



# WALKERS ARE WELCOME

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## Stocksbridge Walkers are Welcome

[www.stocksbridge-walkers.org.uk](http://www.stocksbridge-walkers.org.uk)

### Medium Walk: Denby Dale to Penistone

- Length – 6.4 miles
- Grade – Mostly well-defined paths, bridleway and roads. There are stiles at field boundaries. Some sections can be muddy
- Start – Denby Dale Railway Station
- Grid reference – SE 224 085
- Maps – OL1 Dark Peak, OS Explorer 278/288
- Parking – (i) Denby Dale Railway Station or street parking (ii) Penistone Railway Station, street parking in Penistone or the Trans Penning Trail (TPT) car park in Penistone (behind Tesco: take the exit after the Tesco exit at the roundabout)
- Public transport – Penistone Railway Station is 400 m East along the trail from the car park suggested above. Several bus services visit both Denby Dale and Penistone. Destinations include: Barnsley, Chapletown, Holmfirth and Sheffield
- Refreshments – there are several cafes and pubs in Denby Dale, Upper Denby and Penistone
- Public Toilets – none on this route

**Description** – This linear walk takes you from Denby Dale Railway Station to Penistone Station via Upper Denby, Gunthwaite Tithe Barn, Scout Dike Reservoir and Thurstone. We suggest that you start in Penistone and use the hourly train service (Northern Trains) to reach Denby Dale before returning on foot. The train journey lasts seven minutes.



The C16<sup>th</sup>.Tithe Barn at Gunthwaite Hall (9)

*Parliamentary approval for the Huddersfield & Sheffield Joint Railway (H&SJ) was obtained on 3<sup>th</sup>.June 1845 for the 13-mile route from Huddersfield to Penistone. In July 1846 the Huddersfield & Sheffield Joint Railway amalgamated with the Manchester & Leeds Railway, the company being renamed the Lancashire & Yorkshire Railway (LYR) in 1847. The line opened on 1<sup>st</sup>.July 1850.*

## Route Instructions

1. Leave Denby Dale Railway Station using the exit at the Huddersfield end of the platform. Do not use the subway. Pass Myers Building Supplies on your right, then after 50 m, take the marked footpath which is ahead of you (1)
2. Descend to the end of the path. Bear left onto Wood Nook. On reaching the main road, cross and follow the marked path through Norman Croft. Take a left onto Nether Dale, then, following the TPT sign, right onto Norman Road
3. Go left onto Dearnside Road, then second right onto The Meadows. After 50 m, take the ginnel at top-left end of the Meadows. Then right onto Inkerman Way
4. Then left onto a marked footpath, initially between two wooden fences (4). Continue keeping the stone wall on your right

*At Denby Dale, a substantial 400' timber trestle railway viaduct was built, apparently prompted by a stonemasons strike. On 27<sup>th</sup>.January 1847, before the line opened, it was severely damaged in a gale on when half of the supports were blown down.*

*The current Grade II listed, Denby Dale Viaduct has 21 arches. Began in October 1877, the stone viaduct opened on 16<sup>th</sup>.May 1880. It is constructed of rock-faced stone and has 21 round arches on imposts to tall, slightly battered rectangular piers. There is a later square abutment to each end on the west side, each with two arches.*

*The name Denby derives from 'Denebi, 'farmstead of the Danes.' It is believed the village was first settled after 862 AD when the Danes conquered York.*

5. Cross the A635 and passing Inkerman House on your left, continue on the marked path (5).
6. Continue, passing under the railway line (6) via a tunnel (Bridge PEH 48). Crossing two fields, each ending with a stile. Then turn right onto Coalpit Lane

*Behind you is [Emley Moor transmitting station](#) The Grade II listed 1,084 feet (330 m) tall concrete tower is the tallest freestanding structure in the UK.*

7. Take the next left. Passing [the George](#) on your right, turn left onto Denby Lane, the B6115. Slowly descending, the road curves to the right, then left. You will pass Denroyd Farm on your right. Immediately after the railway bridge (PEH 51), turn right up some stone steps (7) and continue along the path
8. There is a steep descent into small wood. Follow the path, leaving the wood over a stile. Continue keeping the train line parallel on your right. At the end of the field, turn left, continuing to follow the field boundary. Then go right (stile and metal gate) onto a wider track. Cross the next field, then passing through another stile and gate, continue along Gunthwaite Lane (8)



9. You will pass Norcroft Hall on your left, then Gunthwaite Hall Farm on your right. Turn right onto a marked bridgeway, keeping the barn on your right



*The C16<sup>th</sup>. tithe barn at Gunthwaite Hall was originally built for Godfrey Bosvile (1520-80) Lord of the Manors of Gunthwaite and Oxpring. Grade One listed, it is a northern aisled barn with a low-pitched roof, stone walls up to three-quarter height and then timber framing to the eaves. There are some fine Tudor doorways for pedestrian access as well as two large wagon doors on each side. The barn is eleven bays long and now divided in two. Otherwise it is unaltered except for repairs. It is still in agricultural use, being used for animal shelter and crop storage. It was re-roofed c1978.*

10. Follow the bridgeway (10), heading towards the railway line. 20 m before the bridge, bear left and continue to follow the path parallel to the line.
11. Passing through woods, the track curves away from the railway line. Leaving the woods via a wooden gate, continue to follow the track as it curves to the right. You will cross two fields, each ending with a stile and metal gate.
12. Passing through a further metal gate, you will reach Carr Lane, turn right (12)
13. After 40 m, turn left onto a marked bridgeway (13), woods and the train line are on your right
14. Continue and cross the railway line at the crossing point (14). The path curves away from the line. At the end of the path, turn right onto a large track. After 200 m, you will reach the A629
15. Turn left and, after 100 m, just after the red post box, cross the A629 and enter Scout Dike Reservoir car park. Bear left, then right (15) down steps and across the reservoir wall

*Scout Dike Reservoir was completed in 1928. Acting as a compensation reservoir for Broadstone, Ingbirchworth and Royd Moor Reservoirs, it is 40 acres (16 Ha) in area, it is 12 m deep. It is stocked with both Rainbow and Brown Trout.*

16. At the end of the wall, turn left onto a marked path (16). At the end of the woods, cross the stile, then follow the marked path across a field. Cross a stone stile (just to the left of a metal gate), the go left following the path around the edge of a field



17. Go left over a stile, then right onto Folly Lane, between two stone walls (17). Continue along Folly Lane, taking the first right into Thurlstone

*Parts of Folly Lane bridleway was badly damaged during the 2007 floods. Subsequent stone repairs were eroded by heavy rainfall. It was rebuilt in 2012 using 'flexi-pave,' a porous material made from recycled car tyres.*

18. Turn left and follow Ingbirchworth Road downhill to the Thurlstone Providence Particular Baptist Chapel: the building opposite was originally a Sunday School, from 1780. Bear left and continue forward onto Towngate to the A628, passing [the Crystal Palace](#) on your right. Turn left along the A628 towards Penistone. On your right is an old stone marker

19. Continue passing Hoyle Mill, on your left. 100 m after crossing the River Don, just after a bus stop, turn right onto Stottercliffe Road. Continue uphill onto a stony track, between two stone walls. Then turn left onto a path. You will reach the cemetery on your left

*The Stottercliffe cemetery site was a wood until 1840, with a bridle path passing through it from Penistone to Thurlstone. The path had to be diverted with the arrival of the Manchester, Sheffield and Lincolnshire railway from Sheffield to Dunford Bridge which opened 15<sup>th</sup>. July 1845. The cemetery was consecrated and officially opened on 1st August 1880. By 30<sup>th</sup>. September 1887, 420 interments had taken place. It also includes eleven Commonwealth War Graves (three from WW1 and eight from WW2). The opening of the adjacent extension occurred on 6<sup>th</sup>. March 2007.*

20. Bear right, cross over the TPT, then left across the showground. Join the TPT and return to your start point at Penistone Railway Station

*This final section follows the route of the Penistone Poetry trail as it crosses Penistone Showground before offering views of Penistone Viaduct from the TPT.*

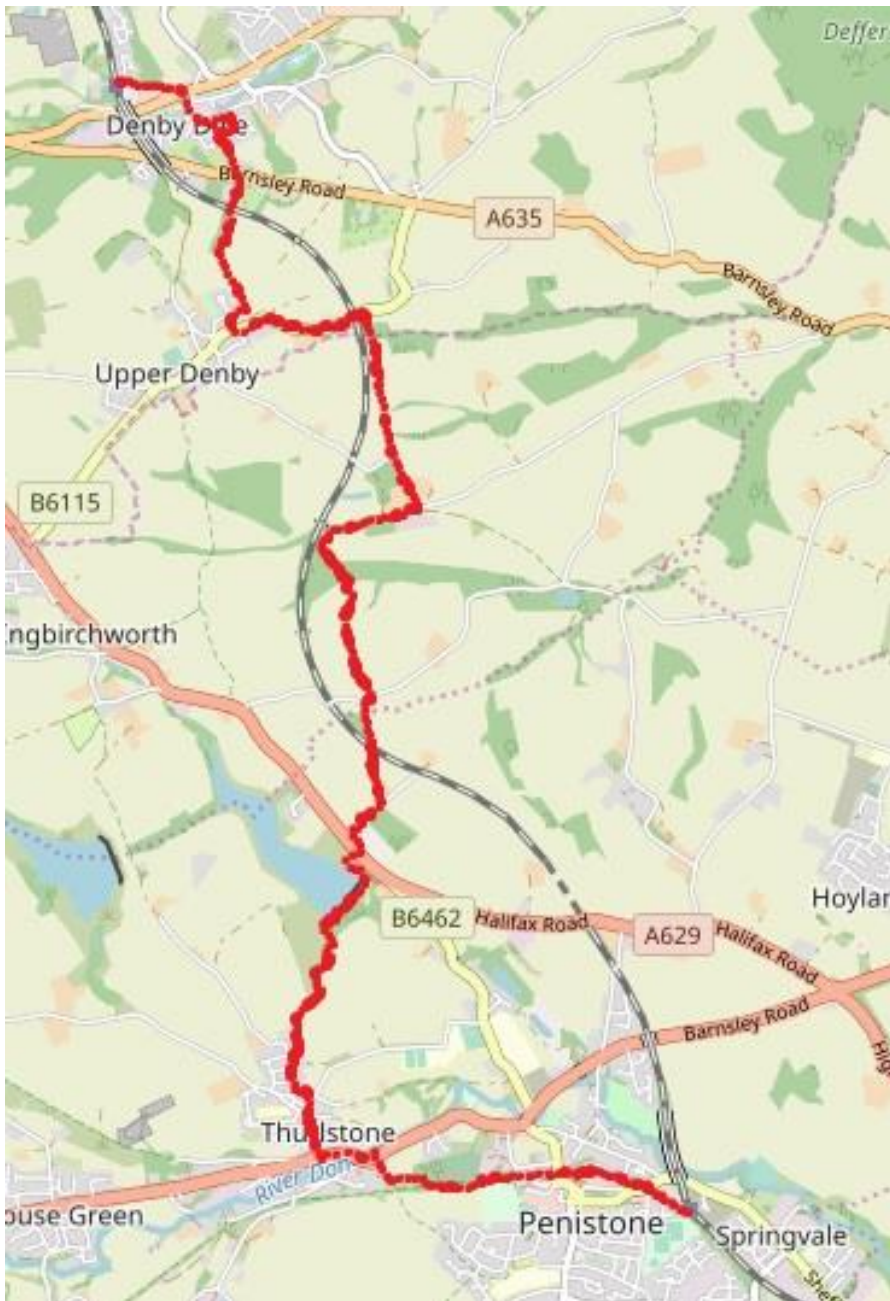
*Penistone is a historic market town. The traditional retail open market occurs every Thursday and the country market (formerly the WI market) operates that morning. There is also an annual one-day [agricultural show](#), one of the largest in the country. The St. John the Baptist [church](#) dates to the 12<sup>th</sup>. century. It has undergone extensive refurbishment.*

*The [Penistone Paramount](#) is a traditional cinema (opened 1915), complete with intermission, ice creams and bar. It also hosts concerts, pantomime and shows. The Paramount is also home to the [Compton Theatre Organ](#), the only one of its kind in the country.*

*In the late C19th., Penistone was a key railway centre with a main line and two branch lines from its five platforms. You could travel to Barnsley, Huddersfield, Manchester and Sheffield. Penistone Old Station (1856) closed in 1970.*

*Penistone was on the route for the final day of the 2017 Tour de Yorkshire which finished in nearby Stocksbridge*





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