

# HEBDEN WALK

## Grassington, Grass Wood and Linton Falls Circular

Visit my website for full details: <https://www.paulbeal.com/hebden-walk>

### Introduction to the Walk

This Hebden walk is a scenic Yorkshire Dales circular route from the village of Hebden, visiting Grassington, Grass Wood, the River Wharfe and Linton Falls. The route combines meadow paths, stone tracks, ancient woodland, riverside walking and attractive Dales villages, with plenty of interest along the way, including Ghaistrill's Strid and Hebden Suspension Bridge.

### Highlights of the Walk

The walk begins with peaceful field paths from Hebden towards Grassington, passing through Grassington Park Estate Meadows before joining High Lane. This broad stone track leads down into Grassington, where cobbled streets, traditional stone buildings, independent shops, cafés and pubs give the village a lively yet timeless Yorkshire Dales character.

Beyond Grassington, the route enters Grass Wood Nature Reserve, where woodland paths pass an Iron Age settlement and the remains of Fort Gregory. The walk then follows the River Wharfe past Ghaistrill's Strid, Grassington Bridge and Linton Falls, before continuing along the Dales Way to Hebden Suspension Bridge and returning through the quiet valley of Hebden Beck.

### Additional Information

**Distance:** 8½ miles (13½ kilometres)

**Duration:** Approximately 3¾ hours (excluding stops and breaks)

**Difficulty:** The route is generally straightforward, but there are some uneven woodland paths, rocky sections, stiles and gentle climbs, especially through Grass Wood.

**Trail Conditions:** The walk uses field paths, flagged paths, stone tracks, woodland trails, riverside paths and quiet lanes. Take extra care in Grass Wood, where the network of paths can make navigation a little tricky in places. A GPS device would be a good idea.

**Recommended Map:** OS Explorer OL2 Yorkshire Dales Southern & Western Area

**Parking:** Roadside parking is usually available on Main Street in Hebden, either beside the dry stone wall opposite Green Terrace or near The Old School Tea Room.

- **Google Maps Link:** <https://maps.app.goo.gl/YHtcHcV757o9bENK6>
- **What3Words:** [///maps.mystery.cosmic](https://maps.mystery.cosmic)

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# STEP-BY-STEP DIRECTIONS

This Hebden walk begins in the village of Hebden, on the B6265. The walk starts from **Main Street (1)**, just off the main road, where there is plenty of roadside parking either alongside the dry stone wall opposite Green Terrace or near The Old School Tea Room.

From your parking spot, walk back to the B6265 and turn left towards Grassington and Skipton. Continue past the Clarendon Hotel to the end of the village. Just after the large bus and coach garage, you will see **two public footpaths on the right (2)**. Ignore the first, which is signposted to Tinkers' Lane, and take the second, signposted to Grassington via High Lane.

Follow the yellow waymarker arrows across several grassy fields, passing through gated gaps in the walls, for about half a mile until you reach a **patch of woodland (3)**. An interpretation board confirms that you have entered Grassington Park Estate Meadows. At the crossroads on the edge of the woodland, continue ahead on the footpath signposted to Grassington. After leaving the woodland, keep to the flagged stone path straight ahead, then follow further yellow waymarkers through another stretch of woodland.

Once you leave the Grassington Park Estate Meadows behind, carry straight on across more grassy fields, passing through gaps in the dry stone walls, some with stiles. The route is well marked with yellow arrows and wooden signposts. The path eventually joins a wider stone track called **High Lane (4)**, which leads downhill into Grassington.

The track brings you out onto Low Lane. Turn right here and follow the road downhill to the front of **Grassington Town Hall (5)**. Turn left onto Main Street and walk all the way down through the village, past the shops, cafés and pubs, until you reach the B6265, also known as Hebden Road.

Turn right, then immediately right again onto Wood Lane. Continue along Wood Lane, passing **Grassington Police Station (6)** on your left, and shortly afterwards turn right onto Moody Sty Lane. At the end of Moody Sty Lane, turn left onto Garrs End Lane. Pass a house named Garrs End Laithe on your left and go straight across the crossroads that follows.

Carry on as the tarmac lane becomes a stone track, with allotments on your left. This is Cove Lane, hemmed in by dry stone walls on either side. Follow the lane as it bends sharply to the left and passes **two large stone barns (7)**, then take the signposted footpath into the woodland. A sign welcomes you to Grass Wood Nature Reserve.

Walk past the large interpretation board and head straight up into Grass Wood, passing through the site of an **Iron Age settlement (8)**. Shortly afterwards, the path forks. Instead of taking the right-hand fork, which is signposted as a public footpath, bear left onto a narrower woodland path that climbs gently through the trees. As the path begins to level out, look for a set of old wooden steps on your left and follow them uphill. A wooden sign indicates that you are heading towards **Fort Gregory (9)**, a Brigantian hill fort thought to date from around AD 70.

At the fort, which now amounts to little more than a few scattered stones, the path swings round to the right and then immediately back to the left. It becomes rocky and starts to descend the hillside. After this short rocky section, turn right onto the woodland path and continue along the main path through the trees, ignoring any side paths to the left and right.

After about a third of a mile, the path forks again. The right-hand fork heads downhill, but you want the left, which sweeps around in a U-turn before continuing more steeply down. At a T-junction with a slightly wider path, turn left, then almost immediately turn right. This brings you down to a stile over the wall and out onto a road called **Grass Wood Lane (10)**. You are now roughly halfway around your Hebden walk.

Cross the road and go straight ahead through the gate directly opposite, into Lower Grass Wood. Just behind the gate, the path splits three ways. Take the middle path, which leads down to the banks of the River Wharfe. Follow the riverside path with the river on your right. Where the path splits in two, turn right and take a flight of stone steps down towards the river.

Continue along the path and out of Lower Grass Wood, then carry straight on along the riverside. The path follows the grassy banks of the river for about a quarter of a mile to **Ghaistrill's Strid (11)**, and then for a further three quarters of a mile to the **arched stone road bridge (12)** on the western edge of Grassington.

Follow the path up to the road, cross over, and take the footpath directly opposite, signposted as the Dales Way to Hebden and Burnsall. The path crosses a grassy meadow, passing Linton Falls Hydro, a small hydroelectric power station, before reaching the footbridge at **Linton Falls (13)**. Do not cross the bridge. Instead, continue straight ahead, still following the Dales Way to Hebden and Burnsall.

Cross the fields to a tarmac lane and turn right, still following the signs for Hebden and Burnsall. The lane eventually narrows into a footpath running alongside the river. At the next junction, three options are signposted: Linton Church via the stepping stones, the Dales Way to Burnsall, and the public footpath to Hebden. Take the middle route, signposted as the **Dales Way (14)** to Burnsall.

Continue along the footpath beside the River Wharfe. After about a mile and a quarter, you will reach **Hebden Suspension Bridge (15)**. Do not cross it. Turn left instead, following the signpost to Hebden. Very shortly afterwards, you will come to a narrow tarmac lane called Mill Lane. Turn right and follow Mill Lane to the bridge over Hebden Beck.

Turn left at the bridge, where a sign indicates a public footpath to Hebden and Bank Top. Walk between the two houses and follow the path up through the woodland into open meadowland, then over the footbridge across Hebden Beck near the weir. Continue up the valley, gradually climbing on the left-hand side, until you arrive back on Main Street in Hebden. The path brings you out at The Old School Tea Room and your parking area, completing the Hebden walk.

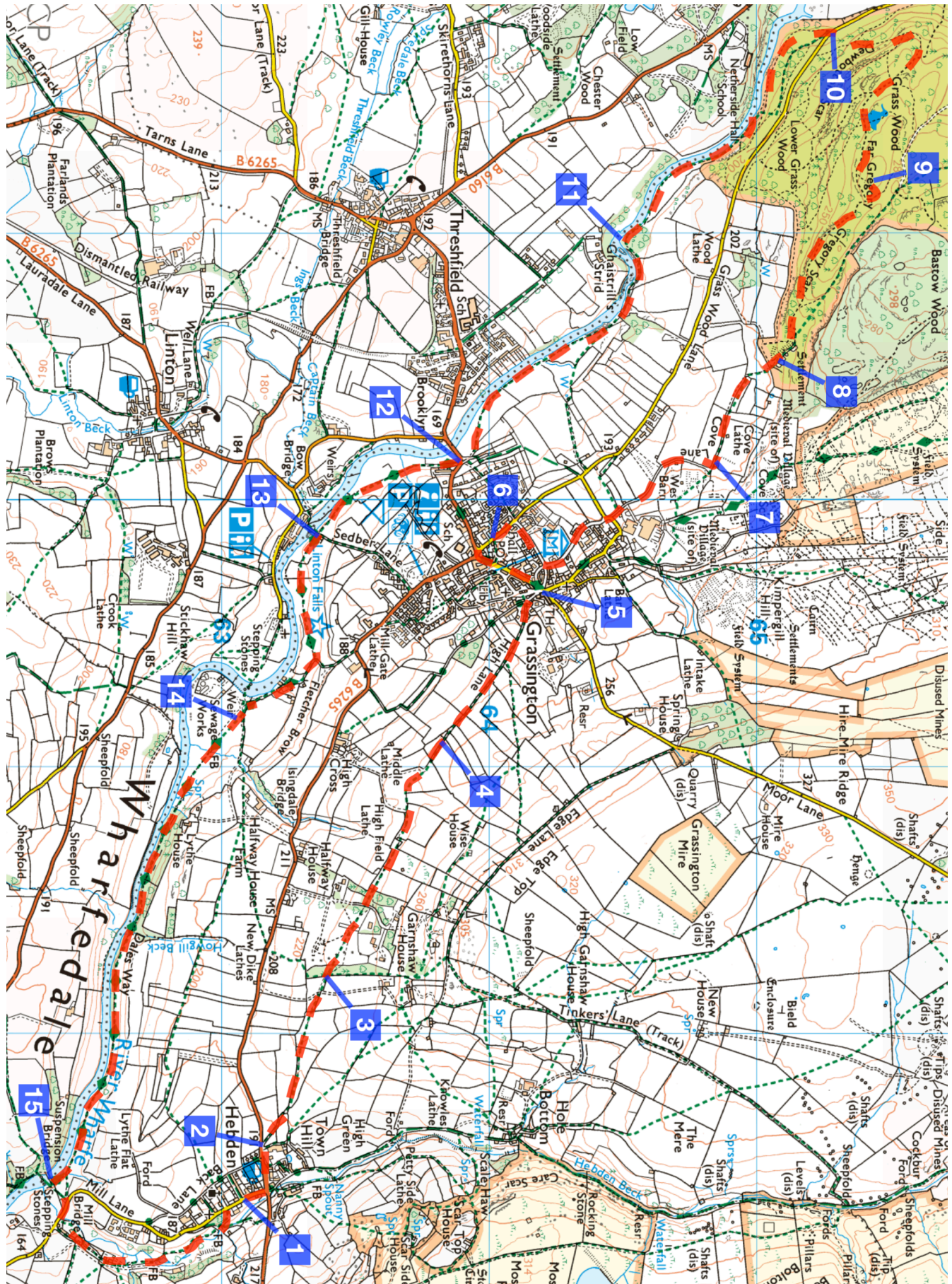
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# MAP OF THE WALK



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