

Wyre Self-Guided Trails: Calder Vale and Back

Start Point

At the circular “Villa de Garstang” mosaic in
Cherestanc Square Garstang Post Code: PR3 1EF
OS Grid Reference: SD 4915 4529

Distance and Time

12 km (7.5 miles)
3.5-5 hours

Maps

OS Landranger 102 (1:50000) or OS Explorer OL41 (1:25000)

Terrain Grade: Moderate

The route follows roads, farm tracks, fields and footpaths. There is a gentle, but sustained climb / descent to and from Calder Vale, but with some short steep sections. There are stiles, gates and steps, and paths can be wet and muddy after rain. There may be animals in the fields and farm yards. Dogs should be kept on a short lead at all times. **This walk is not suitable for tramper vehicles.**

About this walk.

The route goes East from Garstang, past the historic Greenhalgh Castle, then climbs gently before making a steep descent into the picturesque wooded valley of Calder Vale. The return takes in wonderful views over the Fylde and Morecambe Bay to the Lake District from the hill top near Kelbrick Farm. The final leg is along the course of the old Pilling Railway, a haven for wild flowers and butterflies in summer.

1. SD 4915 4529 Stand on the “Villa de Garstang” mosaic facing the stone seat, turn to your right and walk to the pedestrian crossing on Park Hill road (10m). Cross the road and proceed down the alleyway opposite onto the High Street. Turn right and walk along High Street bearing left at the Royal Oak Hotel, and on down Bridge Street and over the river bridge to the junction with Castle Lane.
2. SD 4935 4493 Turn left immediately after the bridge and proceed down Castle Lane, past the ruins of Greenhalgh Castle to the small green at the bottom of the lane. Bear right on entering the green to locate a stile in the corner on the right.
3. SD 5013 4509 Cross the stile and go along the enclosed path and over a second stile into a field. Walk along the right hand hedge, over a stile, past some farm buildings on the right and through a footpath gate. Continue in the same direction across the field beyond the gate to a footbridge and stile.
4. SD 5041 4475 Continue straight ahead for about 100m, with a fence on the right, to a concrete water trough, bear right to a field gate in the corner of the field. Go through the gate and cross the next field to a stile in the hedge. Bear left across the next field, through two field gates onto a track over both the railway and motorway bridges.
5. SD 5092 4466 Keep straight ahead on the concessionary path, with Bailtons Farm on the right, and on up the farm access track until the track joins a tarmac lane. Cross the lane, over a stile then bear right to a stile in the corner of the field next to a stone monument to a family of farmers. Keep left by the wood side, past a way- marker (next to a field gate but do not go through it) and, keeping the fence on your left, go to the corner of the field and over a stile and footbridge on your left.
6. SD 5178 4484 Keep to the right boundary up the next field, passing Lower House Farm on your right, and continue over a footbridge and stile in the right hand corner by the wood. Go through the kissing gate ahead and turn left on the farm track and then right between the farmhouse and farm buildings to a stile on the left. Go diagonally right across the field ahead, heading for the highest point, until you see a small pond in some trees on the left with a three gates just beyond. Take the right hand gate, with the footpath way-marker, and continue up the left side of the field to the road.
7. SD 5243 4513 Turn right along the road about 280m (300 yards) to Sullom Side House and turn left up the track beside the house. At the house go through a metal gate and then continue along the track over a stile and on, climbing steadily, until it ends at a gate and stile entering a large field. Go over the stile and walk straight down the field keeping the field boundary on your right, to a gate into the wood.
8. SD 5293 4508 Continue down through the wood keeping to the left track past some cottages, ignoring the footbridge on the right, to the road junction in Calder Vale village.
9. SD 5321 4573 Turn right and proceed downhill but just before the right turn at the bridge go straight ahead past the phone box. Take the path on the left which leads up through the wood to a kissing gate at the top. Bear right and go diagonally across the field, uphill, through the gate in the top left corner, then along a track to a stile on the left.
10. SD 5315 4644 Go over the stile and walk clockwise round the edge of the field (with the hedge on the left) to a stile in the opposite corner, near the farm buildings. Cross the stile and bear right to the left end of the farmhouse garden. Go through a kissing gate by a water trough at the end of the farm garden (do not use the metal gate next to it as this leads into the garden). Follow the farm garden fence round to the right

and cross a stile, by the gate, onto the farm access track. Turn left and follow this to the road.

11. SD 5295 4673 Cross the road, go over the stile ahead and follow the left field boundary to a kissing gate. Turn left through a second kissing gate then straight ahead through a footpath gate, near a large house, to the road. Turn left and proceed to the junction with Strickens Lane. Just beyond the junction go over the stile on the right and continue down the right side of the field over three stiles then onto a tarmac farm lane.
12. SD 5227 4650 Turn left along the lane for about 200m to a double stile on the right. Cross the stiles and go straight across the field, over a stile, and across the next field with the field boundary on you right. Carry on through a kissing gate and on, beside the wood, over a stile, to a kissing gate in the bottom corner of the field leading to a junction in the road.
13. SD 5142 4608 Take the middle route (Delph Lane) heading for Barnacre Church ahead. Go past the church to a path up some steps on the left. Go over 2 stiles, then another stile on the left (next to a farm gate) and then a small gate immediately on the right, and along by the brook to the stile onto the road.
14. SD 5131 4573 Turn right along the road, past Clarksons Farm, then straight on to the motorway bridge at the end of the lane (ignore the house entrance on the right and the track / footpath on the left). Continue over the motorway and railway bridges then bear left through a gap into a field. Initially follow the right-hand field boundary, with a Castle Wood on the right. After 100 m bear left to cross the field diagonally and go through a metal pedestrian gate at the right-hand edge of a small wood on the far side of the field.
15. SD 5045 4541 Turn immediately right, avoiding the steep steps ahead, and continue straight along the course of the old railway for 800m (half a mile) to the bridge over the river Wyre. Go over the bridge, past a small building and down the steps on the left to join the riverside path. Turn right and walk around the cricket pitch to reach a picnic site and car park near a bend in the river. Continue along the riverside path for about 100m and then take a footpath on the right leading up to the High Street. Cross the High Street and walk to the left then up Stoops Hall Weind, identified by the metal plaque in the pavement, to return to Cherestanc Square.

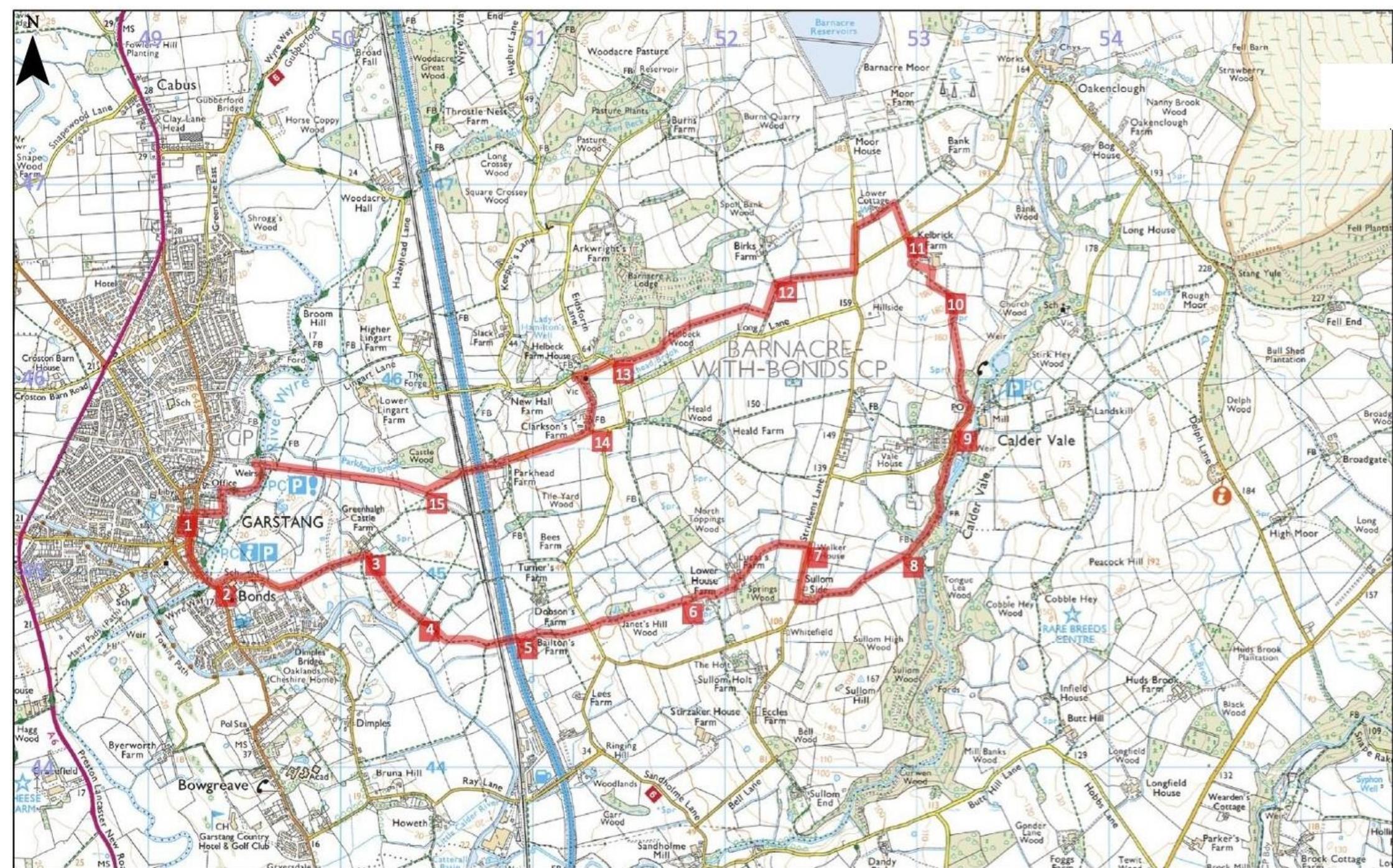
If you need to speak to someone about this route or report a problem use the following Wyre Council contacts:

Website: Wyre.gov.uk

Address: Civic Centre, Breck Road, Poulton-le-Fylde, Lancashire, FY6 7PU

Telephone: 01253 891000

E-mail: mailroom@wyre.gov.uk



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