



BAILDON
Walkers *are* Welcome



LOCKDOWN WALK ROUTE NUMBER 3: May 2020.

OVER THE GALLOPS TO ELDWICK AND BACK

A circular, quite energetic walk, of 6 miles (10 kms), with ascent of 755 feet or 234 metres. 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. The walk does require you to cross several stiles! Remember to take care and stay at least two metres apart. Please close all farm gates.

ROUTE DESCRIPTION.

Walk up Northgate (in the direction of the finger posts to THE MOOR and Toilets). Continue ahead, across junctions, until you see open land on your Left and you come to the end of the urban area. Just before the cattle grid, leave the road, taking the diagonal track to the Left, passing round the front of the Golf Club (Old Waterworks) building and through a gate onto the moorland at the edge of the Golf Course. Take the track bearing Left and continue ascending, on this straight track to reach the trig point on the top of Baildon Moor. Having admired the 360 degree view, continue ahead in the same direction as you descend towards the right hand corner of Dobrudden Farm Caravan Park (*photo 1*). At the corner, by a wooden seat, turn Right, taking a clear grassy, and initially level, path. At a path intersection bear Left. You are aiming to get to the road junction at the top of Shipley Glen, where Glen Road intersects with Bingley Road. As this junction starts to come into view below take a (quite steep) descending path to the heading towards the junction, and cross Bingley Road. If you prefer a less severe descent, stay on the good path you are on, to reach Bingley Road a little higher up, and cross the road to turn Left down the grass verge to the junction.



1. *Descending towards Dobrudden*



2. *Turn Left after crossing the second gallop*

Take either the signed footpath or the parallel path heading in the same direction, leaving the road and Baildon Moor behind you. Continue ahead and pass through a gate.

Cross a horse gallop, going ahead, on a grassy path to the Left of another gallop. Very soon, cross a third gallop and turn Left by an isolated hawthorn tree (*photo 2*). Walk on the grassy path adjacent to the gallop. As the gallop bends to the Right, cross it once again and continue ahead (by another isolated hawthorn tree), passing to the Left of some holly trees, before crossing a further gallop to reach and cross a stile in a wall. Continue walking ahead towards a wall-corner by a footpath sign. Ignore the signed route, and continue ahead, parallel to a wall (*photo 3*). Continue in this direction passing over a small stile beside an 8-barred gate, into a track between a fence and wall, to reach Heights Lane by a footpath sign (*photo 4*). This is a busy road without good sight-lines.



3. Ignore signed direction, and continue ahead



4. Crossing point on Heights Lane

Cross when safe to do so, heading to the Left to another footpath sign on the opposite side of the road just in front of the large tree you can see in photo 4. Turn Right to walk through the hamlet of High Eldwick. Where the track through this little community divides, take the Right-hand track as shown in photo 5. As you approach the house facing you, turn Right on to a footpath and then immediately Left into a narrow path between houses, (*photo 6*) through a gate, and into open land.



5. Take Right-hand fork.



6. Narrow path between houses

Take descending path ahead, passing a large tree. The path steepens with a wall on your Right. As you come to woodland on your Right, look out for and cross a wooden and stone stile into a narrow path with the wall now on your Left, and the wood on your Right. At the bottom cross a bridge over a stream and turn Left on to a tarmac lane. Follow this as it bends to the Right and then to the Left. Continue to pass The Acorn Pub and arrive at a T-junction with the main road to Eldwick. Turn Right on the pavement

and cross this road when safe to do so. Just before the brow of the hill, turnh Left into Saltaire Road and continue down this pleasant lane to the bridge over Lode Pit Beck.

Take the Left-hand of three tracks rising from the other side of the bridge and continue to ascend towards Glen Road, heading for a large white sign for Crook Farm Caravan Park. Cross Glen Road and turn Right along the entry road to the Caravan Park. Just before the entrance, take a rising path to the Left, following the boundary wall of the Caravan Park. Look out for a gate with footpath sign on the Right and pass through to descend a path through trees that will bring you into the far end of the Caravan Park. Turn Right down concrete steps, past caravans, over a cross-path and descend down more steps to reach a stile in the wall and pass through onto open moorland fields. Take the level path ahead keeping the wall on your Left. After passing through a metal gate continue ahead, on a rising path heading towards a house on the horizon (Dove Hall). Pass through a gate into a rough pasture just below the house. Take the stile up on your Left and turn Right to descend the lane. At a junction, turn Right down Hope Lane and Left onto West Lane. As West Lane starts to descend, take the Right fork, down Westgate, to arrive back in the centre of Baildon.

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