

St Alkelda's Way

This is a 33 mile self-guided walk, which takes the walker through the glorious scenery of the Yorkshire Dales National Park, indeed, through some of the most varied in the country, following for the most part, ancient paths and trackways St Alkelda must have taken on her journeys between Middleham and Giggleswick in the late 9th – early 10th-century. The actual walking route beginning at Giggleswick Church “with the wind at your back”, is planned over 3 days, plus a day to travel back to Giggleswick and a day of rest/exploration in Middleham or Leyburn before returning home = 5 overnight stays. **Please note**, part of the walk is hilly, but most of it is less strenuous.

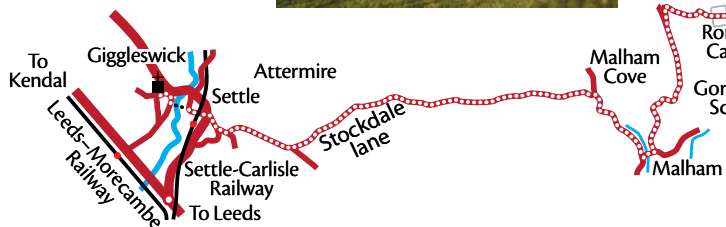
Route

The 33 mile route is planned in the 3 stages of Giggleswick–Malham, Malham–Kettlewell and Kettlewell to Middleham with overnight stay at Carlton in Coverdale. OS Maps Explorer OL2 and OL30 are essential NB. There is no mobile phone signal in Coverdale until Coverham, but there are public phones by the roadside in Horsehouse and Carlton.

DAY 1 From Giggleswick Church – left, and along Bankwell road 200 yards, to narrow opening to path on left, over river Ribble bridge by Queen's Rock, via Kingsmill lane to Kirkgate, Settle town centre, right to High Street past Talbot Arms pub, the Folly Museum, Victoria St., up Albert Hill, High Hill lane, 200 yards, turn left onto Stockdale Lane on to Pennine Bridleway, past Stockdale farm, continue going east on footpath to end on Malham Cove road, right, then down to Malham = 7 miles,

OVERNIGHT STAY

Day 2 Cross Malham beck. Left turn on to Malham Raikes road, walk uphill to Street Gate 2½ miles, Street Gate - Mastiles Lane, - Kilnsey 4½ miles. Take right path before Kilnsey Crag.



Cross river Wharfe to Conistone, left to Kettlewell 3½ miles.
= 10½ miles

OVERNIGHT STAY

Day 3 Go east to far end of village of Kettlewell. Follow the sign to Leyburn. For about 4 miles the walk is quite hilly up Park Rash. Continue to walk on single track road from Kettlewell through Coverdale to Carlton = 10½ miles.

OVERNIGHT STAY

Day 4 Carlton to Middleham, cross town square to A6108, Middleham Church on left towards river Ure and Leyburn .
= 5 miles

TOTAL mileage for Coverdale = 15½ miles.

OVERNIGHT STAY TOTAL MILEAGE = 33 miles

Variations – on public rights of way footpaths in Coverdale, reading from OS map OL30:

Variations could add slightly to overall mileage.

1. Park Foot Bridge

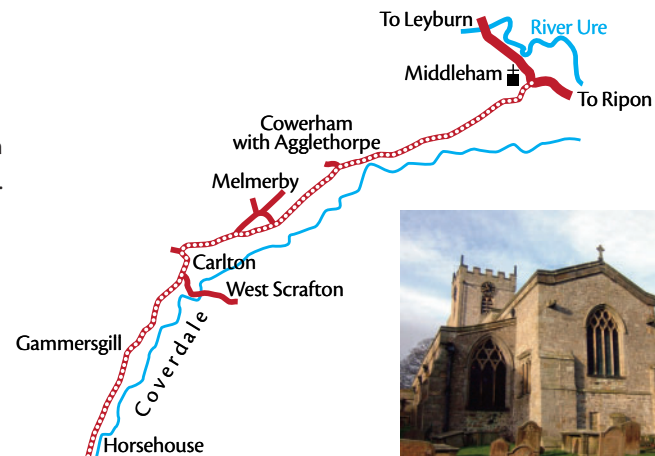
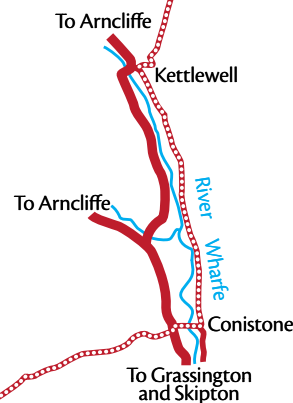
74N 98E to 75N 98E = 1½ miles

2. Woodale

79N 02E via Horsehouse and

Gammersgill to Carlton 84N 06E

= 5½ miles



Transport to/from Giggleswick or Settle

There are regular trains to Settle from Leeds or Carlisle on the scenic Settle-Carlisle railway line.

<http://settle-carlislerailway.co.uk/settle-carlisle-railway-timetable/>

Trains run to/from Giggleswick on the Lancaster/Morecambe to/from Leeds line. Giggleswick Station is a mile's walk to Giggleswick Church.

<https://www.settle-carlisle.co.uk/tickets-times-travel/timetables/leeds-to-morecambe-timetable/>

There are buses to/from Skipton, Kirkby Lonsdale, Lancaster to/from Settle/Giggleswick.

<http://www.kirkbylonsdalecoachhire.co.uk/index.php/bus-services/timetable-580-581-582>

End of pilgrimage -

return journey to Settle-Giggleswick from Middleham

Bus from Middleham to Hawes

<http://getdown.org.uk/bus/search/middleham.shtml>

Hawes to Garsdale Head station

<http://getdown.org.uk/bus/search/middleham.shtml>

See above for Settle-Carlisle train time tables – 7 trains a day stop at Garsdale Head. NOTE: the 28 minute train journey to Settle goes through spectacular scenery high above Dentdale and over the Ribbleshead Viaduct.

Taxis, buses to Garsdale Head from Hawes.

<https://www.rome2rio.com/s/Hawes/Garsdale-Head>

NOTE – nearest train station to Middleham is 18.5 miles at Northallerton – East Coast line. Buses from Spennithorne to Northallerton. (Spennithorne – 3.5 miles from Middleham)

Car Parking in Settle

If you come by car and want to leave it for 3-5 days in Settle, contact Craven District Council www.cravencd.gov.uk
Tel: 01756 700 600

Baggage Handlers

If you need help transporting your baggage between b&bs etc, there are 2 based near the Pilgrimage route:
Brigantes Walking Holidays and Baggage Couriers
info@bagmovers.com
Tel: 01756 770402. (Skipton)
Sherpa Van
<https://www.sherpavan.com/baggage/newbagsrc.asp>
Tel: 01748 826917 (Richmond, North Yorkshire)

ACCOMMODATION - Please book well in advance Giggleswick-Settle

Hart's Head, Belle Hill, Giggleswick, BD24 0BA
Tel: 01729 822086
Oast Guesthouse, 5, Penyghent View, Settle, BD24 9JJ
Tel: 01729 822989
Valley Mead, Stackhouse Lane, Giggleswick, BD24 0DL
Tel: 01729 822386
More b&b info. from the Tourist Information Centre, Town Hall, Settle, Tel: 01729 825192
<https://www.settle.org.uk/settle-tourist-information-centre/>

Malham

Ghyllstones b&b. Tel: 01729 830487
Hill Top Farm Bunk house. Tel: 01729 830320
Miresfield Farm. Tel: 01729 830414
Malham YHA <https://www.yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-malham>
More b&b info. from the National Park Centre
Tel: 01729 833200

Kettlewell

Belk's b&b., Tel: 01756 761188
The Cottage Tea room and b&b. Tel: 01756 760845
Pennycroft b&b. Tel: 01756 760845
Kettlewell YHA Hostel. Tel: 01756 760232
<https://groups.yha.org.uk/hostel/yha-kettlewell>

Kettlewell side of Horse House

Woodale b&b Tel: 01969 640271

Carlton in Coverdale

Abbot's Thorn, Carlton in Coverdale. Tel: 01969 649620
Middleham House. Tel: 01969 640645
The Forester's Arms. Tel: 01969 640272

near Coverham

Braithwaite Hall, Tel: 01969 640287

Middleham

Lindmar Guest House. Tel: 01969 623616
Richard III Hotel. Tel: 01969 623240
The Dante Arms. Tel: 01969 622246

Camping

Settle

Knight Stainforth Hall, camping and caravan site.
Tel: 01729 822200
Langcliffe Caravan Park. Tel: 01729 822387

Malham

Hill Top Farm Bunk house. Tel: 01729 830320
Miresfield Farm. Tel: 01729 830414

Kettlewell

Kettlewell Camping. Tel: 07930 379079
YHA, Kettlewell Tel: 0345 371 9525

Middleham

Craken House Farm. Tel: 01969 623192

www.airbnb.co.uk/Settle

or append Malham, Kettlewell or Middleham instead of Settle.

Contacts:

Kathleen Kinder. Tel: 01729 822444, kathleengkinder@gmail.com
Jennifer Warner. Tel: 01729 823899
jenniferwarner1234@gmail.com
(web site stalkeldaway.info and guide book in preparation)



St Alkelda's Way



St Alkelda is a local 9th or early 10th century Yorkshire Dales saint who is closely associated with two ancient and lovely churches with Anglo-Saxon origins, the church of St Mary and St Alkelda, at Middleham in Wensleydale, and St Alkelda, Giggleswick in Ribblesdale. Alkelda is remembered in these two localities as a saintly lady famous for her use of nearby holy wells for the baptism of converts and for her martyrdom at the hands of Danish women.

The idea for this self-guided Pilgrimage Walk came about after the recent discovery in a dusty pile of discarded items in Giggleswick Parish Room of a beautiful, stained glass panel depicting St Alkelda's martyrdom by strangulation at the hands of two Danish women. In spite of intensive enquiry, the provenance of the panel, now cleaned, restored and installed in a window in Giggleswick church, remains a mystery.

What we know of St Alkelda from the history and records of both churches, of the turbulent times in which she lived and the Yorkshire Dales landscape through which she travelled will be told on a St Alkelda's Way web site and eventually, we hope, in a guide book.