



BAILDON
Walkers *are* Welcome



LOCKDOWN WALK ROUTE NUMBER 5: January 2021

ESHOLT, GUISELEY, HAWKSWORTH CIRCULAR

A circular walk of 7 miles (11.5 kms) with 900 feet (or 278 metres) of ascent. 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. Remember to take care and stay at least two metres apart. As all cafes are closed, we recommend that you take water, or perhaps a coffee flask, and something to eat.

ROUTE DESCRIPTION

Walk up Hall Cliffe towards St John 's Church. Pass the Community Garden on your Left (pop in for a visit if you have time) and continue to a junction with mini-roundabout. Cross with care towards a pillar box, and then as the road forks, bear Right on to Old Langley Lane. Continue ahead as the road ends and becomes a descending track. (*Photo 1*). Ignore side-turning and continue descending to a fork. Take the Left fork and continue as the track becomes a path with a high wall on the Right and gardens to the Left. Arriving at a road (Ladderbanks Lane), cross and pick up a path directly opposite. Follow as this path bends at right angles and crosses the railway line, to bring you out onto Hollin Head. Cross the road to a path beside a triangle of grass with a sign on the far wall saying "Oak Place". Take the descending track, and bear Left through the historic hamlet of Tong Park, passing the former chapel, now converted to a house. Continue until the track takes a sharp Right-hand bend. Look out for and take steps on your Left, descending to the pavement alongside the main A6038. Cross the busy road with care and take a signed footpath ahead across a field.

Exiting on to Esholt Lane, turn Left and walk with care along the lane, as it bends past "The Old Barn" and then crosses the Gill Beck just before it joins the River Aire. Continue on this (normally) quiet lane, beside the River, for about a mile, to arrive at the centre of Esholt, by the Woolpack Pub, of Emmerdale fame. (*Photo 2*).



1. Old Langley Lane





2. The Woolpack Pub in Esholt

Just before The Wool Pack pub, turn Left up a track (Pullan Lane) and, at the top, go Left and very soon Right onto a rising path (signed "Welcome Way"), passing through a gate into woodland. Turn Right and follow the main track through the woods, passing over two footbridges and continuing as it undulates above and parallel to a road below. (*Beautiful bluebell woods in spring / photo 3*). The track passes through a cross-wall and soon you arrive at a split in the track. Take the Right track, descending, and continue as it circuits gradually Leftwards before gently rising with Guiseley Beck now down to your Right. At a track T-junction, turn Right, downhill, and cross a footbridge before bearing Left, with the Beck now on your Left. Pass through stone gateposts and turn Left to walk under the railway bridge. Continue ahead on this rising stony track to arrive at a road with houses opposite. Turn Left and continue with the houses on your Right and fields on Left, as the road becomes a track. Continue ahead, ignoring turnings, to emerge onto Park Road in Guiseley. Cross the road and turn Right for about 50 metres, before turning Left into Back Lane, and immediately Left again into Hawksworth Avenue. Continue on this road as it bears Right. At the top of Hawksworth Avenue, continue ahead into a ginnel between two gardens and go ahead onto Park Crescent (unmade road) to arrive once again by the A6038. Cross with care, and walk directly ahead up Southway. Our route now takes us on this quiet road through Tranmere Park, where you can enjoy observing some well-maintained gardens. Continue on Southway, ignoring side roads, as it eventually bends Left and then Right, rising to reach a T-junction, with Thorpe Lane. Turn Left and continue on the footway along Thorpe Lane to at T-junction with Hawksworth Lane. Turn Right, across Thorpe Lane and walk along the footway for around 25 metres before crossing to a wide gate into the Bradford Golf Course. (*Photo 4*).

	
<p>3. <i>Bluebell woods above Esholt</i></p>	<p>4. <i>Gate from Hawksworth Lane to cross Bradford Golf Course</i></p>

Enjoy the gentle descent down this right-of-way through the Golf Course. At a track T-junction, turn Right, following the main track, passing Lunds Farm to your Left. Where several tracks converge, cross a tarmac track onto a path through a small copse of trees. (*Photo 5*)

	
<p>5. <i>Path into copse just after Lunds Farm</i></p>	<p>6. <i>View towards Baildon</i></p>

Emerging from the trees, continue to descend alongside the edge of the Golf Course, (*or divert slightly to enjoy the view towards Baildon from a handily placed seat Photo 6*) and arrive at the valley bottom by the Gill Beck. Turn Right and immediately Left to cross a bridge over the Beck and pass through a gate. Walk beside the Tong Park reservoir (*Photo 7*), before taking the second gate on your Right. Follow a steepish path up to a cross-track. Pass through two gates to take the pleasant rising track ahead, enclosed by fence, walls and trees. Continue ascending, passing houses and gardens to your Left, and arrive at the top of Langley Lane. Bear Right on to a level tarmac track and emerge on to a road, Ladderbanks Lane. Continuing ahead, arrive at the Hall Cliffe mini-roundabout and go ahead over Hall Cliffe to return to the Potted Meat Stick.



7. Tong Park Reservoir

Baildon Walkers are Welcome. Revised January 2021. Chris and Mervyn Flecknoe