

Leadhall Road to Beckwithshaw via Beckwith Head and Shaw Green.

Preliminary Notes:

- There is a potential difficulty on the route into Beckwithshaw, where the public footpath seems to go through someone's garden with no obvious path. But, after a few metres you get onto Otley Road B6161 and you see the footpath sign behind you.
- There are a few stiles but nothing onerous, and after recent rain parts of the walk could be muddy and/or slippery.

Starting in the Green Lane or Leadhall Road area, or even in Whinney Lane (Castle Hill), the walk is about 5 miles over very pleasant undulating countryside. It's probably best to park in Leadhall Road/ Green Way or Green Lane outside Ashville College.

If starting at Leadhall Rd., go to Green Lane and turn right to walk up to the small roundabout. Take the 2nd exit from the roundabout to go down Whinney Lane to the start of housing developments on the left. Here you take a footpath to the right going west towards Lund House. This path is narrow until you get into fields and nearby Lund House you turn right into Lady Lane, seeing a huge planning proposal from Mr Addyman near hedges to the right.

After a short while you come to the junction of Howhill Road and Howhill Quarry Road where you turn right into Howhill Road and walk 200m or so, turning south-west on the path over fields to Beechfield Farm and then to Beckwithshaw.

Just before you get to Beechfield Farm the path forks into two, the left fork taking you on our intended route to near Shaw Lane. (The right fork would have taken you towards the Church further north up Otley Road). When you get onto Otley Road, notice the footpath sign partially obscured by branches.

Going south on Otley road, you soon come to Shaw Lane, and you go down there towards Shaw Green, passing very well-manicured lawns on your right. Did this used to be an agricultural equipment outlet?

Just after Shaw Green, you take a left at the footpath sign to go east towards former quarries in the vicinity of Beckwith, and not far from the cluster of houses you come to a barn which houses the light aeroplane that can sometimes be seen flying over the west of Harrogate: this barn is marked AP. As you come to the quarries take the right fork in the path to go along a pleasant path nearby a stream.

You now come out onto Howhill Quarry Road and walk south-east for a little while until you turn left and walk north-east uphill past woods to Beckwith, where the path turns into a minor road. Towards the end of the village, you take a footpath on the right to go east towards the Blue Coat farm area, where you get to Lady Lane again and turn right to Lund House Green in the vicinity of Whinney Lane. Now you turn left off the lane to walk east on the Harrogate Ringway, passing the back end of the Squinting Cat pub. After wet weather, this path can be muddy in places, but you soon come to Yew Tree Lane where you turn left towards Pannal Ash.

Now you have various route choices:

- If you parked on Whinney Lane or at the top of Green Lane, you walk straight up Yew Tree Lane and negotiate the roundabout as appropriate, (or walk on a footpath through the Ashville carpark).
- If you parked near Leadhall Road, you can either take a right off Yew Tree Lane along Rossett Green Lane (shown on map), or you can walk a little further up Yew Tree Lane and take a right down a narrow footpath along the southern edge of Ashville's playing fields, shown as a footpath on the map (green dashes).