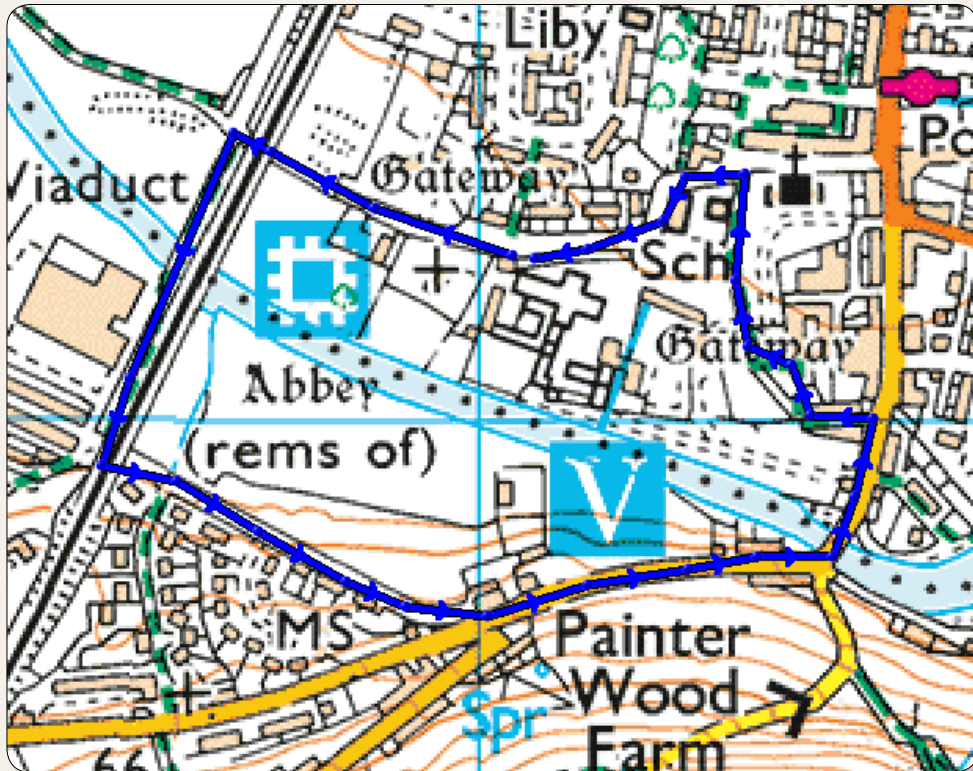


## A short stroll around Whalley

Whalley village is perched on the banks of the River Calder and is a five minute drive from Northcote. This short stroll takes you round the remains of the 14th century Cistercian Abbey and then you can explore the shops and cafes.



**START:** Entrance to Whalley Abbey, The Sands, BB7 9SS

**WALK DISTANCE:** 1 mile (1.6km)

**WALK TIME:** Around half an hour but allow more time to explore the Abbey

**MAP:** OS Explorer 287 West Pennine Moors

### DIRECTIONS TO THE START OF THE WALK BY CAR

From the hotel head to the A59 and turn left towards the roundabout. At the roundabout take the second exit signposted for Whalley and Billington. Follow for two miles onto King Street in Whalley. At the small roundabout, turn right and you will find on street parking beyond the shops.



### WALK DIRECTIONS:

Standing with your back to the entrance of Whalley Abbey turn left along the Sands. Almost immediately pass the grounds of English Martyrs RC church. Its neat garden has on display an array of said English martyrs statutory who were put to death in the turbulent years following King Henry VIII's break with the church of Rome.

Beyond the church you arrive at an imposing gatehouse, once the main portal leading northwards into the Ribble Valley. Passing below its ancient stones you find another imposing structure from an entirely different era - Whalley's magnificent railway viaduct.

Constructed in the 1840s at the height of the railway building boom the 48 arches span the River Calder and it's Lancashire's longest viaduct. Note the decorative brickwork on the arches closest to the lane designed in keeping with the medieval abbey.

Pass under the arches and turn left onto a public footpath. This section of the walk will

give you a good idea of the impressive scale of this fine example of Victorian engineering. The path leads across a metal bridge over the Calder and continues to meet Longworth Road in a semi-industrial part of the area.

Turn left under the arches and walk along Longworth Road for a little under 300 yards. Turn left onto Whalley Road. This takes you back to the river. Cross into King Street and then turn left on a public footpath leading to Whalley's parish church, yet another gem of ecclesiastical history. Follow the path left in the church grounds leading round to The Sands and back to the start.

