

Fields & Farms North of Eldwick

3¹/₂ miles (5.6km) Circular walk



Walk Start Point

The footpath between Eldwick Memorial Hall and St Lawrence's Church, off Otley Road, Eldwick.

Car Parking

There are no public car parks nearby; therefore, parking is on street. Please park with care and consideration. Do not park in the Memorial Hall car park unless you have prior permission.

Public Transport

Monday - Saturday a regular bus service 622/623 operates from Bradford. Evenings and weekend service 615/616 operates from Bradford. All services are via Bingley railway station. For details contact Metroline on: 0113 245 7676

The Route

Quite an easy walk with no steep hills, walking mainly on farmland footpaths to the north of Eldwick. You will require strong footwear and outdoor clothing to suit the season. A light snack with a drink is also recommended. This walk is not suitable for wheelchairs, pushchairs and people with limited mobility.

The Walk

Cross the Memorial Hall car park, walking between the tennis courts and the wooden building in the church grounds, out onto the recreation ground. Here turn immediately right, following the dry stone wall on the right for a short distance, before climbing over a stile in the wall corner into a field.

Cross the field diagonally to the left, heading for the two gate stoops, which can be seen ahead. Pass between the gate stoops and continue straight ahead across the next field and down a slight incline to climb over the stile in the stone wall, out onto a narrow road (The Green). Turn left up the road, following it as it changes to an unsurfaced track, continuing as it changes back to a surfaced road. Where the road turns sharp right and is joined by a rough track from the left, turn left up the rough track (Tewitt Lane). On reaching the top of the incline continue straight ahead for a further 100yds (91m), before turning right, to walk between the stone gate stoops and along the wide walled track, as it undulates towards the reservoir embankment. Cross the stepping-stones of the reservoir overflow and continue to follow the track through a gate and uphill to the top corner of the reservoir embankment. On reaching the top corner bear slightly to the right to follow the obvious rough track uphill, which will eventually bring you out onto the busy Otley Road. Here, turn left to walk uphill for approximately 200yds (182m), before turning right off Otley Road to go along the surfaced access road towards Toils Farm. On reaching the farm buildings (beware of the dogs), bear left between the farm and the barn and climb over the stile, which can be seen ahead. Cross the field by walking parallel to the rear of the farmhouse on your right and climb a second stile into a small wooded area, before climbing a third stile over a stone wall into a much larger field.

Continue by walking straight ahead, following the dry stone wall on your right, trying to avoid the very wet boggy area, half-way across the field, eventually reaching a stile. Climb over the stile onto a surfaced road. Turn left up the surfaced road to its junction at the top with Otley Road, near the buildings of Whitecroft Farm. Turn right along the busy Otley Road to walk behind the farm buildings of White Croft Farm, for approximately 200yds (182m), before bearing right off the road and across the wide grassy verge, to climb a stile over the stone wall and into a field. Once in the field walk straight ahead down a slight incline and across a soft racehorse track, heading for a wall corner in the distance. On this section, some walls which the footpath followed have been removed but you may still be able to make out the line of them on the ground, follow them if you can, crossing a second race track as you go. About 220m beyond this second track, the line of the removed wall (and the path) bends to the right and leads to the existing wall corner which should be

visible ahead. On reaching this wall corner, turn left and, keeping the wall on your right, follow it for about another 300m until it turns right at another corner. Keeping the wall on your right follow it for a short distance until you reach a gateway. Do not go through this gateway, instead turn sharp left and head across the field for a short distance (about 40m) to the gate which can be seen opposite. Go through this gate and follow a short grassy track which leads to a surfaced road. Turn right along this road to a T-junction and take another right turn to follow what is now Birch Close Lane towards the houses (Birch Close Farm). At the far end past the buildings, continue straight ahead through the gateway, to follow Birch Close Lane as it bears slightly to the left, changing from a rough grassy track onto a soft, surfaced horseracing track (beware of horses). Here, continue straight ahead past the electricity pylon on your left and another track, which joins from the left, to follow the wide surfaced horseracing track (Birch Close Lane), for quite a distance. Where the track bears slightly to the left continue to follow the soft surfaced track, ignoring all of the paths, which cross from, left to right and continue on down to the metal field gate, which can be seen ahead.

On reaching the metal gate, go through turning immediately right off the wide track, to walk through the rough grass, following the dry stone wall on your right, as it bears left to a stile/gate on your right. Turn right to go through or over the stile into the field, walking straight ahead following the worn grassy path parallel to the broken down fence on your left, eventually reaching the two field gateways at the far end of the field. Here ignore the two gates and turn sharp right, walking with the broken down stone wall and rough post and wire fence on your left, following the worn grassy path as it eventually bears to the left to a gate and stile.

Climb the stile to follow the rough grassy track straight ahead to where it changes to a rough surfaced lane as you pass Golcar Farm on your right. After approximately 200yds (182m) along the lane and just before the bungalow, which can be seen on your left, turn right off the lane and across the grass verge to a stone stile, hidden under the trees. Climb over the stile and then almost straight away over a second stile into the field. The footpath then follows the dry stone wall on your left as it bears to the left, to a broken down stile in the wall corner adjacent to the farm buildings on your left. Climb the stile into the next field to follow the old wire fence and the line of trees on your left, to eventually climb another stile at the far end of the field out onto a rough access track. Here, cross over the track and walk a few yards straight ahead across the grass verge to turn left through the stile in the dry stone wall on your left.

Once through, turn sharp right and follow the wall, now on your right straight ahead, passing between a wide gap in the dry stone wall, which crosses your path at right angles, to continue straight ahead over a second field, still keeping the wall on your right. At the far end of the field, where the wall bears to the right, ignore the wide gap, which leads off to the right, and continue straight ahead through the narrower gap and over the stile into a small field. Once over the stile turn right to follow the wall on your right for the short distance across the field to a small gate.

Through the gate the path divides, our route is to the left following the broken down wall and the post and wire fence on the left, downhill to eventually walk underneath a line of trees on your left, parallel to the house drive and through a gap out onto a narrow road. Turn right along the narrow road to its junction with the main Otley Road, here turn left downhill at first, before following Otley Road uphill back to your walk start point.

Footnote

We hope you enjoyed your walk. If so tell your friends, if not, or you have encountered any problems please tell us at:

City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council
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31½ miles (5.6km) Circular walk

