

# WALK

## Wetherby

Difficulty rating:



5 hours  
9 miles

Maps: OS Explorer 289 Leeds, Harrogate & Wetherby.

Toilets: The Shambles off Market Place.

Refreshments: Wetherby. Scotts Arms at Sicklinghall.

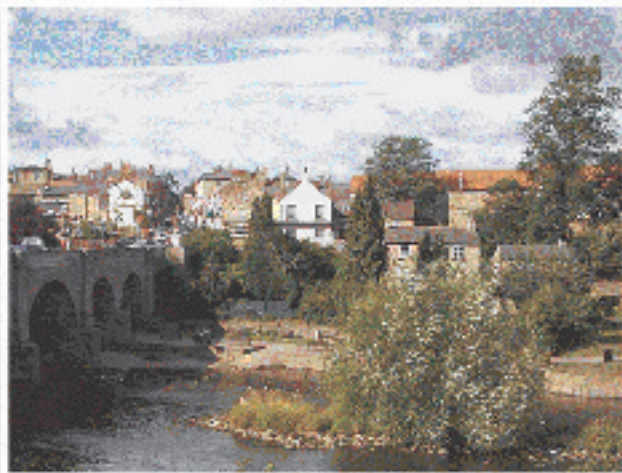
Parking: Bridge Foot, next to NE side of river bridge.

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OS Leisure: £6.49 plus £1 p&p

OS Explorer: £7.49 plus p&p



Above and left: Wetherby and the weir.

### Points of interest:

Wetherby is used to receiving visitors. Its bridge across the Wharfe dates from around 1240 and put the town on the map. For centuries, the Great North Road ran through Wetherby. But considering its closeness to one of the country's busiest main roads, it is surprisingly easy to escape to quiet countryside. Railways once ran to Wetherby from Leeds and Harrogate, and some of the trackbed is preserved for walkers and cyclists.

**6.** Cross the busy **A661** Wetherby-to-Harrogate road. Follow a **FP sign** and track to **Stockeld Grange**. Turn right at the first gateway and through a farmyard. At a gate on the left of a corrugated metal **barn**, turn half-left over a field on a narrow path. Go down to a gate and a green lane to reach a former **railway line**. Turn right along the track for about 1½ miles.

**7.** At a green barrier near bridleway signs, houses come into view as you reach **Wetherby**. Continue to a grass area where the track divides. Go on a few yards and leave the railway, turning slightly right up a path into a field and along

the right-hand edge. Join a surfaced path going right, by playing fields and a metal fence. Keep in this direction over a **bridge** and continue into Wetherby. Go on **Caxton Street**, then left on **Westgate** and into the **Market Place**.

**5.** Keep on into a wooded area, by the **nursery**, and up an unmade track through trees to a metal gate with a side gate, where you enter **Stockeld Park**. Leave the track and turn slightly left across the grass. Aim towards a vehicle track which can be seen through the trees about 300 yards ahead. There is no defined path over the grass to it. Keep mostly to the left of the trees. Near a copper beech tree, join the track. **Home Farm** is seen on the left. Leave the track before the gatehouse at a small gate in a fence on the left, and enter woodland. Go forward to a gate and **BW sign**.

**4.** Turn right up the lane and go left at the first hedge. Follow a **BW sign** across the top of the field, and into a **wood**. After ½ a mile, turn right at a **BW** arrow where the track turns, and the footpath continues ahead. The field track you take reaches **Sicklinghall**. Go right on the main street, and the **Scotts Arms** is soon reached. Continue through the village; after the **pond** and seats, turn left on to **Stockeld Lane**.

**3.** Go left on the road for ½ a mile. When you reach the private road to the hotel, turn off right on the bridleway and into the **wood** by the fence. Reach a field and turn right, then left, and cross it to a fence. Go left to a **wood** and follow the path to the right, alongside the wood. Enter a **wood** and emerge on an enclosed path going up beside a field. Follow round and come to a T junction of paths near **Sicklinghall House**.

**1.** From the **Market Place**, cross the road bridge south, over the **river** and turn first right, an area known as **The Ings**. At the **Leisure Centre car park**, go right to a gate to the riverside path. Follow this to the green **footbridge**. Cross and go left on the riverside path. Follow it round, between hedge and trees, up to the next corner. There is a stone stile on the left. Go over a field to the golf course. A public footpath **sign** (**Ebor Way**) and other signs warn walkers to beware of golf balls. Cross the large fairway area on a mown path to a **PF sign** pointing right. Go under the **railway arch** and half-left over a fairway to steps up to the road.

**2.** Cross over and turn left; there is a pavement and verge most of the time. The road descends towards **Linton**. Re-cross it to pass the **Memorial Hall** and turn first left after it. This byway is followed round and through gates. Continue on the lane ahead and reach the road at **Linton Bridge**. Cross to **Linton Common**. Walk to the end of the houses and a **PF sign** points up steps to a narrow enclosed path. At the top, reach **Trip Lane**.



Compiled by Peter Young; graphic by Nicky Taylor

Please note that our weekend walk maps are merely a guide: walkers should use the appropriate OS map for the area, and take care that they follow rights of way. We cannot take any responsibility for trespass on private land. Always follow the Country Code. Close gates, keep dogs on leads near livestock, don't litter