

The village of **Higham**. The Pendle Witch nicknamed Chattox was accused of turning the ale sour at Higham and bewitching the landlord's cow to death. The Four Alls Inn has an interesting sign and a stone horse trough. In **Newchurch** the "Eye of God" is to be found on the tower of **St Mary's Church** to ward off evil. Chattox was alleged to have desecrated graves in this churchyard to collect skulls and teeth! Should you like a souvenir too please use Newchurch's own **Witches Galore** shop in the village!

The **Fence Gate Inn** has won several awards including The Observer Sunday Lunch of the Year award.

It was at **Ashlar House** that Dermike, Chattox and Anne Redream were interrogated on 2nd April 1612 and sent for trial. Elizabeth, James and Jennet Device were also brought here on 27th April for questioning. Please respect the fact that this house is a private residence.

It was at **Hoarstones** where local boy, Edmund Robinson, claimed he was held prisoner by witches on All Hallows Eve 1633. Seventeen witches were convicted, but the verdicts were overturned when he admitted that his father had put him up to it.

The **Keith Melling Studio** has originals and prints of the local area and the north of England. It's worth stopping to see his exceptional work

On the right you will pass a wonderful 17th century building now the **Lamb Working Men's Club**. As you rise along the road take time to take in the views of Nelson on the left hand side.

Points of Interest

Higham (3) is signposted to the right, take this turning past St. Johns Church.

Turn right just before the **Four Alls Inn** onto Sabden Road. The road is narrow here so take extra care (but the views make up for the road). Turn right to **Newchurch (4)**. Parking is limited in Newchurch so please park sensibly when visiting its points of interest.

Drive on for half a mile and take the turning for Higham to the right. Once you have turned, take the left-hand road. You will pass St. John's Church.

Both are renowned for their food and drink.

Inn is on the right, and further up on the left is the **Bay Horse**. Hoarstones (private residence). Drive on. When the road bends to the left, take your first right. The multi award-winning **Fence Gate** road called Hoarstones Avenue. On the right is a house called this bend keep your eyes peeled - on the left you will notice a short right hand bend is the **Keith Melling Studio**. Shortly after the road bends to the right. Follow the road to the right. On this take it slowly as the road is narrow. Continue along this road until Hawk Inn is on your right. Take care on this road as it approaches the village of **Fence (2)**. The pub is also a way point on one of Pendle's Eight Circular Walks (available at the Tourist Information Centre) and from www.visitpendle.com.

Continue along this road following signs for Wheatley Lane. Pass a church and a school on the right and taking no turns off this road, heading in the direction of Padilham. **The Sparrow Hawk Inn** is on your right. Take care on this road as it approaches the village of **Fence (2)**. The pub is also a way point on one of Pendle's Eight Circular Walks (available at the Tourist Information Centre) and from www.visitpendle.com.

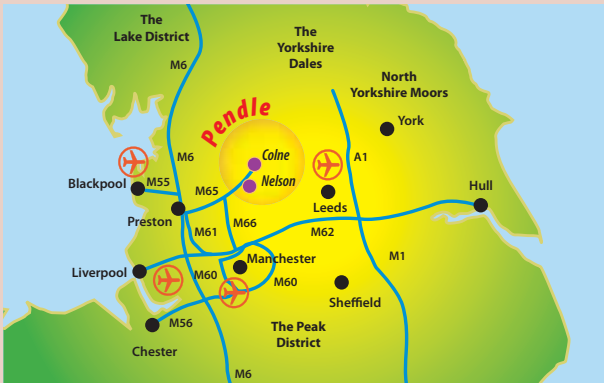
Turn right from the Heritage Centre car park and over the bridge and turn left at the junction. Continue along the main road passing the impressive 17th century inn the **White Bear** on the right. Take the next right, turning up Church Street.

Directions

You will start this road trail at the car park opposite the Pendle Heritage Centre (1) at Barrowford which you can visit now or at the end of your journey. The Centre is easy to find (follow the signs off junction 13 of the M65) and has a Tourist Information Centre which has plenty of information about the Pendle Witches. The centre is also the start and end point for the Pendle Way. Enjoy this route even more by getting hold of a copy of the Pendle Way guide from the centre. By looking at where The Way passes close by or crosses this scenic road trail, you can plan your own mini countryside walks from this trail (please park sensibly and respect residents!). The main points along the route and eating and drinking establishments are highlighted.

Pendle Scenic Road Trail – Pendle Witches

Witch Way to Pendle



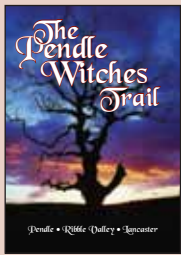
More Road Trails...

This *Pendle Witches* Scenic Road Trail is one of three wonderful scenic road trails. The other two trails are equally fascinating and pass through some magnificent countryside. Trail 2 is called *Brontës and Browsing* and covers Colne and its famous son Wallace Hartley, bandmaster of the *Titanic* as well as Charlotte Brontës Ferndean Manor from *Jane Eyre* in Wycoller. Trail 3 is called *Boats and Beams* covering the West Craven area of Pendle. For copies of the other trails call **(01282) 856186** or go to **www.visitpendle.com**



More information

More information is available about Pendle including *Discover Pendle* a visitor and accommodation guide. There is also a *Pendle Witches Walking Trail* and a longer *Pendle Witches Road Trail* to Lancaster. For copies of these guides please contact **(01282) 856186**, or email: **tourism@pendle.gov.uk**.



This trail was produced by the Tourism Unit of Pendle Borough Council.
www.visitpendle.com

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Pendle Scenic Road Trails Leaflet No 1



Pendle Witches





THE STORY OF THE PENDLE WITCHES



St Mary's, Newchurch

18th March 1612 - Alizon Device, granddaughter of Demdike is begging on the road to Colne.

A pedlar refuses her some pins, she appears to paralyse him with a curse.

30th March 1612 - Alizon Device confesses to witchcraft. At the same time she incriminates her grandmother, Demdike, and another elderly woman, Chattox. She tells how the ale at the Inn at Higham was turned sour and how the landlord's son was bewitched to death using a clay image.

2nd April 1612 - Demdike, Chattox and her daughter, Anne Redfearn are interrogated at Ashlar House. Demdike confesses to evil deeds, claiming that the devil came to her and sucked her blood leaving her stark mad.

3rd April 1612 - Demdike, Chattox and Anne Redfearn, Chattox's daughter are sent to Lancaster Castle to stand trail for witchcraft.

Good Friday 1612 - A party of people gather at Malkin Tower, Demdike's home. They plot to kill the Keeper at Lancaster Castle, blow up the Castle and free the imprisoned women.

Late April - Investigations take place around Malkin Tower. Incriminating evidence found includes human bones stolen from graves at Newchurch and a clay image used by James Device to cause the death of a neighbour.

Three more of the Device family along with Alice Nutter, a gentlewoman from Roughlee, are taken away, questioned and imprisoned at Lancaster Castle to await trial.

Demdike dies in prison before the trial begins.

17th August 1612 - The 'Witches Trial' begins at Lancaster Castle.

20th August 1612 - After being found guilty, nine Pendle people are hanged at Lancaster in front of huge crowds.

Pendle Scenic Road Trails No 1 Pendle Witches

Directions

Turn right down Jinny Lane to **Roughlee (5)**. At the junction turn right then immediately left signposted Blacko and Barrowford (the road you want is nearly straight up and slightly to the right from the junction you are at) passing the statue of Alice Nutter, one of the so called Pendle Witches. Continue along the road to the **Bay Horse pub** (currently closed) on the left, and park in the pub car park for the short walk to Roughlee Old Hall. With your back to the pub turn left, until you come to your next road on the left. Facing down this road, go down the passage which can be seen on your right, past the cottages and Roughlee Old Hall is on your left.

Return to your car, turn right out of the car park and go back along the road that you came in on. Turn right towards Barley (3/4 mile). Entering into **Barley (6)** there is ample parking at Barley picnic site with toilets, café and an information point. Turn right out of Barley Car Park and right at the junction. On the left is the **Pendle Inn**.

Further on the right is the **Barley Mow restaurant** where traditional food may be tasted and a little further on are the **Barley Tearooms** for a well deserved cream tea. Leaving Barley follow the road around the imposing yet wonderful Foot of Pendle and turn left at the signpost towards Downham.

Next we visit the lovely village of **Downham (7)**. As you enter the village turn right over the bridge, then left up the hill with the church of St. Leonards on the left and the Assheton Arms on the right.

Driving past the Assheton Arms, take the left hand road out of the village, and take the right turn towards Rimington (do not take the Stopper Lane turn). **Rimington (8)** is a small, pretty village.

Drive on for about a mile past Rimington and then turn left towards **Gisburn (9)** a charming village but alas peaceful it is not, as it is situated along the busy A59. However, there is an ancient and beautiful church, St. Mary's, with a 13th century porch and impressive 14th century tower. The well known composer, Francis Duckworth, is buried in the church's graveyard.

Retrace your route towards Nelson on the A682. Our next stop is **Blacko (10)** and its famous tower, earlier viewed en route to Roughlee. Once again lovely views of Pendle Hill can be seen to the right. You will see the **Moorcock Inn** on your left which is a good place to stop and admire the view (but be careful of the bend!). Continue down this road and you will see Blacko Tower on the left. Leaving Blacko continue along this road, dropping down into Barrowford and once more turning left at the old toll house signposted for Pendle Heritage Centre and then turn left into the Heritage Centre car park, completing your journey.

Points of Interest

The views are spectacular and you will notice a tower in the distance, **Blacko Tower** which you will also see on the final leg. (Blacko Tower is situated on private property.)

Roughlee Old Hall is often referred to as "Witches Hall" as this was said to have been the home of Alice Nutter one of the Pendle Witches who was hanged at Lancaster. Please respect this is a private residence.

Dominating the skyline is the wonderful **Pendle Hill**. George Fox founder of the Quaker Movement climbed this hill in 1652 and wrote "I was moved of the lord to go up to the top of this hill... I saw the sea bordering upon Lancashire; and from the top of this hill the lord let me see in what places he had a great people to be gathered". This inspirational vision lead to him founding the Quaker Movement

The comedian Billy Connolly used to play music at the **Pendle Inn** before his comic fame.

For those able to climb the hill, it takes approximately one hour of steady climbing but is well worth the slog for the breathtaking views of the surrounding countryside, the Lake District and, on a clear day, the Isle of Man. Access to the footpath is along Ings Farm Road with plenty of parking opportunities along the road. For routes visit the Barley Cabin or www.visitpendle.com

St Leonard's Church was built in 1909 except for the 15th Century tower. Queen Mary is said to have remarked that the view from the porch is the "most beautiful in all the land". Behind the church is **Downham Hall**. The village, home to the Assheton family since 1558, is also home to the BBC series *Born and Bred* and was the location for the film *Whistle Down The Wind*.

The composer Francis Duckworth lived in **Rimington** and attended the chapel at Stopper Lane. He is best known for the tune *Rimington*. The chapel is now a private house with a commemorative plaque.

Gisburn's Jennet Preston was arrested for being at the Good Friday gathering of the Pendle Witches at Malkin Tower and causing the death by charms and sorcery of Thomas Lister of Westby Hall. She was found guilty and hanged on 29th July 1612 at York (3 weeks before the Lancaster hangings).

Blacko Tower, sometimes called Stansfield Tower or Jonathon's Folly, was built in 1890 by Jonathon Stansfield in order to see into Yorkshire!

The statue of Alice Nutter was unveiled in 2012 for the 400th anniversary of the Pendle Witches Trail of 1612. It's a sensible portrayal of the woman from Roughlee who was executed as a witch. Created by Pendle man David Palmer.

Has this trail whetted your appetite about the Pendle Witches? You can find out more in the many books on sale from the Pendle Heritage Centre Tel: 01282 661701 or from the Discover Pendle Centre. Tel: 01282 856186.



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