

The Highwayman, Nether Burrow and Tunstall Trail, Lancashire



Moderate Terrain

5 miles
Circular
2.5 hours

100918



Access Notes



1. The walk is relatively easy-going, with only gentle gradients. The initial stretch follows the edge of the main road without a pavement; this is within a speed restriction zone but caution is needed so take good care of traffic for this section.
2. The remainder of the route follows a mixture of field paths, grass tracks, stone tracks and quiet lanes.
3. Some parts of the route are prone to mud after prolonged spells of wet weather especially near Cowclose Plantation and on the footpath beyond Longriggs Barn.
4. The walk crosses several grass pastures which you will be sharing with both sheep and cattle.
5. You will need to negotiate several gates, footbridges, kissing gates plus one stile.

The Highwayman retains much of its original charm with flagged stone floors and open fires, an ideal place for post-walk refreshments.

A 5 mile circular pub walk from The Highwayman in Nether Burrow, near Kirkby Lonsdale in Lancashire. The route is a remarkably scenic walk through the surrounding countryside, with outstanding views of Ingleborough, one of the Three Peaks of Yorkshire.

Getting there

The Highwayman is located in the small hamlet of Nether Burrow, on the A683 road between Lancaster and Kirkby Lonsdale. If you are coming by car, the pub has its own car park and if you are coming by bus, the hamlet is served by a limited bus service.

Approximate post code **LA6 2RJ**.

Walk Sections



Start to Tunstall Church



Leave the pub car park via the vehicle entrance and, taking particular care of traffic, turn left onto the A683 Lancaster Road. Usually we would recommend walkers to cross the road in order to face on-coming traffic, but in this case it would be safer to keep well in to the left rather than cross the road twice. Just before the national speed limit signs, go through a metal gate on the left to join a public bridleway.

Bear slightly left across a large level field to pass through a wooden gate at the far side. Keep ahead across a second field, reaching another wooden gate at the far field corner. From this point the bridleway goes left, but our route continues straight ahead towards Tunstall Church.

Get the iFootpath App for a smarter walking experience. Hundreds of walking guides in the palm of your hand with live maps that show your progress as you walk. Say goodbye to wrong turns!

get iFOOTPATH



iFootpath.com

After a gap between fields, go through a third wooden gate and across a field to reach the rear of the church. (If this final field path is impassable due to crops or ploughing, you may need to make your way around the right-hand field edge instead).

1 → 2 Tunstall Church to Stone Footbridge



Enter the church grounds. The church of St John the Baptist is often open to the public and has a number of interesting monuments and features, including a 16th century Venetian painting. There is a Bronte connection too. Charlotte and her sisters Elizabeth, Maria and Emily attended services here while they were pupils at the School for Clergymen's Daughters, Cowan Bridge.

Continue past the church and follow the front path to emerge onto Church Lane. Turn left along the lane and, in just under 100 metres (at a point almost opposite the drive leading to Churchfield House) turn right onto a track (just before Cants Field Cottage). This track leads you to fields and you are once again back on a public bridleway. Go through a metal gate and then bear slightly left across a large level field to reach a corner and stone footbridge.

2 → 3 Stone Footbridge to Cowclose Plantation



Cross the bridge and bear left to reach a metal gate in the far left corner. Go through the gate and turn right to follow the hedge (on your right) for about 250 metres. After the hedge bends right, cross to a wooden gate and pass through this to join an enclosed path leading to Cantsfield. You will emerge out to reach a lane.

When you arrive on the lane, turn left. Follow the lane to a junction before Abbotson Farm. Bear left, pass the farm's outbuildings and keep ahead on a track that crosses a bridge into Cowclose Plantation.

3 → 4 Cowclose Plantation to Longriggs Barn



Stay on this track leading you through the plantation and leaving the wood to enter rolling pastureland. After a metal gate, with a hedge to the left, follow the track as it bends left to climb a rise and then crosses the narrow part of the field to reach two gates. Go through the wooden gate on the right.

The track is less obvious now and at times seems to almost give up being a track, but it will lead you to a stone barn (marked Wigginber on the Ordnance Survey map). Pass to the right of this stone structure and keep ahead as the track crosses the field to a corner and then swings left, passes through a gateway and climbs a rise to reach a second barn, Longriggs Barn.

4 → 5 Longriggs Barn to Churchfield House



From this point there is a superb view of Ingleborough, one of the Three Peaks of Yorkshire. As you arrive at Longriggs Barn, turn left to pass in front of it. No longer on a track, keep the fence-line to your right as you undulate over three pastures.

After the third wooden gate, join an enclosed track that leads back towards Church Lane in Tunstall. After passing a property on the right, the path crosses a footbridge and goes right, following the field edge, to arrive on Church Lane via a metal gate. Turn left and, in a little over 200 metres, turn right onto the drive leading up to Churchfield House.

5 → 6 Churchfield House to End

Keep ahead through the complex of buildings to locate a wooden kissing gate behind a drive. Go through this kissing gate and, after a slight rise, keep ahead to a metal gate. Follow the hedgerow to the left, cross a wooden stile – the only stile in the entire walk – and continue keeping to the left of Kirkgiggs Barn.



Keep ahead, now on the driveway from the barn, and pass between farm buildings to reach Woodman Lane.

Turn left along the lane. Continue for just over a quarter of a mile, now approaching the junction with the A683 Lancaster Road. At this junction you will reach The Highwayman on your left for some well-earned hospitality.

Disclaimer

This walking route was walked and checked at the time of writing. We have taken care to make sure all our walks are safe for walkers of a reasonable level of experience and fitness. However, like all outdoor activities, walking carries a degree of risk and we accept no responsibility for any loss or damage to personal effects, personal accident, injury or public liability whilst following this walk. We cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies that result from changes to the routes that occur over time. Please let us know of any changes to the routes so that we can correct the information.

Walking Safety

For your safety and comfort we recommend that you take the following with you on your walk: bottled water, snacks, a waterproof jacket, waterproof/sturdy boots, a woolly hat and fleece (in winter and cold weather), a fully-charged mobile phone, a whistle, a compass and an Ordnance Survey map of the area. Check the weather forecast before you leave, carry appropriate clothing and do not set out in fog or mist as these conditions can seriously affect your ability to navigate the route. Take particular care on cliff/mountain paths where steep drops can present a particular hazard. Some routes include sections along roads – take care to avoid any traffic at these points. Around farmland take care with children and dogs, particularly around machinery and livestock. If you are walking on the coast make sure you check the tide times before you set out.

