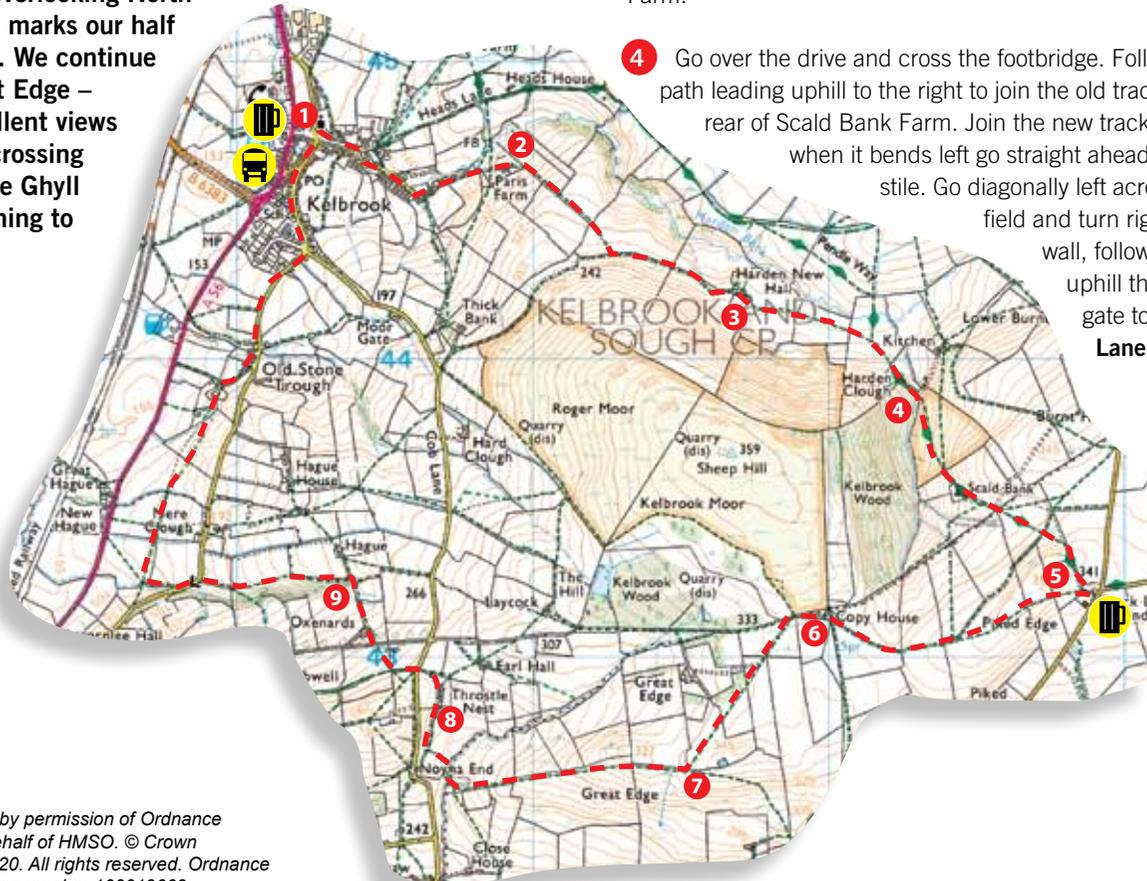


# Kelbrook Moor

Length: 5 ¾ miles

Time: 3 ½ to 4 ½ hours

For this walk we take you on a route around the scenic Kelbrook Moor. You can start the walk from the Craven Heiffer Inn (01282 843007) and cross the road to Kelbrook Church. We pass through a landscape dotted with sturdily built stone farmhouses which stand as a testament to the people who have farmed this area over many centuries. The Black Lane Ends (01282 863070), situated on the hills overlooking North Yorkshire, marks our half way point. We continue over Great Edge – with excellent views – before crossing Lancashire Ghyll and returning to Kelbrook.



**1** From **Kelbrook Church** turn left along Harden Road keeping the stream on your right. Cross the vehicular bridge over the stream and turn left up **Dotcliffe Road**, keeping the stream to your left. Where the tarmac road ends, turn left up a track. Follow the track up past some bungalows and continue up to Paris Farm. The footpath passes to the right of the house and bears right into a small paddock. Continue to the stile in the corner.

**2** Cross the stile and turn right following a hedge uphill through two fields. Cross the next field and climb the stile. Turn left along the track to Harden New Hall.

**3** Go through the farmyard, over a stile, and cross the next two fields in the same direction. Bear right across the third field and join the Pendle Way (witches and yellow arrows) to go over the stile and along a garden path past Harden Clough Farm.

**4** Go over the drive and cross the footbridge. Follow the path leading uphill to the right to join the old track, to the rear of Scald Bank Farm. Join the new track, and when it bends left go straight ahead over a stile. Go diagonally left across the field and turn right at the wall, following it uphill through a gate to **Black Lane Ends**.

**5** Continue to the field corner at the rear of the pub and turn right (leaving the Pendle Way) up the field to a gate in the wall. Go straight across the next field, over the stile and carry on to the far right-hand corner. From this point you can enjoy wonderful views of **Kelbrook Moor**. Go straight over the next field, climbing the stiles and follow the wall to **Copy House** (now re-named Hawres Farm).

**6** Carry on past the farmhouse, through a gate and bear left to follow the track, then path through two fields. At the big stile go on alongside the wood. At the fence bear left up to the far corner of the field. Over the next big stile turn right along the wall at **Great Edge**.

**7** Cross a ladder stile and then straight over the next field, cross another ladder stile and follow the wall downhill. Turn right below the old quarry and follow the stream to the footbridge. Go straight up the bank and turn right onto the track.

**8** Go through the field gate to Throble Nest and continue up a tarmac drive passing to the left of the house up to the lane. Cross the lane and go down the enclosed track. Go through a gate and bear slightly right across the field to an **avenue of trees**. Cross the lane and go through a gate, past Oxenards and down to the bridge over **Lancashire Ghyll**.

**9** Turn left through a gate and follow the stream to the **Old Stone Trough Lane**. Turn left and take the first footpath on your right just before the stream. Go through a small gate on your left. At the footbridge turn right and take the first stile. Follow the footpath keeping the wall on your right and keep in the same direction through four fields. Go past the houses and follow the track to the lane. Bear left and the lane will lead you into Kelbrook. Turn right at the end of Waterloo Road to reach the church.

## Kelbrook Church

The village of Kelbrook seems to have been virtually untouched by the rigours of time. It is a pretty hamlet whose origins may date back to as early as AD 750. The village was mentioned in the Domesday Book, compiled in 1082, when two areas of land 'in Chelbroc' were listed amongst the Craven Estate of William of Percy.

## Dotcliffe Road

This road was originally a narrow lane that ran from the Colne-Skipton highway to the present mill and adjacent cottages. It was known as Dockcliffe Lane because of the profusion of dock plants which grew on the steep banks of the stream by the mill. Heavy horse drawn wagons travelling to and from the mill took their toll and in 1837 the road had to be widened and strengthened by a wall from Low Bridge to the National School. In 1920 the road had become very much as it is now and the footbridge was built across the stream.

## Black Lane Ends

In the 19th century Black Lane Ends supplied the outlying farms with most of their spiritual and bodily needs. Of the school, the Methodist Chapel (now a home) and the pub, only the pub remains. It has recently had a name change from the Hare and Hounds to the Black Lane Ends.

## Kelbrook Moor

It is possible to enjoy wonderful views of the surrounding moorland from here. The moorland contains much cotton grass, providing a spectacular show of white cotton-like flowers during May and June. Drier areas of the moor contain heather, giving the landscape a distinctive purple colour in August and September. Other species of moorland plants can be seen, in particular bilberry and Sphagnum (bog-moss). This plant is easily spotted because of its distinctive green colour. Occasionally, rarities such as cloudberry and cowberry may be spotted.

In 1935 Welbury Holgate found a number of stone age artefacts near Kelbrook Moor. Barbed and jagged flint arrow heads were discovered along with leaf shaped knives, chisels

and scrapers. Semi-nomadic farming people would have used these artefacts about 4,000 years ago, when the Moor would have looked quite different to the present day. The valley bottom would then have been marshland and the hillsides densely wooded with oak and ash.

## Copy House

It is at this spot that the Dissenters' Well, also known as Tom Cross, can be found. A carved stone that is set in the wall above a spring marks the site of the well. The name refers to the period when there was a great deal of hostility towards non-conformists. At that time the law stated that it was illegal for any religious meetings to take place within a five mile radius of any parish church. Thus it became common for meetings to be held in remote places such as on the moors. In 1812 this law was overturned and dissenters were able to worship freely.

## Great Edge

From Great Edge there are extensive views down the valley towards Colne, perched on its gritstone ridge. The two large reservoirs that can be seen in the distance at Foulridge were built in the early 19th Century to feed the Leeds and Liverpool Canal.

The old quarry (now overgrown) is just one of many from which the underlying gritstone has been taken for local buildings. Just over the hill are the disused Noyna quarries where roughly hewn millstones still lie on the hillside.

## Avenue of Trees

An avenue of trees lines a road that was built around the start of the 20th Century by the local landowner Teddy Carr, to enable him to reach his shooting box on Kelbrook Moor.

## Lancashire Ghyll

The Lancashire Ghyll is a stream that marks the old county boundary between Lancashire and Yorkshire. Since 1974 the boundary has run a few miles to the north.

## Old Stone Trough Lane

Old Stone Trough Lane was the main highway between Colne and Skipton until 1824 when the turnpike road lower down the valley was built. The actual stone trough has now vanished but must have refreshed many horses while their owners visited the former inn at Higher Stone Trough Farm.



*Kelbrook Moor*



*Tom Cross*

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