

WALKERS ARE WELCOME

Lippersley
Lane, Bolton
Road, Silsden BD20

To

Ilkley Town
Centre

On a clear day you will get fine views of Airedale at the start, followed by views of Wharfedale and Beamsley Beacon in the distance across the Wharfe Valley. Once in Ilkley you will pass historical features and buildings of some note. *(These are shown in italics).* Allow time to visit the Elm Gallery as you pass.

The start of this walk should be accessed by bus as there is no suitable parking space nearby.

The bus stop required is 'Lippersley Lane, Bolton Road, Silsden'. When travelling from Ilkley (on the Keighley bus) you will need to retrace about 50 yards after alighting; if travelling from Silsden the bus stop is opposite Lippersley Lane.

1 Walk along the wide, green Lippersley Lane. (This could be slightly boggy if the weather has been wet). There are views of the Aire Valley to your right. Where the road bends to the left it is worth looking at the view on the left and behind you. Follow this Lane until reaching the road at Sea Moor Farm – approx 1 mile .

2 Cross the road and go straight ahead on Light Bank Lane until you reach a stile on the left just past the entrance to Hang Goose Farm. (There is a large caravan park set down on the right hand side).

Pass through the stile and walk slightly right to a gate, then diagonally left to a stile. Ahead to a stile in the wall facing you. Now diagonally ahead to a gap stile in a wall. Diagonally across the next field to a stile with a wire gate, and left to a ladder stile in the corner of the field to reach Moorside Lane.

3 Turn right onto Moorside Lane and continue on the road, passing the entrances to Hodsons Barn and Scargil Farm. The Lane now goes to the right of the entrance to School Wood Farm.

4 When you reach the entrance to The Elm Gallery on the left (Walkers are Welcome here) stop awhile and enjoy free tea/coffee. You can purchase further refreshments and browse the large array of pictures, cards and other gift ideas.

5 Continue on the track to Craigmore where you should bear right to a gate which carries a sign 'Left to Ilkley'. There is also a finger post pointing left to Ilkley. Continue until you reach some cottages passing through the gate and walking in front of the cottages and over the cattle grid.

6 At Hardwick House Farm you will see a gate on the right with faint writing 'Ilkley Please'. Go through the metal gate and left on a grassy track to a stile in the wall. Continue with the wall on the

right crossing a bog with stone steps now with a fence to the right. At the wall ahead there is a stile and ahead a further stile in a short stretch of wall. Cross the field keeping to the left of the boggy area to a gate with a stile to the left leading to a track which continues in front of Briery Wood to a metalled road.

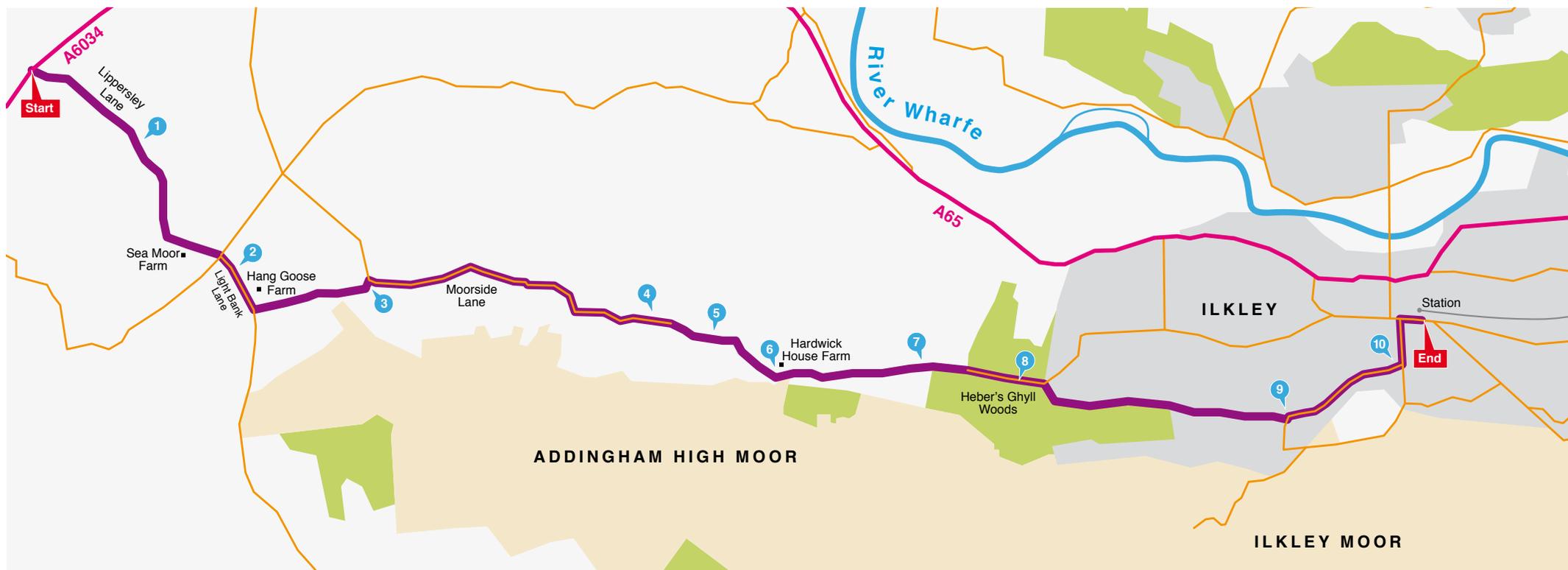
7 This road changes to a rough road below the woods (*Hebers Ghyll Woods*). Continue until you have crossed the stone bridge over Hebers Ghyll.

8 Take the steps up to the right (by the Overhead Power Line sign) and bear left up the hill. Pass through the opening in a wooden fence and continue on the grass path until the fence leading on to an unmade road. Enjoy the glimpses of Middleton through the houses on your left. The road becomes Queens Drive. *You will pass Thorpe Hall on the left which has an Ilkley Civic Society Blue Plaque. (Walks leaflets around Ilkley's Blue Plaques are available from the Visitor Information Centre.)*

9 At the road junction turn left following the road downhill, *passing St Johns Flats (another Blue Plaque on the front wall). Having crossed Princess Road with St Margaret's Church (a Norman Shaw church) on the right you will see St Margaret's Park with the Panorama Rocks with their cup and ring markings on your left. An interpretation board tells you about these rocks which are a Scheduled Monument.*

10 Continue on this road until you reach the junction with Wells Walk. Bear left downhill and cross the road. After approx 20 m enter Mill Ghyll through the metal gates. *This was built as a Victorian walkway from the town up to White Wells and Ilkley Moor.*

Follow the stream downhill and you will reach Ilkley Town Centre where you can linger, or turn right to the Bus Station.



Distance: 5.5 Miles

Ordnance Survey Map 297, Lower Wharfedale and Washburn Valley.

Grid Reference **SE 05127 48838** (start) to **SE 11879 47597** (finish)

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