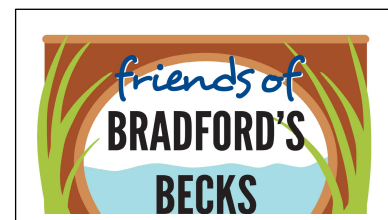


HEWENDEN VISTAS



This is a delightful walk taking in panoramic views, woodland walks, the impressive Hewenden Viaduct and spectacular Goit Stock Waterfall. The walk starts in Cullingworth, reaches the edges of Wilsden and Harden, and is almost entirely on countryside paths.

LENGTH: 7.7km (4.8m).

TERRAIN: Moderate with two short, steep ascents. Overall ascent 193m. OS map OL21

START: Cullingworth Primary School, New School Lane, BD13 5DA. w3w ///thirsty.woods.dispensed

PARKING: Plenty of roadside parking, best to avoid the start and end of the school day.

BUS: 67, 502 to South Road. K4 alight at the War Memorial and turn left along Halifax Road.

1. Take the entrance to the Great Northern Railway Trail opposite the school and head towards Hewenden Viaduct. After 1km cross the viaduct with Hewenden Reservoir on your right, pass through a gate and then follow the path up to a further gate. Go through the gate and turn left, passing the cottages for the old Wilsden Station.



The Great Northern Railway Trail is part of the old GNR route from Keighley to Queensbury. Opened in 1883, the 37m high viaduct is one of the highest in Britain and was closed 80 years later.

First flooded in 1845, Hewenden Reservoir is fed by Denholme Beck (via Doe Park Reservoir) and Milking Hole Beck. The reservoir is recorded as one of the wettest places ever in Britain when, in June 1956 around 6 inches of rain fell in 1 hour 45 minutes.

Walk along Station Road for 200m. Shortly after passing a tree you will reach a stile on your left. Climb down through the stile to cross a field diagonally right, heading for a stone gatepost. Passing through a wide gap in the wall, continue downhill to the far right corner of the field. Turn right to cross Sough Dike and pass through a metal gate. Take the path up to find a stone stile hidden in bushes at the top left corner. Pass through the stile and head half-left across the field to a stile in the far top left corner. Pass through and continue keeping the wall on your right. Pass through a stile and cross a drive and go through a garden, keeping the house on your left, to reach a gate leading on to Haworth Road. Go through the gate, taking great care as there is no pavement. Turn right up Haworth Road for 80m and then cross over to enter Bents Lane.

2. After 10m turn right to take the path to the left of the last house. This leads you up to the top of a rocky outcrop. Looking back here you get excellent views of Hewenden Viaduct and the reservoir behind. At the top turn left and continue on to turn right over a stile. Follow an enclosed path to reach a further stile. Continue along the enclosed path to turn right to reach a gate. Go through the gate and turn left along the farm track. Follow the lane, taking the left fork, until you reach a farm gate at the end. Ignore the path to your right and continue straight on



through a stile to the left of a farm gate, into a field. Keeping the wall on your left walk 135m, until you reach a path crossing the field by two gates on the left. Turn right and follow this path to a stile on the far side of the field. Pass through this stile and walk straight ahead, keeping a line of trees on your right, until you pass through another stile. Continue straight on to another stile leading to a small track. Turn left along the track for 40m to reach Dye House Lane.



3. Turn left on Dye House Lane, passing several houses to reach a farm track. Take this track for 135m, passing one stile on your right to reach a second. Climb over the stile and walk diagonally across two fields. At the end of the second field climb the stile and take the path to the right for 50m until you reach a T-junction. Turn sharp right and follow the lane down until it opens out in front of some houses. Take the stile on your left into a large field and head steeply downhill to a stile at the bottom where the wall is bisected by a wall on the

other side. Pass through the stile and keeping the wall on your right walk for 150m to meet a path joining from the right. Here the path bears left to reach a gate in the centre of the wall ahead. Cross Bents Lane and take a gate on the far side to pass into a small field. Keep ahead to pass through another gate and go straight ahead. Near the end of the field the path bears right to a gate in the corner. Here you enter Goit Stock Wood.

Goit is an old Yorkshire term for a channel, and stock probably refers to wooden casing that directed the channels to feed the local mills. Turn left, passing over a small stream to reach a pylon. Pass under the pylon and follow the small path down through the woodland. There are two forks in the path, keep right both times and then straight on as a path crosses. Keep downhill, looking for the fence around the lodge on the edge of the caravan park ahead. Follow the fence down until you reach a wide path on the corner of the caravan park. The caravan park is situated on the site of Goit Stock Mill, which was one of four mills along this stretch of water. In the 1920s this area was known as 'Happy Valley', as the mill had been turned into a popular ballroom and cafe. It was destroyed by fire in 1927.

4. Turn left along this wide path running alongside Harden Beck. After 150m you will reach the confluence of Cow House Beck and Hallas Beck which form Harden Beck. Continue along the path, now following Hallas Beck. After 450m you arrive at Goit Stock Waterfall. This 6m high waterfall is a hidden gem of the West Yorkshire countryside. The waterfall can vary from a group of cascades in dry weather to a powerful force after heavy rain. Take the metal steps to the left of the falls and continue on for another 350m, passing another smaller waterfall.



At the end, climb the stone steps and turn right over a footbridge, passing Hewenden Mill (which may be hidden by foliage) on your left. This 18th century mill has now been converted to flats. Follow the wide track steeply up until you reach some houses. Immediately after the first drive on the right take the stile on your left, and go straight on, keeping the wall on your left. When you get to the corner bear right, still keeping the wall on your left, until you reach a stile in the corner. Cross the stile, keep left to a second stile and left again to come out onto a driveway. Turn right and follow the drive to Cullingworth Road. Cross the road, turn right for 50m and then go left into Doll Lane. After 90m turn right on to the Great Northern Railway Trail and return to the start of the walk.

