

# Waddington

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It would be difficult to find a more delightful walk to appreciate the beautiful Ribble Valley. At the end of it you will feel puzzled. Why isn't the Ribble Valley better known outside of Lancashire? But shush - let's keep it to ourselves!



**START:** Waddington Village Centre BB7 3HP

**WALK DISTANCE:** 7 miles (11km)

**WALK TIME:** 3-4 hours

**MAP:** OS OL41 The Forest of Bowland

## DIRECTIONS TO THE START OF THE WALK BY CAR

From the hotel head to the A59 and turn left following signs for Clitheroe. Once in the town centre pass the railway station on Station Road at the end of which turn left on to the B6478 for Waddington. Pass beneath the railway bridge and cross the River Ribble. In a little over half a mile the road arrives in the attractive village of Waddington.



**WALK DIRECTIONS:**

**1** From the village centre branch right just beyond the Waddington Arms inn to reach West Bradford Road. Pass the alms houses and walk along the lane for 500 yards using the path to the left once outside the village.

After returning to the road continue past a property on the right to a footpath indicated by a sign on its outbuilding. Turn right onto the path. This soon leads to open fields.

Keep to the right of a large storage tank cross two stiles in quick succession. After a third stile cross a wall corner by a stone stile. The 'right of way' is ahead but to avoid the boggy ground, loop left, aiming for a metal gate and a wooden stile on the far side of the field.

Over the stile follow a hedgerow on the right to a wooden kissing gate. After this with the village of West Bradford before you aim for a corner, cross a low wall and turn right onto a narrow path following a brook. The path leads to the end of Mill Street.

Turn right at the end of it onto Clitheroe Road and after 250 yards turn left through a wooden kissing gate onto the banks of the River Ribble. There now follows a delightful amble along one of the most attractive reaches of the river. After  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile the path leads past a water treatment plant and continues to a footbridge.

Keep ahead to arrive at a wooden gate below a flight of steps. Up the steps follow the path as it leads to Grindleton Road on the edge of the Grindleton village.

**2** Turn left. After 250 yards on the corner of Laneside Farm turn right onto Green Lane. Proceed for one mile. Underfoot the surface changes from tarmac to compacted stone and in some places to mud before becoming tarmac again as you near White Hall.

**3** As you arrive at a large farm complex pass through the yard to the drive beyond. Turn left over a wooden stile leading into pastureland (NOT the drive leading to Far House.) From this corner the path bears



slightly left away from the drive crossing three fields before dropping to a small footbridge across West Clough Brook.

On the far side the path climbs to a stile and then crosses to Lowcocks Farm. Keep ahead through the farm and then follow the drive to a junction with Bowland Gates Lane. Turn right to Bucks Farm. Pass the farm on your right and then follow a track past the outbuildings, remain on the track as it bears to the right to enter a field.

Cross to a wooden gate in the fence line to the left and then descend through woodland to cross Drakehouse Brook. Remain on the path as it climbs the other side to bring you to a stile by a metal gate. Crossing the next field may be difficult after prolonged wet weather. Aim for the far right corner.

After a stile next to a metal gate follow the hedge to the left to reach Moor Lane. Turn right and shortly after turn left in the direction of Seedalls Farm. Once you have passed the farm the track leads onto a

cluster of properties at Cuttock Clough farm. Pass this and then after a dip climb the track up to Mill Farm.

**4** From here the route heads south back towards Waddington. Locate the footpath, which is *not* indicated by any obvious sign, by the drive just before the large gentrified building to the left. Keep to the left passing an outbuilding to arrive at a footbridge.

Cross over the footbridge and proceed following the edge of the small woodland on your right down to Feazer Farm. As you approach the farm keep to the right of a covered reservoir.

Once you reach the drive just beyond it turn right and then after a gate on the right cross a wall over stone stile. To continue your descent to Waddington, at first keep to the right edge of fields but as you near the village pick up a grassy track that takes you back past the alms houses onto West Bradford Lane.