

# PENNINE BRIDLEWAY

NATIONAL TRAIL 



[www.nationaltrail.co.uk/penninebridleway](http://www.nationaltrail.co.uk/penninebridleway)

## How do I get there and back?

You can reach both ends of the Pennine Bridleway, and many places in between, by public transport. The nearest rail station to Middleton Top, at the southern end of the trail, is Cromford. It is on the Derwent Valley line between Derby and Matlock.

Horse riders are advised to start at Hartington Station on the Tissington Trail.

At the northern end the trail ends in Ravenstonedale, though there is an alternative link to the nearest train station in Kirkby Stephen, approximately 6km away, which is on the Settle to Carlisle line.

## How hard is it?

The route runs through the Pennines so expect hills and changeable weather! The Trail is well maintained and signposted and provides an amazing long distance route through classic Pennine scenery with miles of off road tracks, safe road and river crossings, and no stiles or steps to negotiate. But don't underestimate those Pennine hills; there are steep climbs, exhilarating descents and some challenging terrain. However, at the southern end the trail follows disused railway lines and provides an easily accessible route for all the family. Horse riders and walkers could expect to cover around 15 miles a day, cyclists as much as 30.

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## A trail for all seasons

Summer is the most popular time to enjoy the Pennine Bridleway, when the weather is more reliable and the days are long. From mid August the heather comes into flower, creating a purple blanket over the moors. Autumnal colours on the moors and in ancient Pennine woodlands can create spectacular scenes, and when winter comes expect snow and ice on the hills



## Looking for adventure?

The Pennine Bridleway is the only National Trail specifically designed to be used by horse riders and cyclists as well as walkers, and runs parallel to the Pennine Way. Explore 205 miles of the Pennines' ancient packhorse routes, drovers roads and brideways; call at historic towns and villages, discover canals, craft workshops, breweries, cafes and pubs.



## What will I see?

The route traverses a great variety of landscapes from open moorland to steep-sided wooded river valleys and passes through the Peak District, the South Pennines and the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

Highlights include the rich wildlife of Chee Dale Nature Reserve, stunning views over the Kinder plateau, the exhilarating Roych Clough (one of Britain's classic mountain bike rides) the tranquillity of the Rochdale Canal and Wycoller with its ancient packhorse bridge. The Yorkshire Dales section features spectacular limestone landscapes, including great views of Malham Tarn and the Three Peaks of Penyghent, Ingleborough and Wharfedale. From Pennine villages to the remote open uplands, the views just keep coming.

## Something For Everyone

The Trail can be tackled in many different ways – you don't have to do the whole thing in one go! You can do it in stages or enjoy circular routes that take you through some of Northern England's most spectacular landscapes.

There is a range of accommodation, cafes and pubs along the trail. Some can accommodate horses, many will have bike storage. There are also companies that will arrange your trip for you and carry your bags to your overnight accommodation. You can seek inspiration or plan your own visit using the interactive map on the website [www.nationaltrail.co.uk/penninebridleway](http://www.nationaltrail.co.uk/penninebridleway)





1. Wild Boar Fell (YDNPA)



2. Ribblehead viaduct (iStock)



3. View to Penyghent (YDNPA)



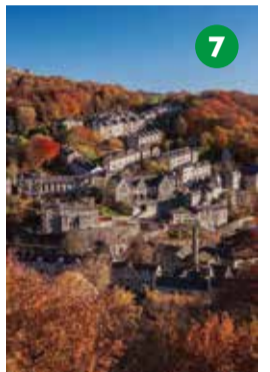
4. View to Malham Tarn from the Settle Loop (YDNPA)



5. Wycoller Country Park (Natural England)



6. Widdop Reservoir (Pennine National Trails Partnership)



7. Hebden Bridge (iStock)



8. View to Stoodley Pike (Joolze Dymond)



9. Roch Clough (Mike Williams)



10. High Peak Trail (Derbyshire County Council)



11. Middleton Top Chimney (Derbyshire County Council)



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## National Trails in England and Wales



## LEEDS

## SHEFFIELD

## Mary Towneley Loop

A 47 mile section of the Pennine Bridleway following ancient packhorse tracks across heather-covered moorland, past hidden reservoirs and sweeping into valleys with gritstone walls, mill chimneys and canals offering a glimpse of past histories.

The route is physically challenging as it climbs up and down the steep-sided South Pennine valleys.

Hebden Bridge is a good starting point for a two or three day walk or ride. It is easily reached by train from Manchester or Leeds, there is a range of accommodation, a lively arts scene and a wide range of independent shops, cafes and pubs.

## Peak District National Park

Matlock

Cromford

Middleton Top