



These **stepping stones** cross the River Wharfe near the parish church of Saint Michael and All Saints, which dates back to the 12th century.



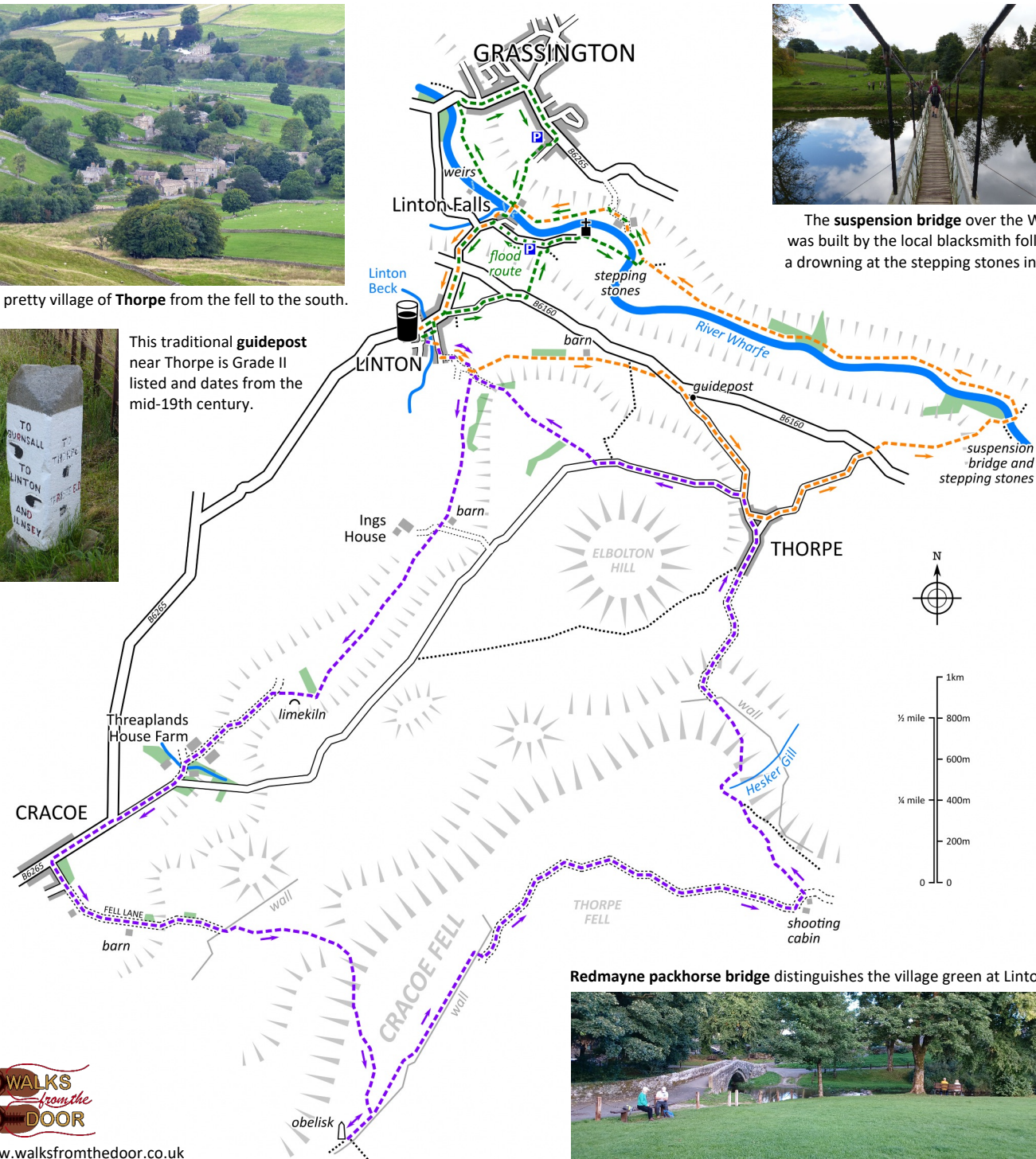
The picturesque village of **Grassington** stands in for James Herriot's Darrowby in the *All Creatures Great and Small* series on Channel 5.



The pretty village of **Thorpe** from the fell to the south.

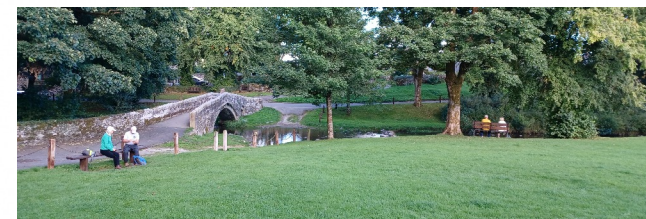


This traditional **guidepost** near Thorpe is Grade II listed and dates from the mid-19th century.



The **suspension bridge** over the Wharfe was built by the local blacksmith following a drowning at the stepping stones in 1884.

**Redmayne packhorse bridge** distinguishes the village green at Linton.



three circular walks from



# The Fountaine Inn

Linton-in-Craven, North Yorkshire

## Linton Falls and Grassington

2 or 3 miles: fairly easy

An impressive rapid, a riverside church and access to the facilities of Grassington.

## Thorpe and the Wharfe

4½ miles: fairly easy

A pretty village and a glorious section along the River Wharfe to Linton Falls.

## Cracoe Fell (8½ miles: strenuous)

A hearty climb to a local summit with superb views over Wharfedale and the surrounding hills.



# The Fountaine Inn

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# Linton Falls and Grassington

## 2 or 3 miles: fairly easy

*Allow 1–2 hours, plus time in Grassington for sightseeing. Some road walking.*

**The walk can be shortened by a mile by omitting the loop to Grassington. The stepping stones at Linton Church may be impassable if the river is high; an alternative route is suggested.**

**1** From the front of the pub, cross the green and the packhorse bridge. Turn left to the main road through the village. **2** Turn right, noting the old pinfold to the left, and beyond Ivy Cottage turn right onto a lane (marked ‘Burnsall’ on the old guidepost at the junction). Climb a slight hill, passing a footpath on the right, until you reach the B6160. **3** Turn right for a short distance, then take a footpath on the left-hand side, signposted to ‘Linton Church and Falls’. **4** Follow the wall on your left, then turn left at a junction of paths to Church Road. **5** Turn right and follow the road to the church. **6** Walk through the churchyard to a gate in the far corner and cross the meadow beyond to the stepping stones.

*(If the stepping stones are impassable, retrace your steps past the church and follow Church Road to Linton Falls. Turn right onto a footpath beyond the houses, cross the footbridge over the Falls and turn left, rejoining the described route at step 9.)*

**7** Once across the stepping stones, turn left through a gate into a track. **8** Pass a house and fish farm then, when the lane bends right, follow the Dales Way footpath on the left signposted towards Grassington. This path rejoins the river and runs through a series of water-side meadows to an old stone barn.

*(If omitting the loop to Grassington, turn left to cross the bridge over Linton Falls and skip to step 16.)*

**9** Go through the gate and continue upstream along the river, past the weir and hydroelectric scheme. **10** As you approach Grassington Bridge, leave the river and climb the bank on your right below a terrace of houses to the road. **11** Turn right and walk up the hill into Grassington. **12** In the village centre at the bottom of Main Street, keep right (Hebden Road), signposted to the National Park Centre and car park. **13** Pass Springfield Road and Hardy Meadows on your left. Just beyond the car park, turn right into Sedber Lane (with a footpath sign to ‘Linton Falls & Riverside Path’). **14** Keep to the footpath on the right, which leads to a paved, walled path down to Linton Falls. **15** Cross the footbridge over the Falls.

**16** Follow the winding path to the right around the houses on the opposite side of the river (noting but not crossing Little Emily’s Bridge on the right) to reach Church Road. **17** Turn right here, and follow the road to a junction. **18** Bear left and climb the hill to a crossroads. **19** Go straight on and follow the road past the Memorial Institute and Reading Room back to Linton and the Fountaine Inn.

# Thorpe and the Wharfe

## 4½ miles: fairly easy

*Allow 2–3 hours. Some road walking and numerous stiles. Livestock may be expected.*

**1** From the front of the pub, cross the green and the packhorse bridge by the ford. **2** Turn right, with Linton Beck now on your right, past the second footbridge on the village green. At the entrance to Linton Laithe, turn left in front of Grange Farmhouse. **3** Follow the track then, at the entrance to the farmyard, go through a hand-gate on the left. **4** Follow the wall to another gate and continue to a third gate through the wall on the right. **5** Turn left along the track for a short distance, then cross a stile on the left signposted ‘FP B6160’. **6** Climb between two trees and follow the path ahead under power lines to another stile in a corner. **7** Follow the wall to the right of a small wood until a further stile, then cross the next field, passing to the right of a stone barn. **8** Cross a ladder stile and continue in the same direction across the next field; on the far side, climb another stile in the wall on the right and turn left. **9** Cross the next field to meet the B6160, where you turn right along the road. **10** After a short distance, turn right by an old guidepost into a walled lane. **11** Follow this lane uphill past a barn conversion and continue for half a mile to Thorpe village, ignoring a turning to the right by a farm on the left. **12** In the centre of the village, keep left at the triangle, past the Manor House, and climb out of the village, past a farm on the right. **13** Follow the lane round a left-hand bend, ignoring the signposted footpath to Burnsall. **14** The road winds down to the B6160 once more, where you cross onto a footpath signposted ‘Mill Lane Hebden ½ ML’. **15** Follow the wall on your right through a succession of fields divided by gates, the last marked with a public bridleway fingerpost, then descend the last field to a hand-gate into Anniversary Wood, planted to celebrate the anniversaries of the *Yorkshire Post* and the Dales National Park. **16** Bear right down the grassy slope to the river. Cross either via the stepping stones or the suspension bridge. **17** Turn left along the riverbank and follow it upstream for a straightforward mile and a quarter. Beyond a brief wooded section, the path leaves the river-bank to cross a footbridge and meadow to the right of a water treatment works. **18** At the far side, cross a track (if the river is not too high, Linton Church can be visited via stepping stones to the left) and go through a gate into a track. **19** Pass a house and fish farm then, when the lane bends right, follow the Dales Way footpath on the left signposted towards Grassington. This path rejoins the river and runs through a series of waterside meadows to an old stone barn. **20** Turn left here, crossing the footbridge over Linton Falls. **21** Follow the winding path to the right around the houses on the opposite side of the river (noting but not crossing Little Emily’s Bridge on the right) to reach Church Road. **22** Turn right here, and follow the road to a junction. **23** Bear left and climb the hill to a crossroads. **24** Go straight on and follow the road past the Memorial Institute and Reading Room back to Linton and the Fountaine Inn.

# Cracoe Fell

## 8½ miles: strenuous

*Allow 4–5 hours. The significant ascent and descent of Cracoe Fell crosses open moorland, which is uneven and boggy underfoot in places. There are numerous stiles on the lower farmland sections, where cattle and sheep are likely to be encountered.*

**1** From the front of the pub, cross the green and the packhorse bridge by the ford. **2** Turn right, with Linton Beck now on your right, past the second footbridge on the village green. At the entrance to Linton Laithe, turn left in front of Grange Farmhouse. Follow the track round to the right then, at the entrance to the farmyard, go through a hand-gate on the left. Follow the wall to another gate and continue up the side of the field to a third gate through the wall on the right. **3** Take a few steps to the left, then turn right across the field on the lowest ‘terrace’ in the stepped field, with a belt of woodland on your left. This leads to a farm gate at the far end of the field. **4** Follow the path along the top of a couple of fields to a through-stile in a wall. Cross the next field, heading in the direction of a stone barn, to a footbridge and another step stile. Cross the last field to a third similar stile close to the barn, then cross the track to Ings House at a finger-post beyond. **5** Follow the path through rough pastures to another stile and continue towards a small wood, crossing another couple of stiles *en route*, the second a ladder stile. **6** Pass to the left of the copse, bearing left, uphill, to a gateway below a steeper bank on the left. **7** Cross the next field along the contour towards a second wood, passing through a gateway in a broken wall. Skirt round the left-hand end of the wood and cross a wall-stile in a corner on the far side. **8** Follow a fence along the bottom of a field, passing a limekiln, then drop down the slope below a tree to join a farm track which leads through a tumbledown wall and continues to Threaplands House Farm. **9** Pass through the farmyard and bear left up the drive, over a stream and past the farmhouse. **10** At the road turn right, and follow it to the B6265 road. **11** Cross and turn left along the B-road into Cracoe village, passing a series of large houses on the right. **12** By a farm shop, cross into Fell Lane and follow it past some stone-built houses; at a junction, carry straight on by the access sign for Bardon Moor and Fell. **13** Beyond the last house, the road turns into a walled track and continues past a stone barn on the right, passing a couple of small woods to a gate onto open land by a sheep pen. **14** Turn left along the wall, then shortly bear right across rushy ground. **15** The path ascends gradually at first, boggy in places, then bears to the right, steeply up the slope, with steps worn into the turf. **16** Towards the top, bear right towards the obelisk. As you approach, you meet a path running along the edge; turn right to the obelisk. **17** Ignoring the ladder stile over the wall, return the way you came, but ignore the path you used for the ascent, instead keeping right along the ridge with the wall away to your right. **18** The path eventually meets the wall and runs alongside it, until you reach a gate and ladder stile. **19** Use either to reach the other side of the wall, and turn left (now

with the wall on your left) to join a shooter’s track. **20** This follows the wall to start with, then leaves it to curve right, around the heights of Thorpe Fell. **21** After a fairly level mile along the track, you reach a stone shooting hut. Follow the track a short distance further to a stone shelter, opposite which leave the main track on a less obvious path off to the left. **22** This path descends with fine views up Wharfedale and rightwards to Simon’s Seat, around the head of Hesker Gill and along sunken quarryman’s paths below low crags to a gate into a walled track. **23** Follow the track as it descends to Thorpe, with good views of the green dome of Elbolton Hill ahead and to the left. **24** When you reach the road, turn right and walk down through the village to a triangular junction, where you turn left. **25** Walk uphill past the last of the houses, then turn left at a road junction. **26** Climb over the shoulder of a hill and follow the road as it levels off below the slopes of Elbolton Hill on your left. **27** Half a mile from the junction, ignore the first path on the right (signposted ‘BW TO B6160’), but a little further on turn right over a stile (signposted ‘Public Footpath Linton ¾ ML’). **28** Cross the field and climb a little to pass to the right of a wood. **29** Descend across another large field to a gate and stile, and follow the track alongside the wall beyond. **30** The stony track descends through a gate to Grange Farm. Ignore the first signposted path on the right, then go through the hand-gate in the wall on your right and retrace your steps to Linton village green. **31** Cross the first footbridge over the beck and walk in front of Fountaine’s Hospital and back to the Fountaine Inn.



The obelisk on Watts Crag, the highest point of Cracoe Fell, was built to commemorate the 13 men from Rylstone and Cracoe who died in the First World War. It was unveiled in 1922, and three more names were added after the Second World War.



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