

SCALE



Along the Route

Technical Difficulty

- Easy: Generally a hard smoothish surface
 - Moderate: A more uneven surface
 - Technical: Rough, uneven going. Difficult!
- Generalisations only. Allowance for weather also required.

'Off Road' Path Type

- Bridleways (a black edging to a technical grade)
 - Byways & other 'Off Roads' (no edging)
- Bridleways are for cyclists, walkers and horse riders and are generally well signposted. In particular the Pennine Bridleway is often signposted PBW. Mountain bikers must give way to people on foot or horseback.

Uphill Indicator

Shown along the marked route. It's subjective but at least an indication of what is in store!

Points Uphill

- 1 Leg Warmer
- 2 Pulse Racer
- 3 Lungbuster

Gradients / Heights

- 310 Spot heights (metres) marked along the route
- 275 Contours (25 metre intervals)

Surface Descriptions

As annotated on the map - generalisations only. Allowance for weather also required.

'Off Road' Downhills

Note: Long arrow in downhill direction

General

- PBW Pennine Bridleway National Trail
- Gate
- Wall
- Footpath
- P Car park
- i Tourist / Visitor Information Centre
- P Public House
- C Cafe
- 1 Miles from the Start
- A Reference markers for the text description (see over)

The representation on this map of roads, tracks and paths is no evidence of the existence of a right of way.

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This route guide includes subjective elements such as gradings, and generalisations such as surface descriptions (both these may change over time and will be affected by the weather). Maps and routes are for guidance only. It is up to you the cyclist to judge your own cycling competence, be aware of the conditions on the ground and be in control of your bicycle at all times. Whilst every effort has been made to ensure all the information presented is accurate we cannot guarantee it is error free. In no event will any party involved in the making of this route guide be liable for any special, direct, indirect or consequential damages out of the use or inability to use the route guide.

Navigation Tip: The sections on the Pennine Bridleway, shown on the map as PBW, are well sign'd 'on the ground'.

ROUTE DIRECTION

Route Variation B
(see text for info)

Route Variation A
(see text for info)

Hebden Bridge Station

Try a Trail by Bike...
Hilly Hebden

A Mountain Bike Route that takes you up and down the hills around Hebden Bridge. Sections of the route are on the Pennine Bridleway National Trail.



ROUTE LENGTH
14 miles
22½ km

Pennine Bridleway

NATIONAL TRAIL



Hilly Hebden

Mountain Bike Route

Route length: 14 miles / 22.5km. Rough Time 2.5 - 4 hours.

You soon leave Hebden Bridge, and after a fairly tough climb are skirting Hebden Dale on an easy track. Pass Gorpel Reservoir and an uphill test brings you over Heptonstall Moor. Next after a short flat section the route is either going up or down. It all leads to a climactic steep technical descent to Callis Bridge. A saunter along the Rochdale Canal takes you back to Hebden Bridge.

Also see the two variations to the main route for those wanting a bit of extra spice.

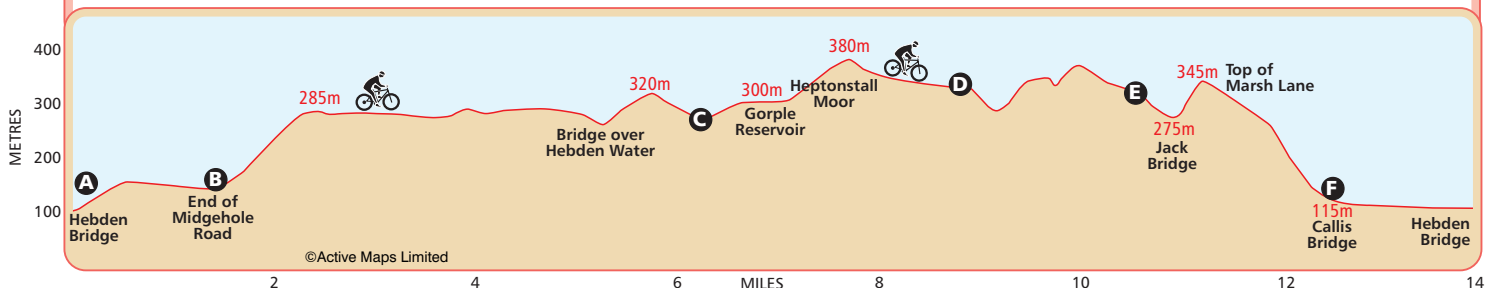
START: Market Street Car Park in Hebden Bridge, TL off the A6033 by the White Lion Hotel and follow signs. Or use any of the other Long Stay car parks in Hebden Bridge (well signposted). Or start at the National Trust car park at the end of Midgehole Road - & follow route from point B.

For navigation please note Points C, D & E are on the Pennine Bridleway National Trail which is generally well signposted as the name or 'PBW'.

The points below are referenced on the map

- A** TL out of car park. TL at White Lion Hotel onto main road. After half a mile TL at sign for Hardcastle Crags onto Midgehole Road & follow to end.
- B** Continue SA on the tarmac drive (past the 'members' car park) & at bend follow to the right & climb past the 'pay & display' car park. Keep SA when the tarmac turns to a gravel track by some buildings on the right (ignore the track to the left).
At the next track junction TL up steep climb. At top the track becomes tarmac, keep SA. After about 1.5 miles, at Walshaw Cottage, go SA between the buildings & continue all the way to the picturesque bridge over Hebden Water.
Cross bridge & climb track. Keep SA when a track comes in from the left. BL at next track fork to reach tarmac lane. TL & follow to road junction. TL onto road.
- C** After 100 metres TR through green gates. Follow track upto & across reservoir. After house TR through gate at sign for Pennine Bridleway. Climb to next gate, continue SA. Soon descend to gate & carry SA onto track.
- D** When track turns to tarmac, keep SA. Continue to wooden signpost for Pennine Bridleway and turn sharp right. Descend, cross river then immediately BL up track.
SA at next two gates. At third gate also continue SA over a track crossroads, then after 50 metres BL through gate onto narrow path. Now keep following the obvious path through several more gates to come out on wide track by some houses.
TL & follow down to road junction.
- E** TL onto road. Ignore first bridleway, then at bend TR onto Pennine Bridleway. After 200 metres BR up tarmac then follow the steep stony track ahead. TL at road. TR after 50 metres down Marsh Lane. Keep heading straight down. Pass entrance for Blackshaw Royd & the track soon splits. BR down the 'No Through Road' & continue to a gate in front of you.
TL immediately before the gate down steep stony path. Keep following Pennine Bridleway signs to pass two sharp bends & reach tarmac. TR & keep descending on the track. Eventually go under railway bridge & onto main road.
TL on path immediately before the road & follow to the crossing. Cross main road & follow over river to canal.
- F** TL onto canal towpath. Continue to then exit at Bridge 18, TL onto road. TR onto main road. TL onto Old Gate (just before river) and follow back to car park.

Abbreviations: TR-Turn Right, TL-Turn Left, BR-Bear Right, BL-Bear Left, SA-Straight Ahead



Travelling to the Area by Train

Hebden Bridge Station, situated next to the the mountain bike route, is on the York-Manchester, Leeds-Manchester & Leeds-Blackpool Lines.

A possible Sunday Itinerary* that should leave time for rests and a lunch stop:

From Manchester Victoria: Dep 9.14am • Arr Hebden Bridge 9.58am
Dep Hebden Bridge 14.54pm • Arrive Manchester 15.38pm

From Bradford: Dep 9.57am • Arr Hebden Bridge 10.21am
Dep Hebden Bridge 15.33pm • Arr Bradford 16.03pm

* please note this is for guidance only. Time taken on route will vary with individuals & train times may change. Please check with National Rail Enquiries for full service details (Tel: 08457 48 49 50 or www.nationalrail.co.uk). There is space for two bikes on the train and more at the conductor's discretion, on a first come first served basis (no booking required).

Refreshments

Hebden Bridge is an attractive town with a good selection of cafes, pubs, take-aways and stores.

There are not many places to stop directly on the route but slight detours are the Packhorse Inn and Highgate Farm Shop (both marked on the map).

At Midgehole there is the Blue Pig (a Working Mens Club, variable hours) and at Jack Bridge the New Delight Pub.

Route Variation A will lead you past a pub and a store.

Route Variation A

This will add an extra 1.5 miles, a tough climb & a prolonged technical descent.

Out of Market Street car park & TL. Follow to White Lion Hotel, TR onto main road then first left onto Birchcliffe Road & climb. Stay on this road (it becomes Wadsworth Lane) past a couple of bends & it levels off briefly. About 100 metres past Manor Drive TL onto path (opposite Burlees Lane). Keep SA when it turns to tarmac. At junction with road TR & climb to junction by Hare & Hounds. TL & follow road for about 1 mile to a 'give way' with a main road at Pecket Well. TL then after 100 metres TR (just after the garages) & descend steep narrow path. When cobbles finish (at path crossroads) TR & descend more cobbles over river. Now keep on this main path, slight climb, then flat, can be muddy, then descend all the way to road & TR. Now follow the main directions from 'Point B' - or you can do a 200 metre off-road uphill challenge (no dabs allowed!) by taking the bridleway on the right, just before the members car park, TR at the top to rejoin the main route.

Route Variation B

This will add an extra 2.5 miles, a tough climb & more descent. Best during a dry spell as about 200 metres of bridleway is prone to being very muddy.

Continue to the end of 'Point E' then: Go straight over the canal bridge & keep climbing on the track. Pass a cattle grid & 'Private Road' sign & bends. A house is on one of the bends. About 200 metres after the house BL onto grassy track, signed PBW. Continue to rejoin main track, TL.

Arrive at a brick retaining wall on the right. TL down narrow path to river, signed PBW. Through gate, TR towards Mankinholes & up a climb. SA at next gate. At following gate TR onto a grassy section (flat but energy sapping if wet!). Follow to a wide gritty track & TL. Climb to track junction, TL then immediate right. Climb to top, through gate & TL (wall on left). After about 400 metres TL through gate signed for bridleway. Follow down to a track crossroads & TR. After 100 metres TR through gate onto grassy bridleway (this section can be muddy). At next gate keep SA (wall on your immediate left) then TL through next gate at blue bridleway sign for a short steep grassy descent to join farm drive. Head straight down to next junction & TR. Follow over cobbles & onto concrete. Keep descending to go past some cottages. Descend to wood and then onto and under the railway bridge.

Follow track to road. TR then TL onto main road. Take first right onto Commercial Street. TL at White Lion Hotel to get back to car park.

Cycle Shop/Maintenance in Hebden Bridge:

Blazing Saddles

Tel: (01422) 844435

To pick up the route from the station

Out of station, follow the station road to main road and TL. Turn first right onto Commercial Street. Keep on this road to sign for Hardcastle Crags (then see point A).

To return to the station

See Point F but exit at Bridge number '18' & TR onto the road. Don't turn off this road and at its end TL onto track and under railway bridge. Then dismount and TL onto tarmac path that leads to the station.

NATURAL
ENGLAND