

The path follows the wall through the first field, drops slightly

across the second to

pass next to the field

gate, and then follows the wall again

this point).

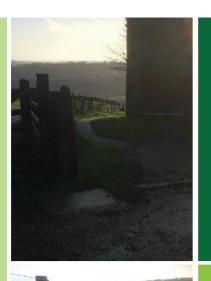
through the third. (Don't take the path

dropping diagonally away to the right at

Head off south along Slades Road, keeping the church on your right. Keep straight on along Dyke End, past Headwall Green. Do not follow the road as it bears right but continue straight forwards for a further 100 yards. Immediately after passing Headwall Stables look for a little footpath off to the left between a wall and the gable end of a house standing apart from the hamlet.

Just beyond the outbuildings of the house the path goes through a narrow gap by the stone gatepost, and on along the valley side.

Keep along the contour with the wall on your left, and admire the extensive views of the industrial villages in the valley bottom and the hillsides on the far side.



Headwalls were built along the contours above the field systems which typically covered the valley sides by the end of the

17th century.

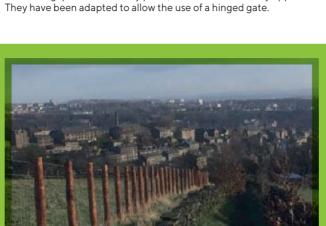


After the third field the path becomes walled on both sides and drops down. It's an old path - the stone gate posts have slots to allow the gap to be closed by poles, a 16th or 17th century approach.





The earliest settlements in the Colne Valley are strung along the shelves that sit half way up the valley sides, before the land climbs again to the moors.







The track to your left as you drop down takes you into the Wellhouse Burial Ground - well worth a detour to find the names of local $families\ which\ remain\ strongly\ represented\ in\ the\ valley,\ and\ to\ take\ in$ the view across to Golcar, perched above the escarpment - Guthlac's Scar - from which its name derives.

Back on the lane, and just below the burial ground, are the remains of Methodist New Connections Chapel demolished in the 1960s. (If you come out of the burial ground at the far corner you will need to double back briefly to find the site of the chapel.)



Our route keeps to the left around its base, to head up Copley Bank Road, with woods dropping below the lane to the right, and views across to Golcar. The road is narrow, so look out for passing cars.







GOLCAR & SLAITHWAITE WALKERS ARE WELCOME

A CIRCULAR WALK AROUND **GOLCAR HEIGHTS**

One cafe, two pubs, three chapels and a large hole in the ground Plus great views and an interesting landscape

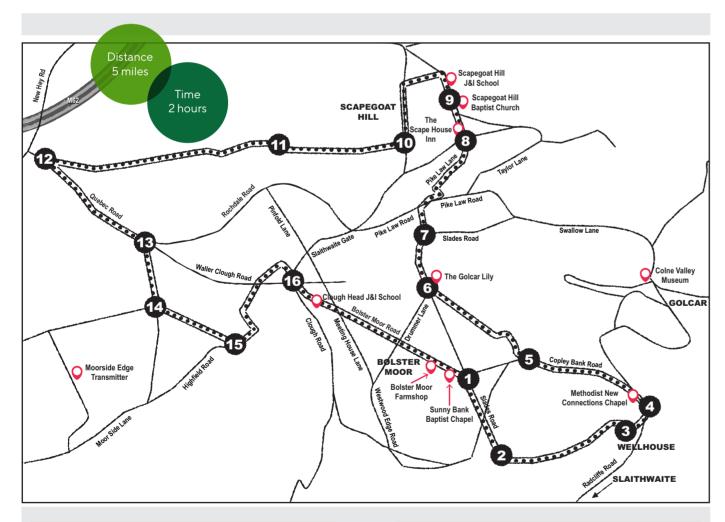
The walk is just under five miles long. It follows good, clear paths, trackways, and some road verges. It is hilly - about 780ft of ascent. Allow two hours - or more if you intend to stop at the cafe, two pubs, or three chapels...



1 STARTING AND FINISHING POINT

The walk starts at the Sunny Bank Baptist Chapel at Bolster Moor, at the junction of Bolster Moor Road and Slades Road - grid ref SE 4088 4154. The 303 or 304 Scapegoat Hill bus from Huddersfield stops just opposite the church, and the cafe at the Bolster Moor Farm Shop is just 100 yards away along Bolster Moor Road if you need nourishment before the start. www.bolstermoorfarmshop.co.uk





COUNTRY CODE

Please follow the country code. Details available at: www.gov.uk/government/publications/the-countryside-code

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

Please use public transport as often as you can. The following information is correct as at September 2020.

The 303 and 304 buses, operated by Yorkshire Tiger, both run from Huddersfield Bus Station to Scapegoat Hill providing, between them an hourly service for much of the day. They stop at the Sunnybank Chapel, where the walk starts and finishes. Details at www.yorkshiretiger.co.uk

An alternative is to travel by bus or train to Slaithwaite and to walk up to the start of the walk from there, following the route details included in the leaflet.

First Bus operate services from Huddersfield to Slaithwaite, and to Town End, Golcar. Details at www.firstgroup.com TransPennine Express operate train services from Huddersfield to Slaithwaite. Details at www.tpexpress.co.uk

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Many thanks to **One Community** for generously contributing to the cost of this leaflet.



DISCLAIMER

Golcar and Slaithwaite Walkers are Welcome have attempted in all good faith to provide adequate safety warnings and they cannot in any way be held responsible for any claims arising from damage to person or property.

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GOLCAR & SLAITHWAITE







After half a mile the lane is joined by another broad track coming up from the right and you reach Bank End. Take the footpath off to the right, below the gardens of the first terrace, leading through to the setted yard of Heath House Mill - now home to the Green Building Store and several other enterprises. *The sets can be slippery in wet weather, so take care if it is raining.*



Bear left through the yard and up through the metal gates, before bearing right along a wide, straight, setted roadway which brings you out at the Golcar Lily - the first of the two pubs en route.

www.golcarlily.co.uk



Beyond the Lily you come to Slades Road, with your starting point a few hundred yards to your left if you want to cut back. But the walk continues to the right, around the curve in the road until you find a walled path going up the slope to your left, just by the bus stop.





Walk up the path, taking the right hand branch at the "Y" towards the top, to emerge on to Pike Law. Turn right down the lane for 50 yards before turning left into Pike Law Lane, which immediately bears right up the hill.



You will come out at the Scape House in the centre of Scapegoat Hill, the second pub on the walk and, at 1200 ft, just about at the highest point, so well worth a

www.scapehouse.co.uk



Our route goes straight on, along School Road, with the pub on the left. Our third Chapel is soon in sight on the right - the Scapegoat Hill Baptist Church. The primary school is just beyond the chapel.





As you pass the school the wall on the left of the lane comes to an end as you reach Longwood Common, and the route turns left to follow a track along the wall at the edge of the common across to the road ahead.

Turn left along the verge at the side of Halifax Road.

After a few hundred yards you will reach Thornber Barn on the right hand side. Turn right here, keeping the barn on your left. The wide track runs along the top of the hill towards the wind turbines and masts ahead.

As you reach the masts you can walk a hundred yards further along the main track to get distant views to the East - across most of West Yorkshire, and beyond if the weather is clear.

But our path passes over the stile by the metal gate with the masts to your right, and then straight across the field ahead......to a second gate and stile on the far side.

*i*You are walking along the top of the Parliamentary Enclosure
Fields, which fall below to Bolster Moor. The Golcar Enclosure Act
was passed in 1823. It parcelled out land that had been "waste",
previously used by local tenants for grazing stock, into a regular





As you follow the path ahead, you suddenly become aware of Rockingstones Quarry opening below your feet to the right. It is the only quarry still occasionally worked in the Colne Valley, and is notably invisible until you are right on its lip. The stone is taken in large blocks to the Johnsons Wellfield site at Crosland Hill for sawing into high quality building stone and flags.



As you reach the end of the quarry the M62 comes into view and the path drops down, after the second stile passing along the edge of trees planted as part of the White Rose Forest scheme. Keep the wall on your left initially, but as you drop down through the field ahead ignore the gate below you in favour of the stone stile where the quarry road comes out onto Quebec Road, about 50yards to the right of the field gate.

Turn left, along Quebec Road. There is a good verge on the right

You will come to a junction with Waller Clough Road running off to the right, and a sharper right turn into a lane down to Causeway Foot. The route takes the latter. It drops down and passes between the gable end of the farm and its out buildings, to come out at a cross roads of straight, wide tracks.





These are the Crimea Causeways, laid out as a form of job creation by a previous Lord Dartmouth when the textile economy was struggling during the Crimea War in the 1850s.



Take the causeway to your left and follow it down to the tracked lane, coming out just below the driveway to Nab Farm. There are fine views down to Slaithwaite from here.



Turn left and follow the lane as it winds down, across the stream, and up to join Waller Clough Lane coming in from the left.



The route then goes round the corner and out to the crossroads at the top of the road down to Crimble Clough. Go straight across the crossroads, following a sign marked "Bolster Moor 1/2", keeping Clough Head School on your right.

Keep straight on over two minor crossroads. The farm shop and cafe will soon be in sight on your right, and then the Sunny Bank Baptist Chapel where you started the walk.





ACCESS TO GOLCAR HEIGHTS WALK FROM SLAITHWAITE

Slaithwaite is accessible by regular bus services from Huddersfield (currently provided by First Bus) and by an hourly train service from Huddersfield or Manchester (currently provided by TransPennine Express).

DIRECTIONS FROM THE CENTRE OF SLAITHWAITE TO THE START OF GOLCAR HEIGHTS WALK

From the Commercial pub, walk along Carr Lane, past the row of shops and bear left after the Co-op keeping on Carr Lane. Go under the viaduct, keeping the Swan pub on your left, until the junction with Radcliffe Road.

Turn right onto Radcliffe Road and first left onto New North Road. At the top of the road, before it bends right, take the footpath (marked with a sign – Public Footpath Westwood Edge) straight ahead, with stone walls on either side. **Please note, this is a steep climb and can be very slippery in wet weather.** An alternative route is suggested for the downhill return.

Follow the footpath to the top, cross the stile and continue uphill, over a field to the houses (Westwood) at the top. Go over a stone stile next to a metal gate, go up the track and turn left by the postbox onto Wellgate and then right onto Westwood Edge. Further up, where the road forks, take the right hand fork, Drummer Lane, until you reach the crossroads. Turn right and continue down, past Bolster Moor Farm Shop until the junction with Slades Lane. This is where the Golcar Heights walk starts.

DIRECTIONS FROM THE END OF GOLCAR HEIGHTS WALK, BACK TO SLAITHWAITE

At Sunny Bank Baptist Chapel turn right onto Slades Road. At the next junction branch left onto to Headwall Green. Continue along the road until it begins to drop downhill and take the right fork signed Dyke End. Continue along this track which then becomes a footpath.

At the junction with the road, turn left and continue downhill until Westwood Farm. At the farm, turn left by the footpath sign (opposite the post box). Walk down the track, go over the stone stile, next to a gate and continue down the path at the side of the field. Instead of bearing right (which links to the route up), bear left and follow the stone wall. Where the field opens out, go straight across. As the land drops away, you will see a stile over a fence. Cross the stile and walk down the path, through some young trees, and an area of heather and then down some stone steps. When you reach the first of the houses, turn right onto a narrow footpath with a fence to the left and a wall to the right. Follow the path down to the track and then go down the track to the road. You are now back on Radcliffe Road. Turn right and walk downhill. At the bottom of Radcliffe Road, turn left onto Carr Lane and return to the centre of Slaithwaite.