

Try a Trail...

Pennine Way  
Pennine Bridleway

NATIONAL TRAILS



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# Stoodley Pike hike

6 miles (10 km) – challenging circular walk

## Walking from Hebden Bridge

This walk is one of the routes promoted as part of the Hebden Bridge Walkers are Welcome scheme. It is waymarked with black arrows on yellow discs.

**1** As you leave Hebden Bridge railway station turn right down the path to the track below and turn right under the railway bridge. Continue straight ahead, slightly uphill

**2** Just after the houses turn right up the narrow track. Follow this path diagonally up the hillside. Follow the waymarked route.

**3** Walk through the ramshackle wooden gate into the beech woods. The track here can be muddy and ill defined, but head for the waymark post, passing below the TV mast and heading for the corner of the wood.

**4** Cross over the stone stile onto New Road. Continue straight across into open fields following the sign to Pinnacle Lane.

**5** As the path comes onto the minor road the wooden signpost to Stoodley Pike points straight across, but our route turns left up the tarmac lane.

**6** At the top of the lane turn right onto Kilshaw Lane. Follow this to the lanes end at Swillington Farm.

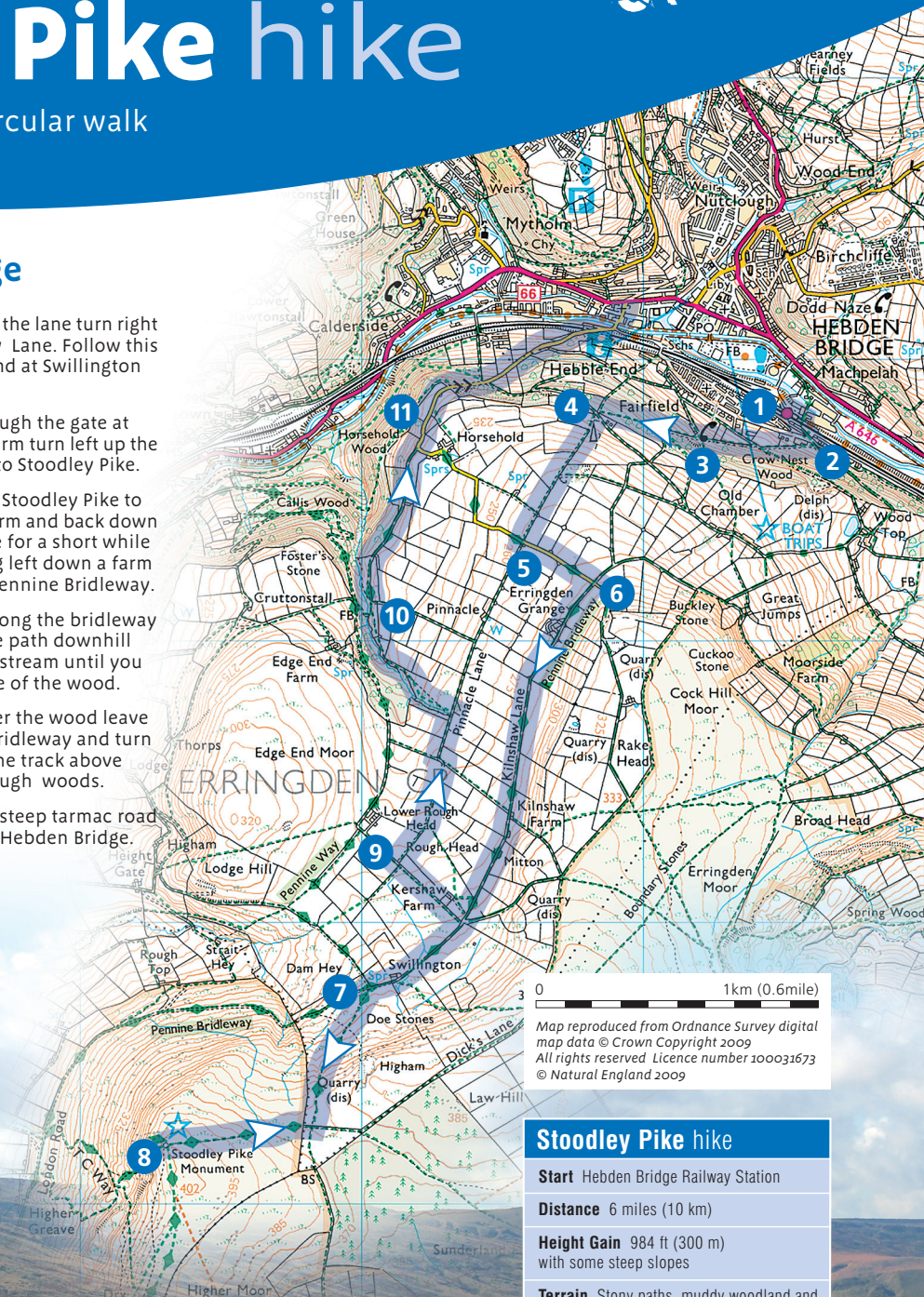
**7** Passing through the gate at Swillington Farm turn left up the Pennine Way to Stoodley Pike.

**8** Return from Stoodley Pike to Swillington Farm and back down Kilshaw Lane for a short while before turning left down a farm track signed Pennine Bridleway.

**9** Turn right along the bridleway and follow the path downhill alongside the stream until you reach the edge of the wood.

**10** As you enter the wood leave the Pennine Bridleway and turn right to take the track above Beaumont Clough woods.

**11** Follow the steep tarmac road back down to Hebden Bridge.



0 1km (0.6 miles)

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### Stoodley Pike hike

**Start** Hebden Bridge Railway Station

**Distance** 6 miles (10 km)

**Height Gain** 984 ft (300 m)  
with some steep slopes

**Terrain** Stony paths, muddy woodland and moorland

**Time** 3.75 hours

**Refreshment & public toilets** Public toilets, shops and cafes in Hebden Bridge

**How to get there** Rail and bus services to Halifax, Huddersfield, Keighley, Todmorden and Rochdale



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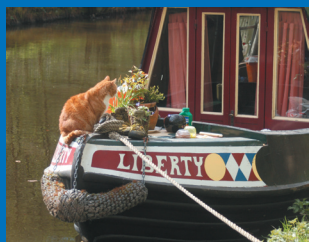
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Hebden Bridge has seen great change in recent years. Traditional industries are no longer a major force, but buildings have been stone-cleaned and revitalised, the Rochdale Canal has been restored, and the locality has become a desirable place to live and visit. It became England's first *Walkers are Welcome* town in February 2007



Known as the 'Pennine Centre', Hebden Bridge takes its name from the packhorse bridge over Hebden Water. The town developed in late medieval times as a river-crossing and meeting point of packhorse routes.



Textiles have been important in the Upper Calder Valley for centuries, but it was not until mechanisation and steam power were introduced from the late 18th century that Hebden Bridge began to grow significantly. The arrival of the canal and railway attracted industry to the valley bottoms, but with limited flat land and a growing army of textile workers, dwellings were ingeniously built on the valley sides, giving the town its characteristic 'double-decker' housing.

**Stoodley Pike** – The 121 foot high monument of Stoodley Pike is visible from miles around. It was designed by local architect James Green in 1854 and the building was completed in 1856 when peace was declared at the end of the Crimean War. An earlier pike had existed on the site, started in 1814 to commemorate the defeat of Napoleon and the surrender of Paris then completed in 1815 after the Battle of Waterloo. This structure collapsed in 1854 following an earlier lightning strike and ongoing wear and tear from the elements. The replacement was therefore (rather wisely) built slightly further from the edge of the hill. You can climb a flight of dark steps inside the pike to get to the viewing platform – its worthwhile taking a torch.



**Eringden Model Farm** – In 1828 Eringden Model farm was at the cutting edge of agricultural practice. It comprised the farmhouse, barn, outbuildings, holmes fold, garden, plantation and 28 fields. The fields stand out in the landscape due to their very rectangular grid pattern. There are also small walled copes of trees in the corners of the fields.

Stoodley Pike hike route profile



[www.nationaltrail.co.uk/pennineway](http://www.nationaltrail.co.uk/pennineway)

