



Hebden and Linton Falls

A moderately strenuous circular route from Hebden, taking in the ancient villages of Thorpe and Linton, fantastic waterfalls and then returning with a riverside walk through Wharfedale

Essential Facts

- Route distance: 12.7 km (7.9 miles)
- Approximate time: 4 hours
- Approx. total ascent: 302 metres
- Start point Grid Ref: SE 026 631
- GPS Ref: SE 02611 63109
- Recommended O.S. Map: Explorer OL 2
- Toughness Rating: Dales 2

Please see the notes on Toughness Ratings at the end of this report

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Full Info from the Great Walks web site

THE ROUTE

The walk starts at Mill Lane, **S**, near the Post Office in Hebden. Head along Mill Lane, away from the main road, past the Old School Room, and immediately go through a gate left onto a footpath signposted 'F/P Hebden Suspension Bridge'. The path goes downhill, ignoring the footbridge to the left, and over the stile ahead. Cross the second footbridge over Hebden Beck, below a weir, with a fish farm to your left. The path leads to a fingerpost again pointing you to the Suspension Bridge. After a small group of houses, turn right briefly along the road, cross the bridge, and take the footpath left through the gate, **A**, where a signpost shows 'B/W Thorpe Lane ½mi', amongst other destinations. This leads to Hebden Suspension Bridge, built in 1895 by the local blacksmith, William Bell, which takes you across the River Wharfe. Your path goes left for 25 metres, and then you take the path to the right, up the hill through the new planting of trees (again signposted for Thorpe Lane).

By the gate at the top of this slope is a plaque giving some local information. The path is clear ahead, across the next few fields to the B6160 and Thorpe Lane. The views ahead are of Elbolton and Kail Hills, with Thorpe Fell as backdrop. Elbolton and Kail are both reef knolls, part of the series known as the 'Cracoe Reef Knolls'.

At the road, cross into Thorpe Lane and walk up to the little village of Thorpe, once famous for its cobblers. At the triangular village green, **B**, stay left, admiring the old buildings, most of which are in good repair.

Follow the route almost to where the tarmac finishes, and go right, in front of an outbuilding. You will immediately notice a signpost left, which again points to 'Thorpe Lane'. The path is a green lane, which takes you to a gate leading onto the shoulder of Elbolton (Access Land), where your route is left, by the wall.

After a short distance the path forks three ways. You can take either the middle or the right, for they come together in due course, to cross the stile at **C**. The path follows a fence to the left, and then crosses several fields and a clear line of stiles, with fine panoramic views of Upper Wharfedale to the right, to reach Thorpe Lane at Far Langerton, at **D**.

Here you turn right along the lane for about 600 metres, passing Cockerham Farm on the left, then taking the track left at **E**, signposted 'FP to Linton & Threapland'. As you approach Ings House, you will see a small barn on the right and then low against the wall ahead is a signpost 'FP to Linton', which takes you over a stile behind the barn. Again the path across several fields is clearly marked by a line of stiles and gates. Passing Brows Plantation, on the hillside to the right, you will see a wall ahead with a choice of three gates and stiles.

You are now coming to Linton village, and you will return by the same route to continue the walk. Taking the left hand option, through the gate 'FP Linton', follow this signposted footpath diversion to the right of the buildings ahead. At the road, turn right into the village, with its delightful green. The middle of its three bridges, for packhorses, is **F**. Linton is ideal for a break. Suitably refreshed, return to the gate where the diverted footpath started, pass back through it, and then proceed to the second stile on the left, **G**, signposted 'FP B6160'.

The route now heads across the fields, at first mostly towards the wall on the left, past the abandoned school huts. Follow the line of stiles by Crook Lathe, over the next ladder stile, and go straight ahead to find the stile in the wall, hidden, to your right. Go left, and left again down to the gate onto the road B6160, **H**, which you should cross slightly right to a signpost 'FP Linton Falls & Linton Church'.



Above Linton Falls



Hebden Suspension Bridge



The Path by Linton Church

The path now goes half left across two fields and stiles, and onto a large pasture, where you should aim for the corner of a stand of trees, **I**. Walk downhill, with Linton church in full view ahead. Climb over a ladder stile and follow the path, above the immediate riverbank, to a wicket gate into the churchyard.

The tree-lined path now runs along one of the most delightful stretches of the Wharfe, and soon Hebden Suspension Bridge comes into view.

Just before the bridge the path forks to the left and brings you again to the gate, **A**, where you now turn left, uphill. After about 400 metres take a track to your left, heading for Hebden church, whose tower is clearly visible. Walk a little further up the lane (Back Lane), turn right along Chapel Lane and return to your parking place, **S**

Refreshment

The Fountaine Inn
Public House
Linton-in-Craven
Tel: 01756 752210
Meals and snacks

Old Hall Inn
Public House
Threshfield
Tel: 01756 752441
Ales and food

Clarendon Hotel
Public House
Hebden
Tel: 01756 752446
Meals and snacks



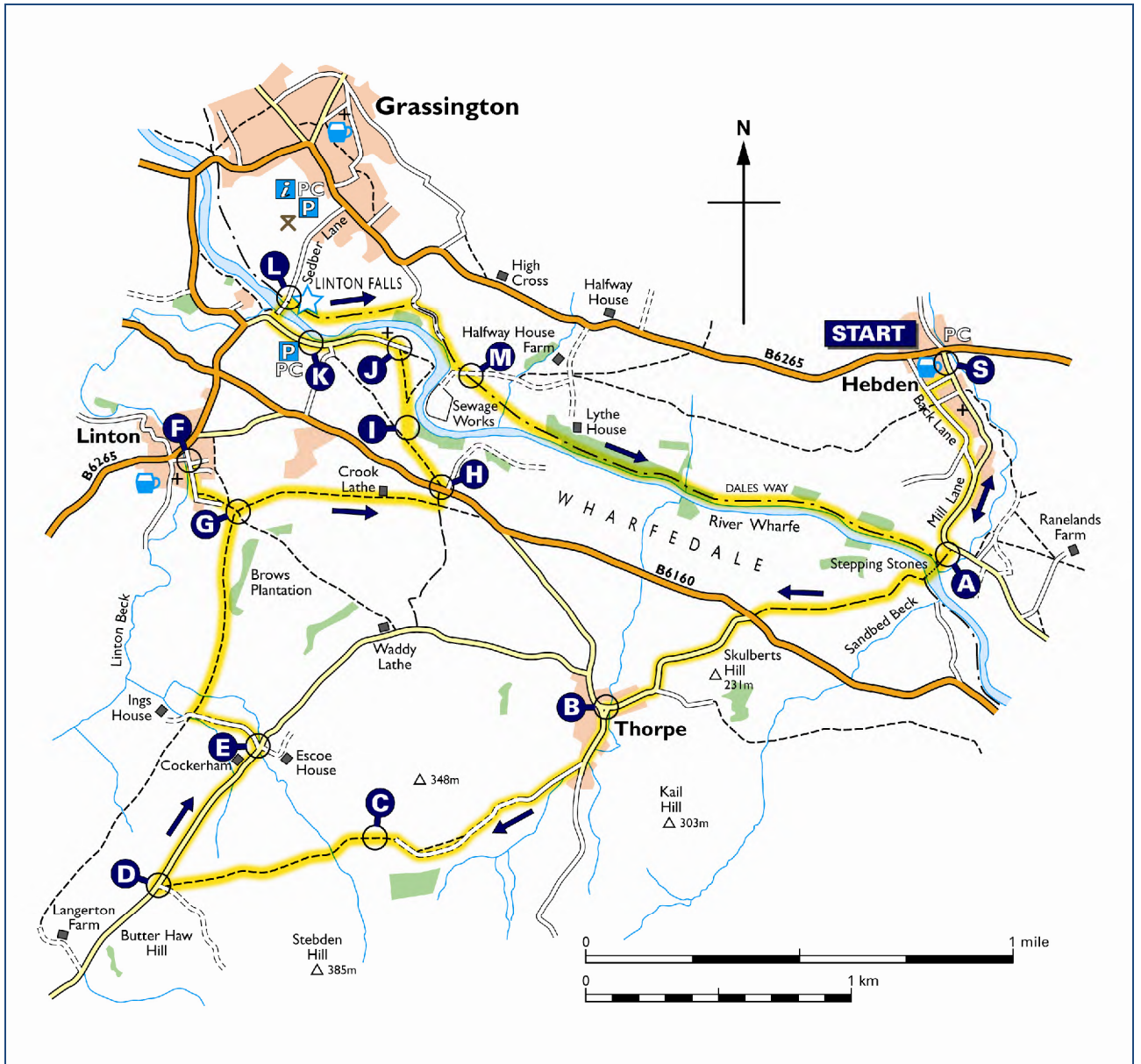
**The Clarendon Hotel
Hebden**

LOCAL INFO

Linton is one of the prettiest villages in the Dales. It has a green, with a ford and three bridges: an ancient clapper bridge, the packhorse bridge, **F**, and the most recent which carries the modern road. There are several seventeenth-century buildings, but Fountaine's Hospital dominates the scene. This is an almshouse dating from 1721, built by the will of Richard Fountaine, a native of Linton who made his fortune in London, burying the dead from the Plague and rebuilding after the Great Fire, who returned as a benefactor of his birthplace. Local elderly people still occupy the Hospital.

HEBDEN AND LINTON FALLS G.P.S. WAYPOINTS

WAYPOINT NAME	MAP REF		CO-ORDINATES		ELEVATION: Metres
HTL S	S	SE	02611	63109	190
HTL A	A	SE	02631	62421	155
HTL B	B	SE	01329	61811	225
HTL C	C	SE	00449	61329	270
HTL D	D	SD	99636	61151	260
HTL E	E	SE	00011	61681	225
HTL F	F	SD	99734	62745	180
HTL G	G	SD	99944	62564	195
HTL H	H	SE	00711	62649	180
HTL I	I	SE	00596	62849	170
HTL J	J	SE	00504	63231	155
HTL K	K	SE	00194	63194	160
					165
HTL L	L	SE	00136	63356	
HTL K	M	SE	00764	63094	155
HTL ZZ	ZZ	SE	00250	63700	190



MAP LEGEND					
	Great Walks route		Church with tower		Spot height - metres
	M6 Motorway		Church with spire		Information centre
	A23 Main road		Other place of worship		Parking
	B2116 Secondary road		Cathedral / Abbey		Public convenience
	Minor road		Building		Public house
	Other road or track		Built up area		Picnic site
	Footpath		Woodland		Camp site
	Bridleway		Sand		Major tourist feature
	National trail		Water feature		Other tourist feature
	Railway				

Safety First

Safety should always be your first priority in planning and undertaking a walk, whether on your own or leading a group. Please read these Safety First and Walking Our Routes notes.

Lead a group of other walkers only if you have leadership and navigational experience adequate for the 'worst case' conditions which may be encountered on the particular walk, bearing in mind the terrain, possible weather and navigational demands.

Weigh up the capabilities of your party, in terms of fitness and walking speed. Adjust your time expectations accordingly.

Ensure all your party are adequately clothed for the weather and conditions. Footwear is particularly important. Clothing must protect against cold, wet or strong sun according to the time of year.

Emergencies are quite rare, but it is essential to think ahead about what to do if someone in your party sustains an injury. Will you have a First Aid kit? Is there a qualified First Aider in the party? How could help be summoned in a serious eventuality?

Refreshment, particularly water, can be vital. Dehydration in hot summer conditions can be rapid, and frequent intake of fluids is essential.

On tougher walks it is a good idea to tell someone where you are planning to go – and when you expect to be back. Remember - mobile phones often lose reception in mountainous or isolated areas.

All our walks use legitimate routes: Public Rights of Way, Public Footpaths, Bridleways, Permissive Paths, Access Land, Byways and Roads.

Road walking calls for particular care. When there is no defined footpath or verge wide enough for safe walking it is usually best to walk on the right – facing oncoming traffic. An exception may be a tight bend, where walkers would be more visible on the left.

Occasionally you may find a public footpath blocked or unuseable. It is perfectly in order to take the shortest available diversion without damaging crops, perhaps around a field margin.

It is courteous to close gates after passing through, sometimes even if the gate was open when you arrived – particularly if it is obvious livestock may escape.

Mutual respect for farm animals is to be encouraged! Don't frighten or annoy them, but equally don't put your party members in danger or discomfort. You certainly wouldn't be the first walkers to go round the outside of a field of frisky bullocks.

Dogs should always be kept on a lead anywhere near farm animals, and under close supervision elsewhere in the countryside.

Walking Our Routes

Our walks are designed to be negotiated using the route directions in conjunction with the map section provided. We suggest walkers also take the Ordnance Survey Explorer or Outdoor Leisure map recommended for each walk.

On mountain, moorland and open heathland walks it is **ESSENTIAL** to have navigational expertise and tools, including the recommended Ordnance Survey map(s).

Take care to observe any cautions in the route description; exposed paths, areas liable to flooding etc.

Consider conditions before setting off. Will heavy rain have made a water meadow impassable? Will frost or snow make a path slippery?

When navigating the route look for clues to confirm you are in the right place. Are map features where you would expect on the ground? Are features mentioned in the text where expected? If you suspect you may have taken a wrong turn, take action sooner rather than later. It is better to re-trace to a known point rather than carry on regardless with the possibility of becoming increasingly confused.

All our routes are carefully checked before publication, but features can change on the ground – sometimes surprisingly quickly. Footpaths may be re-routed, buildings can appear or change significantly and these days pub names seem to change frequently.

The approximate time given for each walk is based on an average walking speed of 2.5 miles per hour (4 km/hour), plus an allowance for ascent, descent and any difficult terrain.

Total ascent is the approximate total ascent over the whole walk.

GPS users can enter in the waypoints provided in each of our walk reports. It is important to read our guide **Introducing GPS for Walkers**, available as a PDF file from the Great Walks in Britain web site.

Remember that GPS is a great navigational tool, but only one of those available to the navigator. Never dispense with conventional map and compass – and the training and skills to use them, especially on mountain, moorland or open heathland walks.

TOUGHNESS RATINGS

Most of our **Yorkshire Dales** routes can be undertaken by reasonably fit walkers able to utilise the map segments and our recommended Ordnance Survey maps, together with the route guidance notes.

The toughest walks should be undertaken or led only by experienced mountain walkers with navigational expertise. Always consider recent and forecast weather.

Each walk has been allocated a **Toughness Rating**:

1. Easier walks with modest ascent and generally on well defined paths. There may be stiles or narrow gateways to negotiate.
2. Routes which are more demanding. They may include more ascent and possibly paths which are looser or more difficult underfoot.
3. More strenuous walks. There may be prolonged steep ascents, and perhaps several ascents over the whole walk. Conditions may be challenging underfoot.
4. The toughest walks, requiring considerable fitness and navigational experience. There may be prolonged steep ascents. The ability to navigate by compass may be essential.

Toughness Ratings are allocated in the context of the terrain in the edition area. For example a walk rated as demanding in Cambridgeshire may be equivalent to an easier or moderate route in the Yorkshire Dales..