

SWAN CIRCULAR WALK VIA LOB WOOD

Distance approx: 4.5 miles

Time approx: 2 hours

Difficulty: Moderate

Parking: The Swan Car Park

Suggested Footwear: Walking Shoes or Boots

From the car park, turn right onto Main Street, and right again in 50 yards up Jubilee terrace and Chapel Street.



Walking past Addingham Methodist church (left hand side) Wesleyan Terrace and Chapel Court (right hand side) follow the road down and bear to the right. After 200 yards, on the corner, turn left up a track running alongside a recently renovated cottage. Follow the track for 100 yards, then access the field on your left via a wicket gate.

The footpath runs uphill following the fence line, through two swing gates and reaches the golf course via a wooden stile.

Keep on going through the golf course following the green and white marker posts [about 600 yards] until a gate gives access to a field. Once through the gate, angle towards the far right-hand corner and the stone stile.

After crossing the stile, follow a well-trodden path over a gully to another stone stile 300 yards ahead to the right of a large gorse bush. Cross the stile and bear slightly to the right until you reach a well-defined track alongside a wall. Follow the track behind the wall [to the right] until you reach a metal gate. Keep to the track towards another metal gate 200 yards ahead. In the right-hand corner of the field, you will see a stone stile. As you cross the stile, you will see one of the best views in Wharfedale!



Head diagonally across to the bottom corner of this steeply, sloping field and cross a stone stile into Lob Wood. Turn right and follow the path downhill alongside the wall for 100 yards and then bear left down into the wood – beware the edges of the steps – they are slippery! As you approach the bottom, look ahead and admire a piece of “industrial architecture” unseen from the road and probably 99% of the local population. Follow the path downhill through the wood until you reach the main Addingham to Bolton Abbey road. Turn right and walk uphill [more room on the left-hand side] until you see a gateway on the right-hand side at the top with an almost hidden stile on its left.

SWAN CIRCULAR WALK VIA LOB WOOD

This next part of the route follows the "Dales Way" alongside the wall on the left for over half a mile until it brings you round the back of the old "Friends' Meeting House" into a lane. Instead of following the lane to the main road 50 yard on, take the path on your left around the back of the Quaker House and cross the road through a wicket gate [beware fast traffic] onto a cobbled driveway on the opposite side. The footpath skirts the house on the left via steps and leads you down into a field by the river. For the next mile, enjoy a gorgeous riverside walk on a well-defined path which ends at a riverside caravan park



Once here, turn left through the caravan park, exiting via a gate and follow the road uphill until it once more meets the main road. Bear left, walk over the hill and drop down to Addingham Primary school on your right. Straight ahead you will see a track leading into a field [known as "Manor Garth"]. Cross the cattle grid and follow the track until a gate gives you access to another short track bearing left onto Addingham Main Street. Turn right and follow the road back to the "Swan" in time for a well earned drink! [And, might we suggest, lunch as well!]