

SHERPA : WALKER'S BRITAIN - THE YORKSHIRE DALES

8-days/ 7 nights self-guided walking holidays (WDW - Revised: October 09)

Welcome to the beautiful Yorkshire Dales, the purest form of English highland landscape, with traditions and views, which have remained virtually untouched for centuries. Soft rolling hills, limestone edges, green valleys, waterfalls and an abbey all feature here as well as the villages proud of their heritage. This tour includes the whole length of this much loved long distance path, which runs right across the Yorkshire Dales National Park. Gradients and terrain are easy, but the going may be muddy underfoot in wet weather. There are also a large number of "stiles" and "kissing gates" to negotiate. The itinerary follows Wharfedale (where there is time to admire the ruins of Bolton Abbey) and then Hubberholme, gradually gaining height upstream to reach the Pennine watershed at Cam Fell (1700 feet). The way then runs down Dentdale to the market town of Sedbergh and across sheep pastures to Bowness on Windermere.



Departs: Daily from 4th April to mid October.

Includes: Bed & breakfast accommodation with ensuite facilities where available, luggage transfers from Inn to Inn, full route notes and map package.

Starting point: Ilkley, Yorkshire.

End of tour: Windermere, Cumbria.

Nearest major city and international airport: Manchester Airport. 2 hours to Ilkley via Leeds.

Getting to the Start: Train from London King's Cross to Leeds, then change trains for Ilkley (3 – 3.5 hours). The first night's hotel is a short taxi ride/walk from the station. At the end of the tour: Taxi/walk to Windermere rail station and train to London Euston (change trains at Oxenholme). See www.nationalrail.co.uk

Hotel Single Room Supplements: are payable on most of our tours. The single supplement guarantees the privacy of your own room, however, rooms can at times be small and in some places may not enjoy the same facilities as double/twin rooms.

Breakfast: will generally consist of sausage, bacon, eggs etc, cereals and fruit may also be available. Tell us if you have any dietary requirements when you book your holiday.

Showers not baths: it is not normal for your room to have a bath in this area, some hotels/guesthouses may have a separate room in the house where a bath is available to guests, but in the main it is showers.

Luggage: When staying in hotels, sometimes your luggage will have been taken to you room awaiting your arrival. However don't be surprised if your luggage is waiting for you to take it up to your room.

Contact Outdoor Travel for more itinerary details and reservations

Accommodation:

It is normal practice when staying in hotels that you check-in after 2pm and checkout by 10am the following morning. Guesthouses / B & B's are normally check-in after 4pm and checkout by 10am.

Night 1: We stay overnight at a Victorian riverside hotel. All facilities are en suite, and rooms come equipped with satellite TV. The picturesque setting, with river views and rowing in the summer months, make this an ideal place to start our tour.

Night 2: A small family run guesthouse, which has been converted from the village smith's workshop. Extremely comfortable accommodation is provided, with ensuite facilities, television and tea & coffee making facilities available in all rooms.

Night 3: Formerly a Drovers Hostel and dating back to the early 17th century, our Inn at Cray near to Hubberholme is a traditional Yorkshire pub, open all year round to provide warm, inviting and friendly accommodation throughout the ever-changing seasons. In fine, warm weather, food & drink can be enjoyed in the beer garden or beside the cascading Cray Gill, which fronts the Inn. This place has been likened by Wainwright as a "tiny oasis". Enjoy fine home cooked food, traditional hand pulled real ales and a variety of wines surrounded by original oak beams, a cosy log fire and stone flagged floors. Stunning surroundings combine to create a true gem, in the very heart of the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

Night 4: A 17th Century listed building, offering authentic rustic charm, is our accommodation for the night. All front rooms have river views, and the building has retained much of its original charm, with open fires, oak beams, and a friendly welcome. There is a washbasin, tea/coffee making facilities in all rooms.

Night 5: Overnight accommodation is provided at a very comfortable Inn. The Inn has a traditional English country feel to it, offering local beers, and home cooked meals in the attractively decorated bar and dining area. All rooms have tea and coffee making facilities, a TV and some are ensuite.

Night 6: This small, quiet guesthouse is situated in Bowston.

Night 7: Our final accommodation in the picturesque village of Bowness. It was originally the village Grammar school and your guesthouse retains many original features. It's a perfect place to relax, having completed the tour of the Dales Way.

Suggested Itinerary:

Day 1 Ilkley: Travel to starting point. Optional walk to Cow and Calf rocks and Ilkley Moor.

Day 2 Burnsall: Lower Wharfedale and Bolton Abbey (13 miles, 6 hours)

Day 3 Hubberholme: Past Kilnsey Crag (famous overhanging rock) and pretty villages of Grassington, Kettlewell, and Buckden. (15 miles, 7 hours)

Day 4 Dentdale: Over Cam Fell, across the Pennine Way Footpath down into Dentdale. (13 miles, 6 hours)

Day 5 Sedbergh: Through Dentdale to Sedbergh. At the foot of the steep Howgill Fells. (11 miles, 5 hours).

Day 6 Bowston: Across an undulating landscape of sheep pastureland. Into the Lake District National Park (17 miles, 7 hours).

Day 7 Bowness: A morning's walk to Bowness on Lake Windermere, England's largest natural lake.

Day 8: End of Tour

Other walking holidays – guided in small groups or self-guided with inn-to-inn luggage transfers & meals are available in many parts of Europe through **Outdoor Travel** including the Way of St James from Le Puy to Santiago, the route of Pilgrims along the River Yonne to Veزالay in Burgundy and St Cuthbert's Way from Scotland into England. We offer literary walking routes or trails in the footsteps of famous painters in Europe.

Contact Outdoor Travel for more itinerary details and reservations

- Call toll free on 1800 331 582 or (03) 57551743 or Fax (03) 57501020
- Email: info@outdoortravel.com.au
- Web: <http://www.outdoortravel.com.au>
- Mail: Outdoor Travel Pty Ltd, PO Box 286, Bright, VIC 3741, Australia
- Travel Agent Licence No 31102