

Safety in the hills

Whilst none of these walks are dangerous, walkers are responsible for their own safety and are reminded of the importance of being fully prepared for walking on the fells. Appropriate footwear is essential. The weather can change quickly and it is advisable to carry warm clothing and wet weather gear, along with adequate food and drink. Rivers and becks can flood rapidly after heavy rain. A mobile phone can be extremely useful, should an emergency arise, and it is a good idea to let someone know where you are intending to walk. Dogs should be kept under proper control particularly during lambing time and during the late spring and early summer mating season of ground-nesting birds. Please follow the countryside code and take your litter home.

Weathercall: To obtain the latest weather report for this walk call 09068 500 419 and enter the code 1903 when prompted. Calls cost 60p/min from a UK landline, mobile charges may vary.

Directions

From the M6, leave at J37 signposted Sedbergh A684. Dent is a further 5 miles from Sedbergh.

From West Yorkshire, leave the A65 at Kirkby Lonsdale, heading north on the A683 towards Sedbergh. At Barbon Village look for signs to Dent.

From the A1, exit at Northallerton and head west on A684 towards Leyburn and Hawes. At Hawes take the B6255 towards Ingleton, looking out for the junction to Dent.

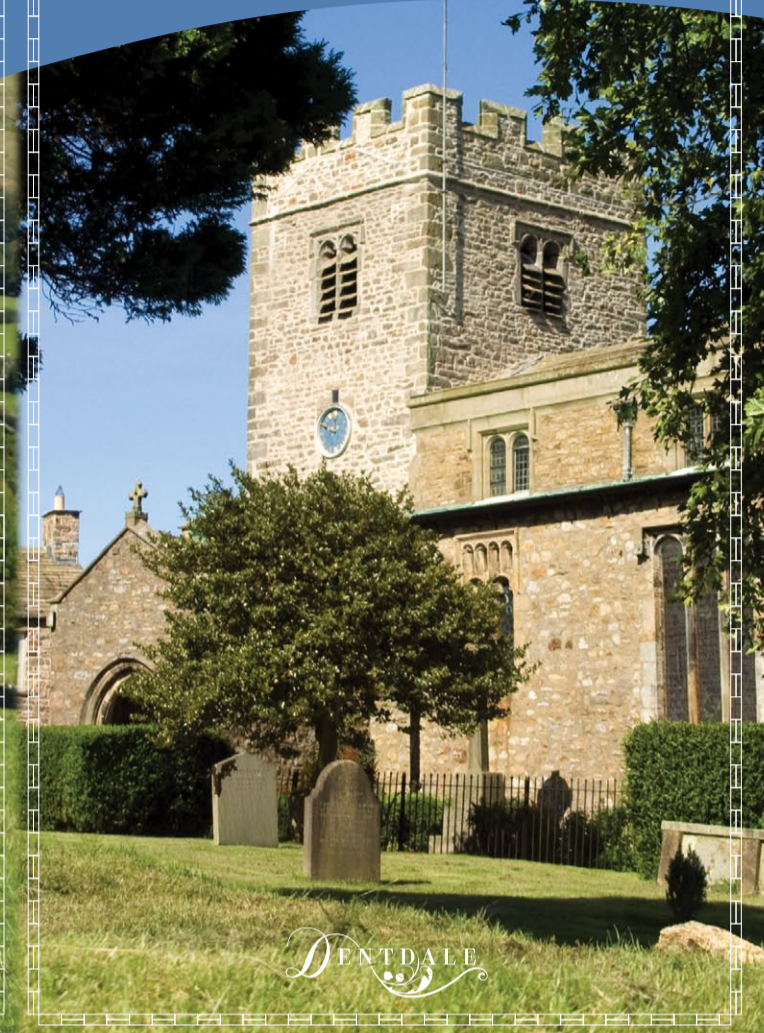
By Rail: Trains from Leeds and Carlisle to Dent Station. Please note Dent Station is 4 miles from Dent Village.

By Bus: Service 564A, Kendal-Sedbergh-Dent (limited service).

Walking in Dentdale

Around Dent

Easy



DENTDALE
www.discoverdentdale.co.uk

DENTDALE

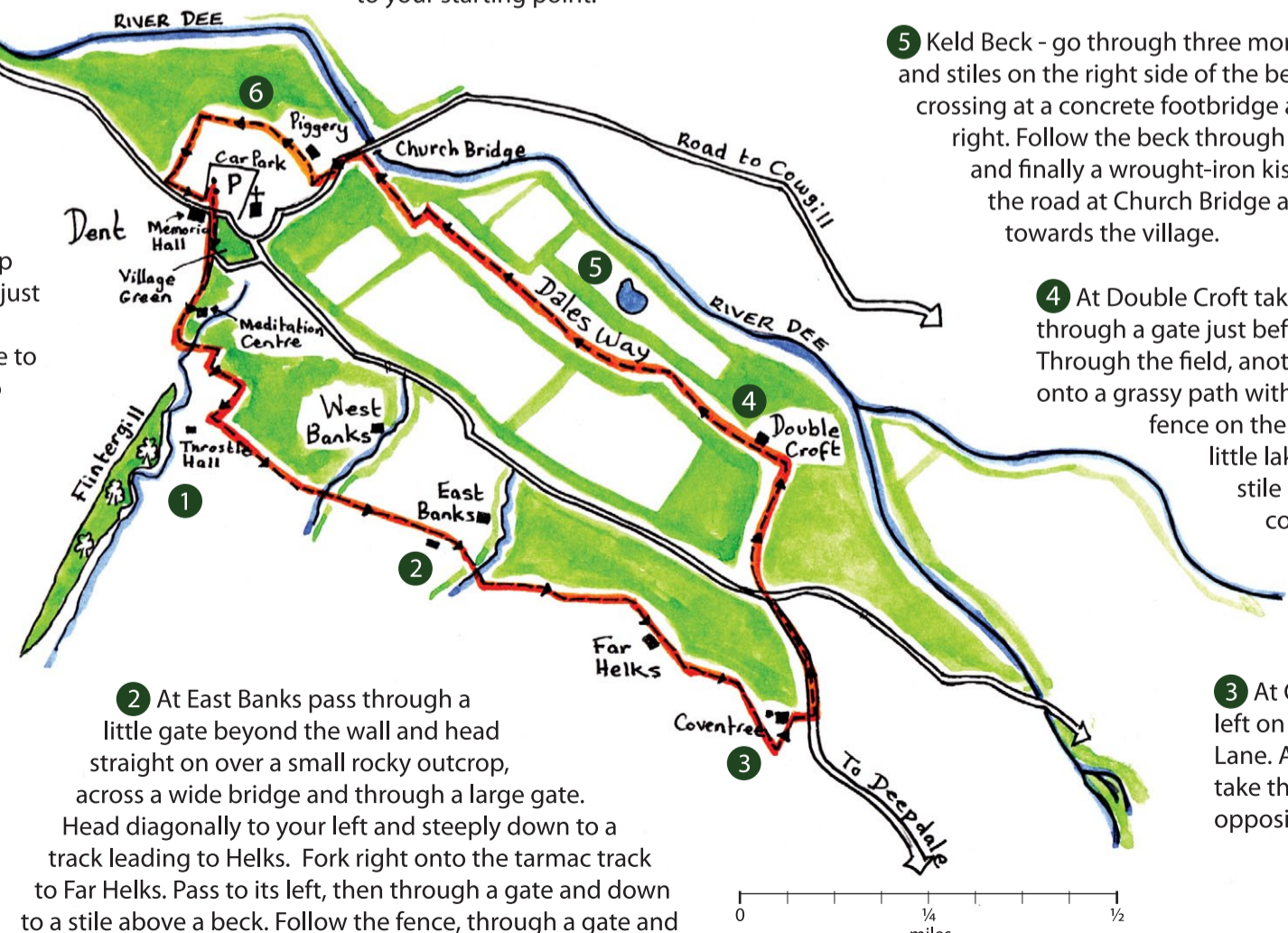
Around Dent - Quick Guide

- 6** After 50 yards the walk can be extended by following a signpost to High Laning, crossing a concrete bridge and following the track behind the disused piggery and Dent's own gymnasium. A footpath then takes you to the camping field at High Laning where a left turn takes you back to your starting point.

START

Dent Parish Council Car Park. Turn left out of the car park and immediately right. Head up the lane past the village green and straight up Flintergill. At the last house turn left just before the outbuilding, down some steps and across a narrow footbridge to reach a concrete track. Follow this to the right, through a gate and over a cattle grid.

- 1** At Throstle Hall, turn left at the signpost, across the top of the field, through a gate and over two stiles separated by a wooden bridge. Pass to the left of an old stone barn, through a gate in the wall and head left down a sunken track alongside a muddy stream. Pass to the front of West Banks farmhouse and through a tiny gate behind the outbuildings into a large field leading to East Banks.



- 2** At East Banks pass through a little gate beyond the wall and head straight on over a small rocky outcrop, across a wide bridge and through a large gate. Head diagonally to your left and steeply down to a track leading to Helks. Fork right onto the tarmac track to Far Helks. Pass to its left, then through a gate and down to a stile above a beck. Follow the fence, through a gate and over a footbridge onto a short walled track to Coventree.

- 5** Keld Beck - go through three more little gates and stiles on the right side of the beck before crossing at a concrete footbridge and turning right. Follow the beck through stiles, a gate and finally a wrought-iron kissing gate. Join the road at Church Bridge and turn left towards the village.

- 4** At Double Croft take a left turn through a gate just before the house. Through the field, another gate, and onto a grassy path with a wall and then fence on the left. Ahead is a little lake, to its left is a stile at the edge of a copse of trees.

- 3** At Coventree turn left on to Deepdale Lane. At the junction take the track directly opposite.

DENTDALE

www.discoverdentdale.co.uk

Walking in Dentdale

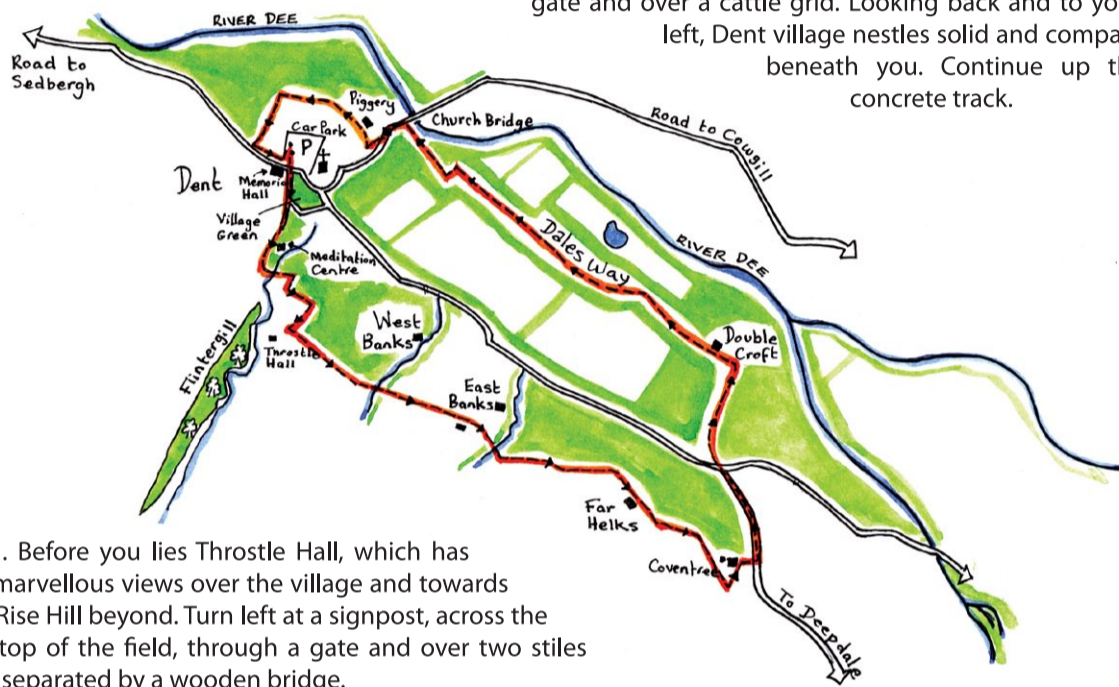
Around Dent

Route: 3½ miles / 1½ hours / Easy

Start/Finish: Dent Parish Council Car Park at SD 703871 on OS Explorer OL2 map.

This modest excursion provides a good introduction to the charms of Dent itself as well as to that area immediately to the east of the village. The first half of the walk explores the series of farmsteads along the lower slopes of the southern dale as far as Deepdale Lane, then returns along a delightful beck known as Keld. There are plenty of stiles, gates and little footbridges to negotiate, but nowhere is the going in the least bit strenuous. After heavy rain, it could well be muddy in parts, but is undoubtedly a delightful and occasionally fascinating way to while away a couple of hours.

Turn left out of the car park and immediately right again by the side of the Memorial Hall, noting its date stone (1845) and original designation as a 'Board School'. ('I was never bored at school!' I hear you exclaim.) Head up the lane past the village green (Dragon Croft) and straight on towards Flintergill. On the left is Dent's excellent Meditation Centre, housed in the beautifully renovated Zion Chapel. Follow the lane until the little cottages begin to peter out. Immediately after the very last building, turn left in front of another building, down some stone steps, and across a narrow footbridge over lovely Flintergill. Pass in front of a newly restored building to reach a concrete track, which you follow to the right, curving up the hillside, through a gate and over a cattle grid. Looking back and to your left, Dent village nestles solid and compact beneath you. Continue up the concrete track.



1. Before you lies Throstle Hall, which has marvellous views over the village and towards Rise Hill beyond. Turn left at a signpost, across the top of the field, through a gate and over two stiles separated by a wooden bridge.

More lovely views begin to unfold, with the head of the Dale and Great Knoutberry Fell (Walk 11) rising ahead. Pass to the left of an old stone barn, through a gate in the wall and head left down a sunken track alongside a muddy stream. This will bring you to a collection of buildings known as West Banks. Follow the waymarks to pass in front of a superb old farmhouse, with well preserved mullioned windows and an iron-studded front door. Squeeze through a tiny gate behind the outbuildings into a large field across which lies another interesting farmstead.

2. East Banks Farm is surrounded by a notably large, thick wall, made from squared and dressed stone. This is believed to be the remains of an ancient nunnery. Little is known about this building, but the nearby High Nun House must surely bear some relation to it. Pass through another little gate beyond the wall and stay more or less straight on over a small rocky outcrop, across a wide bridge and through a large gate. Now head diagonally left and quite steeply down to a track and some farm buildings. This is Helks and is followed by leaving the concrete and forking right up a tarmac track to Far Helks, now a well-appointed and spacious holiday cottage. Passing to its left and through another gate the route now leads down to a stile above a tumbling beck. By following the fence line, passing through a gate and over a wooden footbridge, a short walled track is reached, leading to a recently renovated farmhouse.

3. This is Coventree. Dentdale is not particularly known for tales of witchcraft, but surely this name must relate to a nearby ancient meeting place for practitioners of the black arts! Hurrying along you will soon reach the safety of Deepdale Lane. Turn left down the road, then straight across at a junction into Double Croft Lane. The hedgerows hereabouts are well-known locally for delicious wild strawberries in the summer.

4. In splendid isolation, at the bottom of the lane, stands the beautifully located house of Double Croft and a choice of direction for the discerning walker. A bridleway straight ahead runs down to the River Dee and The Dales Way, but this can flood after heavy rain, so this walk recommends a left turn through a gate in the wall just before the house is reached. Through a small field and another gate leads to a level grassy path with a wall and then a fence close on the left. Straight ahead lies a recently developed little lake, where a variety of water fowl can be spotted. Passing to its left a stile soon becomes visible at the edge of a copse of trees.

5. This is the start of Keld Beck and its little area of wildlife "Habitat Enhancement" created by the Lune Habitat Group in conjunction with the Yorkshire Dales National Park and The Environment Agency. This tranquil little area offers a variety of paths on both sides of this fast-flowing beck. To avoid the worst of the muddy spots, go through three more little gates and stiles on the right of the beck, then look out for a concrete bridge over it protected by a gate at each end. Over the bridge, a right turn will lead to a pleasant stroll along the beck's left bank, crossing a series of little stiles. A gate and then a handsome wrought iron kissing-gate brings you to Dent Playing Fields on the left and the confluence of Keld Beck with the Dee on your right. Reaching the road at Church Bridge, a left turn will lead you towards the village.

6. In about 50 yards, those who would like to explore a little further, can follow a signpost to High Laning over a concrete bridge (complete with wrought iron handrail), then follow a track behind a disused pig barn to Dent's own gymnasium and changing room "complex". Beyond this a footpath across fields passes close to the environmentally friendly sewage works, then alongside the camping field at High Laning to the road of the same name. A left turn will quickly return you to your starting point in the village.

