

HAWES MOSAIC TRAIL

Section One With Nine Mosaics in Six Miles

Visit my website for full details: <https://www.paulbeal.com/hawes-mosaic-trail>

Introduction to the Walk

I'm often asked whether the 11-mile Hawes Mosaic Trail can be split into two more manageable sections. The good news is that it can, and quite easily. This six-mile circular walk starts from the Dales Countryside Museum car park in Hawes and takes in nine of the twenty mosaics. It should take around three hours and is a fairly easy walk.

The nine mosaics are the Land Rover, Sheep in Field, Head of Roman Soldier, Shepherd and Dog, Cow, Candle, Curlew, Fish Symbol and Rainbow, and Pink Flower. Each one is set into a dry stone wall along the route.

About the Hawes Mosaic Trail

The Hawes Mosaic Trail is a circular route through Upper Wensleydale in the Yorkshire Dales. Created by the local community in 2000 to celebrate the millennium, it features a collection of mosaics depicting an element of the dale's rich culture, history, landscape, flora, and fauna.

The mosaics along the trail reflect many of the themes captured in the millennium window inside St Margaret's Church. Together, they form a visual narrative of Upper Wensleydale's heritage, linking past and present through art, nature, and faith.

The millennium window is located in the south aisle of St Margaret's Church. To mark both the Christian second millennium and the tricentenary of the granting of Hawes Market Charter, the Parochial Church Council chose to replace one of the most severely damaged windows. In its place, they commissioned a new commemorative civic window depicting themes meaningful to the dale.

Additional Information

- **Distance:** 6 miles (9 $\frac{2}{3}$ kilometres).
- **Duration:** Approximately 3 hours (excluding stops and breaks).
- **Difficulty:** Easy to moderate. Just a few fairly gentle ups and downs. The route is centred around Hawes and remains almost entirely on lower ground within the Upper Wensleydale area of the Yorkshire Dales.
- **Trail Conditions:** A mix of roadside footpaths, grassy paths and bridleways, stone countryside tracks, and some walking along minor roads.
- **Recommended Map:** OS Explorer OL30 – Yorkshire Dales Northern & Central Area.
- **Parking:** Dales Countryside Museum car park in Hawes.
 - **Google Maps Link:** <https://maps.app.goo.gl/wzQVyeiXjvhpz7CQ8>
 - **What3Words:** ///essential.quite.devoured

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Thank you for your support!

Paul Beal



Step-by-Step Directions

Begin this section of the Hawes Mosaic Trail at the Dales Countryside Museum in Hawes. The museum, part of the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority, offers a large pay-and-display car park and toilet facilities. Exit the car park and return to the main road, the A684. Turn left and walk along the footpath by the side of the road, heading towards Bainbridge. Continue walking until you reach Carr's Billington Agriculture Country Store on your right. Outside the store, you will find the **'Land Rover' mosaic (1)** set into the wall.

Carry on walking along the path beside the road, passing a handful of houses until you near the edge of town. Turn right just before Wensleydale Press and follow the public footpath signposted to Burtersett. The path is paved with stone flags and leads across a field to a minor road named Old Gayle Lane. Go through the gate, and if you glance over your right shoulder, you'll see the **'Sheep in Field' mosaic (2)** embedded in the dry stone wall.

Cross the road and continue following the public footpath signposted to Burtersett. This stone-paved path leads across several fields for about half a mile. Along the way, you'll pass old stone barns and go through multiple gates in the dry stone walls. When you reach a large metal gate where the path splits, do not go through it. Instead, take the right-hand path uphill. At the next gate, turn left and cross a field, then pass through another gate. Continue across a smaller field and walk between two houses to reach New Lane in Burtersett. Here, you'll see the **'Head of Roman Soldier' mosaic (3)** set in the dry stone wall directly in front of you.

Turn right and walk uphill along New Lane. At the next junction, turn right again and follow Shaws Lane. You'll pass Burtersett Village Institute on your right. This lane, which becomes bordered by dry stone walls on both sides, is signposted to Gayle. After just over a third of a mile, you'll pass a barn on your left and come to a gate ahead. To your left, set into the wall, is the **'Shepherd and Dog' mosaic (4)**.

Continue along the public footpath heading west for roughly half a mile. Cross several fields and gates, passing more stone barns as you go. Yellow public footpath waymarkers and wooden signposts will guide your way. Eventually, the path splits. Take the right-hand path downhill, signposted to Gayle (East), not the left-hand path to Gayle (South). Continue across several more fields, following the yellow waymarkers downhill towards the village of Gayle. As you reach the minor road called Marridales, go through the gate and look over your right shoulder to see the **'Cow' mosaic (5)** set into the wall.

Turn left and walk along Marridales, then almost immediately turn right to cross the road bridge over Gayle Beck. Just after the bridge, turn left onto a narrow, cobbled public footpath that passes in front of cottages overlooking the beck. At the end of this path, continue straight along the minor tarmac road called Gaits, walking between houses and cottages. After passing the last house on your left and Scaur View on your right, turn left and follow the public footpath up a short flight of steps. Here, beside the steps, you'll find the **'Candle' mosaic (6)**.

Go through the metal gate and follow the public footpath across the field until you reach a crossroads with a wooden signpost. Ignore the two paths signposted to the Pennine Way and take the left-hand path towards Aysgill Force. Soon, the path splits again — take the left-hand route and descend the steps towards Gayle Beck. Follow the path beside the beck for about half a mile. You'll pass through multiple fields, gates, and wall gaps, all well-marked with yellow waymarkers. As the waterfall comes into view, walk through the last gate just before it and look over your right shoulder to find the **'Curlew' mosaic (7)** set in the dry stone wall.

Continue past Aysgill Force, keeping to the path beside Gayle Beck. Pass a footbridge on your left, but do not cross it. Keep going past a second footbridge, again without crossing. Shortly afterwards, the beck bends left away from you. Continue straight on to reach a stone track with a wooden signpost. Turn right here, signposted to Faw Head, and follow the track to a large wooden gate. Go through it, turn right, and follow the grassy track gently uphill. After about a quarter of a mile, passing through several gates, you'll see the **'Fish Symbol and Rainbow' mosaic (8)** on your right.

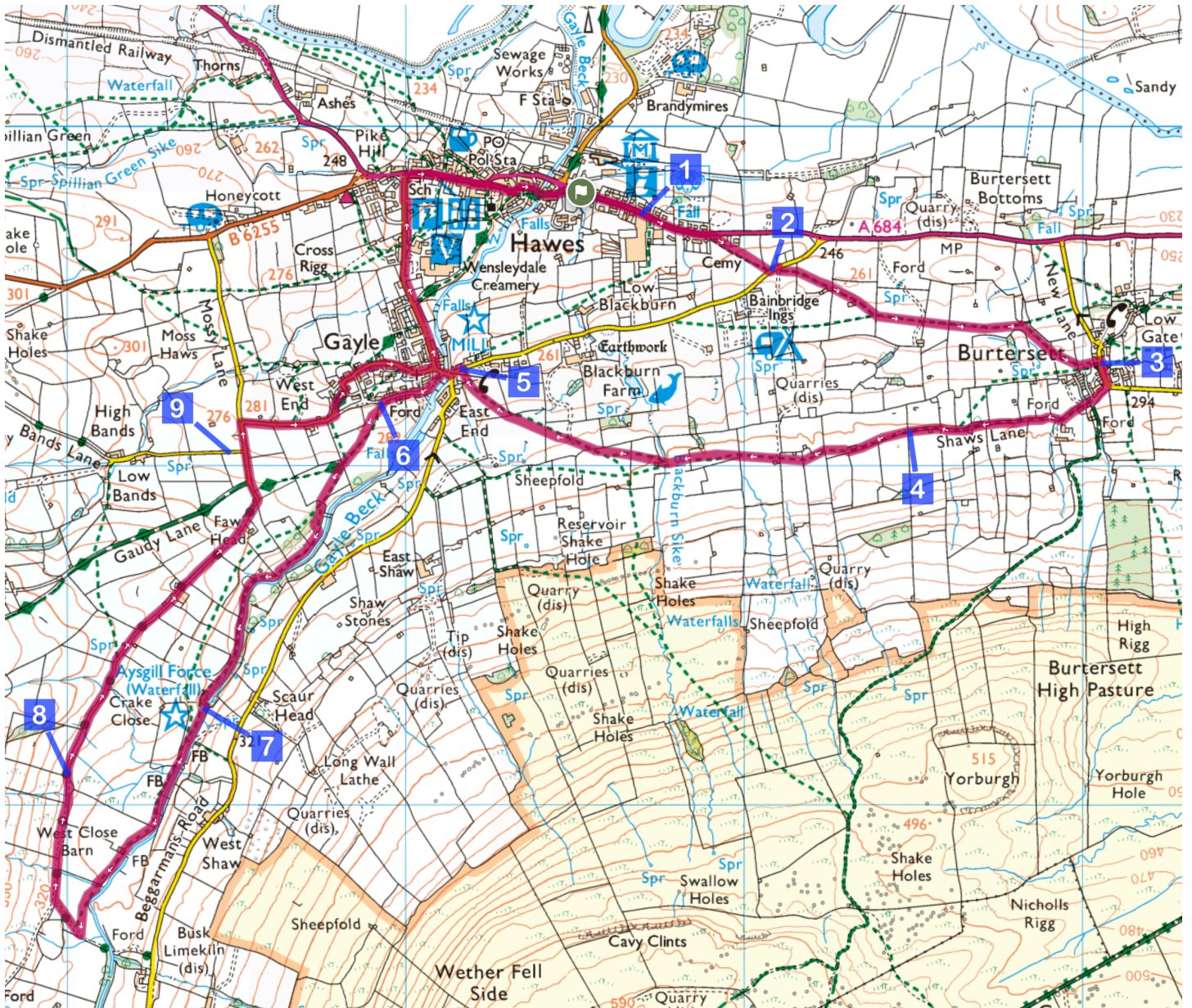
Keep following the track for just over half a mile. You'll walk through a farm, then reach a house named Faw Head. Continue straight on to Mossy Lane. Turn left here, ignoring the Pennine Way signs on both your right and left. At the next junction, turn left onto Bands Lane, signposted to High Bands. The **'Pink Flower' mosaic (9)** is set into the wall on your left. This is the last mosaic on section one of the Hawes Mosaic Trail, and the first mosaic on section two.

Turn around and head back to Mossy Lane. Turn left and continue heading north very briefly. At the next junction, turn right onto the tarmac lane known as Gaits. After just a few minutes, turn left again, following the road called Garris all the way through the village. After about a quarter of a mile, you will reach Gayle Lane. Turn left here and follow the road north towards Hawes.

Continue following this road for about a third of a mile. Along the way you will pass Wensleydale Creamery on your right-hand side. Eventually, you will reach the A684, which is the main road through Hawes. You will be on the western side of Hawes, so turn right and follow the A684 all the way through the town.

On the way, just before you cross Gayle Beck, remember to visit St Margaret's Church to have a look at the millennium window, created in the year 2000, which inspired the mosaics featured along this scenic route. Then continue following the road to eventually get back to the Dales Countryside Museum where you started your Hawes Mosaic Trail.

Map of the Walk



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