

# Winewall

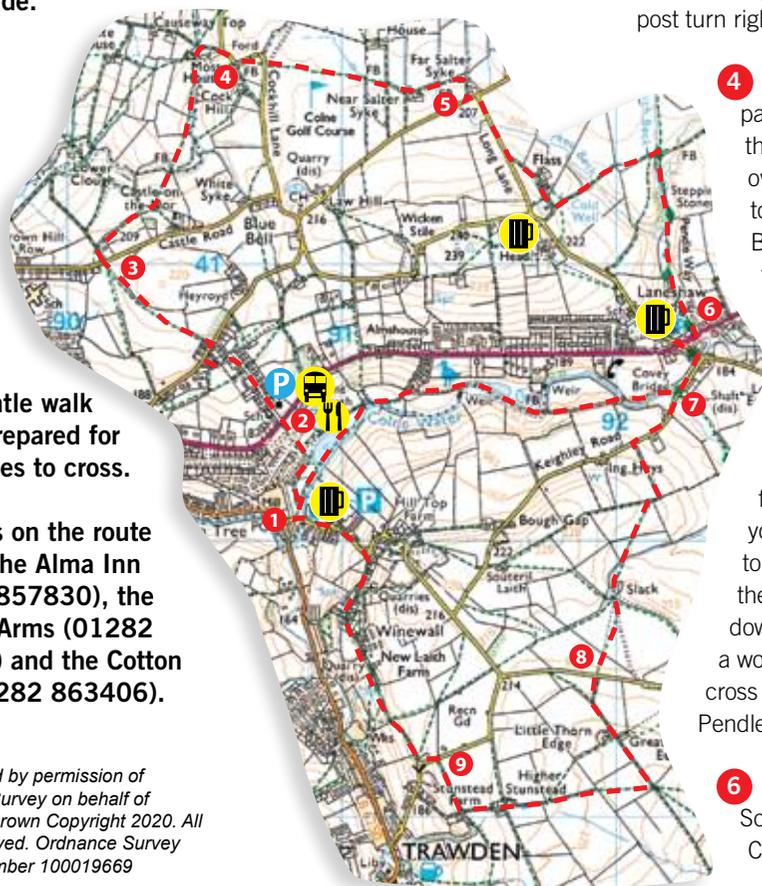
Length: 5¾ miles  
(Short walk: 4½ miles)  
Time: 2 to 4 hours

On this walk we take an attractive circuit through the farmed landscape in the very east of the County of Lancashire. On the walk you can enjoy the rich pattern of old farm houses and traditional drystone walls which make this landscape so distinctive. We take you to the villages of Laneshaw Bridge and Winewall which each developed from their strong links with the surrounding countryside.

This is a more gentle walk but be prepared for some stiles to cross.

The pubs on the route include the Alma Inn (01282 857830), the Emmott Arms (01282 868660) and the Cotton Tree (01282 863406).

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**1** From the lower car park at **Ball Grove** take the path past the play area and bear right past the houses. Turn left up the steps, a grass slope and more steps to reach Keighley Road.

**2** Cross and go up Bents Lane passing **Christ Church**. Where the road bends, continue left on the track; when you come to the first field turn right to reach Skipton Old Road. Cross the road and turn right. Take the signposted path left which takes you past the houses and through a field. Head to the left of the trees and continue to the road.

**3** Cross the road and go a short distance down the drive to Lower Clough. Take the path on your right through a gap in the hedge. Go past a garden, cross two fields then turn left over a footbridge. When you step off the bridge, head slightly right until you reach a stone bridge and gate. Go uphill on the same line through a gate and on to Moss Houses. Just right of the wall the path continues between the buildings. At the finger post turn right. Keep right until you reach the ford.

**4** Take the stone bridge on your right then take the path left and cross the road to the golf course. Cross the golf course following the marker posts to a bridge over the wide ditch. Continue across the fields ahead to reach the farmyard of Near Salter Syke Farm. Bear left through the yard and continue across fields to the farmyard of Far Salter Syke Farm. Go through the yard and turn right down the farm track.

**5** Turn left at the road then immediately right onto Long Lane. After 200 metres turn left down the drive towards **Flass**. Just before the farmyard bear right into the field. Keep the fence on your left and turn left at the gate (take the path right to stop off at the Alma Inn) and go down to a gate in the wall. Bear half right through the next field. Turn left down to a boardwalk and a footbridge then go through a wooden stile and a stone one. Go down a short slope, cross the ditch and turn right at a stile then follow the Pendle Way down to Laneshaw Bridge.

**6** At Keighley Road turn right, then left down School Lane. Go over the bridge and turn right into Carriers Row.

**7** (**Short Walk**) After the houses on your left turn right through a gap stile and follow the footpath along Colne Water back to the start.

**7** (**Full Walk**) Continue up the lane for a further 300 metres then turn left at the footpath sign over a stone stile. Continue up the path to a field gate then turn right to the next stile. Then go diagonally left to Slack Farm. Go through the courtyard and continue past the houses and part way down the drive. At the marker post go diagonally right until you reach the road.

**8** Cross the road and go up the drive of Great Thorn Edge and continue to a signpost. Turn sharp right following the signs to Trawden. Continue through the yard of Higher Stunstead Farm and carry on to **Stunstead House**. Turn right over a wooden stile to reach the road.

**9** Go left down the road then turn right at the sharp bend onto a bridleway. Follow the bridleway past **Well Head** (on the left) and the old **Inghamite Chapel** on your right and continue through **Winewall**. At the road turn left back down to the start.



## Ball Grove Mill

Ball Grove Mill was built in around 1785 as a water-powered spinning mill. At first it was called Ball Greave Mill. Its final use as a cotton mill was between 1858 and 1867. The mill was later incorporated into a much larger site, known as the Ball Grove Tannery, after it was bought by two brothers, John and William Sagar, who ran an extensive fellmongering business. A fellmonger was a dealer in hides or skins, particularly sheepskins. The business developed rapidly to a factory covering 15 acres powered by a steam turbine. Despite a fire in 1932 which caused £75,000 worth of damage, the business continued as a tannery until 1970 when the firm was declared bankrupt. Most of the buildings were demolished in 1974. In part of the remaining building a restaurant was opened appropriately called The Hide. This was demolished early this century. The site is now a popular park and Local Nature Reserve.

## Christ Church

The church was built in 1836 to serve the eastern part of Colne including Laneshaw Bridge and part of Foulridge. Until the opening of St. Mary's, Trawden in 1846, the Vicar of Christ Church also served Trawden.

The first curate of Christ Church, the Rev. David Pryce, was the victim of unrequited love for Charlotte Brontë whom he met in August 1839 during a visit to her father. Charlotte is said to have declined his proposal and was said to be "mildly sorry" when he died. His church memorial was paid for by friends in Ireland. The church was also involved in the weavers' riots of 1840 when the railings from the church were removed by an angry mob marching towards Colne and one was used in the murder of Special Constable Joseph Halstead.

## Poor House, Flass

The poor house was built in the 1820s on land donated by the Duchess of Buccleugh. At this time Colne was suffering hardship: food prices had increased and many manufacturers had put weavers on half work. Cold, half starved families survived on a solitary meal each day of oatmeal and water. Out of work weavers or "outdoor paupers" were employed on the construction of Skipton New Road. Anyone who could not feed

themselves and applied for parish relief had to go to the workhouse. Families were split up: women went to Burnley, children to Padiham and the aged and infirm to Flass.

Flass could accommodate 90 inmates and had 24 looms. In 1837 there were 42 paupers living there, all from Colne except one from Marsden.

## Stunstead House

This was the home of the Midgeley family from 1694 until 1869 when the last male survivor of the Midgeleys died. They were people of considerable importance and wealth. William Midgeley, the last of the line, was chairman of Trawden Local Board and he built many of the streets in lower Trawden. His son died young from an attack of smallpox during one of the many outbreaks of this disease. There was an old belief that at Stunstead Hall there was a tree which would come into blossom on Christmas Eve.

## Inghamite Chapel, Winewall

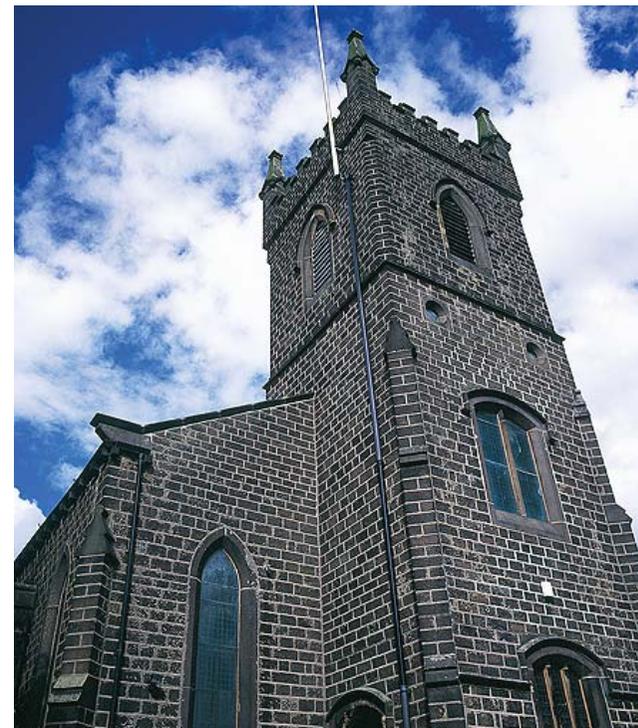
The hamlet of Winewall had one of the area's last remaining Inghamite Chapels. It closed following dwindling congregations and was converted to housing in 2001, but the graveyard remains. Benjamin Ingham was a controversial preacher who toured Yorkshire and Lancashire in the mid 1700s. The chapel in Winewall is one of around 100 chapels which were set up by his followers. A congregation of 700 people came to hear him preach at Winewall Chapel in 1755.

## Well Head

This ancient local water supply was at the centre of a public health crisis in 1914. There were 28 cases of typhoid fever including four deaths as a result of contamination from "slop" water. The water supply from Well Head for the houses and mills in Trawden was then cut off with new water supplies from Trawden Waterworks on Boulsworth Hill and Colne Corporation Waterworks.

## Winewall

Winewall dates back to at least 1260 when it was one of five vaccaries or cattle farms in Colne district, within the Clitheroe Estate.



Christ Church



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