DISCOVER

HAWORTH
& BRONTË COUNTRY

2017
Haworth sits in the Worth Valley surrounded by dramatic moorlands.

The village is most famous for being the place which inspired the Brontë sisters to write their world famous novels. The Brontës wrote whilst living at the Parsonage when their father was the parson at the church of St Michael and All Angels.

During your stay you can explore the cobbled streets and take in the romantic Brontë heritage which surrounds you. Not only can you visit the Parsonage and Church but a short walk from the village you will find the inspirational moors which they say were the setting for Wuthering Heights and Jane Eyre.

Haworth celebrates its Brontë heritage, but is proud that today it has become a fascinating, individual village which is centred around the steep, cobbled Main Street. The street has a number of individual and quirky shops scattered amongst the cafes, pubs and restaurants.

Haworth has a number of events throughout the year so there will always be something to keep you entertained.

If you want to know more why not enjoy exploring Haworth on one of the guided walks on offer with Brontë Walks and Haworth Ghost Tours. Tickets available from the Visitor Information Centre.
Patrick, father of Charlotte, Emily, Anne and their brother Branwell was a man driven by ambition.

Born in County Down in 1777, he quickly left his humble origins behind by becoming an undergraduate at St John’s College, Cambridge. He also left behind his original surname of Brunty changing it to the more impressive sounding Brontë.

He married in 1812 and moved to Thornton in 1815 with his two children Maria and Elizabeth. It was here that Charlotte, Emily, Anne and Branwell were all born and lived until they moved to Haworth in 1820. Thornton, only six miles from Haworth, has preserved the village centre and retains all the character of a Pennine Village with stone houses and flagged roofs. So why not make this your first stop before you reach Haworth and see where it all began.

The family settled in Haworth and it was here that the sisters’ writing careers flourished and where they found inspiration to write, amongst others Wuthering Heights and Jane Eyre.

2017 celebrates 200 years since the painter and writer Branwell Brontë was born. The Brontë Parsonage Museum will celebrate throughout 2017 with a number of Brontë 200 events taking place at the parsonage in Haworth where the literary family lived. To find out more visit www.bronte200.org
There is so much to explore in Brontë Country as it spans across the Worth Valley to include Keighley, Oxenhope, Oakworth, Ingrow and Damems.

Don’t worry about being able to travel to all the towns and villages; you can use the Keighley and Worth Valley Railway to carry you along the line and into the heart of the beautiful and inspiring Brontë Country.

Oxenhope is a Pennine village set in beautiful countryside and surrounded by windswept moors and rolling hills. You can explore this Victorian mill village, famous for its annual straw race, by following the town trail and then stop for lunch at one of the local pubs.

Stanbury is slightly off the main track but is the ideal place for those wanting to explore the outdoors and enjoy some of the excellent walks in the area. It is an ideal place to start popular routes including those to Top Withens and the Brontë Waterfalls.

Nearby Ponden Hall (now a private house) dates from 1634 and is thought to be the house Emily called Thrushcross Grange in Wuthering Heights. Once back in Stanbury you will find the aptly named Wuthering Heights Inn ready to welcome you with real ales and homemade food.

Oakworth is most famous for being the railway station featured in the 1970 film The Railway Children. There is an enjoyable self guided walk taking in all the locations from the film. The village is a beautiful location in the Worth Valley and a perfect base for enjoying the outdoors with a selection of walks starting here.
**Damems station** was opened in 1847 to serve the mill close by. It is the UK’s smallest station and is only one coach in length. The station has featured in the BBC’s Born and Bred and is a request stop on the railway.

**Ingrow West** is situated a short ride from Keighley and is home to two fantastic transport museums. Visit Rail Story and explore the Engine Shed and Carriage Works to see railway memorabilia and vintage railway carriage used in film and television.

**Keighley** the gateway to Brontë Country, has a great selection of museums including Cliffe Castle and East Riddlesden Hall. The town is home to the Airedale Shopping Centre and Indoor Market so perfect for a spot of retail therapy.
THE BRONTË PARSONAGE MUSEUM

The beautifully preserved museum still retains the atmosphere of the time when the Brontë’s lived there. The rooms they once used are filled with their personal possessions and furniture, including the original table where Wuthering Heights and Jane Eyre were created. Visit throughout 2017 and celebrate the bicentenary of Branwell’s birth.
**ST MICHAEL AND ALL ANGELS CHURCH**

The Brontë vault is inside the current church (dating from 1879), and holds the remains of all the Brontë family except Anne, who is buried in the churchyard of St Mary’s in Scarborough. The position of the vault is indicated with a memorial plaque.

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**THE BLACK BULL**

The Black Bull has been around for over 300 years and is thought to be the hostelry where Branwell Brontë spent most of his time. The pub is known for its range of good traditional ales and extensive home cooked menu. Award-winning and recently refurbished, it offers a welcoming and relaxing environment to dine with friends and family.

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**CABINET OF CURiosITIES**

Open the door of this museum-like establishment and step back in time to an old apothecary shop, warmly lit by glass globes, fragranced with exotic oils, and packed from floor to ceiling with rich mahogany and glass display cases. Inside you will find that as well as the Rose & Co ranges you know and love there is now even more to discover!
KEIGHLEY & WORTH VALLEY RAILWAY (KWVR)
The Keighley and Worth Valley Railway runs through the heart of Brontë country from Keighley to Oxenhope. This popular heritage railway will take you back in time on the steam and heritage diesels running daily throughout the summer and every weekend throughout the year. Step back in time and discover The Railway Children’s railway whilst enjoying the picturesque landscapes passing you by.
CLIFFE CASTLE
Cliffe Castle Museum was originally a spectacular mansion and is now a large museum in attractive hillside grounds with greenhouses. There is a wide variety of displays from original furnished rooms to an array of glittering minerals and fossils, (including a 2m long fossil amphibian). Events and exhibitions take place throughout the year which makes this a perfect place to visit for all ages. Visitors can also enjoy the spectacular parkland, gardens and large children’s play-area.

EAST RIDDLESDEN HALL
East Riddlesden Hall, a National Trust property, is a 17th century manor house set amongst beautiful mature gardens. Explore this award winning attraction and discover the fascinating stories which bring the house to life. It has an impressive past as well as exquisite embroideries and oak furniture with beautiful gardens to explore.

RAIL STORY
Rail Story is home to two museums and is situated adjacent to Ingrow Station, Keighley. Explore the Engine Shed and the Carriage Works, where you can step back in time and learn the history of rail travel.
THE GREAT OUTDOORS
A short walk from Haworth will bring you to Penistone Hill Country Park which is situated on the edge of the heather moorlands.

From here it is a four mile round trip to the Brontë Waterfalls, which are located close to the village of Stanbury. It is believed the Brontë sisters used to visit the waterfalls for inspiration and close by there is a small stone bridge, Brontë Bridge, and a chair shaped rock where Emily Brontë is believed to have sat whilst gathering ideas for her books and poems. This is a great place to stop for a picnic and enjoy the views.

If you continue walking for another mile you will arrive at Top Withens, one of the most iconic locations within Brontë country. Situated on the top of the windswept moorland this ruined farmhouse is said to have been the inspiration for the Earnshaw family house in Wuthering Heights. Close by is an interesting outcrop of rocks known as the Alcomden Stone and well worth a visit.

Your final place to visit whilst on the moorland is Ponden Kirk. Although there is no church at Ponden Kirk there is a large block of gritstone which in the past was thought to have magical properties. Emily Brontë named the rock Penistone Crag and it was this that she chose as the location in Wuthering Heights for Cathy and Heathcliffe to meet. At the base of Ponden Kirk is a hole just big enough for an adult to climb through and Emily described it as a Fairy Cave. Local legend says if you are single and crawl through you will marry within the year!
The rugged and beautiful Pennine countryside is just waiting to be explored whether you walk, cycle or ride.

There are a number of walks starting from Haworth and the surrounding Brontë Country villages. You can take your time to explore the network of quiet country roads and paths, windswept moors and peaceful woodland which make Brontë Country one of West Yorkshire’s most special places to walk.

The Brontë Way is a waymarked trail which links the key locations associated with the Brontë family. The full trail is approximately 40 miles and takes you from Oakwell Hall in Birstall across to Gawthorpe Hall in Lancashire, visiting on the way the wild moorland and the village of Haworth.

Heading out on two wheels is a great way to explore; whether you choose a road bike or mountain bike you won’t be disappointed. An obvious choice for road cyclists is to ride a section of the Grand Depart, Tour de France 2014 or the Tour de Yorkshire. The route passes through large areas of Bradford district including Main Street, Haworth. For those who like riding off the beaten track, Bradford and surrounding areas, offers some great opportunities.

Alternatively if you prefer to have a guided ride, MTB Cycle Yorkshire can offer you a bespoke experience.

[www.mtbcycleyorkshire.co.uk](http://www.mtbcycleyorkshire.co.uk)

For a more relaxed excursion, explore the network of farm lanes and quiet country roads around Haworth and the neighbouring villages of Oakworth, Oxenhope and Stanbury. To find out more and plan your ride visit

[www.walkridesouthpennines.co.uk](http://www.walkridesouthpennines.co.uk)

For a full selection of walking and cycling routes and bridleways in Haworth and Brontë country visit

[www.visitbradford.com/explore](http://www.visitbradford.com/explore)
Haworth and Brontë country provides a great shopping experience, from the independent shops on Haworth Main Street to the Airedale Shopping Centre and Indoor Market in Keighley.

Haworth is known for its selection of thriving independent shops on the iconic cobbled Main Street offering everything from vintage clothing and jewellery to hand made chocolates and specialist books. Spend your time browsing the shops which stretch the full length of the street, pick yourself up a treat to remind you of your visit.

Keighley is a former industrial Victorian town and has a wealth of Victorian and Edwardian buildings. The Airedale Shopping Centre is the modern, bright and airy home to a fantastic selection of high street retailers. In contrast there is the Victorian Grandeur of Cavendish Street and The Royal Arcade which opened in 1902. These are home to independent family run shops and the Royal Arcade is home to some of the town’s boutique businesses.

Also in Keighley is a covered market, which is situated across from the Airedale Shopping Centre. The town has had a market charter since 1305 and the indoor market is now home to prize winning butchers and a selection of other traditional traders.

So explore the area and enjoy some time browsing the fantastic selection of shops and markets there is on offer.
EATING
AND
DRINKING
Haworth and Brontë Country offers a wide range of places to eat and drink. Whether it’s a comfy chair and a cappuccino, or a fine dining experience you fancy, this historical hotspot has it all!

There are lots of welcoming pubs, cafes and award winning restaurants in Haworth, Keighley and Brontë Country.

Haworth has an amazing selection of places to eat, from old coaching inns such as the Old White Lion, to the unique Embers Restaurant. If you want to enjoy coffee and cake there are numerous cafes including Cobbles and Clay and Villette Coffee House and Bakery.

Keighley in contrast offers you the chance to explore a world of culinary delights with a wide range of cuisines from around the world. There is award winning curry, Thai, or a taste of Europe with Italian and Turkish.

If you are looking for a special treat and unique experience then the Pullman Dining Experience on the Keighley Worth Valley Railway won’t disappoint. Run on selected weekends throughout the year you will board the train and be greeted with fresh flowers and starched linen. Then you will travel through the magnificent countryside and be served a delicious four course meal.

For the real ale enthusiasts out there download a copy of the Keighley and Worth Valley Ale Trail and sample the fantastic local ales!

www.visitbradford.com/food

Whatever you prefer, you will have plenty of choice throughout Haworth, Keighley and Brontë Country.
Fairtrade has celebrated over 20 years of their certification mark, which guarantees fair payment and decent working conditions for millions of producers across the globe.

Haworth was the world’s first Fairtrade village in 2002 and Bradford was formally declared a Fairtrade Zone on March 6th 2006 and others like Baildon, Bingley, Burley in Wharfedale, Ilkley, Keighley, Shipley and Thornton all have Fairtrade town or village status.

Visitors can enjoy Fairtrade products in many shops, cafes and restaurants, knowing that the pounds they spend in Bradford district will help to secure better prices, decent working conditions, local sustainability, and fair terms of trade for farmers and workers in the developing world. Why not visit Sonia’s Smiles in Haworth, a dedicated Fair Trade shop.

You can experience a selection of Bradford’s Fairtrade towns by walking the Bradford District Fair Trade Way. The Fair Trade Way is a scenic, circular walking route linking all the Fairtrade villages and towns in the Bradford district. Download the walks at www.visitbradford.com/outdoors

Find out more about Fairtrade and Fairtrade events round the district at www.fairtradeyorkshire.org.uk
Haworth was the eighth place and **the first village in the world**, to be awarded Fairtrade status by the Fairtrade Foundation on the 22 November 2002.

There are an estimated **40,000** people buried in the parish church grave yard in Haworth.

Whilst on the run from the Roundheads “**Bonnie Prince Charlie**” was said to have hidden at the Old Silent Inn at Stanbury hence its name.

Haworth is twinned with **Machu Picchu in Peru**, as you walk up the steep Main Street you may understand why!

**Peter Mayhew** (born 19 May 1944) lived in Keighley between 1987 and 2000, he is the American-English actor known for playing the Wookiee, Chewbacca in the Star Wars movies.

**The first British town to be twinned** with another in Europe was Keighley. In 1905 Keighley organised something similar to twinning with Suresnes and Puteaux in France; and in 1920 it twinned with the Poix-du-Nord.

The Keighley and Worth Valley Railway has been used in several films, including **The Railway Children** and **Yanks**.
Looking for somewhere to stay in the beautiful surroundings of Haworth and Brontë Country?

Well you won’t be disappointed as there is something for all tastes and all budgets. Choose from five star self catering to family run guest houses, you will be able to find something to make sure your stay is enjoyable and memorable.

To find out more about where to stay visit

www.visitbradford.com/accommodation

Look out for our Discover Guides, available for Saltaire, Ilkley and Bradford. We can also provide a full Bradford Visitor Guide that covers the whole of Bradford and District. Contact our helpful team on 01274 433678 or go to our website www.visitbradford.com

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Bradford has a brilliant and exciting annual events programme. To find out about what’s on throughout the year visit

www.visitbradford.com/events

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