



12 WENT - AIRE WALK

WALK DETAILS

5 m/8 km

Shorter version 4 m/6.4 km

GRADE: Easy

Field and riverside paths with a rutted track. Can be muddy after rain. 3 stiles.

SUMMARY

An interesting circular walk through the countryside to the south of Pollington taking in the River Went and the Aire and Calder Canal.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Weekly service.

PARKING

Free parking at start at Pollington Village Hall, Main Street Pollington, DN14 0DW
Map Reference SE617196

MAPS

OS Explorer 279
OS Landranger 111

REFRESHMENTS

Public house in Pollington.

NO PUBLIC TOILETS

FEATURES OF INTEREST POINT 4-6

You can clearly see the workings of the canal locks as you cross over the lock gate. If you are lucky you may see a boat negotiating the locks.

POINT 6

The HERITAGE BOARD will tell you much more about the canal itself and the lock.



POINT 7

Take a look at Swing Bridge no.3, a manually operated bridge allowing the farmer access to his fields.

POINT 9

In the 1900s the River Went, which flows into the River Don in East Cowick, was heavily polluted by the mining industry, choking vegetation and destroying the fish population. The river was without fish until the 1970s when water quality began to recover and otters have now been seen in the river down stream in Cowick.

Look ahead, before you turn right at the river to see Topham Ferry Bridge, a single arched bridge built in the early 19th



century to replace the ferry, a man with a rowing boat.

The remains of a 19th century windmill, now part of a house, can be seen across the river in the hamlet of Topham.

POINT 13-14

As you walk back towards Pollington you will see the rear of the school and Pollington Church. Along with Cowick and Hensall Churches, St John's Pollington cum Balne, designed by William Butterfield, was built by the 7th Viscount Downe of Cowick Hall. All three churches had their foundation stones laid on the same day, the 4th July 1853. William Butterfield also designed other churches on Viscount Downe's North Yorkshire Estates, including Baldersley, Sessay and Wykeham.

NATURE

On this walk there is the possibility of seeing a number of water birds including Mallard, Heron, Cormorant, Swans and Water Hens and animals such as Deer and Hare. You may also hear and see Skylarks in the skies above you.

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Walk 12: Went-Aire Walk

- 1** Leave Village Hall Car Park, turn left on Main Street.
- 2** After Bedford Cottage, turn right, public footpath Sykehouse.
- 3** Through farm gate (please close behind you) turn right, track to canal bank.
- 4** Turn right alongside canal.
- 5** Turn left over by-wash and over lock gate.
- 6** Turn right for HERITAGE BOARD and then walk along canal side with canal on your left.
- 7** Straight on canal bank as far as fixed bridge, or for shorter route turn right opposite Number 3 Swing bridge and follow footpath arrows.
- 8** Under Crow Croft Bridge, sharp right to road and turn left Crown Croft Lane for about 2 miles. (Trans Pennine Trail).
- 9** Just before the bridge over River Went, turn right, gate, public footpath.
- 10** Stile, then walk on flood bank and follow way markers.
- 11** Turn right and walk up the edge of the field and then turn right across the field, following way markers.
- 12** Turn left and follow track to road.
- 13** Turn right and follow the road, over canal bridge.
- 14** Turn right on Main Street back to car park.

Shorter Route

- Follow footpath arrows and then follow path at right hand side of field. Gate, stile, bridge. Straight across next field. On reaching main path turn right. Follow Trans Pennine Trail to number 9.

HB HERITAGE BOARDS

