



Countryside & Rights of Way

Walk 8: Bradford District Fair Trade Way

Haworth to Thornton

9 mile/14.5km linear walk

Bradford District Fair Trade Way

The Fair Trade Way was created by the Bradford Fairtrade Zone as a scenic, circular walking route linking all the Fairtrade Villages and Towns in the Bradford District: Bradford, Shipley, Bingley, Baildon, Burley in Wharfedale, Ilkley, Keighley, Haworth (world's first Fairtrade Village) & Thornton.

Fairtrade is a global movement for change for both people and planet. It aims to end exploitation and poverty, mitigate the impact of climate change, and create economic, social and environmental sustainability and trade justice for farmers and workers in low-income countries.

www.fairtrade.org.uk

This section of the Bradford Fair Trade Way has been devised by linking existing footpaths, tracks and roads and is easy but long. The route reverses a section of the Bronte Way from the birthplace of the Bronte children at Thornton to the burial place of most of them in the graveyard of Haworth Church.

Walking boots and good wind and waterproof outdoor clothing is strongly advised. This route is not suitable for disabled access. It is essential to carry enough food and drinks. Cafes, pubs and food shops can found in Haworth.

Allow around 4 to 5 hours to complete this longer walk

Public transport information:

Metro Line: 0113 245 7676

MAP	OS Outdoor Leisure 21 & 288
BUS	67 Bronte Bus, W.V.Railway
PARKING	Local streets
RETURN	67 Bus
TOILETS	Haworth station or cafes/pubs
FAIRTRADE	Sonia's Smile, Main St, Haworth, Co-op in Haworth

THE ROUTE



From the Bronte Parsonage walk down Haworth Main Street, cross the railway and cross to the War Memorial on Bridgehouse Lane. From Haworth Station turn R and walk along the street towards the large mill building in the distance; Bridgehouse Mill. Walk up Brow Road and take the footpath on your R and walk alongside a high wall. Follow this path across fields and beside a water channel to steps leading up to the yard of a house. This path follows the line of a mill stream taking water to Bridge House Mill in Haworth.

Proceed up the drive and turn R down the path which follows the railway line and crosses the stream at a few points. After passing Wilton House on L take the first road L. Cross the Keighley Road and walk uphill past Manorlands entrance. Turn R onto Dark Lane.



Walk up this lane to a junction R with Yate Lane which you follow along and then down to Station Road in Oxenhope. Cross this road and take Lowertown Road directly ahead. On the corner with Best Lane turn L and immediately look for a path ahead. Follow this path towards the stream and cross a bridge L which takes you into a large open yard. Look for a path at '2 o'clock' and go up towards a road forking R, Jew Lane.



Turn R and go down towards the stream where you cross a bridge and go L to the end of the road. From this point you are effectively retracing the Bronte Way to Thornton. Climb the steps and follow the path towards the reservoir wall ahead. Follow this path to the head of Leeming Reservoir crossing a small bridge. Look for a path off R and follow this towards open moorland climbing towards Thornton Moor Reservoir. You will cross a built water leat which was constructed on the contour to carry water to the reservoir.

The Stubden Moor conduit (the lower one of the two around the head of the Oxenhope valley) was built around 1870 to collect water from the Oxenhope moors and feed it into Stubden Reservoir near Denholme which supplies water to Bradford. Not very far to the east of the Bronte Way the conduit enters a long tunnel which conducts the water into the Stubden valley. The stone "towers" which can be seen near Cobling and the Reservoir Keeper's house (Bird Holme) are the tops of air shafts which connect with the tunnel.

The Bronte Way above Stubden conduit passes the sites of three farms in quick succession - Knoll Bottom, The Heys and Paddock End. Almost all the scattered farms of the Sawood area were cleared and demolished in the later C19th to protect the Stubden water supply from contamination by people and animals (particularly cows).

Continue uphill until you reach a rough road which you follow L until you reach a bend. Go R along a road marked as Thornton Moor Road and then Black Edge Lane. Follow this road until you come to a row of cottages on your left and reach the main road A629. Cross with caution and look L for a gap in the wall with steps down to a field. Follow this path with wall on your R down towards some buildings and turn L down towards Brighthouse Road which you cross and go L until you come to a small road which forks R down towards a bridge crossing the stream in Denholme Clough.



Cross the bridge and take the path which leads further along the clough keeping the wall on your RIGHT until you find a gate into open fields. Now follow the path which has a wall on L for 2 fields and then crosses the next fields in a diagonal slanting line upwards with stiles in the walls to find and keep you on the line. Cross the edge of a farmyard and continue the diagonal line towards buildings along the main road on the ridge, Well Heads .

Turn L and walk along the road and turn R down the farm track.



At the farmyard turn L and follow the path along a wall until you reach a track, Close Head Lane, where you turn R. Go down towards some buildings where you find a path L which leads onto the road across the top of Thornton Cemetery. Continue onto a well-defined path between walls which then crosses 6 fields and you reach houses on the edge of Thornton, Reservoir View. Go down to the end of the street and turn R on West Lane and walk downhill. Fork L and follow West Lane down to a T junction. Turn L along Market Street passing Emily's.

A blue plaque reads: In this / house were born / the following members of the / Bronte family / Charlotte 1816. / Branwell 1817. / Emily Jane 1818. / Anne 1820.

Continue along Bronte Old Road and look for a path down R towards St James Church.

Cross the main road and walk down through the old cemetery to see the Bronte Bell Chapel the only remains of the church where Patrick Bronte was vicar.

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
Countryside and Rights of Way Service
4th Floor, Britannia House, Hall Ings, Bradford BD1 1HX

Tel: 01274 432111

www.bradford.gov.uk/countryside



Walk route devised by
Bradford Fairtrade Zone



City of
BRADFORD
METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

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January 2025

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START POINT
BRONTË
PARSONAGE

HAWORTH
STATION

FINISH
ST JAMES
CHURCH
THORNTON

Key

Route

