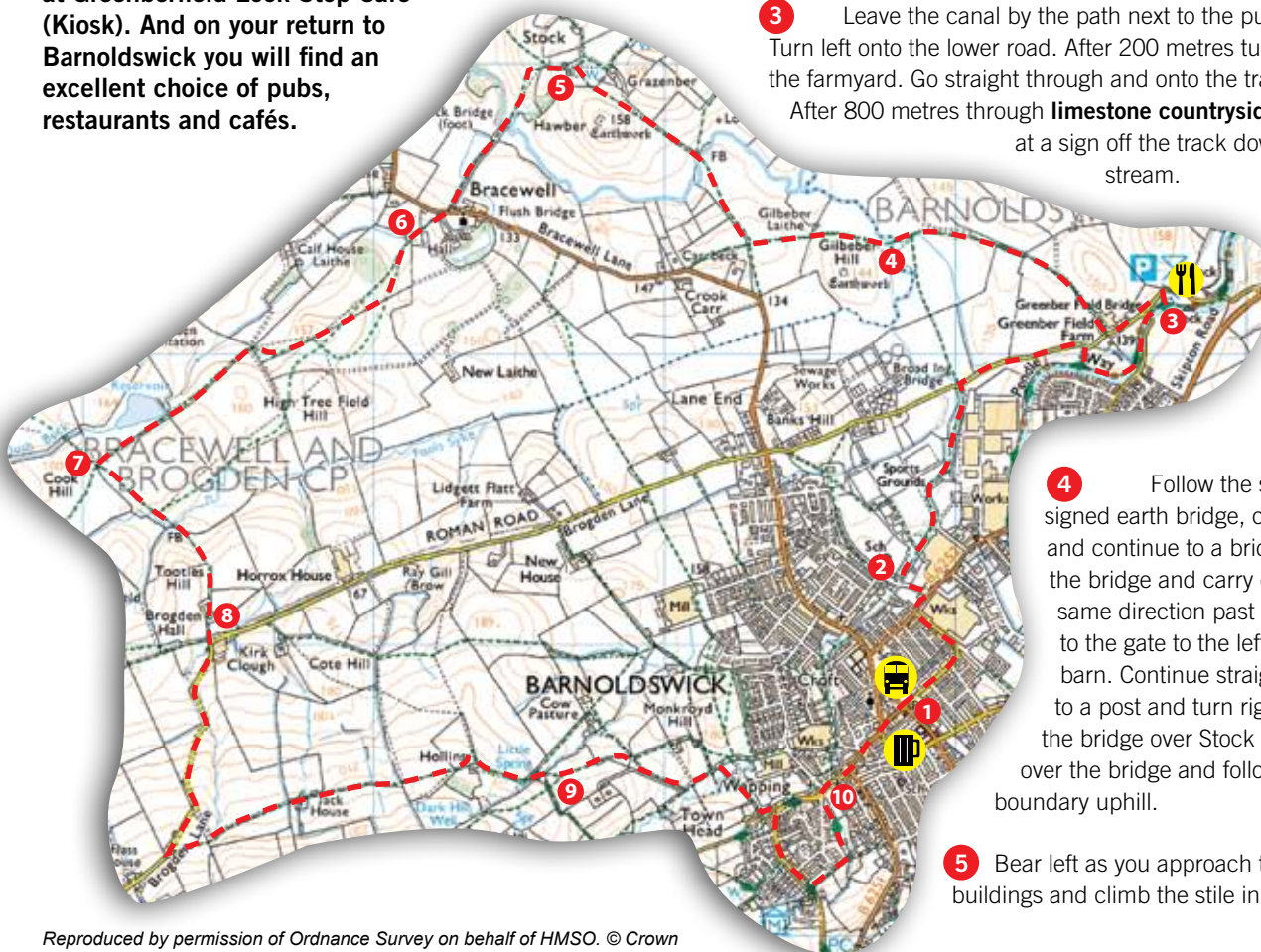


Barnoldswick

Length: 7¼ Miles

Time: 4 ± 4½ hours

We start in the historic market town of **Barnoldswick** on a route which takes you through the **Drumlins** – the gentle hills – which surround **Barnoldswick**. We pass through the site of a **Scheduled Ancient Monument** where the village of **Stock** has now almost disappeared. Refreshments are available at **Greenberfield Lock Stop Café (Kiosk)**. And on your return to **Barnoldswick** you will find an excellent choice of pubs, restaurants and cafés.



1 Start at the public car park in the centre of **Barnoldswick** on Fernlea Avenue behind the public toilets. Turn right out of the car park via the recycling containers down Well House Road. Follow the road round to the left and at the junction with Skipton Road cross over and turn right. Turn into West Close Road on your left then turn right through the gates into Victory Park.

2 Go through the park keeping the stream to your right. Cross at the second bridge and continue with the stream on your left and **Rolls Royce** on your right until you reach Greenberfield Lane. Turn right into the lane. Take a footpath through a gate on your right before you reach Greenber Croft bungalow. Walk up to the canal and turn left onto the tow path until you reach **Greenberfield Locks**.

3 Leave the canal by the path next to the pump house. Turn left onto the lower road. After 200 metres turn right into the farmyard. Go straight through and onto the track ahead. After 800 metres through **limestone countryside**, turn left at a sign off the track down to the stream.

4 Follow the stream to a signed earth bridge, cross over and continue to a bridge. Go over the bridge and carry on in the same direction past **Gilbeber Hill** to the gate to the left of an old barn. Continue straight on uphill to a post and turn right towards the bridge over Stock Beck. Go over the bridge and follow the field boundary uphill.

5 Bear left as you approach the farm buildings and climb the stile in the wall

to reach **Stock**. Go down to the track and turn left. Pass between the house and barn, through the gate and follow the sunken track round to the left. Carry straight on downhill in the direction of the bridge across Stock Beck. Cross and go straight on, through a gate, then follow the left-hand edge of the field up to the road at **Bracewell**.

6 Turn right onto the road, then second left towards Priory Cottage. After a few metres, turn right through a gate and, keeping to the right of the tennis courts, go over the stream to a stile in the wall. Skirt to the left of the plantation on the hill and continue in the same direction to the fence. Turn right along the fence. Just before the end, cut across the field to the far right corner. Once over the stile, continue straight ahead through a gate and follow the wall past a reservoir and through a gate. Continue to the next gate.

7 Just before the gate turn left over a ladder stile. Go downhill, keeping the field boundary to your right. Cross a stile and footbridge then go through a squeeze stile in the drystone wall ahead of you. Continue uphill slightly leftwards, and cross two stiles to reach the farm. Continue to **Brogden Lane** keeping the farm buildings to your left.

8 Turn right at the lane and follow it uphill for about 800 metres. Just after a house turn left over a stile. Bear slightly left across the field to a stile in the wall and go down to the track. Follow this past two houses and over a stile. Carry on alongside the wall to a gate next to a line of trees. Go across the next two fields in the same direction towards Hollins passing through two gates/stiles. Skirt the garden of the house. Turn right over the stile in the far corner and go left down the lane.

9 After 200 metres the path bears left and then right. Immediately after this, turn left into the field over a stile opposite another stile. Go across the field and through a gated squeeze stile. Continue on to turn right down the track. After 400 metres and a cattle grid, turn right down an enclosed path. Turn left onto Esp Lane and then immediately right into Town Head. Continue along Colne Road until you reach **Bancroft Mill**. Just before it on the left you will see a narrow cobbled footpath. Take this path down the Forty Steps and turn left at the bottom. When the path ends, turn right onto Westgate.

10 From here continue in the same direction along Westgate, Walmsgate and then Church Street to the centre of Barnoldswick. Turn right onto Station Road to return to the start of the walk.

Barnoldswick

This bustling little town can trace its history back to Saxon times. In 1086 the hamlet of Bernulfeswic was featured in the Domesday Survey. The name derives from a man called Bernulf who established his 'wick' or settlement there.

In 1147 Henry de Lacy, a Norman nobleman, swore to build a monastery to the glory of God, should he survive a serious illness. He did recover and consequently organised twelve Cistercian Monks and ten Lay Brothers from Fountains Abbey to commence work in Barnoldswick. Unfortunately the monks did not find the local inhabitants, the climate or Scottish raiders to their liking and moved on to construct Kirkstall Abbey, near Leeds. Ten years later the Brothers returned to build the church of St. Mary-le-Ghyll. The church still stands and is situated a mile from the town, down a narrow picturesque lane, close to Greenberfield Locks.

Rolls Royce

The famous firm of Rolls Royce has many links with Barnoldswick. The firm took over early jet engine work from Rover in 1943, and it was at Barnoldswick that the first Rolls-Royce jet engine subsequently saw the light of day. It is here that the world beating RB211 engine and its successors were developed. The famous initials 'RB' have particular significance in that they stand for 'Rolls-Barnoldswick'.

Greenberfield Locks

These picturesque locks are located on the edge of Barnoldswick, at the highest point of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal, situated at 487 feet above sea level. From here the canal begins its long descent towards Leeds.

From springtime to late summer there is a profusion of wild flowers and water birds such as mallard, coot, moorhen, and occasionally kingfisher and heron are seen. It was voted the best kept locks in the country and is a busy spot during the summer season.

Limestone countryside

The route crosses a distinctive limestone landscape moulded during the ice age. The small, gently-rounded hills (drumlins) are made of boulder clay deposited by the glaciers as they retreated about ten thousand years ago.

Gilbeber Hill

This is reputedly the spot where Prince Rupert's men camped while marching through West Craven during the Civil War. The suffix 'ber', found in many of the names given to the drumlins - Hawber, Greenber, Grazenber - means, appropriately, 'hill'. It is at this point that you can view the traces of ancient earthworks.

Stock

This was once a larger settlement of houses and small holdings set amid the buildings which survive today. The village was probably most populous in the medieval period but we do not know why people abandoned their homes. A hollow way marks the old track to Bracewell, and the site of the ford across Stock Beck is clearly visible. The area around Stock is designated as a Scheduled Ancient Monument.

Bracewell

This tiny hamlet of attractive houses is clustered around the 14th and 15th century church of St. Michael. The oldest section of the church and most interesting example of masonry is the squat tower, which was probably built in the 12th century. It was also once the private chapel of the Tempest Family. Although their manor house has now been demolished an archway still remains standing in the church yard.

Bracewell had very early connections with the Baptist Church and was a Baptist stronghold in the 17th century when worshippers had to meet in secret for fear of persecution.

Bracewell has historic associations with royalty, for it was in King Henry's Parlour, now used as a barn, that the fugitive Henry VI lodged with the Tempest family as he fled from the Yorkists after the Battle of Hexham in 1464 during the War of the Roses.

Brogden - Brodgen Lane

Little known Brogden Lane is one of the prettiest areas in Pendle. There is no distinct centre to the community but most of the parish

lies to the west of Brogden Lane, a route which follows the Old Roman Road from Ribchester to Ilkley. This whole area is criss-crossed with highly appealing paths, offering visitors considerable scope for further exploration.

Bancroft Mill

Formed in 1980, the Bancroft Mill Engine Trust is dedicated to preserving one of the few remaining mill steam engines still in working condition. The 600 horse power engine was originally used to drive Bancroft Shed, the last mill to be built in the town. The mill started weaving cotton in 1920 and once housed 1,250 looms. Production ceased in 1978 and the mill was demolished.

Today the engine house remains open and forms the basis of a museum that is occasionally open to the general public. It contains weaving displays, an original Cornish hand-fired boiler and Lancashire Looms. Regular steaming days are held. For further details contact **01282 865626 or 01282 842214**.



Bancroft Mill

This circular walk follows public rights of way across farmland and other privately owned land. Please respect people who live and work in the countryside. Be prepared for muddy stretches, uneven path surfaces and weather conditions which change suddenly.

- **Take care to keep to the path**
- **Keep dogs on a lead**
- **Clean up after your dog**
- **Wear waterproof boots**
- **Take waterproof clothing**