

# 206

## YHA Malham

# Janet's Foss, Malham Tarn and Malham Cove

### Countryside and moorland walk

**Distance:** 7.6 miles (12.3km) **Ascent:** 283m (928ft)

**Time:** Allow 4h to 6h 30m

**Map:** OS Explorer 1:25k (OL02) Yorkshire Dales – Southern & Western areas

**Start/Finish:** OS Locate SD 901 629 **what3words** ///prowling.bike.robots

A great route taking in many stunning features. From the hostel turn left towards the village, right at the pub, then left before the bridge to follow the Pennine Way. Turn left and follow signs to Janet's Foss. Continue to the road, turn right, then left at Gordale Bridge to follow the path uphill. Turn right to take the steep path over New Close Knotts. Bear left and continue to Malham Tarn. Turn left, bear right at Lings Plantation, at the road turn right, then left onto the Pennine Way towards the Dry Valley. Continue to the top of Malham Cove, turn right and follow the path and steps to the base of the cove. Cross the stream, follow the signed footpath to Malham and back to the hostel. Walkers wishing to visit Gordale Scar should continue along the road from Gordale Bridge and take the next path on the left, then return to the bridge to continue the route. Walkers wishing to climb Gordale Scar can re-join the route on the path to Malham Tarn.

### Hazards

Caution on the road sections, they are narrow with no pavements. The path is exposed, stony and steep in places. Take care at the top of Malham Cove and on the descent. May be livestock near the path from Malham Cove. Take extra care if opting to climb Gordale Scar waterfall, it is a scramble and not recommended for inexperienced walkers. In winter the route may become hazardous, especially if covered in snow and ice, and may require winter clothing and footwear.

### Accessibility

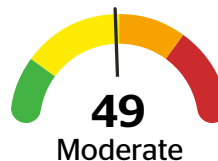
There are stiles and steps on the route. There are gates and paths less than one metre wide. Some areas of steep and rough path with ruts or stones exceeding 10cm.

### Points of interest

Features include Janet's Foss waterfall, views across Malham Tarn, disappearing stream before the Dry Valley which comes out at the bottom of Malham Cove, limestone pavement at the top of Malham Cove and the impressive Malham Cove from below.

### Facilities

Toilets in Malham and at YHA. Pubs in Malham. Refreshment van often available at Gordale Bridge.



Scan or click to view this route on the OS Maps App – also a route profile and GPX



This route has been created by YHA to provide inspiration and to aid planning and preparation of your walk. It doesn't replace the need for an OS Map or the OS Maps App to navigate your walk safely. Digital maps are a guide and do not always reflect the conditions on the ground, ensure you are aware of your immediate surroundings.

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Route: ITV 100 Favourite Walks and Richard Lord



Thank you for choosing to walk from our hostel.  
We hope you have a great time.

Walking in the national landscapes of England and Wales is part of YHA's heritage. With hostels on National Trails, in National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, YHA plays a unique role in the nation's walking community.

To make it easy for everyone to enjoy walking from YHA hostels, we have curated three walks – an easy, moderate, and more challenging option. They have all been graded – the higher the grade, the more challenging the route.

### Before you go:

- Check the local weather forecast ([metoffice.gov.uk](http://metoffice.gov.uk)).
- Check the tide times for coastal routes ([tidetimes.org.uk](http://tidetimes.org.uk)).
- Get the right clothing, footwear and kit for the route and weather.
- Ensure you have enough time to complete the route before dark.
- Download the OS Locate and what3words apps to your phone.
- Contact 999 by SMS text (must pre register by texting 'register' to 999) ([relayuk.bt.com/emergencysms](http://relayuk.bt.com/emergencysms)).
- Plan your walk by completing the YHA route notification card it helps Emergency Services if you get into difficulties or fail to return from your walk when anticipated ([yha.org.uk/route-card](http://yha.org.uk/route-card)).
- Ensure your entire group have the fitness and skills to complete the route.
- For further information on how to stay safe visit [adventuresmart.uk](http://adventuresmart.uk)

For more walks or information on route grading and timings go to [yha.org.uk/walks](http://yha.org.uk/walks)

If you encounter problems with this route contact [walking@yha.org.uk](mailto:walking@yha.org.uk)



Scan or click to shop  
for OS maps online  
[osmaps.com/yha](http://osmaps.com/yha)

Share your walks  
 #YHAWalks

## What to wear

- Base layer and mid layer.
- Walking trousers.
- Warm jacket(s).
- Take extra layer(s).
- Hat, gloves and neck gaiter.
- Sun hat, sun cream and sunglasses.
- Waterproof jacket and trousers.
- Cushioning walking socks.
- Walking shoes or boots.

## Kit

- Map, compass and GPS device or OS Map app on your phone.
- Water, lunch and high energy snacks.
- Charged mobile phone and portable charger.
- First aid kit.
- Head torch, spare batteries.
- Watch.
- Whistle and survival bag.
- Rucksack, with waterproof cover or a dry bag or plastic bag inside.
- Medicines or toiletries you would usually use.

## You might also want to take

- Spare socks, hat, gloves.
- Balaclava.
- Leg gaiters.
- Waterproof baseball cap (handy if you wear glasses).
- Walking poles.

- Bivi bag or group shelter.
- Spare food and hot drink.
- Duct tape (handy for fixing things).
- Penknife or multitool.
- Tissues and hand sanitiser.
- Plastic bags to take away your rubbish or dog poo.

## In case of emergency

- Call 999 (or text 999 if pre-registered) and ask for the Police.
- Use OS Locate or what3words to provide a detailed description of your location.
- If you need to attract attention shout or give six blasts on a whistle at regular intervals. In low light flash your torch six times at regular intervals.
- If you can send someone for help, they need to know your location (grid reference), number of people in the group and the nature of the emergency.
- Help could be some time coming so whilst waiting make the casualty comfortable.
- Keep the casualty warm and dry using spare clothing. Use coats or rucksacks to insulate them from the ground.
- Remember the rest of the group could be getting cold whilst waiting. Use an emergency shelter or find a sheltered location.