uk

Saturday 05 September
Bob Fox and Stu Luckley
20:00 to 22:30
Reeth Memorial Hall DL11 6QT
Bob and Stu took the folk world by storm when they began playing together in the late 1970s. Their reputation was cemented in 1978 when they released Nowt So Good'll Pass, their debut album which won Melody Maker's 'Folk Album of the Year'. Playing guitars, acoustic bass, dulcimer and bouzouki, their live shows include songs from their first and second albums (Wish We Never Had Parted) as well as a few that never made it onto either. Come and see what all the fuss was about!
£20 (£22 door), under 16s half price.
01748 884132
memorialhall@swaledale.org
www.reethmemorialhall.co.uk

Tuesday 08 September
Recipes & Remedies from the Archives
11:30 to 12:30
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
For details, see 10 March.

Tuesday 08 September
Hawes Town Trail
14:00 to 16:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
For details, see 5 May.

Key for National Park Authority-organised events. For more advice, see page 25.

Family-friendly
Talk
Walk
Special Event
Demo

Wednesday 09 September
Charity Bingo Night
19:30 to 21:30
Hawes Market House DL8 3QN
For details, see 11 March.

Saturday 12 September
Orton Farmers' Market
09:30 to 14:00
Orton Market Hall CA10 3RU
For details, see 14 March.

Saturday 12 September
Smarber Chapel & Corpse Way
10:00 to 14:30
Meet: Holy Trinity Church, Low Row,
This moderate 4 ½ mile guided walk follows the Corpse Way, passing the 'Dead House' where coffins were left overnight. Onto Blades, where John Wesley first preached in Swaledale, and the ruins of Smarber Chapel, created in 1690 by Lord Wharton converting part of his shooting lodge into a non-conformist place of worship. Then along the riverbank to Isle Bridge and Low Row URC chapel which replaced Smarber. Bring packed lunch. Dogs on leads welcome. £8.
07986 580475
helen.guy@keld.org.uk
www.keldheritage.co.uk

Fell racing is a traditional spectacle at Dales village shows and galas





Nature detectives at Grass Wood in Wharfedale

Saturday 12 September
Traditional North Country Quilting Workshop
10:30 to 16:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Spend the morning looking at examples of typical North Country quilts, exploring the various designs and styles of the quilting patterns. In the afternoon, design and mark out a cushion cover, learn the easy stitching required and begin to sew it to finish at home. All materials provided. Lunch light included. £50 - booking essential.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Saturday 12 to Sunday 13 September
Heritage Open Days
Stainmore Railway Company at Kirkby Stephen East
Free admission. Tours of the site focusing on the history of the railway. Buffet car open for light refreshments. No trains operating.
017683 71700
www.kirkbystepheneast.co.uk

Sunday 13 September
Felting: Landscape
10:00 to 15:30
Keld Heritage Centre DL11 6LJ
By popular demand, Louise Curnin will be running another wet felt workshop, where you spend the day making your own felt landscape. All materials provided. No previous experience needed. Bring packed lunch, or order from Keld Green Café. Refreshments available throughout the day. £60.
07986 580475
helen.guy@keld.org.uk
www.keldheritage.co.uk

Friday 18 September
Cutting it fine
19:30 to 21:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
A talk on bespoke historically accurate costumes through the ages with Jane Sammells and Rebecca Atkinson. Followed by Friends of the Museum AGM. No booking required.
Free - donations welcome.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Friday 18 to Sunday 27 September
Richmond Walking & Book Festival
10 days of walks and book events taking place in and around the northern Yorkshire Dales. Walks to suit all abilities and of varying interest. Book events each day of the festival held in Richmond and Reeth.
mignonne11@btinternet.com
www.booksandboots.org

Sunday 20 September
Nidderdale Show
Celebrating the best of agricultural traditions with top class livestock and horse sections.
www.nidderdaleshow.co.uk

Sunday 20 September
A Journey Through Bygone Swaledale
14:00 to 16:00
Keld Heritage Centre DL11 6LJ
Helen Guy takes you on a journey through Swaledale, recalling the traditions, local stories and folklore of times long past and remembering some true Swaledale characters. A rare glimpse into a way of life long forgotten, but fondly remembered. Refreshments served afterwards. £10.
07986 580475
helen.guy@keld.org.uk
www.keldheritage.co.uk

Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 September
Masham Sheep Fair
Masham boasts one of the largest and finest market squares in England, famous for its sheep sales where, in the past, as many as 70,000 sheep were sold each year. The popular Masham Sheep Fair commemorates these times, raising much money for charity, and filling the town with sheepy fun and entertainment. Events include sheep showing, sheep racing, craft market, fleece stalls, sheepdog demonstrations, hand bell ringers, morris dancers, art exhibition and tours of Theakstons & Black Sheep Breweries, as well as a small children's fair.
www.mashamsheepfair.com

Saturday 26 and Sunday 27 September
Yarndale
10:00 to 16:30
Skipton Auction Mart BD23 1UD
The festival of yarn and woolly creativity celebrating all things woolly and wonderful, Yarndale brings a wide variety of talented and passionate exhibitors under one roof. A brilliant mix of manufacturers, craft workers, artisans and retailers who travel from across the country and Europe. Day £17, weekend £32.
www.yarndale.co.uk

October

Saturday 03 October
Annual Jumble sale
10:00 to 13:00
Gargrave Village Hall BD23 3RD
Huge assortment of clothing, household, books, bags, shoes, toys, garden and shed items. Refreshments available.
07989 585564
caroline@sandjsthompson.co.uk
gargravevillagehall.org.uk

9 to 18 October
Yorkshire Dales Cheese Festival
Celebrating the incredible produce of the Dales - cheese very much included! Local businesses throughout the National Park will be hosting their own special events, menus and tastings to mark the occasion. One weekend may not be long enough to pack in everything delicious that the Dales has to offer, but we're going to give it a good try.
www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/cheese-festival

Saturday 03 October
Leveret
20:00 to 22:30
Reeth Memorial Hall DL11 6QT
A unique collaboration between three of England's finest folk musicians. Fiddler Sam Sweeney was the 2015 BBC Folk Awards Musician of the Year, directs the National Youth Folk Ensemble and is known for his work in Bellowhead. Melodeon genius Andy Cutting is a three-time BBC Folk Awards Best Musician winner. Concertina wizard Rob Harbron leads the English Acoustic Collective summer school.
£20 (£22 door), under 16s half price.
01748 884132
memorialhall@swaledale.org
www.reethmemorialhall.co.uk

Sunday 04 October
An Afternoon with John Waggett
14:00 to 16:00
Keld Village Hall
An informal event with the local celebrity who will talk about his childhood growing up in Swaledale and recite some old poems in his strong Swaledale dialect. Refreshments served afterwards. £10.
07986 580475
helen.guy@keld.org.uk
www.keldheritage.co.uk

Friday 09 October
Basket Weaving Workshop
09:15 to 16:30
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
On this beginners adult workshop you will create a beautiful berry or foraging basket, while learning how to weave a round 3x3 base, upstake and weave up the sides using various techniques, turn down the uprights to make a border, and attach a handle. A choice of buff and brown willow will be available. This workshop will be taught by Elaine Blackett-Ord and Jo Foster from the Eden Valley Basketry Group, part of Northumbria Basketry Group, a volunteer organisation which recently won a King's Award for Voluntary Service. Tools and all materials provided. £55 - lunch included.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Saturday 10 October
Orton Farmers' Market
09:30 to 14:00
Orton Market Hall CA10 3RU
For details, see 14 March.

Saturday 10 to Sunday 11 October
Living History Weekend
10:00 to 17:00
Bolton Castle DL8 4ET
In 1415 on 8 October a contingent of men and archers from Bolton Castle had just left Harfleur on their way to Calais. Unbeknown to them a large French army was gathering and would shortly confront them just outside a small French village called Azincourt. Find out what life would have been like for these men and their families.
£15, children free, concessions £12.50.
01969 623981
info@boltoncastle.co.uk
www.boltoncastle.co.uk

Saturday 10 October
John Tams
20:00 to 22:30
Reeth Memorial Hall DL11 6QT
DEscribed by Mojo as 'one of the ultimate British songwriters', with a career involving work in every medium. A member of the Albion Band and Home Service, John is perhaps best known for his work at the National Theatre and as Rifleman Daniel Hagman in the Sharpe television series. He is a seven times winner of the BBC Radio 2 Folk Awards, including an award for Best Duo, with long-time collaborator and friend, the late Barry Coope. He is the Songmaker for Warhorse, a member of the original creative team, and has toured the world with the production.
£22 (£24 door), child £11.
01748 884132
memorialhall@swaledale.org

Sunday 11 October
Willow Basketry Workshop
10:15 to 14:30
Keld Heritage Centre DL11 6LJ
Make your own Swedish willow basket, complete with rustic hazel handle, guided step-by-step by willow weaving specialist Ruth Thompson from Sylvan Skills. All materials provided. Bring packed lunch, or order from Keld Green Café. Refreshments throughout the day. £75.
07986 580475
helen.guy@keld.org.uk
www.keldheritage.co.uk

Tuesday 13 October
Recipes & Remedies from the Archives
11:30 to 12:30
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
For details, see 10 March.

Wednesday 14 October
Charity Bingo Night
19:30 to 21:30
Hawes Market House DL8 3QN
For details, see 11 March.

Friday 16 October
Railways bring romance to Askrigg and Low Abbotside
14:00 to 15:30
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
A Friends of the Museum afternoon talk with Martin Garside. No booking required.
Free - donations welcome.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Saturday 17 October
A Taste in Time: Preserving
10:30 to 16:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Explore our Victorian kitchen collection and make your own chutney to take home. A delicious lunch is provided. In the afternoon, you can then have a go at making your own butter to enjoy with oatcakes for a cheese tasting session. Booking required Minimum age 14 when accompanied by a paying adult. £50.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Key for National Park Authority-organised events. For more advice, see page 25.
Family-friendly
Talk
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Special Event
Demo

Sunday 18 October
Indian-Inspired Tea Train
14:30 to 16:30
Leeming Bar Station DL7 9AR
Enjoy a scenic journey through the Yorkshire Dales on a heritage diesel-hauled train while being served a glass of prosecco and then a selection of sandwiches, keema puff pastries, gulab jamun and cakes on delicate vintage china with unlimited tea and coffee. Adults £52.50, under 14s £30 for children.
01677 425805
r.jerram@wensleydalerailway.com
www.wensleydale-railway.co.uk

Friday 23 October
Honey and the Bear
20:00 to 22:30
Reeth Memorial Hall DL11 6QT
UK folk and roots multi-instrumentalists Lucy and Jon Hart formed in 2014, and have released three critically acclaimed albums. Their live performances are full of variation, from emotive and dramatic full-bodied ballads, to rip-roaring tales of adventure on the seas. Weaving stories into song, with a strong focus on their Suffolk roots, community and family.
£16 (£18 door), child £8.
01748 884132
memorialhall@swaledale.org

Sunday 25 October
Halloween Event
Stainmore Railway Company at Kirkby Stephen East Diesel service during the day. Evening ticketed event (diesel ghost train).
017683 71700
www.kirkbystepheneast.co.uk

Wednesday 28 October
Alien Creation
13:00 to 16:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Create your own pompom aliens to explore the Dales dark skies. Included in museum admission. Family drop-in sessions. No booking required.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Saturday 31 October
Bard Edrington V & The Blackbirds
20:00 to 22:30
Reeth Memorial Hall DL11 6QT
Bard Edrington V is a singer songwriter in Santa Fe, New Mexico. His songs are influenced by the old time music of the Appalachian mountains and delta blues, holding up the tradition of the bard with his in depth story telling through his music. For several years he has played with Boris McCutcheon and others as The Hoth Brothers Band. Joining him on this tour are Karina Wilson on fiddle and vocals, and Sarah Ferrell on bass.
£16 (£18 door), child £8.
01748 884132
memorialhall@swaledale.org



Family at Malham Cove, a short walk from the village centre

November

Saturday 07 November
Jaywalkers
20:00 to 22:30
Reeth Memorial Hall DL11 6QT
As those who have been fortunate enough to catch them in full flight will testify, a Jaywalkers show is an exhilarating experience with their stylish delivery of Americana, Bluegrass & Country. The combination of powerhouse bass, flame-fingered mandolin, blistering fiddle and three-part harmony packs a punch.
£17 (£19 door), child £8.50.
01748 884132
memorialhall@swaledale.org

Tuesday 10 November
Recipes & Remedies from the Archives
11:30 to 12:30
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
For details, see 10 March.

Wednesday 11 November
Charity Bingo Night
19:30 to 21:30
Hawes Market House DL8 3QN
For details, see 11 March.

Saturday 14 November
Orton Farmers' Market
09:30 to 14:00
Orton Market Hall CA10 3RU
For details, see 14 March.

Tuesday 17 November
Stamp making for Christmas
10:30 to 13:30
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Join artist Hester Cox in this festive workshop and learn the skills to design and cut your own rubber stamps for printing onto cards, gift tags and wrap, all ready for a handmade Christmas. Using your own designs inspired by nature, wildlife and folk art, you will transfer your ideas to the block and use linocutting tools to make the stamps.
All materials provided. £45 - booking required.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Friday 20 November
The Gardens of Bolton Hall
14:00 to 15:30
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
A Friends of the Museum afternoon talk with Val Helpworth. No booking required.
Free - donations welcome.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

December

Friday 04 December
Natural Christmas Decorations
10:30 to 13:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Join Janet to make a selection of rustic country decorations using fir cones, pods, dry flowers, whole and sliced dry fruits, cinnamon sticks and spices. £20. Tea and coffee provided with a mince pie. £20 - booking required.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org,uk

Key for National Park Authority-organised events. For more advice, see page 25.

Family-friendly
Talk
Walk
Special Event
Demo

Friday 04 December
Jackie Oates & John Spiers
20:00 to 22:30
Reeth Memorial Hall DL11 6QT
Multi award-winning contemporary folk artists Jackie Oates and John Spiers meld together their shared love of English traditional folk tunes and songs with their fine voices and expertly played acoustic instruments. Audiences can look forward to a fresh, uplifting and poignant evening. Their festive concerts are a beautiful and heart-warming antidote to the materialism that can be a feature of the Christmas season. The duo perform captivating traditional carols and tunes from England and beyond.
£17 (£19 door), under 16s £8.50.
01748 884132
memorialhall@swaledale.org
www.reethmemorialhall.weebly.com

Saturday 05 December
Mother Christmas at the Museum
10:30 to 15:30
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Visit our twinkly grotto for a magical meeting with Mother Christmas. Write and post your letter to Santa in our festive post box. As part of your admission enjoy plenty of festive craft activities and a delicious hot chocolate topped with marsh-mallows. £10. Once your time slot is booked, please get in touch with your child's age so they receive an age appropriate gift.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Sunday 06 December
A Special Mother Christmas Experience
10:30 to 13:00
Dales Countryside Museum, Hawes DL8 3NT
Join us for a truly magical Mother Christmas grotto visit designed especially for children and young people with additional needs. Siblings are welcome too. Our sensory-friendly grotto offers a calm, welcoming environment where every child can meet Mother Christmas at their own pace. Included are lots of fun Christmas crafting activities and a yummy hot chocolate with marshmallows. £10. Contact cathy.bergs@yorkshiredales.org.uk to discuss how we can make this a comfortable, joyful and inclusive Christmas event for your family.
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Wednesday 09 December
Charity Bingo Night
19:30 to 21:30
Hawes Market House DL8 3QN
For details, see 11 March.

Saturday 12 December
Orton Farmers' Market
09:30 to 14:00
Orton Market Hall CA10 3RU
For details, see 14 March.



Tracks through time

Ribblehead Viaduct on the historic Settle-Carlisle railway line

This year marks 150 years since the opening of the iconic Settle-Carlisle railway line. One of the UK's most famous scenic rail routes, it takes in 20 viaducts, 14 tunnels, and countless beautiful views along its 73-mile track.

The first passenger train travelled over Ribblehead Viaduct on 1 May 1876 overlooked by the Yorkshire Three Peaks of Ingleborough, Pen-y-ghent and Whernside. It is a remarkable story of construction - a stunning feat of Victorian engineering - and of survival, when closure was threatened in the 1980s.

Today, the Settle-Carlisle line continues to provide a mainline service between Carlisle and Leeds, and the opportunity to leave the car at home and explore the Dales on foot. Popular stops include Horton-in-Ribblesdale, for access to the Three Peaks, Settle with its many shops and cafes, and Dent, the highest mainline station in England.

Throughout 2026, events to celebrate this milestone will take place along the line, including the chance to travel back to the age of steam with a special charter train - find out more at **www.settle-carlisle.co.uk**



The Ribblehead Heritage Trail on pages 44 & 45 can also be downloaded as an audio trail - visit **www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/short-walks**

For a great day out in the Dales, why not jump on board the Yorkshire Dales Rover, a 2 ½ hour Saturday service from Manchester Victoria to Ribblehead, with two outbound and two inbound services a day and connections with Dales Bus. See **www.northernrailway.co.uk**

Friends of the Settle-Carlisle Line offer a fantastic annual programme of free volunteer-led walks, all of which all start and/or finish from stations along the route.

They are timed to connect with train services and there is no need to book - just jump off the train and join in.

Visit **www.foscl.org.uk** for details.

This year's Ride2Stride Festival (28 April to 4 May) is joining the celebrations marking 150 years of passenger transport on the Settle-Carlisle railway.

Alongside 30 free guided walks from railway stations along the line, graded for differing abilities, the festival features talks and music showcasing the wonderful culture and landscape of the western Dales and Eden valley.

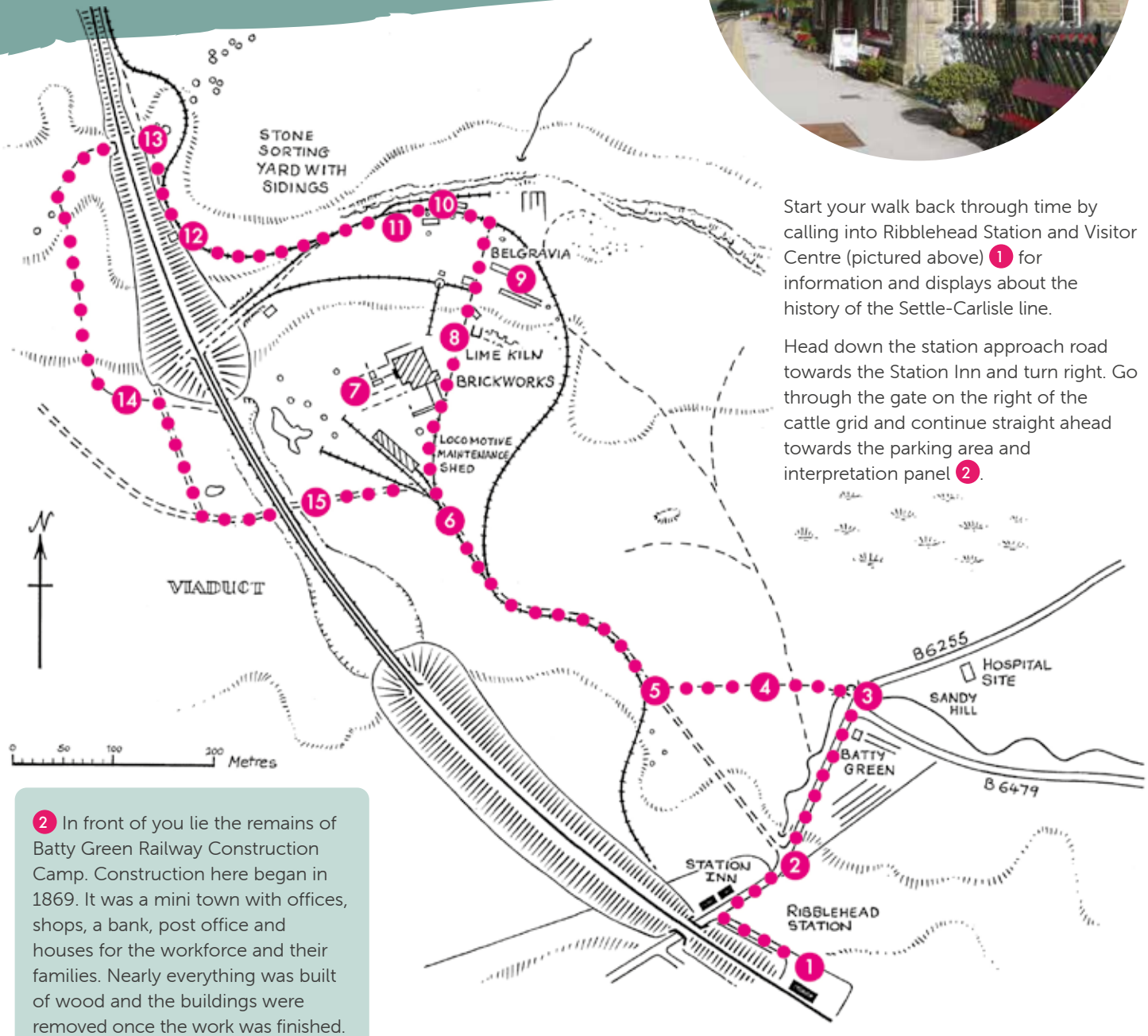
View the full programme at **ride2stride.co.uk**

Ribblehead Heritage Trail

Starting from Ribblehead railway station, this short walk explores the fascinating history surrounding the construction of the Settle-Carlisle railway in the late nineteenth century and, in particular, Ribblehead Viaduct.

During this time, the now peaceful area was a bustling town, with construction camps, bars, a post office and hospital.





Start your walk back through time by calling into Ribblehead Station and Visitor Centre (pictured above) 1 for information and displays about the history of the Settle-Carlisle line.

Head down the station approach road towards the Station Inn and turn right. Go through the gate on the right of the cattle grid and continue straight ahead towards the parking area and interpretation panel 2.

2 In front of you lie the remains of Batty Green Railway Construction Camp. Construction here began in 1869. It was a mini town with offices, shops, a bank, post office and houses for the workforce and their families. Nearly everything was built of wood and the buildings were removed once the work was finished.

The faint outlines of buildings can still be seen, including the site of a smallpox hospital. There were several outbreaks in the camp and St Leonard's graveyard in nearby Chapel-le-Dale had to be extended to cope with the number of dead.

Cross the road at the junction, turn left and follow the footpath waymarked to Blymore Sidings 3. It passes over an old sunken track and then a double line of stones crossing the path diagonally 4. It is possible that there was once an underground telegraph cable here, which may have been used to communicate between different parts of the construction site.

The footpath continues uphill to join a wide track 5.



This track follows the course of the tramway, which carried construction materials from a loading point sited where the Station Inn is now. Tonnes of heavy materials had to be hauled up here from Ingleton by horse and cart.

There was a locomotive maintenance depot here for the narrow gauge steam engines on the tramways 6. The long depression in the ground is probably the remains of an inspection pit so that engineers could get underneath the engines.

Leaving the main track, walk to the right of the locomotive depot and join the former tramway, now a grassy path running directly ahead. Follow this for a short distance and you will see two mounds on to your left 7.

This is the site of the chimneys of the former brickworks. It turned out 20,000 bricks a day for use on the towering viaduct arches and for lining Blea Moor Tunnel, the longest on the line.

Continue straight ahead towards the remains of a lime kiln 8. This was built before the railway arrived and the lime produced in it would have been used to sweeten the surrounding rough pastures by local farmers looking to improve their land. Walk up the steep bank on its left. Avoid climbing on the kiln itself.

This high, flat area was the site of Belgravia, another construction camp 9. The wooden huts here seem to have been slightly grander than those at Batty Green, with porches on the front, and so may have housed supervisors and craftspeople. The position of the camp meant it had a good view over the various work sites.

Continue uphill towards the tramway seen directly ahead. Turn left and follow it round to the left. On your right is the site of the former sidings for the tramway that came from Force Gill quarry 10. This supplied limestone blocks for the construction of the north end of the viaduct. Work began here in 1870.

On your left you will see several abandoned limestone blocks 11. These must have been unsuitable for use on the viaduct. Look closely and you can see the original drill holes, made when the blocks were extracted by hand using long iron chisels struck repeatedly with hammers.

Continue along the tramway until it joins the path up to Whernside and turn right along it. You will see the former plate layers hut on the side of the railway embankment on your left 12. These huts were used for rest and refreshment by men who were employed to walk and check sections of the track. Follow the path until you reach a junction with another track running off to the left and under the railway.

Take this track and stop under the railway bridge 13. If you look up, you will see more evidence of the drill holes used to extract the blocks of stone from the quarry. Continue round to the left and downhill. Ribblehead Viaduct will come into view and you will notice that it was built on a curve.

Follow the track towards the viaduct and pause to look at the impressive viaduct from this angle 14.

The foundations of the 24-arched viaduct had to be dug deep, up to seven and a half metres into the peat and clay down to solid rock. Steam-powered cranes were used to lift the blocks into place. Contemporary photographs show the complicated wooden scaffolding needed as the huge arches were built. The finished viaduct is 400 metres long and 32 metres high.

Follow the distinct track, turning left under the viaduct. Here there are memorial plaques to the many workers who both built and restored the viaduct 15.

Follow the track straight ahead, rejoining the route back towards Ribblehead station.

Getting there

For train timetables, see **www.northernrailway.co.uk**

For services and connections, visit **www.dalesbus.org**

There are two designated parking areas on the B6255 road from Ingleton to Hawes. Please avoid parking elsewhere and damaging the archaeology of the site.

Sunrise over Ribblehead Viaduct and the site of the former railway construction camp



Yours to explore

The Yorkshire Dales is a fabulous place to get outdoors, with over 2,600km of footpaths, three National Trails, and the longest cave system in Britain.

There are crags to climb, rivers and lakes for water sports, family-friendly and challenge cycle routes, quiet horseriding trails, and 'miles without stiles' accessible routes.

Indulge in a relaxing picnic or listen for wildlife in the woods. Come for spring flowers, summer meadows, autumn colours or winter wonderland peaks. There are opportunities for everyone to stop, breathe deeply and share in what this special place has to offer.

Discover what is waiting for you at **www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/get-outdoors**



Cycling in Malhamdale

Access for all

Everyone should be able to access the countryside. Our new online access hub is designed to provide accessibility information to help people with a wide range of disabilities plan their visit to the National Park and connect with nature.

It includes viewpoints, sensory-friendly and quiet spots, and lots of practical information.

Start your visit at **www.accesshub.yorkshiredales.org.uk**

Going underground

One of the very special qualities of the Yorkshire Dales is its limestone scenery - crags, sinkholes, limestone pavement, dry valleys and caves.

There are three show caves for a first trip underground - White Scar, Ingleborough and Stump Cross Caverns. Alternatively, experience the thrill as you are lowered into the massive chamber of Gaping Gill during the local caving clubs' annual public winch meets.

The Three Counties cave system is thought to stretch around 89km under Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cumbria, and is the longest in Britain. Join local guides on a true subterranean adventure to sites such as the evocatively-named Cheese Press.

Go below at **www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/caving**

Best foot forward

With walks of all shapes and sizes, from a half hour meander to a multi-day hike, there is something for everyone and every ability in the Yorkshire Dales.

The National Park has some superb long distance trails, including the 80 mile Dales Way from Ilkley to Bowness-on-Windermere, and Lady Anne's Way, which visits all the important buildings associated with the redoubtable Lady Anne Clifford, who lived in the 17th century.

Three National Trails stretch across the area: the Pennine Way, which turned 60 in 2025, the Pennine Bridleway, and the newest, the Coast to Coast Path. All can equally be enjoyed in bitesize chunks as day walks.

And then there are Yorkshire's famous Three Peaks - Pen-y-ghent, Ingleborough and Whernside - each one its own character to be enjoyed individually, or as the ultimate walking challenge.

If your group contains a wheelchair user, all-terrain Trampers are available to hire at Aysgarth Falls and Malham National Park Visitor Centres to help you really get off-road.

Go to **www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/walking** or ask at our National Park Visitor Centres visitor centres.

Go pro

The Dales provides the most stunning landscape to explore - above and below ground, by foot, bike, horse and water. But if you're not sure where to start there are local guides and clubs who can make it both safe and fun.

Call in the experts at **www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/activity-centres-and-guides**

Pedal power

If you take to the Yorkshire Dales by bike, you'll be able to see more and feel more in touch with the countryside. And it doesn't have to be a labour of love. Hire an electric bike and take advantage of a new way of exploring.

A network of minor roads and mountain bike-friendly byways, bridleways and 'green lanes' cross the area - some of which are relatively flat! But any effort to climb a hill is always rewarded with a fabulous view.

The Swale Trail is a 20km (12 mile) easy going route along Swaledale for families who want to ride together. You can complete the trail in a number of sections, with Gunnerside providing a good break in the middle with its pub, cafés and toilets. Based in Reeth, Dales Bike Centre offer bike hire and advice about the area.

Road cyclists are equally well catered for with family-friendly short valley bottom trails to the challenging 210 km (130 mile) Yorkshire Dales Cycle Way and the famous Buttertubs Pass.

Our dedicated website **www.cyclethedales.org.uk** offers information on routes, bike hire and more.



Download our **FREE GPS-enabled walking app** for 35 fantastic trails throughout the National Park. Designed for walkers of all ages and abilities, the mix of linear and circular routes are graded to help you make an informed choice.

The app's key feature is an offline mapping tool that allows you to track a walk, regardless of whether there's a mobile phone signal or not. It also contains essential information such as the Countryside Code, what kit to take, and safety tips, and provides links throughout to more detailed information on this website where needed.



Saddle up

Horseriders have a network of over 900km of bridleways to try - a fantastic mixture of Roman roads, monastic highways, mining tracks and ancient droving routes.

Connect them into circuits of varying length by including short rides along quiet country roads, or let your horse stretch its legs and enjoy an exhilarating canter across miles of open moorland.

Find approved trekking centres, as well as guidance on planning your own route, at **www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/horse-riding**



Settle, Ingleton & the Three Peaks



The 4 ½ mile Ingleton Waterfalls Walk takes you through spectacular oak woodland

Settle is a charming market town steeped in history. Synonymous with the iconic Settle-Carlisle Railway, this remarkable feat of Victorian engineering carries passengers across breathtaking landscapes, dramatic viaducts - including the famous Ribblehead - and through the impressive 1 ½-mile-long Blea Moor Tunnel.

At the heart of the town, lies the world's oldest music hall, Grade II-listed Settle Victoria Hall, offering a lively programme of live music, theatre, and film. Nearby, The Folly - a striking seventeenth century building - now houses the Museum of North Craven Life, sharing fascinating stories of the area's past.

Sitting just outside Settle on the A65, The Courtyard Dairy is a must-visit for cheese lovers, with its award-winning selection of artisan cheeses. Its restaurant Rind, in partnership with The Cheese Bar, serves delicious wood-fired pizza, cheeseboards, and natural wines.

The landscape is dominated by Yorkshire's Three Peaks - Whernside, Ingleborough, and Pen-y-ghent. Many take on the challenge of hiking all three in under 12 hours, but there are plenty of shorter trails that showcase the spectacular beauty of the area.

To the west, Ingleton sits beneath towering limestone cliffs. It is home to glacial scars, limestone pavement, and dramatic dry gorges, as well as some of Britain's most spectacular caves and waterfalls. A walk through the famous Ingleton Waterfalls Trail reveals a series of cascades hidden within ancient woodland.

Accessible Ingleborough Cave can be reached via the scenic Ingleborough Estate Nature Trail from Clapham, while White Scar Cave - Britain's longest show cave - offers an awe-inspiring glimpse into a subterranean world of stalactites







Looking for a walk?

Download Settle & Attermire Scar (4 miles) from our free walking app - there are 35 short walks to choose from. Visit **www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/yorkshiredales-walkingapps**

and underground rivers.

After a day exploring, you can relax at one of the area's welcoming pubs and cafés, such as The Marton Arms or The Old Sawmill, a beautifully restored heritage building on the Ingleborough Estate. Time your visit right, and you might even catch Ingleton's annual 1940s weekend, when the village steps back in time with vintage displays and re-enactments.

For walkers, Stainforth Force and Catrigg Force make rewarding destinations, while Attermire Scar offers a dramatic climb. Cyclists can tackle the challenging yet scenic 10-mile Settle Loop, forming part of the Pennine Bridleway National Trail.

i For more information, visit **www.thisisingleton.co.uk** and **www.visitsettle.co.uk**.

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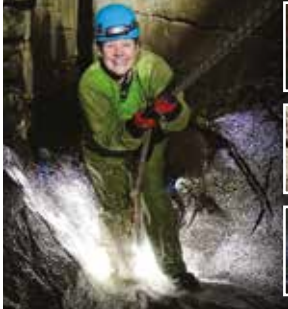
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visitsettle.co.uk





Win a weekend break for two in the beautiful Yorkshire Dales!

To enter the prize draw, simply complete our online survey by 31 December 2026.

Tell us what you liked about this magazine to help guide future editions, plus a little bit about you and your visit.

The first entry drawn on 18 January 2027 will receive the prize.

Click on the QR code or go to **www.surveymonkey.com/r/TheVisitor2026**



West Burton Falls

Terms & conditions: 1. Prize is 2 nights bed & breakfast accommodation in the National Park for up to 2 people to a maximum value of £300. 2. Entries to be received by 31 December 2026; draw will take place 18 January 2027. 3. Entrants must be aged 18 or over. 4. One entry per person. 5. Prize is non-transferable and cannot be exchanged. No cash alternative. 6. Prize to be taken before 31 March 2028. 7. Conditions apply. For full terms & conditions email info@yorkshiredales.org.uk or call 0300 456 0030. Please note that your name and address will not be used for any future mailings by us or any third party.





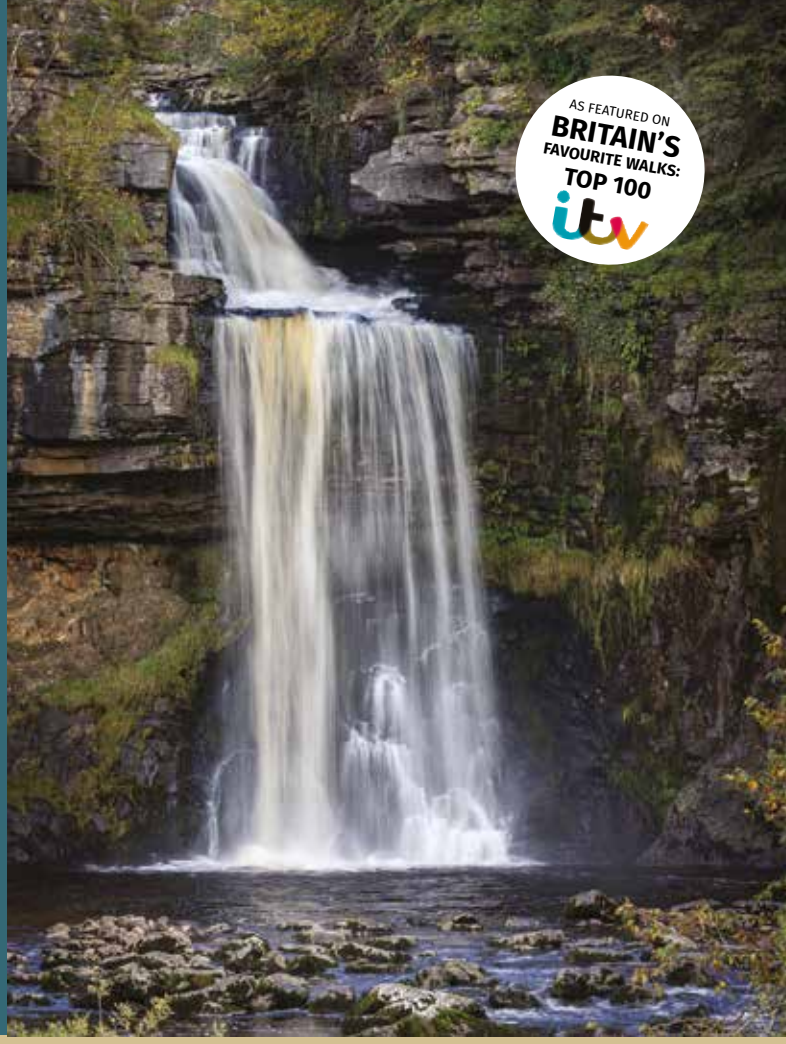


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Experience the Dales



Malham blacksmith Annabelle Bradley at work (Stephen Garnett Photography)

If you want a day to remember and keep the whole family occupied, entertained and happy, read on.

Try these wonderful experiences, special to the Dales, that aim to rejuvenate, educate or thrill. Tantalise your taste buds with the delectable flavours of local food and drink. Learn about history and heritage by visiting historical landmarks. There is so much to discover and do, whatever your pace.

Take to the hills - and caves and skies

If it's outdoor adventure you're after, there are local guides who can make it both safe and fun.

Team Walking, Muddy Boots Walking Holidays and where2walk offer organised guided walks to help you see more and get the most out of your stay. And whether you want to try caving or kayaking, abseiling or navigation skills, Yorkshire Dales Guides and Alfresco Adventures can help with all the guidance and support you need.

Check out our huge '**What's on**' listing on pages 25-42 for walks, talks and workshops throughout 2026 - and be sure to take in a traditional Dales agricultural show.

Something different

Want to do something you've never done before? How about exploring the beauty of Raydale in Wensleydale accompanied by a new woolly companion - let Semerwater Alpaca Ambles take you truly back to nature.

Have a go at willow weaving, letter carving or scything at Broadrake Bunkbarn at the foot of Whernside. Forge your own personal work of art at Malham Smithy where Annabelle Bradley will guide you in blacksmithing techniques.

Or you could become a farmer for the day with The Wensleydale Experience on the Swinithwaite Estate. There's no better way to understand the Yorkshire Dales farming life, than to have some hands-on experience. You might feed the animals, gather sheep, muck out the pigs - no two visits are the same on a working farm.

It's not just for the seaside... or the kids!

With the Dales' long history of dairy farming, there is no better use of locally-sourced milk than in the delicious delights of ice cream made right here.

Brymor Ice-cream is famous for its Yorkshire Ice-cream which can be found in many restaurants and dedicated parlours such as Reeth and Burnsall. The most important member of the family is not forgotten with doggie ice cream on offer and an agility course to work it off afterwards.

You are spoilt for choice with the Wensleydale Ice Cream parlour near Aysgarth and Howgill Fellside Ice-cream in Sedbergh, plus The Milking Parlour in Kirkby Lonsdale, where the authentic Italian ice-cream is made daily using fresh milk from their own local family farm.

If you fancy some delicious farm-fresh milk during your stay, call in at Rectory Farm Milk Shack in Embsay. It has new vending machines serving pasteurised whole milk and creamy milkshakes - goodness from their cows to you!



Choosing cheeses at The Courtyard Dairy

More cheese, Gromit

We are proud to have some amazing cheesemakers in the Yorkshire Dales - and great businesses who champion them.

The Courtyard Dairy near Settle offers cheesemaking workshops throughout the year, and the chance to try a huge variety of cheeses when you call into the shop.

Everyone knows the Wensleydale Creamery in Hawes, home of Wallace and Gromit's beloved Wensleydale cheese. Its famous chilled tasting room, shop and visitor centre offering daily cheese making demos are not to be missed.

The rich farming heritage of the Dales and its thriving food and drink community are showcased each year with the Yorkshire Dales Cheese Festival. And it's not just about cheese. Prepare for a jam-packed week from 9 to 18 October celebrating local produce and hosted by businesses across the National Park.

What's brewing?

Long the home of great beer, the Dales has ale-lovers covered with Wensleydale Brewery in Leyburn, Kirkby Lonsdale Brewery and Yorkshire Dales Brewery in Askrigg - call in to sample some tempting tipples.

You're in for a treat if artisan gin is your thing, with locally-made delights from Yorkshire Dales Distillery, Spirit of Swaledale, Otterbeck Distillery, Masons and Whitakers, and Wensleydale's very own Taplin & Mageean, to name just a few.

If you would like to try your hand at making your own gin, drop into the Gin Experience at the Spirit of Masham Distillery.

Get creative

The Dales Countryside Museum in Hawes has a year-round programme of fun and interesting events and exhibitions for all the family.

Discover recipes and remedies from the museum archives, recreate the Dales landscape in linoprint, needlefelt or paint, and learn how to make a rag rug, all led by local experts.

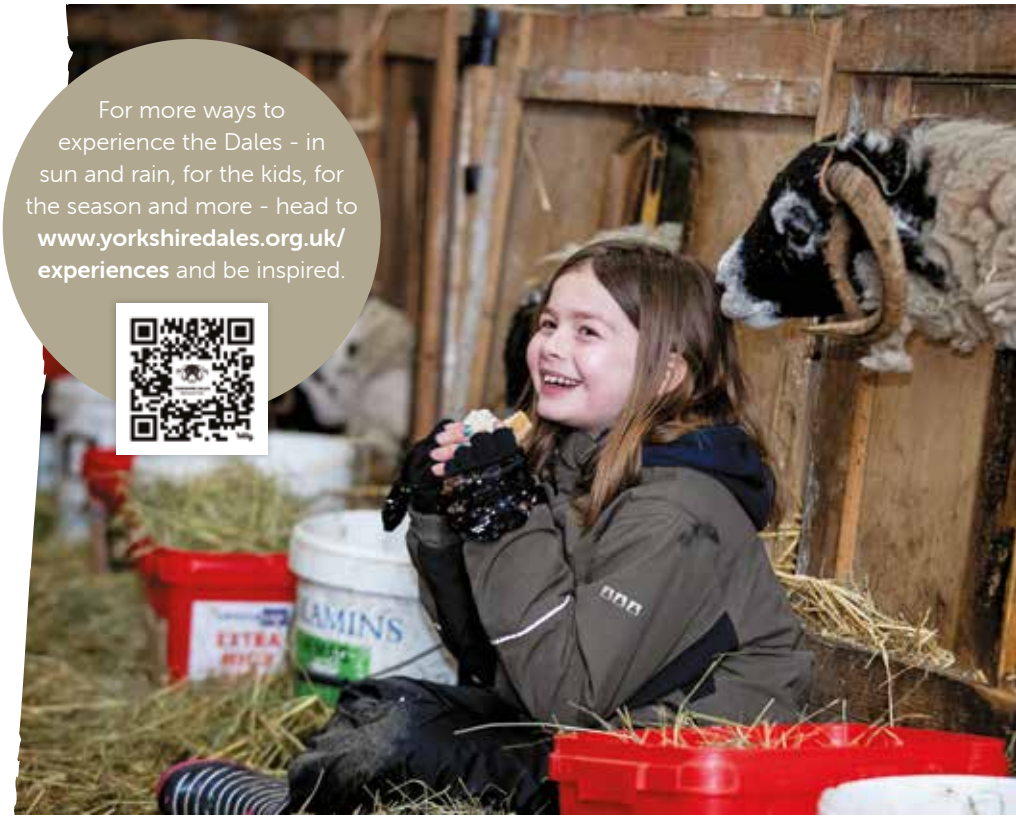
There's plenty for young creatives too, including drop-in badge and suncatcher making sessions, and activities inspired by the Vikings and Romans. Read more on pages 64 and 65.

Queen of the castle

Bolton Castle in Wensleydale is still owned by descendants of the Scrope family who built it in the 14th century. Mary Queen of Scots was imprisoned there in 1568 when she fled Scotland after defeat in battle. Today, Tudor England is brought to life through its Living History weekends and falconry displays.

Middleham Castle was the childhood home of Richard III, Richmond Castle is noted for its great Norman keep, and at Skipton Castle you can experience a Medieval tournament or the Civil War Regiment prepare for battle on the castle lawns.

Lunchtime on the farm



For more ways to experience the Dales - in sun and rain, for the kids, for the season and more - head to **www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/experiences** and be inspired.

Swaledale & Arkengarthdale



The hardy Swaledale sheep is the emblem of the Yorkshire Dales National Park

Looking for a walk?

Download Ivelet Moor (7 miles) from our free walking app - there are 35 short walks to choose from. Visit **www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/yorkshiredales-walkingapps**

The two most northerly dales in the National Park are a striking patchwork of field barns and drystone walls, shaped by generations of hill farming. Look out for Swaledale sheep, a hardy breed that thrives on the high moors and serves as the emblem of the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

The River Swale, one of England's fastest rising flood rivers, flows through the heart of the dale, passing by its stone-built villages. Many of the villages and tiny hamlets, such as Gunnerside (from the Norse 'Gunnar's saetr'), still bear names given by Viking settlers over a thousand years ago.

In the valley bottoms, traditional hay meadows burst into colour in early summer, with wildflowers including wood cranesbill, yellow rattle, and eyebright. Muker meadows is one of the most celebrated sites for this rare and precious habitat, protected for its rich biodiversity.

At the head of Swaledale, the small village of Keld is a key meeting point for walkers, sitting at the crossroads of three famous long-distance routes: the Pennine Way, the Coast to Coast, and the Herriot Way. It also marks one end of the Swale Trail, a 20km (12-mile) off-road cycling route that winds down the dale to Reeth. If you need to hire a bike or refuel with homemade cakes, the Dales Bike Centre in Reeth is the place to go.

In winter, Keld's self-service tearoom, complete with an honesty box, offers a wholesome treat for hardy hikers. The village also has two heritage centres - the Keld Heritage Centre and the Old School Museum, which now houses much of the former Swaledale Museum in Reeth's collection.

The landscape tells a story of past industry, with the moors above Swaledale and Arkengarthdale once a centre of lead mining. Ruins of this lost trade can still be explored at sites like Old Gang and Grinton Smelt Mills. When the industry collapsed in the late 19th century, many families left the dale, some moving to Lancashire's textile mills, others emigrating to America.









This year, the atmospheric ruins of Old Gang can be seen on the big screen as one of the key filming locations for the new adaptation of Emily Bronte's *Wuthering Heights* (2026) starring Margot Robbie and Jacob Elordi. Read more on page 12.

To the east, Richmond marks the gateway to Swaledale. This elegant market town, shaped by the wealth of the Georgian era, is dominated by its impressive Norman castle. The cobbled marketplace is home to independent shops, cafés, and museums, including The Green Howards Museum and the Georgian Theatre Royal.

A riverside walk leads to Richmond's impressive waterfall and The Station, the town's beautifully restored Victorian railway station, now a hub for food, film, and art.

For those seeking adventure, the Buttertubs Pass - a dramatic high road between Wensleydale and Swaledale - is a favourite with cyclists and was a standout climb in the Tour de France Grand Départ in 2014.

At the northern edge of the Dales, the historic Tan Hill Inn - Britain's highest pub - offers real ale, live music, and a warm welcome, even when snowed in! The inn is also a designated Dark Sky Discovery Site, making it one of the best places in the Dales for stargazing.

Reeth, with its inviting pubs, tearooms, and ice cream parlour serving local Brymor ice cream, is the perfect base for exploring the dale. For a more remote escape, the CB Inn in Arkengarthdale serves up delicious evening meals in a breathtaking setting.

Arkengarthdale is home to the hamlets of Booze and Whaw and features the famous watersplash from the opening credits of the original 1980s BBC series of *All Creatures Great and Small*.

Each year, Swaledale hosts a renowned festival of music and arts, bringing world-class performances to the Dales over two weeks in early summer. For lovers of history, nature, and adventure, this northern corner of the National Park is a true gem waiting to be explored.




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The Greatest Show



Sheep judging at a Dales annual village show

A visit to the Yorkshire Dales wouldn't be complete without going to a traditional agricultural show or village gala.

Long at the heart of local communities, many can trace their origins back over a century and have their own distinct traditions. They offer a welcome break from haymaking, an important summer task as farmers think ahead to feeding their animals through winter.

Visitors can expect to see sheep and livestock classes, baking and handicrafts, carved walking sticks and vintage tractors, alongside drystone walling competitions and sheep dog trials, all while being entertained throughout the day by silver and brass bands.

Many shows feature one of the Dales most beloved and traditional outdoor sports - a fell race. It may seem that walking up a hill is hard enough without trying to do it as quickly as possible. But travelling fast and light on the fells gives a tremendous thrill - and all you really need is a decent pair of running shoes.

2026 Agricultural Show Dates

August

22. Gargrave Show
22. Ravenstonedale Agricultural Show
27. Crosby Ravensworth Agricultural Show
28. Wensleydale Agricultural Show
29 Malham Show
31 Reeth Show

September

1 Kilnsey Show
2 Muker Show
20 Nidderdale Show

It's showtime

The Dales own Burnsall Classic holds the distinction of being one of the oldest fell races in England, dating back to at least 1865.

Some shows have unusual celebrations, such as the ancient ritual of the 'Burning of the Bartle' on West Witton Feast Weekend, or unique spectacles, like Hardraw Scaur Brass Band Festival, first held in the 19th century and taking place for many years against the backdrop of Hardraw Force waterfall.

In contrast, scarecrows first came to the lovely village of Kettlewell just twenty years ago, with figures appearing in gardens, hidden corners and unexpected nooks and crannies for the Scarecrow Festival each August.



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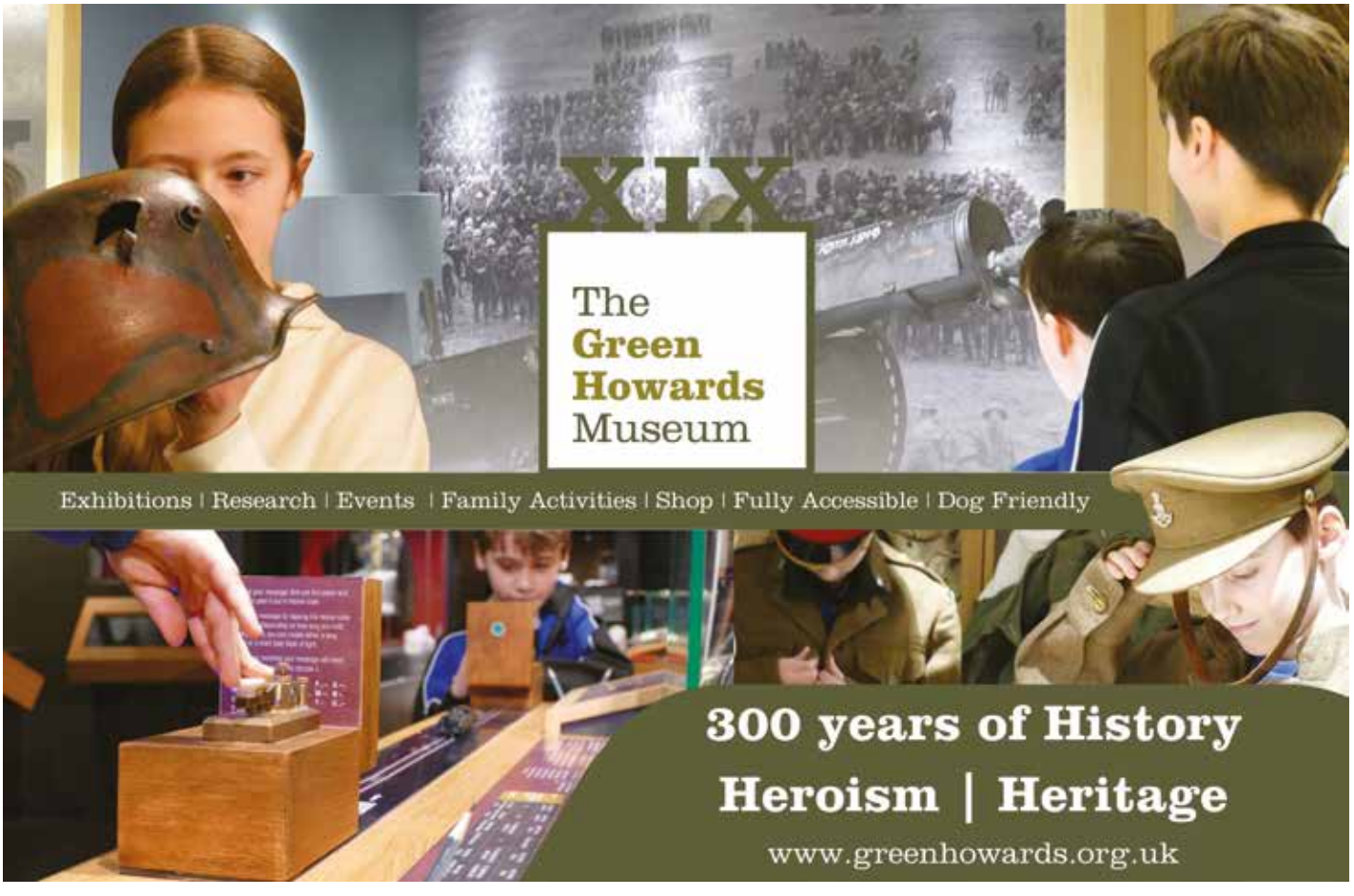
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Wensleydale



The stunning view above Askrigg in Wensleydale: the lovely village, with its market cross, was celebrated in the 18th century for its clockmakers

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Wensleydale is a lush, pastoral valley carved by retreating glaciers and defined by the River Ure, giving the dale its original name, 'Yoredale'.

The river meanders through rich green meadows, creating the perfect conditions for dairy farming, a tradition that has shaped the dale for centuries.

Wensleydale is synonymous with its world-famous cheese, first made by Cistercian monks in the twelfth century. Today, the Wensleydale Creamery in Hawes continues this legacy, producing a range of award-winning cheeses beloved worldwide (and by Wallace and Gromit!). Visitors can sample different varieties in the dedicated tasting room or watch master cheesemakers at work.

In Thornton Rust, the Harrison family were the first farmers to introduce Jersey cows to the dale. Their Wensleydale Ice-Cream parlour, set in a restored barn with breathtaking views towards Lady Hill, is the perfect place for a sweet treat.

Meanwhile, at Raydale Preserves back in Hawes, you can tour the family-run business and taste their exceptional homemade jams, chutneys, and sauces.

Take the Little White Bus to Snaizeholme, where a dedicated Red Squirrel Trail offers a rare chance to see these native creatures thriving in their natural woodland habitat. Or, for a truly unique experience, join Semerwater Alpaca Ambles for a gentle stroll through the surrounding countryside with a woolly friend in tow.

The dale is also home to Lake Semerwater, which is a haven for anglers,



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Bread in the Yorkshire Dales National Park

wild swimmers, canoeists, and sailors.

In Wensleydale you will find some of the Dales' most spectacular waterfalls. The three-tiered Aysgarth Falls, immortalised by JMW Turner's paintings as well as a memorable scene in *Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves*, is breathtaking after heavy rain. The area also includes the Grade II-listed Edwardian Rock Garden, a hidden gem built by local landowner Frank Sayer-Graham.

Hardraw Force, England's highest single-drop waterfall, is hidden behind the Green Dragon Inn - the sister inn to Tan Hill Inn in Swaledale - where you can enjoy a post-walk pint. And the lesser-known Cauldron Falls at West Burton offers a peaceful spot to pause and reflect.

The small village of Bainbridge sits on the site of the Roman fort Virosidum. Askrigg, with its stone cottages, deli and Yorkshire Dales Brewery, was famously used as Darrowby in the original BBC *All Creatures Great and Small* series.

Medieval Bolton Castle, once home to Mary, Queen of Scots, invites visitors to try archery, witness falconry displays, or explore the formidable battlements.

In the lower dale, Middleham Castle, childhood home of Richard III, stands proudly over a town still famous for its racehorse training stables. And in a wooded setting on the River Ure, an 'honesty box' invites visitors to help towards the upkeep of the ruins of lovely Jervaulx Abbey.

Masham boasts two legendary breweries - Black Sheep and Theakston's - both offering tasting tours. In Leyburn, The Garden Rooms at Tennants is an unexpected gem, combining an art gallery, auction house, and stylish eatery.

To travel through the dale in style, visitors can hop aboard the vintage Wensleydale Railway. With passenger services from Leyburn to Leeming Bar, this nostalgic heritage railway offers afternoon tea trains and gin tastings - perfect for soaking up the scenery.

Find out more at **wensleydale.org**, **www.welcometoleyburn.co.uk** and **www.visitmasham.com**









Dog in the Dales



Look out for instructional signage on gates and posts. Call into a National Park Visitor Centre for advice (dogs welcome!) and check out our website at **www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/dogs**

Every year millions of dogs, with owners in tow, come to stretch their legs and explore the sights and smells of the National Park. And, with such great exploring to be done and so many dog-friendly establishments to unwind in, who can blame them.

The safety and enjoyment of every dog and its family is important when out and about, which is why we have updated our guidance on walking dogs safely in the Dales.

The spectacular limestone scenery includes hazards a dog could fall into such as caves, limestone pavement and sink holes. Please stick to paths.

Not everyone likes dogs. Please be considerate and keep your dog on a lead when around other people.

Please keep dogs on a lead on public rights of way and in fields around livestock - after all, your dog could be shot for disturbing or chasing farm animals. Move quickly and quietly round the herd, and try not to get between cows and their calves. If chased, it is safer to drop the lead and get out of the field.

Many ground-nesting birds are easily disturbed by inquisitive dogs and fly away leaving the nest vulnerable. From March to July please use a short lead.

Finally, dog poo - bag it and bin it! Toxocariasis can be passed onto livestock, dogs, humans and even into the soil. You can either drop poo into a public waste bin or take it home with you.



MASHAM SHEEP FAIR

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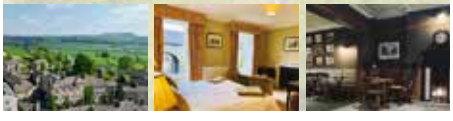
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From Coast to Coast

The Coast to Coast long distance path has been a firm favourite with hikers since it was first described by walker and writer Alfred Wainwright in 1973. And this year it officially becomes a National Trail.

Starting at St Bees on the west coast, the Coast to Coast Path National Trail passes through some of the finest landscapes in northern England - including the Lake District, Yorkshire Dales and North York Moors National Parks - before ending at Robin Hood's Bay on the east coast.

Following the decision in 2022 to make the cherished but challenging 190-mile route a National Trail, much work has been undertaken to bring it up to the required standard, including surfacing and signage, and improving access for all. National Trail status brings funding that will help keep the path in good condition for everyone to enjoy for years to come.

As the Coast to Coast Path enters the northernmost part of the Yorkshire Dales, it passes through Kirkby Stephen before climbing to the iconic cairns of Nine



Good to know

At 662m above sea level, this is exposed moorland. Wear waterproof boots and dress for changeable weather.

Want a walk?

The cairns can be reached on a 5 ½ mile return walk from roadside parking in a layby along the B6270. After an initial uphill stretch, the waymarked path joins a new stone flagged section of the Coast to Coast, which is protecting important peatland habitat from damage and helping to create a sustainable route for walkers. It then climbs steadily upward to Nine Standards Rigg and, on a fine day, to views all the way down Swaledale, across to the North Pennines and the Lake District.



Stone sentinels

The origins of the imposing nine stone cairns situated on top of Hartley Fell, near the boundary between Cumbria and Yorkshire, remain a mystery.

Theories range from boundary markers and waypoints, to decoys put there by the Romans to confuse raiding Scots by mimicking soldiers on the horizon.



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Sunday 20th September 2026

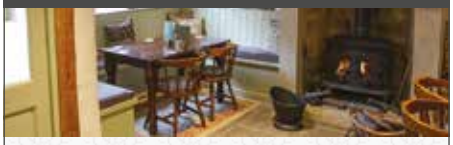
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Standards Rigg and descending into Swaledale.

This upper slice of the Dales delivers big skies, quiet moorland expanses, and an inevitable peat bog or two. It's a landscape that feels remote, ancient and alive all at once.

More than 50 years after its creation, Wainwright's Coast to Coast route continues to reward everyone who ventures along it.

To find out more about the Coast to Coast Path National Trail, visit **www.nationaltrail.co.uk/coast-to-coast**

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Dales Countryside Museum



What's on

The Museum has over 70 brilliant events in its programme this year, from family-friendly drop-in activities to special events and workshops. Many are included in admission - discover more in the 'What's On' section.

Highlights

- ✓ Discover **recipes and remedies** from the Museum archives at monthly events
- ✓ Take part in **creative workshops** led by local artists, inspired by our collections and the Yorkshire Dales National Park
- ✓ **Hear about the Dales** through the voices of those who lived and worked here
- ✓ Delve into your family history in our **Research Room** - our volunteers are available to help on Mondays and Wednesdays.

Did you know..?

Our gold Viking ring was found on a farmer's land near Sedbergh in 2008



We're signed up with **Kids in Museums and kids can visit free!**

There's fun for families all year round with our fascinating galleries and **Hands-on History** and maker events.

Have fun with our 'pick and mix' activities and 'SEND' backpacks. Climb aboard the train carriages to play in the mini museum. Explore our outdoor trail where you can burn off some energy playing games or invent your own tales in the storytelling chair.

If you buy a Scurry Club Pass for your child, they can bring an adult along free too. They'll get a club badge, a stamp for their membership card, and a treat each time they visit.

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Share special times and make memories exploring our family-friendly galleries and outdoor trail

Discover the incredible story of the Yorkshire Dales landscape - and the people who shaped it - with a visit to the Dales Countryside Museum.

Housed in the converted Victorian railway station at Hawes, the Museum has fascinating things for all ages to see and do. Browse our shop for 'Distinctly Dales' products created by local artists and makers.

Admission

Ticket valid for 7 days - tickets can be booked in advance online

Adult £5
Concession £4.50
Under 16s FREE
Groups of 10+ £4.50

Annual pass £10
Scurry Club Pass £10 - get a treat each time you visit, and bring one adult free too!

Become a **Friend of Dales Countryside Museum** £10 - receive free entry, monthly talks and *Now Then* publication.

Opening times

Daily 10am to 5pm Feb-Oct, 10am to 4pm Nov & Dec. Closed Christmas Eve to Boxing Day, New Year's Day, and 4 to 31 January 2027. Last entry one hour before closing.

How to find us

Dales Countryside Museum, Station Yard, Hawes, North Yorkshire DL8 3NT

01969 666210
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk
www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

@DalesMuseum
@DalesCountrysideMuseum
@DalesMuseum

EXHIBITIONS 2026

01 February to 31 May

Middle of Somewhere

Joanne Coates is a working-class visual artist who lives and works in the Yorkshire Dales. She uses photography to question the concepts of power, identity, wealth, and poverty.

By exploring the social histories of land, gender and class, Joanne narrates stories that have either been long forgotten or simply never told.

In the creation of this exhibition, Joanne has collaborated with participants to explore parallels between people and places. She has delved into questions around climate change, the cost-of-living crisis, disparities of wealth, and the impact on low-income communities.



06 June to 27 September

Rivers4Life

Through its Rivers4Life project the Yorkshire Dales Rivers Trust is inspiring children and communities about everything to do with rivers and wildlife.

This exhibition features amazing artwork, film and music created through collaborations with artists, filmmakers and animators. Exploring what it takes for rivers to be healthy, it highlights the challenges faced today and shows the steps we can take to help support these special environments and the wildlife found around and within them.

Rivers4Life is made possible through The National Lottery Heritage Fund, thanks to National Lottery players.



03 October to 03 January 2027

Green Spaces, Shared Places

The Young Creatives, a group of young people based at the Dales Countryside Museum, have been exploring and connecting with nature through the museum collections and creative workshops.

Focusing on themes of climate change, our connection with the environment, the positive impact the outdoors can have on our health, and the ways in which our interactions with outdoor spaces can be transformed and enriched by our social, industrial and agricultural heritage, the exhibition places young community voices at the heart of the conversation and shares new stories.

Made possible with generous support from The National Lottery Heritage Fund and the Julia Rausing Trust, this exhibition has been co-created through the Going Places project.



Good to know

- Café (re-opening early summer)
- Free WiFi
- Family-friendly
- Assistance dogs welcome
- Accessible site, with Changing Places facility
- Pushchair and breastfeeding-friendly
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- Coach-friendly - large group on-site catering; special activities and discounts can be arranged
- EV charging points
- £1 discount on admission fee for one person with DCM car parking ticket
- Dog owners shared ticket
- Young Archaeologists' Club base

National Park Visitor Centre





What's in a Word

Do you know a cake stool from a cratch, or a smout-hole from a stoup?

The Yorkshire dialect, with its unique variations over each hill and from village to village, is shaped by the history of the area and its traditional ways of life. Dairying, sheep farming, lead mining and the wool trade have all added to the vocabulary.



During the 1960s, Marie Hartley (left) and Joan Ingilby recorded and photographed people at work and at homes for a series of books they were writing on life and traditions in Yorkshire.

Through sketches, objects and sound recordings they captured a way of life that was rapidly changing, forming an amazing record of Dales life.

They founded the collection at the Dales Countryside Museum in Hawes, which today tells the story of the Yorkshire Dales and the people who shaped it.

www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk

Space invaders

Across the Yorkshire Dales the effect of Viking invasions in the eighth and ninth centuries can be seen in the language.

Dale itself comes from Old Norse (*dalr* meaning valley), as do words for other features of the landscape like *beck* (stream), *fell* (hill or mountain) and *hag* (a patch of woodland on sloping ground).

Farming words, too, reflect their Scandinavian roots in *laithe* (barn or building) and *toft* (small farmstead).

Nah then, 'ow do!

In the 1950s, a fieldworker for the Survey of English Dialects recorded that people in Askrigg in Wensleydale described the weather as *snizy* (raw, cold), *rawk* (fine rain accompanied by mist) and *pash* (a sudden heavy fall of rain).

When it got *hask* (dry and piercingly cold) you'd be questioning why you'd only worn your *kittel* (lightweight men's jacket) and likely feeling rather *dowly* (glum).

Dress to impress

When you got up this morning did you run a *dasher* (wide tooth comb) through your hair or go straight for your *mob cap* (bonnet)?

If it was a chilly day you might have needed to pull on a *gansey* (sweater) and tie your *whangs* (leather boot or shoe laces) tight. You'd probably want to add *muffattees* (wrist warmers) and *coggers* (old stockings worn over shoes to keep out the snow).

Later maybe you swapped into your *glad rags* (best clothes) in order to look *deft* (neat, pretty) and *swash* (fine, smart).

Food for thought

- [ ] Barm
- [ ] Drinkings
- [ ] Watticake
- [ ] Collop
- [ ] Havermeal
- [ ] Bogberry
- [ ] Ramps
- [ ] Clapbread
- [ ] Murls
- [ ] Tatie hash

N	P	E	B	E	N	H	R	S	H	O	C
U	R	D	C	L	A	P	B	R	E	A	D
H	A	S	Y	T	U	F	E	K	B	I	P
A	O	M	G	E	N	B	A	T	G	S	N
V	C	Q	O	N	S	C	O	L	L	O	P
E	X	S	P	A	I	G	D	R	U	F	W
R	J	P	D	T	L	K	U	V	O	C	A
M	W	M	T	R	A	M	N	Y	B	U	L
E	K	A	I	V	E	P	F	I	A	H	E
A	W	R	L	B	O	G	B	E	R	R	Y
L	E	O	G	I	T	A	Z	C	M	D	K
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