

Swaledale & Arkengarthdale

The two far northern dales, with their iconic farming landscape of field barns and drystone walls, are the perfect place to retreat from a busy world and relax.

At the head of Swaledale is the tiny village of Keld - you can explore its history at the Keld Countryside & Heritage Centre. This is the crossing point of the Coast to Coast Walk and the Pennine Way long distance footpaths, and one end of the newest cycle route, the Swale Trail (read more about this on page 10).

The River Swale is one of England's fastest rising spate rivers, rushing its way between Thwaite, Muker, Reeth and Richmond.

On the moors you're likely to see the hardy Swaledale sheep, key to the livelihood of many Dales farmers - and the logo for the Yorkshire Dales National Park; in the valleys, tranquil hay meadows, at their best in the early summer months.

It is hard to believe these calm pastures and wild moors were ever a site for

industry, but in many places you will see the dramatic remains of the former leadmining industry. Find out more about local life at the Swaledale Museum in Reeth.

Also in Reeth are great shops showcasing local photography and arts and crafts: stunning images at Scenic View Gallery and dramatic sculptures at Graculus, as well as exciting new artists cooperative, Fleece.

Further up the valley in Muker is cosy Swaledale Woollens and the Old School Gallery.

If you want to get active, why not learn navigation with one of the companies in the area that offer training courses or take to the hills on two wheels with Dales Bike Centre.

And after all the exercise, there are some great cafés and pubs to enjoy. Have a drink at Tan Hill - the highest pub in Great Britain - or a meal at the CB Inn or The Burgoyne Hotel.

Further down the Swale lies the market town of Richmond with its castle ramparts rising above the river and a stunning market square. The old station has been converted into a great place to visit with cinema, art galleries and a brewery that can be toured.

Find out more at www.swaledale.net



The glorious wildflower meadows of Muker

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Address: The Old School, Gunning Lane, Muker, DL11 6QG | Tel: 01748 886155 | Email: ask@theoldschoolmuker.co.uk

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STARTS 10.00

Traditional Yorkshire Show

Wednesday

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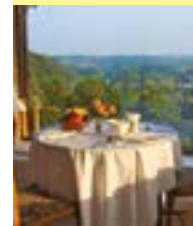
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SPECIAL EXHIBITION

For every British and Empire soldier killed during the First World War, eight survived. What did they go home to, what did society expect of them, how did they adapt to their new reality?



Image © IWM

Malham Landscape Trail

Voted third in
ITV's Britain's
Favourite Walks:
Top 100, with
Julia Bradbury

This classic walk takes in three of Malham's most popular and intriguing features: the magical glade of Janet's Foss waterfall, where, according to legend, Janet, Queen of the Faeries, made her home; the steep-sided gorge of Gordale Scar, reputedly the inspiration for Helms Deep in Tolkien's Lord of the Rings; and, finally, Malham Cove, an extraordinary 70 metre high natural limestone amphitheatre, topped by a lunar landscape of limestone pavement reached by 400 stone steps.

Distance: 3.9 miles (6.3km)

Time: 1½ hours minimum

Parking and toilets: Malham National Park Centre BD23 4DA (SD 90016 62628)

Route description

1. Turn left out of the car park and head into the village, looking out for Malham Smithy on your right. As you approach the Smithy, turn right onto an old stone clapper bridge. On the far side, turn right onto the Pennine Way. Follow it until you reach two wooden kissing gates.

2. Turn left through the gates and follow the stone flagged path all the way through open fields. Pass through a gate into woodland. In spring and summer carpets of bluebells and wild garlic can be seen in and amongst the ash, birch and hazel trees. The path weaves its way up to Janet's Foss - the old Norse word for waterfall or force. Follow it up past the waterfall taking care over the rocks and tree roots until you reach Gordale Road.

3. Turn right and, after a short distance, turn left onto another footpath just before

a bridge. (NB. Instead of turning off here, you could make the detour to Gordale Scar). Follow the path up through fields, pass through two narrow gates and then bear left on a stony path along a field ledge.

4. When you reach the road, turn right for a short distance, cross the road, and then go left over a stile onto a footpath across open fields. Follow this for 500 metres to a junction and wall corner where you stay left.

5. This path takes you to the top of Malham Cove - take care near the edge. Limestone rock can be extremely slippery when wet. Fine views down Malhamdale can be enjoyed from the top. Cross the top of the Cove and take the stepped path back down to the foot. Follow the level clear path back to the village.



The Malham Landscape Trail booklet, which includes the full route, information on the area's history, wildlife and geology, and what you will see on the way round, can be purchased at Malham National Park Centre.

Magnificent Malham Cove can also be reached on an easy, barrier-free walk from the village. The 2 mile round trip is suitable for pushchairs and wheelchair users. For details of gradient and path surfaces, check the accessible walk 'Miles Without Stiles: Malham Cove' on our website at www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/short-walks

Go Wild! at Malham on 29 May, 26 July and 23 August, with free drop-in activities for accompanied 5 to 12 year olds. We've lots of crafty stuff and wildlife investigations - all you need to bring is an adult to help you with any tricky stuff.

Find out about these and our other Go Wild! events at Kirkby Lonsdale (2 Aug), Kirkby Stephen (9 Aug) and Aysgarth Falls (16, 30 Aug, 25 Oct) on pages 23 to 46.



If you are a school group interested in doing the Malham Landscape Trail, we can arrange a leader for a 5 hour session including an interpretive walk looking at landscape, wildlife, heritage, community and economic issues.

To discuss details and charges, please email learning@yorkshiredales.org.uk

If you want the chance to catch the world's fastest animal breed and hunt, look out for news of Malham Cove's **peregrine falcons** in 2018.

Successive breeding pairs of these amazing creatures have chosen to nest at the Cove for the last 25 years. They have proved a spectacular sight for the thousands of visitors who've flocked to see them and we hope they will return this year.

The hugely popular Malham Peregrine Project, a partnership between the

Walk with us



While Malham Landscape Trail can be enjoyed as a self-guided walk, by joining our walk leaders on a guided event you could learn so much more.

We have put together a great programme for 2018, from lunchtime strolls to full day hikes. There is something for all ages, abilities and interests. And what better way to explore this beautiful area?

Our volunteers and staff know loads about the area and are trained to lead safely - but best of all they are passionate about the National Park. Those who come out with us tell us our friendly leaders are the best thing about their day and make the countryside and its stories come alive.

We'll take time to point out features of interest. We walk at the pace of the slowest participant, wait for everyone to get over stiles, and generally take things nice and easy.

Did you know that on an average mile you take 2,112 steps and burn 100 calories? Plus spending time in the countryside lifts spirits, and learning new things increases wellbeing.

A guided walk in good company will give you an all-round boost!

Our walks are graded to help you find the right one for you - browse our events calendar on pages 23 to 46.



National Park Authority and RSPB, has seen a free public viewpoint with telescopes set up at the base of the Cove from April to July.

It is one of the most successful peregrine nest sites in the Yorkshire Dales National Park, with at least 56 young raised since a pair first nested in 1993.

Find out more by following the Malham Peregrine Project Facebook page. And why not join our guided walk on 10 June when you might even see this year's chicks - see page 22.



Dales Countryside Museum



Start your visit to the Yorkshire Dales National Park at the Dales Countryside Museum and discover the incredible story of the landscape and the people who have lived, worked and played here.

Children visit FREE and, with our £9 annual pass for adults, your family can make the most of all our drop-in activities - there are mini-beast safaris, miniature scavenger hunts, bushcrafts and woodland crafts on Fridays during school holidays.

The Museum is housed in the former Victorian railway station in Hawes and there are fun and fascinating things for visitors of all ages to see and do!

Climb aboard the train carriages and get crafty in our Creation Station. See beautifully crafted objects like our

exquisite Bronze Age spearhead and gold Viking ring - found nearby. Have fun on our outdoor trail: spot who's living in our bughouse, see the work of Yorkshire artists, and invent your own stories in our special storytelling chair.

Browse our shop for Distinctly Dales products created by local artists and makers. Our National Park Centre staff can provide you with maps, books and all the advice you need to make the most of your trip.

And if you have Dales connections, come and dip into your family history in our Research Room - expert help is on hand on Mondays and Wednesdays.

New from April 2018!

- ✓ Explore our new mining displays and find out what it was like to be a lead miner. See fascinating objects rescued from underground sites across the Yorkshire Dales, including the recently conserved Providence Mine water wheel and crushers.
- ✓ Discover the importance of the Dales knitting industry and see our collection of knitting sticks in the vibrant new textile gallery.



Admission

(ticket valid for 7 days)

Adult £4.80
Concession £4.30
Under 16s FREE
Groups of 10+ £4.30

Annual pass £9

Friend of the Museum
annual subscription £10

Opening times

Open daily 10am to 5pm February to October, 10am to 4.30pm November and December. Closed Christmas Eve to Boxing Day and throughout January.

How to find us

Dales Countryside Museum,
Station Yard, Burtsett Road,
Hawes, North Yorkshire, DL8 3NT

01969 666210

dcm@yorkshiredales.org.uk

www.dalescountrysidemuseum.org.uk



@dalesmuseum



dalesmuseum

Good to know

- Dales Countryside Museum is accessible by public transport.
- Pushchair and wheelchair friendly site.
- £1 discount on Museum admission for one person with day car parking ticket.



Hawes National Park Centre is based at the Museum - please call to find out about places to stay and visit.



EXHIBITIONS IN 2018

01 February to 26 March

Voices from the Land

What does it take to work this harsh land? How has it changed? An exhibition of photographs and audio recordings shares the lives and practices of Dales farmers today.

01 April to 03 July

Life & Tradition in the Yorkshire Dales: A Celebration

Celebrating 50 years since this important work by iconic Dales authors Marie Hartley and Joan Ingilby captured the last days of a disappearing rural way of life. Original notes, photographs, sketches and artefacts.

06 July to 30 September

Twenty Years of the Calendar Girls

Inspired by the tragic illness of Angela Baker's husband John - an Assistant National Park Officer - her friends created an alternative WI calendar and the fundraising phenomenon that followed. Follow their story.



04 October to 26 November

Fabric of Place

The culmination of a two year, artist-in-residence project focusing on the distinctiveness of Reeth and Swaledale, four artists explore the area, its communities and their relationship with where they live.



At the cosy **Firebox Café** you can refuel, recharge and relax, and make the most of your visit to the Museum and Hawes. Run by Stage 1 Cycles, it is also a **bike shop, cycle training, hire and activity centre**. The café's name refers to the firebox on a steam train which not only fuelled the engine but was also where the crew prepared their bacon and eggs!



There are fabulous **events** running all year long.

Roll-up your sleeves and try something new like rugmaking, woodblock printing, and working with tin. This year we're celebrating the 50th anniversary of the publication of *Life & Tradition in the Yorkshire Dales* [see Exhibitions], so there are more crafts than ever to try.

Watch drystone walling, blacksmithing and stickmaking demos. See traditional textile techniques like quilting brought to life. Chat to Mrs H in the Victorian kitchen about washday, dairying and preserving. Drop in and taste local cheese, make real butter and discover Yorkshire Dales oatcakes and the historical stories these everyday ingredients tell - part of the Yorkshire Dales Cheese Festival - 15 to 22 September.

Check out the full listing - including seasonal treats - on our website.



Wensleydale

The market town of Hawes lies at the head of Wensleydale and is home to the Dales Countryside Museum and the world-famous Wensleydale Creamery - the source of Wallace and Grommit's much loved cheese. There are plenty of shops and places to eat and it is a great base to head out on a walk or cycle ride.

From Hawes you can jump on the Little White Bus to Snaizholme red squirrel trail and see these loveable creatures making a comeback in their natural habitat.

Close to the town is Hardraw Force - the highest single-drop waterfall in England. And there are many other spectacular waterfalls in the valley: Cauldron Force at



West Burton, made famous by the artist J M W Turner, the dramatic Aysgarth Falls (pictured), and more hidden delights, such as Mill Gill at Askrigg.

The largest natural lake in the Dales, Semer Water, is much enjoyed by anglers, canoeists and sailors.

The medieval Bolton Castle is incredibly well preserved and you can wander through the rooms and admire the views from the battlements. Find out about falcons, have a go at archery or tour the gardens. Nearby Redmire is a starting point for the vintage Wensleydale Railway which offers passenger services to Leeming Bar.

The wonderful Aysgarth Edwardian Rock Garden, commissioned by local landowner Frank Sayer-Graham (1859-1946), has such a fascinating story that it is now

Grade II listed. Jervaulx Abbey, located in a beautiful, wooded setting by the River Ure, is privately owned but open to the general public and has an 'honesty box' to help towards its upkeep.

And for the big kid in everyone, head to the mysterious The Forbidden Corner to solve riddles and explore hidden passages.

In the lower dale are a string of lovely market towns. Middleham has a superb castle owned by Historic England, Masham has two famous breweries to visit - Black Sheep and Theakstons, and Leyburn's highlights include The Garden Rooms at Tennants, an arts venue and eatery.

Find out more at wensleydale.org, www.welcometoleyburn.co.uk and www.visitmasham.com



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Dog in the Park



Every year millions of dogs - local and visitors - enjoy the National Park with owner in tow, and who can blame them for taking the lead. There's great exploring to be done and many dog-friendly establishments.

But it's no walk in the park. The safety and enjoyment of every dog and its family is important when out and about.

Dogs must be kept under control at heel or better still on a lead around livestock - after all, your dog could be shot for disturbing or chasing farm animals. If

chased, it is safer to drop the lead and get out of the field.

Many ground nesting birds are easily disturbed by inquisitive dogs and fly away leaving the nest vulnerable. From March to July use a short lead.

Poo - bag it and bin it! Toxocariasis can be passed via waste to other dogs and people, and even into the soil.

Watch out for instructional signage on gates and posts, call into a National Park Centre for more advice (dogs welcome!), and check out our website at www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/dogs-and-the-dales

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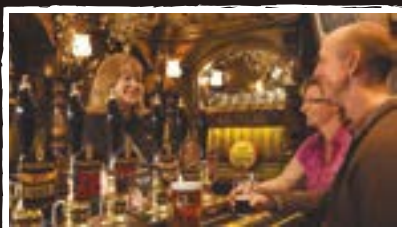
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Get out there!

Renowned for its unspoilt natural beauty, wonderful wildlife and rich cultural heritage, Yorkshire Dales National Park offers a treasure trove of delights, from high purple-heathered fells and ancient broadleaf woodland to its fascinating historical sites and industrial past.

Long before it became a National Park, visitors sought out the Dales for its breathtaking scenery. Eighteenth century writers and artists were drawn to its dramatic landscapes and by 1781 a tour guide was charging intrepid tourists one shilling to visit Weathercote Cave with a guide.

With over 2,500km of glorious footpaths, two national trails and the longest cave system in Britain, no trip to the Yorkshire



Dales would be complete without spending some time in the great outdoors.

Indulge in a relaxing riverside picnic or take a short stroll. Try climbing, kayaking or geocaching. You don't have to be an adrenaline junkie to enjoy what the National Park has to offer - though there are plenty of opportunities for you, too.

Step by step

Walking is one of the most popular activities in the National Park and it's not hard to see why.

If ticking off high peaks is your thing or you've come to enjoy glorious wildflower meadows in full bloom, there are old leadmining remains to be discovered, idyllic waterfalls to visit, and wildlife to spy along the way.

You can choose to join a guided walk with knowledgeable local leaders (read

more on pages 60-61 and browse our 2018 programme on pages 23-47) or strike out on your own.

Our Information Advisors can advise on some wonderful routes to try whether you are looking to pass an hour or a day, and there are plenty of books and maps to buy from our National Park Centres.



For more ideas and downloadable walk routes, go to www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/walking

Head to our website at www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/get-outdoors to find out about all the activities the Dales has to offer. And when the sun goes

down, the stars come out. Free from light pollution, the experience of being able to see the myriad stars in the National Park is truly special. Discover more at darkskiesnationalparks.org.uk.



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All details of the courses etc. can be found on the Guild's website:
www.ydswg.co.uk

If you wish to discuss any aspect of a particular course please contact Graham Brown (Course Co-ordinator) on 01943 863291 or email: courses@ydswg.co.uk

GIFT VOUCHERS AVAILABLE



Pedal power

With the thrill of the Tour de France Grand Départ visiting the National Park in 2014 and Tour de Yorkshire passing through again in 2018, no guide to the outdoors would be complete without mentioning cycling.

There is a fantastic network of quiet roads to explore - some of which are even relatively flat! However, it is taking on the area's great climbs that many cyclists come for. Buttertubs Pass, Fleet Moss and Park Rash are recognised as some of the best in the country and gave the elite riders of Le Tour a fitting test.

If you prefer to get off the road, then the network of bridleways is outstanding with a massive variety of routes to choose from. You can explore these by mountain bike or on horseback, and if you don't have one of your own then you can hire either while you are here. Our dedicated website www.cyclethedailes.org.uk will tell you more, or go to www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/horse-riding.



The spectacular 2018 **Tour de Yorkshire** speeds into the National Park on its way from Halifax to Leeds on Sunday 6 May.

Stage 4 of the four day event will enter just north of Skipton and pass through Burnsall, Kilnsey and Kettlewell before heading up Park Rash and on to Coverdale and Middleham. Find out more at letour.yorkshire.com

Going underground

One of the special qualities of the Yorkshire Dales is its limestone scenery - and that means crags, sinkholes, dry valleys and caves. More than half the UK's limestone pavement - such as the top of Malham Cove and stunning Great Asby Scar - is found in the National Park.

Read more in our feature on pages 16-17 and at www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/caving

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National Park Notes

All the sights, smells and tastes of the National Park will be coming to London this May, as the Yorkshire Dales has been chosen as the theme of Welcome to Yorkshire's 2018 RHS Chelsea Flower Show garden.

As well as showcasing the area's natural beauty, the garden will celebrate Yorkshire's traditional crafts and skilled artisan food production. The Dales' iconic drystone walls will be authentically recreated from genuine Yorkshire stone on loan from the Bolton Estate, which will be returned there after the show.

Find out more at www.yorkshire.com

Be our eyes and ears...

A fantastic variety of wildlife call the National Park home, but some species are particularly at risk from illegal persecution.

Our recent consultation with residents and visitors on the area's management over the next five years highlighted that wildlife crime - especially bird of prey persecution - was a concern for many people.

Despite legal protection, birds like peregrine, hen harrier, buzzard, short-eared owl and red kite continue to be illegally killed or injured in and around the National Park. North Yorkshire is the worst county in the UK for crimes against birds of prey. Birds are killed by shooting, trapping or poisoning.

We are working closely with the police and other partners to tackle wildlife

crime, but we need your eyes and ears to help us. If you see any signs of wildlife crime, please call 101, or 999 if a crime is in progress.

Help us keep the Dales special

- Stay on rights of way through fields and meadows and reduce your impact on wildlife and agriculture.
- Use your car less and enjoy other means of getting around.
- Stay overnight and shop locally rather than bringing food with you - this helps boost the local economy and ensures a sustainable future for those who live and work here.
- Respect the life and work of people who live here - much of the land is privately-owned.

CRUEL AND DANGEROUS



ILLEGALLY POISONED

Animal carcasses laced with poison are sometimes deliberately used to kill other wildlife, particularly birds of prey. This is cruel and illegal, and such poisoned bait is also a serious risk to the health of members of the public and their children or pets, should they come into contact with it.

If you think an animal or bird has been illegally poisoned, keep your children and animals away, make a note of your location, and ring North Yorkshire Police immediately by dialling **101**, or call the Wildlife Incident Investigation Scheme: Telephone: **0800 321 600**





Pitch in for Whernside

At 736m, Whernside is the highest peak in Yorkshire.

Part of the iconic Yorkshire Three Peaks challenge route, people have been attracted to its summit since Victorian times and today Whernside gets well over 80,000 walkers every year. But it is suffering from this popularity.

A new campaign aims to raise money for the repair of this much-loved footpath - and we are asking for your support.

'Pitch in for Whernside' has been launched by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority as part of the British Mountaineering Council's national 'Mend Our Mountains: Make One Million' fundraising campaign. Our aim is to raise £46,000 to 'rebuild part of the Bruntscar path, the main descent off the summit of Whernside.

The steepest section is particularly susceptible to damage and becoming increasingly eroded, undermining the local ecology. In its current condition the path is

extremely difficult to use, causing people to walk off route, and creating an ever-widening scar on Yorkshire's highest hillside.

With more people than ever enjoying what the wonderful Three Peaks have to offer, the paths take a great deal of skill and money to maintain. The Mend our Mountains campaign is about inspiring walkers everywhere with a positive message about the need to look after the places we care about.

If you have a passion for the peaks, please donate now via mendourmountains.thebmc.co.uk/yorkshire-dales.

Any amount is welcomed and helps us get one step closer to our target. There will also be some great crowd-funding campaigns to get involved in - help us spread the word.

The scale of the task is huge given Bruntscar's remote location and steep conditions - but we think Whernside's worth it!



Cave & fell rescue

The Cave Rescue Organisation, based here in Clapham, is believed to be the oldest in the world.

It was formed after an incident at Gingles Hole in 1934 when a potholer broke his leg. The long drawn out rescue that followed provided a serious lesson for all. The following month Settle St John Ambulance, Giggleswick School and six potholing clubs met and proposed the world's first cavers' self-help group.

The Yorkshire and Cumbria-based rescue teams are still made up of amazing, highly trained volunteers who give their time freely 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, to provide a safety net for anyone off the beaten track, above or below ground.

In an emergency, would you know how to get help?

1. Call 999
2. Ask for 'Police' and say which county you are in
3. Ask the Police for 'cave' or 'fell' rescue
4. Say where you are and give a description and grid reference
5. Describe the problem and answer any other questions
6. Stay by a phone or where you can maintain a signal on your mobile, keeping the line clear so you can be called back.

The rescue team will call other services as required.



To find out more about staying safe in the countryside, visit www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/take-care



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All you have to do is to complete the questionnaire below and return it to us by 3 December 2018 - it's as simple as that!

Our prize-winners will enjoy a 2 night break with bed and breakfast for 2 adults up to the value of £200.

For your chance to win this super prize, send in your questionnaire right away!

1. Where did you obtain your copy of 'The Visitor 2018'?

- ☐ Yorkshire Dales National Park Centre
- ☐ Tourist Information Centre (please specify)
- ☐ Other (please specify)

2. What did you enjoy most about the newspaper?

.....

3. What did you find most useful?

.....

4. Was there anything you did not particularly enjoy?

.....

5. What would you like to see included in future editions?

.....

6. Were you directly influenced by 'The Visitor 2018' to:

visit any attractions

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

go to any events

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

buy any of the advertised products

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

visit our website www.yorkshiredales.org.uk

- ☐ Yes ☐ No

Terms & conditions: 1. Prize is 2 nights bed & breakfast accommodation in the National Park for up to 2 people to a maximum value of £200. 2. Entries to be received by 3 December 2018; draw will take place 4 December 2018. 3. Entrants must be 18 or over. 4. Prize is non-transferable and cannot be exchanged. No cash alternative. 5. Prize to be taken before 31 December 2019. 6. Conditions apply. For full terms & conditions email info@yorkshiredales.org.uk or call 0300 456 0030. Please note that your name and address will not be used for any future mailings by us or any third party.

7. How would you rate the following aspects of The Visitor 2018 (where 6 is excellent and 1 is poor)? Please circle.

Size 1 2 3 4 5 6

Paper quality 1 2 3 4 5 6

Informative and educational value
1 2 3 4 5 6

Balance of advertisements and editorial
1 2 3 4 5 6

Range of articles and features
1 2 3 4 5 6

8. Overall, how satisfied were you with this publication? Please circle.

< not at all greatly >
1 2 3 4 5 6

9. How well did this publication show what is special about this National Park? Please circle.

< not at all greatly >
1 2 3 4 5 6

Fill out this form and return it along with your questionnaire so we can enter you into the prize draw. The first entry drawn on 4 December 2018 will receive the prize.

Name

Address

.....

Postcode

Please return to: The Visitor 2018,
YDNPA, FREEPOST RLZG-JARG-TXAK,
Yoredale, Bainbridge, Leyburn, North
Yorkshire, DL8 3EL

10. Are you a resident of the Yorkshire Dales National Park ☐ , a day visitor ☐ or on holiday ☐ ? Please tick.

11. Please indicate your age group

- ☐ 18-24 years ☐ 25-34 years
- ☐ 35-44 years ☐ 45-54 years
- ☐ 55-64 years ☐ 65-74 years
- ☐ 75+ years



Kirkby Lonsdale & the Lune Valley

In the heart of the Lune Valley sits the charming historic market town of Kirkby Lonsdale. Its many old buildings, such as St. Mary's Church - often dating back many hundreds of years - are clustered around narrow cobbled streets and squares, and there is now a great range of independent shops, cafés, pubs and hotels and a regular market which add to its atmosphere.

A short walk away is Ruskin's View, a well known viewpoint over the River Lune which was painted by the renowned eighteenth century landscape artist J M W Turner.

From there you can take a stroll alongside the river to visit the spectacular span of Devil's Bridge. There is a great picnic area to enjoy by the river or you can buy a mug of tea from the famous snack wagon.

If golf is your thing, then there are two courses to play on. Kirkby Lonsdale Golf has 18 holes and offers 'stay and play' packages with unlimited golf and local overnight accommodation. Casterton Golf Club is a 9 hole course which also offers a Par 3 course ideal for beginners.

The east side of the Lune Valley rises up to the high fells of Middleton, Barbon, Leck and Casterton. This wild and exposed area hides a secret - the longest cave system in Britain. The Three Counties stretches 89km under Yorkshire, Lancashire and Cumbria with over 40 entrances (read more on page 16).

Intersecting these fells is the wonderful steep-sided valley of Barbondale which gives a picturesque route through to Dent. It also hosts the famous Barbon hill climb - a course that has been testing drivers who enjoy a challenge since 1950.

Further north, the Lune gorge forms a natural pass between the Howgills and the Lake District fells which has been used by travellers for thousands of years. The Dales Way long-distance path still uses this route in its journey connecting the Yorkshire Dales and Lake Windermere.

Running through the valley is the old



Enjoying the River Lune near Devil's Bridge

railway line which once linked Clapham to Tebay. As you explore you can still see evidence of this superb piece of engineering in a number of dramatic viaducts which span the valley.

Tebay was once a bustling railway junction town and is still a convenient stopping

point with easy access, making it a good base for walkers and cyclists.

More information can be found at www.kirkbylonsdale.co.uk



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Rather than ask for general donations we will identify specific projects that need your support so you will always know where your money is going. Currently, you can choose to support the repair and maintenance of the much-loved Three Peaks footpaths, or help our work in providing our native red squirrels with the best habitat.

Any donation, large or small, will be gratefully received and you can be sure it will be put to work to the benefit of the National Park.



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Malhamdale

Malhamdale is famous for its stunning limestone scenery and includes some of the best known natural wonders in the National Park. This area has inspired poets, artists and film makers - and it is not hard to see why.

A short walk along good paths from the pretty village of Malham - with its busy National Park Centre, pubs and cafés - is the soaring limestone 'amphitheatre' of Malham Cove. For the last 25 years, peregrine falcons - the world's fastest animal - have chosen to nest and raise their young here. The RSPB and Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority set up a free public viewing point each summer so that visitors can study the birds through high powered telescopes, alongside other wildlife, such as woodpeckers and little owls, that call the cove home.

The top of the cove is reached by 400 stone steps that climb up its left hand side, where a stunning landscape of limestone pavement made up of clints (blocks) and grikes (fissures) stretches before you.

Above the cove lies Malham Tarn, the highest natural lake in England. The tarn - alongside the sooty marks on the cove wall - are said to have inspired Charles



Walkers at Malham Cove

Kingsley who wrote The Water Babies while staying nearby. The site is managed by the National Trust and features great walks around the lake, a boardwalk through the nature reserve and a bird hide to visit. You may be lucky enough to see one of the water voles that have been released here.

Don't miss out on walking in to the towering gorge of Gordale Scar (below left). Hemmed in by high cliffs, a waterfall emerges through a hole in the rock at its deepest point. On your way there you pass Janet's Foss, a lovely woodland waterfall and shaded pool. Janet, the Queen of the Faeries, is said to live in the cave behind the falls.

Malham village is home to the blacksmith Annabelle Bradley who designs and makes beautiful wrought ironwork. Further down the valley you can learn about charcuterie

with Chris Wildman at Town End Farm Shop, which also has a café and selection of local produce for sale.

There are many events held at Malham, the two biggest being Malham Safari at the end of May and Malham Show at the end of August - both provide great days out for all the family.

Visit www.malhamdale.com for further information.



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