The Dales Way Guided Trail 2027



Trip style:
Guided trails

Destination:
Yorkshire Dales

Walking Grade
8

HOLIDAY OVERVIEW

One of the country's first unofficial long-distance routes, the Dales Way covers 79 miles from Ilkley in West Yorkshire to Bowness-on-Windermere in the Lake District. Mostly a tree and river-lined route, the views are highly rewarding as you cross two iconic national parks and spend time in postcard-pretty villages. Highlights include Burnsall, Buckden, Gearstones, and Sedbergh. The Dales Way Guided Trail will stay at Newfield Hall for 3 nights and Thorns Hall for 4 nights.

WHAT YOU'LL LOVE

- Walking from the Yorkshire Dales to the Lake District
- Following riverside and moorland paths
- Spending time in picturesque villages and towns
- Soaking up spectacular views of Windermere
- Keeping your eyes peeled for a variety of wildlife
- Staying at Newfield Hall & Thorns Hall, our country house's in the Yorkshire Dales
- A more personalised experience thanks to small group sizes (maximum 16 people)

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Comfortable en-suite accommodation in our country houses
- Cooked or continental breakfast every morning
- Daily packed lunches
- Three-course evening meals, plus tea & coffee
- Guided walks with an experienced HF Holidays Leader
- All transport to and from walks where necessary
- Transfer back to Newfield Hall at the end of holiday
- Easy-to-follow routes, maps, and information available in our Discovery Point if you want to explore independently

ITINERARY - ITINERARY

Day 1 **Arrival Day**

Check-in at the hotel is available from 16:00. If you are a member you can arrive at the house from 14:00. Enjoy a complimentary cream tea at 16:30 and meet other guests.

Day 2 **Ilkley to Burnsall**

Commencing its 79-mile journey at the 17th century bridge in Ilkley, the Dales Way follows the Wharfe to skirt the village of Addingham. Beneath Beamsley Beacon the Way reaches Farfield Hall. A stretch of road leads to Bolton Bridge and the Yorkshire Dales National Park is entered as Bolton Priory comes into view. The river becomes a narrow torrent at the Strid, beyond which the path reaches another attractive 17th-century bridge at Barden. It then continues along to Howgill, below Appletreewick and on to the delightful village of Burnsall.

13 miles (20.5km), with 1,100 feet (340m) of ascent.

Day 3 **Burnsall to Buckden**

Passing a limestone escarpment at Loup Scar, the path stays close to the river to reach Grassington, the principal settlement of Upper Wharfedale. The Way then parts company with the river as it ascends above the valley floor. Scenic Wharfedale stretches before us as we continue towards the quaint village of Kettlewell. Keeping close to the floor of the valley once more, the Way continues past Starbotton to Buckden.

14 miles (22.5km), with 1,400 feet (430m) of ascent.

Day 4 Buckden to Gearstones

The going gets tougher on today's walk. The start is easy enough as the river is followed along Langstrothdale to Hubberholme, Yockenthwaite and Deepdale before we join a metalled road for a short distance to Oughtershaw. From here the track changes to a moorland path which climbs to join the Pennine Way for a short stretch beyond Cam Houses. This wild moorland has spectacular views of the Yorkshire 3 peaks. The trail soon descends to the main road above Gearstones where we meet our coach.

12.5 miles (20km), with 1,400 feet (420m) of ascent.

Day 5 Gearstones to Sedbergh

From Gearstones, the Dales Way climbs steadily into the remote limestone uplands of Upper Ribblesdale before ascending Wold Fell, at over 1,800 feet this is now the highest point on the Dales Way. After descending beside spectacular Arten Gill we enter Dentdale, one of the most picturesque valleys in the Dales. The trail follows the often-elusive River Dee down to Dent, a small town which has changed little over the last two centuries, before continuing through the lush meadow filled valley to the picturesque market town of Sedbergh England's renowned book town nestled below the Howgill Fells.

16.5 miles (26.5km), with 1,700 feet (520m) of ascent and 2,300 feet (700m) of descent

Day 6 Sedbergh to the A6

Beyond Sedbergh the Dales Way crosses the A683 and proceeds to join the River Lune which it follows to Crook of Lune. Leaving the Yorkshire Dales National Park, the path then crosses the M6 motorway and the main west coast railway line to meander through pastoral countryside to Patton Bridge, passing Black Moss and Skelsmergh Tarns, and emerging on the A6 just south of Garth Row.

14 miles (22.5km), with 1,400 feet (420m) of ascent.

Day 7 A6 to Bowness

The final stage is a fitting climax to the walk. Burneside is soon reached and the path follows the River Kent to Cowan Head and Hagg Foot and some craggy embankments must be negotiated before Staveley is reached. Now in the Lake District National Park, the Dales Way makes its way by tracks and lanes to Fell Plain before climbing to Crag House and Outrun Nook. Shortly the panorama of Windermere and the Lakeland Fells comes into view as we head to Bowness.

11 miles (18km), with 1,150 feet (340m) of ascent.

Day 8 Departure Day

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast before making your way home.

DAILY WALK OPTIONS



Challenging walking grade 8

Challenging walks for fit, experienced walkers. Expect rugged or mountainous terrain, or some longer distances than typical for this grade. Typically, 12-13 miles (19-21km) with around 2,300ft (700m) of ascent.

ACCOMMODATION

Newfield Hall, Malham

Looking every inch the baronial mansion, Newfield Hall sits in two acres of grounds near the village of Malham at the southern base of Yorkshire Dales National Park. Given it was this very landscape which inspired Wordsworth to write a sonnet and Charles Kingsley to pen The Water Babies, the countryside views are as gorgeous as you'd imagine. You'll also have plenty of sightseeing greats within easy travelling distance, most notably Malham Tarn, Janet's Foss, Gordale Scar, Malham Cove, and The Dry Valley of the Watlowes. And then, of course, there's Yorkshire's famous trio of summits: Pen-y-ghent, Whernside, and Ingleborough, collectively known as the three peaks. Stay at Newfield Hall and experience the exceptional service of a VisitEngland ROSE award winner. Find out more about the latest accolade awarded to our country house in the Southern Yorkshire Dales by reading our latest blog.

About

· 46 well-appointed guest rooms · Exclusive occupancy: 61 guests minimum · Check in from 4:00pm · For members check in from 2:00pm · Free Wi-Fi · Free on-site parking · Boot room and drying room · Travel cot & 2 high chairs · Discovery Point offering a wide range of local area maps, route guides, and information for self-guided walks · Books and games to borrow · Licensed bar · Two lounges · Garden · HF Holidays Heritage Room · Electric vehicle charging point - Please note, you will need to bring your own cables to use this EV charging point		Visit England - Rose Award 2023

Then & now

Built in 1855 on land once belonging to the Lambert estate, the first resident of Newfield Hall was retired Skipton lawyer William Nicholson Alcock, whose father was a partner in founding the Craven Bank in 1791 (this later joined the Barclays family by way of Martins Bank in 1968). He moved in the following year, and this remained his home until his death in 1878. The estate then passed to his nephew, William, a captain in the Yorkshire Yeomanry, who immediately advertised for a tenant in the August 1878 edition of The Manchester Guardian. He described the house as 'a commodious family mansion' complete with grounds 'laid out with great taste'. It sparked little rental interest and the hall eventually sold to retired worsted spinner and manufacturer William Illingworth in 1890 and then to JW Morkil, future High Sheriff of the West Riding, in 1901. It has been part of our HF Holidays line-up since 1934 and has enjoyed a series of refurbishments over the years.

Nowadays, there's 46 well-appointed guest rooms in three categories (Classic, Premium, and Superior) spread across the main building and the tastefully converted coach house. You'll find two cosy lounges, a licensed bar, books and games to borrow during your stay, and a light-filled dining room for a wide range of dishes made with fresh and seasonal ingredients. Elsewhere, there's a handy boot and drying room, a multi-purpose activity room used as an artist's studio and games room, plus well-kept grounds perfect for a post-dinner stroll. Many of the original design features remain, including the pillared entrance, impressive hall, and sweeping staircase. There's also a Discovery Point offering a wide range of local area maps, route guides, and easy-to-follow information for self-guided walks as well as a newly refreshed heritage room with displays of old HF Holidays brochures, photographs, walks programmes, and other memorabilia.

Check-In & Check-Out

You are welcome to check in from 4pm at the earliest. HF Members can check in earlier, from 2pm. On arrival, you'll enjoy a complimentary cream tea and get to meet your fellow guests, our HF Holidays Leaders, and the rest of the friendly team. Check out 10am.

FOOD & DRINK

Dining

Seasonal dining, tailored for you

Our team of skilled chefs design our dinner menus to showcase the best of each season, from warming winter comfort food to vibrant summer dishes, including vegetarian, vegan and high-protein options. We also source fruit and vegetables within a 40-mile radius of each house, open every break with a Chef's Special menu inspired by dishes and flavours of the local area, and are able to adapt dishes to suit special dietary requirements.

Welcome Cream Tea

What better way to start your stay than with a cream tea, served fresh on arrival to make you feel instantly at home. A quintessentially English tradition, our scones are baked in-house and served with preserves and clotted cream, providing the perfect opportunity to meet fellow walkers.

A hearty breakfast to start the day

Start the day with a freshly-prepared cooked breakfast and a wide choice from our continental buffet, including hot drinks, juices and fresh fruit. Our team offer a quick and friendly service, leaving you fuelled and ready for your day's adventures.

Our famous picnic lunch

Our personalised picnic lunches are perfect for a day out walking, ready to enjoy when hunger strikes. Choose from a large selection of fresh sandwiches and salads, freshly baked cakes and snacks, including the ever-popular Freddos chocolate bar! Everything is designed to fit neatly into your rucksack, and all of the packaging we provide is recyclable or compostable.

3-course evening meals

Our à la carte evening menus feature a wide choice of starters, mains, and desserts, made with seasonal ingredients and, wherever possible, herbs and vegetables from our own gardens. Shared around sociable tables, dinners are relaxed occasions, with drinks available to order at the table or from the bar, and a traditional Sunday roast to round off the week.

ROOMS

Your room at Newfield Hall

Designed with your comfort in mind, Newfield Hall has 46 well-appointed guest rooms available in three categories: Classic, Premium, and Superior.

Classic Rooms are comfortable en-suite guest rooms, ideal for a peaceful night's sleep. Amenities include free Wi-Fi, tea and coffee-making facilities, toiletries (hand wash, shampoo, and shower gel), and a TV.

Premium Rooms are more spacious en-suite guest rooms*. Amenities include free Wi-Fi, tea and coffee-making facilities, toiletries (hand wash, shampoo, body lotion, shower gel), and a 32-inch TV. Extras include bathrobes, slippers.

Superior Rooms are even more spacious en-suite guest rooms offering upgraded views of the surroundings*. Amenities include free Wi-Fi, tea and coffee-making facilities, toiletries (hand wash, shampoo, body lotion, shower gel), and a 32-inch TV. Extras include bathrobes, slippers.

We love: The guest rooms spread across the main building and the tastefully converted coach house. Rooms 3 and 6 are both corner rooms offering original features and large bay windows overlooking the gardens and beyond (Room 6 has its own telescope).

The **Choose Your Room** service is available at our UK country houses, allowing you the option of choosing and confirming a specific room for an extra charge of £30 per room. This is subject to availability. Upgrade supplements apply.

Room supplements

Superior	Premium single	Premium double/twin	Choose your room
£25 pppn	£20 pppn	£20 pppn	£30 per room

*Views and layout reflect each properties unique character and location

ACCESSIBILITY

For accessibility and assistance information, please contact our expert team on 020 3974 8865 or view the accessibility information online for Newfield Hall

ABOUT YOUR STAY

A warm welcome
We want you to feel comfortable from the moment you arrive. You'll find a welcome pack in your room with guest registration forms, menus, order forms for dinners and picnic lunches, the Wi-Fi password, and the front door code. Our houses are locked at night, so we recommend noting the Duty Manager's number on arrival in case of an emergency (or getting locked out).

Evening entertainment

While evening entertainment varies from house to house, HF Holidays Inter-House Quiz night held after dinner on Wednesdays is a weekly staple. Your HF Holidays leader may be around for tips on guided and self-guided waking routes as well as visit-worthy local attractions.

Helping you enjoy the Great Outdoors - A natural focus on walks

Walks talks and Discovery Points
Our founder, country pastor turned social innovator, Thomas Arthur Leonard, was passionate about encouraging people to explore the countryside. His legacy continues in HF's continued focus on walking. Many guests choose to travel with us on guided or self-guided walking holidays, and as such, evenings at our houses are often busy with walk leaders hosting various briefings and talks. On guided walking holiday arrival days, there are walking information briefings before dinner, and for the duration of any guided walking holiday there will be a Walks Talk before (or on occasion after dinner), to go through the following day's walk options. Self-guided walking guests, and those on special interest holidays (where there is free time to explore independently), are of course welcome to also join in these Walks Talks - please talk to the team locally if you have any queries. Our Discovery Points are filled with handy maps and route notes, designed to ensure everyone, not just those booked on a guided walking holiday, can enjoy the beautiful countryside settings that our HF houses enjoy.

The walking day
Prior to setting off on guided walks, our HF Holidays Leaders run through a short safety briefing. There's also an up-to-date weather forecast on display at the house to ensure walkers have appropriate clothing and footwear. If you choose to do your own walks or are on a self-guided walking holiday, we ask that you please complete an Independent Walker Card each day. These can be found near the Discovery Point in the house.

TRAVEL DETAILS

Address

Newfield Hall
Airton
Skipton
North Yorkshire BD23 4AA

Tel: +44 (0)1729 830235

By train

The most convenient station is Skipton. Gargrave station is closer, but there's no taxi service from here.

Check National Rail for routes and times.

By shared transfer

If you're travelling to or from Newfield Hall on Mondays or Fridays or over the festive period, you can join our group transfer from Skipton Railway Station.

2026
Prices are £30 per person for a return transfer or £15 per person for a single transfer.

Outward journey: Depart Skipton Railway Station at 16:10; arrive at Newfield Hall at 16:35. Return journey: Depart Newfield Hall at 09:15; arrive at Skipton Railway Station at 09:40.

2027
Prices are £40 per person for a return transfer or £20 per person for a single transfer.

Outward journey: Depart Skipton Railway Station at 16:10; arrive at Newfield Hall at 16:35.

Return journey: Depart Newfield Hall at 09:15; arrive at Skipton Railway Station at 09:40.

Places are limited so booking is essential. We recommend booking at least 14 days in advance by contacting:

HF Holidays Sales and Support Team
Tel: +44 (0)203 974 8865
Email: reservations@hfholidays.co.uk

By taxi

Skipton to Newfield Hall is 8 miles, which takes around 25 minutes.

For pricing, please contact Station Taxis directly.

Station Taxis
You can pre-book a taxi from our recommended company, Station Taxis*. We recommend booking your taxi at least seven days in advance by contacting:

Tel: +44 (0)1756 700777
Email: stationtaxis@hotmail.co.uk

A return journey can be arranged on your behalf by the HF Holidays House Manager at Newfield Hall.

*Station Taxis is not owned or managed by HF Holidays.

By car

From the south, follow the A65 from Skipton to Gargrave. Leave the A65 by Eshton Road, signposted to Malham and pass Eshton Hall on the right. Newfield Hall is approx. 2½ miles further on, on the right and before the village of Airton. There is a stone pillar and a wooden sign at each side of our driveway. (**Please note: The next right turn has a post box at the bottom of the lane and leads to a private farm access ONLY**.)

From the north, exit the M6 at junction 36 and take the A65 towards Skipton. In Coniston Cold village take a sharp left into a narrow road between houses, signposted to St Peters Church and Bell Busk and Malham. Pass under a railway viaduct, then after a mile bear right over a small bridge. After a further mile turn right at the junction, cross the narrow bridge, pass a left turn with a post box at the bottom of the lane (which leads to a private farm) and then shortly after, turn left through the gateway onto the drive of Newfield Hall. There is a stone pillar and a wooden sign at each side of our driveway.

There is free parking with the grounds of Newfield Hall.

There is a local road closure that could impact your arrival to Newfield Hall. The A59 is currently closed at Blubber Houses, this is the main road coming from Harrogate to Skipton. There are currently diversions in place which follows the A658 via Harrogate, the A660 via Ilkley and the A65 via Otley which will add an additional hour onto your journey. This affects all guests travelling to Newfield Hall from the North East. The road closure could be in place until the end of March, please check before travelling.

By air

The nearest airport is Leeds Bradford Airport.

From the airport
Take the bus to Leeds train station from where there are direct trains to Skipton taking about one and a half hours. Check Transdev for bus times and National Rail for train times.

From Manchester International Airport there are direct trains every hour to Skipton with one change at Leeds. You'll need to allow 2.5 hours to reach Skipton.

Flying to London Heathrow airport is another option but you'll have a longer onward train journey – about 4.5 hours. From Heathrow, first take the Piccadilly line to London Kings Cross station and from here take a train to Skipton (with one change at Leeds).

LOCAL AREA

Places to visit in the Southern Yorkshire Dales

Whether you're enjoying a guided or self-guided walking holiday, there's always the opportunity to linger for longer. Here's our pick of the very best things to see and do within easy travelling distance of Newfield Hall.

Skipton

A 20-minute drive away, this market town is famous for its ruined priory and cobbled high street. The highlight is Skipton Castle, a 900-year-old fortress that withstood a three-year siege during the Civil War. Don't miss the atmospheric dungeon and watch tower.

Malham Cove

A huge curving amphitheatre shaped cliff formation of limestone rock, this iconic sight is a 15-minute drive away. It's also well worth walking here along the Pennine Way – it takes around 1.5 hours from Newfield Hall in either direction.

Bronte Parsonage Museum

The home of authors Charlotte, Emily, and Anne Brontë this fascinating museum is a 45-minute drive away. The rooms used to write their literary masterpieces are filled with clothes, furniture, and personal possessions. Exhibits change annually.

Keighley and Worth Valley Railway

Running heritage steam and diesel trains from the market town of Keighley to the Brontë Country of Oxenhope, this five-mile branch line railway is a West Yorkshire highlight. Keighley station is a 35-minute drive from Newfield Hall.

Settle to Carlisle Railway

A 20-minute drive from Skipton station, this 73-mile-long railway route crosses regions of the Yorkshire Dales and the North Pennines. British Rail ran the line down in the late 1970s but campaigners finally saved it from closure in 1989.

Fountains Abbey & Studley Royal Water Garden

An hour's drive away, this designated World Heritage Site is home to the country's largest monastic ruins. The adjacent water garden created by John Aislabie in 1718 impresses with ornamental lakes, canals, temples, cascades, and several follies.

White Scar Cave

A 40-minute drive away, Britain's longest show cave was discovered by a Cambridge undergraduate in 1923 and opened to the public two years later. The underground tour reveals spectacular caverns, waterfalls, stalagmites, and stalactites.

Brimham Rocks

Set above the valley of Nidderdale, this astonishing collection of rock formations is an hour's drive away. Manged by the National Trust, many of the rocks have been given apt names such as The Sphinx, The Watchdog, The Camel, The Turtle, and The Dancing Bear.

RHS Garden Harlow Carr

A 50-minute drive away, this 58-acre showcase of horticultural excellence is open year-round. Highlights include the kitchen, streamside, and scented gardens. There's also an excellent shop selling books, gifts, and a large selection of plants and flowers.

Harrogate

Just under an hour's drive away, this charming spa town rewards with fabulous shopping and glorious gardens. Must-dos include spending time at the Royal Pump Room Museum, visiting the Harrogate Turkish Baths, and queuing for tea at Betty's (it's worth the wait),

Lightwater Valley

Ideal for those with kids in tow, this family adventure park is just over an hour's drive away. Thrillseekers can enjoy over 40 rides and attractions tailored for the under 12's, including gentler activities for toddlers and pre-schoolers.

York

A 90-minute drive away, this historic walled city is most famous for its York Minster, National Railway Museum, Jorvik Viking Centre, and York Dungeon. Don't miss the Yorkshire Museum & Gardens for some of Europe's finest archaeological and geological finds.

Thorns Hall, Sedbergh

Delivering on all fronts for countryside lovers, this cosy Grade II-listed manor house is just a skip away from Sedbergh – the Cumbrian market town treasured for its cobbled streets, public school, artisan shops, and bookshops (it's known as England's official book town for good reason). You'll also have the Yorkshire Dales National Park on your doorstep as well as the Howgill Fells - the small group of hills adored by legendary fellwalker, illustrator, and guidebook author Alfred Wainwright. The walking opportunities here are outstanding, but if you fancy travelling further afield there's Kendal (home of the mint cake), Hawes, Wensleydale, Appleby-in-Westmorland, and Lake Windemere all within easy driving distance.

About

· 25 well-appointed guest rooms · Exclusive occupancy: 32 guests minimum · Check in from 4:00pm · For members check in from 2:00pm · Free Wi-Fi · Free on-site parking · Boot room and drying room · Travel cot & high chair · Discovery Point offering a wide range of local area maps, route guides, and information for self-guided walks · Books and games to borrow · Licensed bar · Lounges · Garden · Electric vehicle charging point - Please note, you will need to bring your own cables to use this EV charging point

Then & now

The earliest reference to Thorns (it was renamed Thorns Hall in 1685) was in 1534 when Alan Sedgwick transferred 'the gudewill and tennendright of my hole Fermold cald Thornys' to Giles Lund of Sedbergh for £30. It was then sold in 1586 to John Mayer, Master of Sedbergh School, and the property remained in the family until 1679. It continued as the residence for subsequent Masters of Sedbergh School until 1802 when it was marketed as a 'handsome roomy mansion...with a large fruitful garden and orchard, a cottage, two water corn mills, drying kiln, malt kiln and granary'. It was purchased by sea captain William Findlay for £4,650 and changed hands a few times thereafter. It has been part of our HF Holidays line-up since 1988 and was visited by King Charles III during our centenary celebrations in 2013.

Although the building has been renovated, many of the original features will appeal to history lovers; think wood-panelled public rooms, beamed ceilings, open fireplaces, and stone flag flooring. There's also a pretty garden, books and games to borrow during your stay, a handy boot and drying room, and a Discovery Point offering a wide range of local area maps, route guides, and easy-to-follow information for self-guided walks. Accommodation comes by way of 25 well-appointed guest rooms in three categories (Classic, Premium, and Superior) spread across the main house, cottages, and cobbled courtyard. You'll also find a dining room for a wide range of dishes made with fresh and seasonal ingredients, a licensed bar for cosying up with a drink by the log burner, and wow-worthy countryside views in every direction.

Check-In & Check-Out

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FOOD & DRINK

Dining

Seasonal dining, tailored for you

Our team of skilled chefs design our dinner menus to showcase the best of each season, from warming winter comfort food to vibrant summer dishes, including vegetarian, vegan and high-protein options. We also source fruit and vegetables within a 40-mile radius of each house, open every break with a Chef's Special menu inspired by dishes and flavours of the local area, and are able to adapt dishes to suit special dietary requirements.

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Your room at Thorns Hall

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Classic Rooms are comfortable en-suite guest rooms, ideal for a peaceful night's sleep. Amenities include free Wi-Fi, tea and coffee-making facilities, toiletries (hand wash, shampoo, and shower gel), and a TV.

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We love: The spacious Room 25 for its ground floor setting, brick fireplace, comfy seating, large bed, and gorgeous views of the gardens. Room 4 is large and airy while the cosier Room 13 has an exposed wood ceiling and courtyard view.

The **Choose Your Room** service is available at our UK country houses, allowing you the option of choosing and confirming a specific room for an extra charge of £30 per room. This is subject to availability. Upgrade supplements apply.

Room supplements

Superior	Premium single	Premium double/twin	Choose your room
£25 pppn	£20 pppn	£20 pppn	£30 per room

*Views and layout reflect each properties unique character and location

ACCESSIBILITY

For accessibility and assistance information, please contact our expert team on 020 3974 8865 or view the accessibility information online for Thorns Hall

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The walking day
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TRAVEL DETAILS

Address

Thorns Hall
Cautley Road
Sedbergh
Cumbria LA10 5LE

Tel: +44 (0)1539 620973

By train

The nearest station is Oxenholme, Lake District, on the main line between London and Glasgow.

Check National Rail for routes and journey times.

By shared transfer

If you're travelling to or from Thorns Hall on Mondays or Fridays or over the festive period, you can join our group transfer from Oxenholme Railway Station.

2026 prices are £50 per person for a return transfer or £25 per person for a single transfer.

Outward journey: Depart Oxenholme Railway Station at 16:45; arrive at Thorns Hall at 17:10.

Return journey: Depart Thorns Hall at 09:30; arrive at Oxenholme Railway Station at 10:10.

Places are limited so booking is essential. We recommend booking at least 14 days in advance by contacting:

HF Holidays Sales and Support Team
Tel: +44 (0)203 974 8865
Email: reservations@hfholidays.co.uk

By taxi

The journey from Oxenholme station to Thorns Hall is 10 miles and will take about 20 minutes.

For pricing, please contact Woofs of Sedbergh directly.

Woofs of Sedbergh
You can pre-book a taxi from our recommended company, Woofs of Sedbergh*. We recommend booking your taxi at least seven days in advance by contacting:

Tel: +44 (0)1539 620414
Email: woofs.sedbergh@outlook.com

A return journey can be arranged on your behalf by the HF Holidays House Manager at Thorns Hall.

*Woofs of Sedbergh is not owned or managed by HF Holidays.

By car

There's a car park available at Thorns Hall if you decide to drive.

Leave the M6 at junction 37 and follow the A684 eastbound for five miles to Sedbergh. At Sedbergh follow the road into Finkle Street (avoiding the main street), then almost immediately turn left at a small roundabout into Back Lane. Turn onto the A683 following signs to Kirkby Stephen. Thorns Hall is 100 yards on the left.

By air

The nearest airport is Manchester International Airport.

There are direct trains every hour to Oxenholme with the journey taking around 90 minutes. From Oxenholme station you can complete the journey to Sedbergh by taxi.

National Rail have up-to-date information on train times and routes.

Flying to London Heathrow airport is another option, but it'll take you at least four hours to reach Oxenholme. Catch the train to London Paddington station, then the London Underground to London Euston where you can connect to the main line train to Oxenholme. The journey from here is 2.5 hours.

LOCAL AREA

Places to visit in the Western Yorkshire Dales

Whether you're enjoying a guided or self-guided walking holiday, there's always the opportunity to linger for longer. Here's our pick of the very best things to see and do within easy travelling distance of Thorns Hall.

Sedbergh

A few minutes' walk away, this Cumbrian market town is treasured for its cobbled streets, public school, and bookshops (it became England's Book Town in 2003). Just down the road is the Farfield Mill Arts, a crafts and heritage centre housed in a Victorian woollen mill.

Kendal

Home of Romney's Kendal Mint Cake which was made famous on 29 May 1953 when it was carried on the first successful summit of Mount Everest by Sir Edmund Hillary and Sirdar Tenzing, this market town is a 20-minute drive away.

Sizergh Castle

A 25-minute drive away, this 1,600-acre estate delights with ancient woodland, an award-winning limestone rock garden, and a boating lake. Built by the Strickland family in 1350, the house has turrets, battlements, a collection of family paintings, and oak-panelled interiors.

Levens Hall & Garden

A 30-minute drive away, this privately-owned Elizabethan mansion is most cherished for its award-winning topiary gardens – the oldest in the world. Inside, there's fine oak panelling, ornate plasterwork, leather wall coverings, and he earliest examples of English patchwork.

Settle to Carlisle Railway

This 73-mile-long railway route crosses regions of the Yorkshire Dales and the North Pennines. Head south for the Ribblehead Viaduct as well as Settle, Skipton and Saltaire – or head north for Appleby. The nearest station is Garsdale, a 20-minute drive away.

Hawes & Wensleydale

A 30-minute drive through the Yorkshire Dales takes you to the Hawes, the market town of Upper Wensleydale. From here you can continue through to Wensleydale, the wide open valley famous for its historic villages, traditional markets and crafts, and plentiful cheeses.

Lake District

A 40-minute drive away, the Lake District in the heart of Cumbria has been adored by poets, painters, and literary giants for centuries. It spoils first-timers and returning visitors with charming villages, tumbling waterfalls, impressive peaks, and shimmering bodies of water.

Lake Windemere

An hour's drive away, this watery wonder measures 10.5 miles long, one mile wide, and 220 feet deep. Whether you start your journey in Bowness, Ambleside, or Lakeside, there are plenty of cruise operators offering old-fashioned steamers or modern sightseeing vessels.

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

Packing list

Weather conditions in the UK can vary throughout the day, and conditions in the mountains may be cold and windy even in summer. Use the following list as a guide when preparing for your holiday.

Essentials

- Suitable waterproof walking boots with ankle support and good grip
- Waterproof, wind-resistant jacket with a hood, taped seams and a hydrostatic head rating of at least 10,000 mm
- Waterproof overtrousers
- Spare warm clothing, such as a synthetic insulated jacket
- Comfortable walking clothing (jeans & waterproof capes are not suitable)
- Warm mid-layers, such as fleeces
- Gloves and a warm hat, even in summer
- Rucksack with a waterproof liner
- Water bottle with a capacity of at least 1 litre
- Flask for hot drinks
- Sunscreen
- UV-protective sunglasses
- Spare high-energy food
- Head torch and spare batteries for holidays between October and March
- Passport (if applicable)
- Visa (if applicable)
- Copy of your travel insurance policy

Recommended

- Several base layers, with long or short sleeves
- Cushioned walking socks to avoid blisters
- First-aid kit, including plasters, insect repellent, a midge net and a tick-removal tool
- Sit mat
- Waterproof pouch for valuables
- Rubbish bags
- Wallet or purse

- Camera
- Walking poles
- Sun hat
- Gaiters
- Mobile Phones
- Swimwear (please see accommodation information for hotel facilities)
- Membership cards for English Heritage, the National Trust or similar heritage organisations in Scotland and Wales, if you are a member. These may be useful when visiting attractions during your itinerary or on your free day.

JOINING INSTRUCTIONS

Joining instructions for Dales Way

Baggage transfers

When you change from Newfield Hall to Thorns Hall we will arrange for your luggage to be transferred. This is included in the cost of your holiday. Please remember that other people will need to move your suitcase so please pack thoughtfully. If you can limit your luggage to one bag, rucksack or suitcase that would be very helpful.

Your personal transfer to Thorns Hall is also included in the cost of your holiday. You will be taken to Thorns Hall at the end of your walk on Day 4.

Holiday start

As this holiday starts and finishes at two different points, travelling by train may be the most convenient method of travel.

The most convenient railway station to Newfield Hall is at Skipton. Gargrave station is closer, but there is no taxi service from this station. The 8.5-mile journey from Skipton Station takes approximately 20 minutes.

Our station transfer

We offer a transfer between Skipton railway station and Newfield Hall every Friday. The pickup is at 16:10 from Skipton railway station. Places are limited so booking is essential. We recommend booking at least 14 days in advance by contacting:

HF Holidays Sales and Support Team
Tel: 020 8015 0027
Email: reservations@hfholidays.co.uk

Holiday finish

Your holiday finishes in Sedbergh. The most convenient station to Thorns Hall is Oxenholme station on the mainline. However, an alternative is Garsdale station (on the same rail line as Skipton railway station).

Our station transfer

We offer a transfer from Thorns Hall to Oxenholme on a Friday. The transfer departs Thorn Hall at 09:30; arriving at Oxenholme Railway Station at 10:10. Places are limited so booking is essential. We recommend booking at least 14 days in advance by contacting:

HF Holidays Sales and Support Team
Tel: 020 8015 0027
Email: reservations@hfholidays.co.uk

If you wish to travel by car

Guests who have travelled to Newfield Hall by car can leave their car in the car park at Newfield Hall and on Day 8 we have arranged a transfer from Thorns Hall back to Newfield Hall, the cost of this is included in your holiday.

For more information on getting to our country houses please refer to the accommodation pages.

USEFUL INFORMATION

Ticks information

Ticks are tiny creatures that live in vegetation and can attach themselves to passing animals or walkers and may carry a risk of Lyme Disease. Please refer to NHS advice and guidelines for information: https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/lyme-disease/

TRIPNOTE VALIDITY

TRIP NOTE VALIDITY These Trip Notes are valid based on the date printed at the bottom of the page. They will occasionally be updated post booking and pre-departure. We will send you the latest trip notes prior to departure through a link in your pre departure documents or we can send you a copy in the post if preferred. In booking this trip you should be confident in your ability to participate in all activities described in these Trip Notes. If you have any doubt about your suitability you should call HF Holidays and ask to speak to one of the team about this itinerary. The information in these Trip Notes is given in good faith. Where differences exist between the Trip Notes and our current brochure, the Trip Notes supersede the brochure. All holidays can be subject to unexpected changes; so please be prepared to be flexible where necessary. At times, it may not be possible to follow the itinerary as planned due to weather conditions, political, physical or other factors. In these circumstances we will make the best possible alternative arrangements to maintain the integrity of the original itinerary.

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