



BAILDON
Walkers *are* Welcome



LOCKDOWN WALK ROUTE NUMBER 2: May 2020.

BIRCH CLOSE IS CLOSER THAN YOU THINK

A circular and fairly level walk of 4 miles which will notch up your daily 10,000 steps, mainly on good tracks. The walk description starts and ends at the Potted Meat Stick in the centre of Baildon, but for those of you who are familiar with Baildon, there are opportunities for you to link into or out of the route at several other places – or to adapt it to your own interests. This route has been written-up during lockdown, so we have avoided using any long ginnels or paths which are narrow. You should be able to easily stand aside and avoid close contact with other walkers throughout this walk. Remember to take care and stay at least 2.5 metres apart.

ROUTE DESCRIPTION.

Walk up Northgate (following finger post to THE MOOR). At Webster's Fish and Chip Shop turn Right on to Jenny Lane. At the end of Jenny Lane, turn Left through a yellow gate to cross the playing field, passing the Rugby Club to your Right. At the far end of the playing field, descend some small steps into a short, narrow track (you can easily see if anyone is coming to avoid having to pass in this slightly constrained space). At the end, go through the gate and descend a few steps before turning Left, rising to join a lane. Almost immediately take the first footpath on your Right, to walk on an undulating path half-way up the cliffs passing former small quarries. (*Option 1: if you prefer, turn Right on the lane and descend as it bears around a bend to the Left, and continue ahead past a stable and houses; or Option 2, take the second footpath leaving the lane on your Right and rise to the top of the Eaves escarpment as far as the trig point and then descend with care towards the White House.*)

Continue ahead on whichever path you choose until you arrive close to the White House. Cross the Hawksworth Road with care and take the broad and clear path which heads across the bottom of the Golf Course towards Sconce.



View from above the White House



Start of the path across towards Sconce.

After crossing some duck boards, and where the main track bends to the Left, continue ahead, crossing a small stream to pass through a squeeze stile and metal gate into the grounds of Sconce Scout Camp. Pass through another squeeze stile and turn Left to walk up Sconce Lane. Continue as it bends to pass stables and Grange Barn to arrive at a T-junction of tracks at Faweather Grange.



Entry to Sconce Scout Camp



Faweather Grange

Turn Left passed Faweather Cottages, and continue on a good track / lane, eventually passing more cottages at Birch Close. Passing through a metal gate, go head across the horse gallops and turn Left to walk parallel and just above the gallops. At a cross junction of the horse gallops, walk on the gallop and turn Left heading for a clearly visible wooden gate. Continue through the gate and take the gently rising path ahead with a fence on your Left. At the corner follow the track is it turns to the Left, continuing to follow a wall. As the track bears Left there is a large flat stone, at the end of a Golf Club fairway, suitable for taking a coffee break. You are now going to head towards some historic wooden holiday cottages which are clearly visible along the fairway. When the Golf Club is in operation, take the rough path initially descending a little towards a conifer plantation, before veering Right to approach the cottages. If the Golf Club is not operational, then walking along the edge of the fairway is much more pleasant.

After passing the second cottage, take the excellent broad track rising to the Right. Continue on this track (*splendid views*) to eventually emerge past a metal barrier opposite the former reservoirs by Bingley Road. Turn Left on a footpath and continue parallel to Bingley Road until you see a pubic footpath sign on a post on the other side of the road, beyond the wall of the former reservoir. Cross with care and take the signed footpath across rough ground, heading towards Baildon. At the Golf fairway, bear Left to pick up a stony track which will lead you back towards the centre of Baildon. Continue ahead, leaving the Moor and Golf Course, through a small gate, passing The Waterworks (Golf Club). On reaching the road, turn Right and continue into the centre of Baildon.

Baildon Walkers are Welcome. May 2020. Chris and Mervyn Flecknoe