

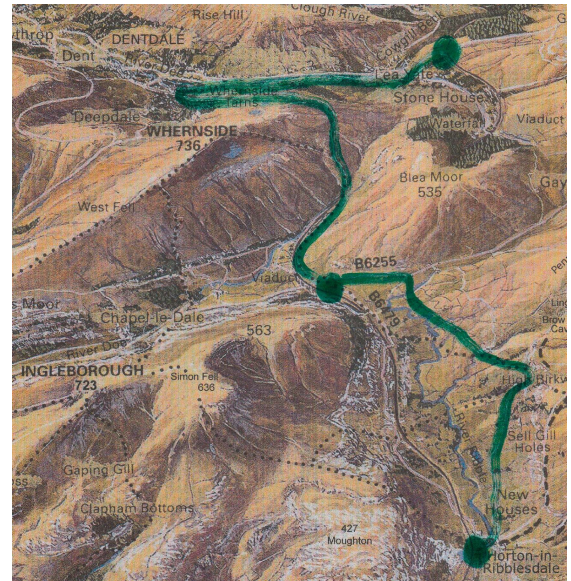
# The Yorkshire Dales Dent to Horton

from [www.weekwalks.co.uk/shortwalks.htm](http://www.weekwalks.co.uk/shortwalks.htm)

This is a great walk in the vicinity of the three peaks (Whernside, Ingleborough and Pen-y-ghent) and the almost equally splendid Ribbleshead Viaduct. It utilises stations on the Settle-Carlisle railway and offers opportunities to climb two of the peaks.

## 1. Walking days and practicalities

Two, including travel time from London. The first is 6 miles from Dent station (8 miles if you include Whernside summit), the second 7 miles on to Horton-in-Ribblesdale (9 if you include Ingleborough summit). You stay at the splendidly-situated Station Inn at Ribbleshead. There are many options depending on the weather, but this is big country and there is no shelter. The overall outlook can be splendid, or bleak. Paths can be boggy and are not always clear - waterproof shoes are highly desirable.



## 2. Getting there and away

Dent and Horton-in-Ribblesdale stations are both on the Leeds to Carlisle line.

## 3. Navigation

OS Explorer OL2, Yorkshire Dales (Southern & Western Areas) at 1:25000 (or electronic equivalent) is essential.

## 4. The Route:

**Day 1:** On leaving Dent station you are immediately among mountains. Go down the hill and over the river Dee to meet the Dales Way. Turn left for a low-level route to Blae Moor road and the Inn, or right for higher options, as we did. The Dales Way wanders by the river, until after Laithbank there are paths uphill. Take the steepest. There are ladder stiles but the path is not clear. Go on up until you meet the Dales High Way. We aimed for some masts which are on that path, but the official join is further up. That path is clear and will take you all the way, over a shoulder of Whernside and down to the Inn. If you want to do the summit the path is on the right just past some sheepfolds, but is not marked; after the summit it's a dogs-leg path down to the Inn.

**Day 2:** For the high route go right from the Inn along the road and take the path over Ingleborough and down to the Horton station. When we were there the weather was poor so we went left to join the Ribble Way. It goes over the moors to Nether Lodge in a surprisingly remote area; the path is not always clear and navigation is required.



Ignoring other paths, continue towards High Birkwith; just before that is a choice point of a path uphill to continue on the Ribble Way, or even higher up on to the Pennine Way. The clouds and rain told us to keep low; right-ish by a wall to a wood, where soon High Birkwith appears below, and thence by a small scenic road down to Horton. There are two Inns and a café while you wait for the train.