

7 Night Bridge & Walking Holiday in the Southern Yorkshire Dales

Trip style:

Destination:  Yorkshire Dales

Trip code: MDL07-BRW05

Grades: 1 & 2

Carbon Footprint:  120kg CO2



HOLIDAY OVERVIEW

Stay in the comfort of our characterful country houses and exercise both mind and body with this classic combination. You'll have a choice of two guided walks a day (one short and one longer) followed by a bridge competition each evening.

WHAT YOU'LL LOVE

- Guided walking with experienced HF Holidays Leaders
- Playing bridge in a relaxed and friendly environment
- Meeting like-minded people
- Being surrounded by the stunning landscape of Southern Yorkshire Dales
- Evening bridge competitions
- Staying in the comfort of our country house

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- All bridge-related materials
- Comfortable en-suite accommodation in our country house
- Cream tea on arrival day
- Cooked or continental breakfast every morning
- Daily packed lunches
- Three-course evening meals, plus tea & coffee
- Choice of two different-grade daily walks
- Easy-to-follow routes, maps, and information in our Discovery Point if you want to explore independently

TRIP SUITABILITY

This holiday is suitable for regular players of Duplicate Bridge at club level.

ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrival Day

Check-in at the hotel is available from 16:00. If you are a member you can arrive at the house from 14:00. Enjoy a complimentary cream tea at 16:30 and meet other guests.

Day 2-3: Bridge & Walking

Enjoy a choice of two walks each day, with a free day on all 7-night holidays. You can choose either an easier route of around 4-6 miles or a harder route of around 6-8 miles to explore the local area. Your optional walks will take you out to explore the countryside surrounding your HF country house, and sometimes further afield. The walking options are outlined below. We'll return to the house in time to relax before your evening Bridge competition starts at 5pm.

Walks information: Day 2 Option 1 - Eshton Moor And Haw Crag Distance: 4 miles (6.5km) Ascent: 500 feet (140m) In summary: This circular walk explores the Pennine Way south before going over Eshton Moor and descending fields to the River Aire, then field paths ascend gently to Haw Crag before the return to Newfield Hall. Highlight: Good views of the local area, including Newfield Hall, from the top of Haw Crag (677 feet). Option 2 - The Pennine Way Distance: 8 miles (12.5km) Ascent: 750 feet (220m) In summary: This circular walk follows the Pennine Way south to Gargrave. From here we follow an old green lane to reach Haw Crag. Highlight: An opportunity to climb Haw Crag (677 feet), which you can see from the house. Day 3 Option 1 - Clapham Village and Ingleborough Cave Distance: 4 miles (6km) Ascent: 650 feet (200m) In summary: We walk from the traditional Dales village of Clapham, passing through the Ingleborough Estate, to Ingleborough Cave. We then cross the beck and return to the village where there will be time to enjoy coffee and cake in the village. Highlight: We'll stop for an optional tour of Ingleborough Cave with its impressive stalactites and stalagmites. Option 2 - Gaping Gill Distance: 6 miles (9½km) Ascent: 1,050 feet (320m) In summary: Today's circular walk starts in the traditional Dales village of Clapham. Pass through the Ingleborough Estate, with an optional guided tour of Ingleborough Cave (payable locally), and ascend the limestone gorge of Trow Gill to reach the huge pot hole of Gaping Gill. Highlight: We'll stop for an optional tour of Ingleborough Cave with its impressive stalactites and stalagmites.

Day 4: Free Day - Southern Yorkshire Dales

Discover more about Newfield Hall and the local area for ideas on how to make the most of your free day.

Day 5-7: Bridge & Walking

Enjoy a choice of two walks each day, with a free day on all 7-night holidays. You can choose either an easier route of around 4-6 miles or a harder route of around 6-8 miles to explore the local area. Your optional walks will take you out to explore the countryside surrounding your HF country house, and sometimes further afield. The walking options are outlined below. We'll return to the house in time to relax before your evening Bridge competition starts at 5pm.

Walks information: Day 5 Option 1 - Kirk Syke Lane Distance: 4 miles (7km) Ascent: 400 feet (120m) In summary: This circular walk explores the Pennine Way south of Newfield Hall before taking a pleasant path which descends to the River Aire. The return follows the old green lane of Kirk Syke. Highlight: Good views including looking back over Newfield Hall. Option 2 - Otterburn Beck Distance: 7.5 miles (11.5km) Ascent: 600 feet (180m) In summary: Our walk takes us across fields to Kirk Syke and along lanes to the small village of Otterburn before returning via Bell Busk to Newfield Hall. Highlight: Discover the hidden history of Otterburn, which was mentioned in the Domesday Book. The village took its name from the beck, "the stream of the otter", which runs through the middle of the village. Day 6

Option 1 – Along the Wharfe to Grassington Distance: 4 miles (6.5km) Ascent: 400 feet (120m) In summary: We follow the Dales Way along the beautiful River Wharfe first to Linton Falls, then to picturesque Grassington where there will be plenty of time to explore or relax in one of the many tea shops. Highlight: Linton Falls - the largest waterfall on the River Wharfe. Option 2 – Linton to Grassington Distance: 7 miles (11km) Ascent: 700 feet (200m) In summary: Enjoy great views of Wharfedale as you walk from Linton through the charming villages of Thorpe and Burnsall. We'll then follow the Dales Way along the river, past Linton Falls to Grassington. Highlight: Explore the unique 12th Century church in Linton and look out for Linton Falls - the largest waterfall on the River Wharfe. Day 7 Option 1 – Airton & the Pennine Way Distance: 4 miles (6.5km) Ascent: 250 feet (80m) In summary: After following fields and lanes to Airton, we explore the village before walking the old mill leat. Our return to Newfield Hall is via the Pennine Way. Highlight: Visit the 17th century village of Airton and spend time looking for dippers on the River Aire Option 2 – Kirkby Malham Circular Distance: 7 miles (11km) Ascent: 700 feet (200m) In summary: This circular walk takes us through the village of Calton before joining the Pennine Way to take us to the medieval church at Kirkby Malham. We then cross open countryside to reach the 17th century village of Airton before returning by lanes and fields. Highlight: Discover plenty of historical interest including an 18th century watermill, the 'Cathedral of the Dales' at Kirkby Malham and the curious story of a watery grave.

Day 8: Departure Day

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast before making your way home.

Newfield Hall

Looking every inch the baronial mansion, Newfield Hall sits in two acres of grounds near the village of Malham at the southern base of Yorkshire Dales National Park. Given it was this very landscape which inspired Wordsworth to write a sonnet and Charles Kingsley to pen *The Water Babies*, the countryside views are as gorgeous as you'd imagine. You'll also have plenty of sightseeing greats within easy travelling distance, most notably Malham Tarn, Janet's Foss, Gordale Scar, Malham Cove, and The Dry Valley of the Watlowes. And then, of course, there's Yorkshire's famous trio of summits: Pen-y-ghent, Wharfedale, and Ingleborough, collectively known as the three peaks. Stay at Newfield Hall and experience the exceptional service of a VisitEngland ROSE award winner. Find out more about the latest accolade awarded to our country house in the Southern Yorkshire Dales by reading our latest blog.

A warm welcome

We want you to feel comfortable from the moment you arrive. You'll find a welcome pack in your room with guest registration forms, menus, order forms for dinners and picnic lunches, the Wi-Fi password, and the front door code. Our houses are locked at night, so we recommend noting the Duty Manager's number on arrival in case of an emergency (or getting locked out).

Evening entertainment

While evening entertainment varies from house to house, HF Holidays Inter-House Quiz night held after dinner on Wednesdays is a weekly staple. Your HF Holidays leader may be around for tips on guided and self-guided walking routes as well as visit-worthy local attractions.

Walks talks

Our HF Holidays walk leaders host guided walking information briefings before dinner on guided walking holiday arrival days. This is followed by a group Walks Talk for information on the following day's guided walks (held before dinner every evening). Self-guided walking guests are, of course, welcome.

The walking day

Prior to setting off on guided walks, your HF Holidays Leader will run you through a short safety briefing. There's also an up-to-date weather forecast on display at the house to ensure you have appropriate clothing and footwear. If you choose to do your own walks or are on a self-guided walking holiday, we ask that you please complete an Independent Walker Card each day. These can be found near the Discovery Point in the house.

Walking safety - SHARED WITH ALL

Walks may be changed for safety reasons and are subject to a maximum and minimum number of guests. Leaders always consider the safety of the group as a whole, and may need to alter or curtail the walk if the conditions dictate. Your leader may refuse to accept a guest where clothing, equipment or behaviour is unsuitable. In the event of a problem all leaders carry a mobile phone, first aid kit, group shelter, spare maps and a compass. Please note: If you choose to leave the group your leader is no longer responsible for you. If you have a particular health condition or disability please put this on your guest registration form. This information will be confidential to your leaders and the house manager, but leaders do need to take account of any issues when planning walks. Please carry a copy of these trip notes with you, or note down the contact phone number for your accommodation (details in the travel

section) should you need them in case of emergency.

Packing list - Bridge & Walking

Bridge All your Bridge stationery and equipment will be supplied. You may, however, like to bring a notebook and pen to make your own notes. EBU Members - don't forget to bring your EBU membership number to earn Master Points on this holiday. **Walking** To enjoy your walking comfortably and safely, it is essential that your footwear, clothing and equipment are suitable for the conditions likely to be encountered. Britain is famous for its changeable weather, so our advice is to come prepared for all eventualities. Bring a rucksack, a thermos flask for a hot drink, a water bottle (at least 1 litre) and spare high-energy food such as a chocolate bar, a small torch (in spring, autumn and winter) and first aid kit – your leader's first aid kit doesn't contain any medication or blister kits (such as Compeed). Many guests find walking poles useful, particularly for descents. Insect repellent, sun hat, sunglasses and protection cream and a camera are all optional extras you may choose to bring.
