



STRID-ING OUT

DIRECTIONS

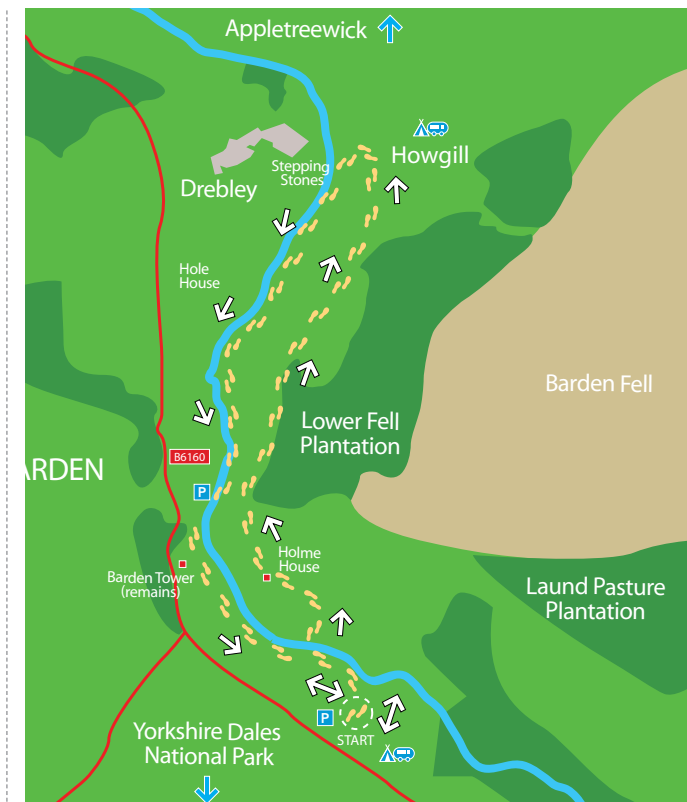
1 Leave the campsite via its main entrance and turn right, following the signs for 'Strid Wood and lavatories'. Walk past the toilets and continue ahead through the trees.

2 At a path junction, turn left in the direction of Barden Bridge and then, having reached the river, turn left again (signposted 'Barden Bridge'). At the impressive bridge, veer left up some wooden steps (signposted 'Dales Way' – white arrow) and cross the bridge. Then continue straight ahead and leave the towpath (signposted 'Permissive Footpath – Cony Warren access point'). Go over the wall at the top using the stone steps and keep to the right up the next field. Climb over the wall in front of you and turn left along the lane.

3 At the road junction, keep right and continue straight ahead along the road. Just past Houghmill Farm, turn left (signposted 'Dales Way Footpath – Barden Bridge 1 mile'). Go past the farm buildings and the green static caravan and continue along the track as it bends to the left, following a stone wall. Ignore the signpost 'Drebley via Stepping Stones'.

4 You are now following the river on your right. Go through two kissing gates, over a rickety old stile, through another kissing gate and then through a wooden gate. Keep right, adjacent to the road, to continue along the footpath, still keeping the wall to your left and the river to your right.

5 Go through the car park and over the bridge (if you're lucky there will be an ice cream van here). At the other side of the bridge, turn immediately left through a wooden gate and continue along the



INFORMATION TOURISM

Skipton TIC, 35 Coach Street,
Skipton, North Yorkshire BD23 1LQ.
Tel 01756 792809

riverside, which is now on your left. Walk under the bridge and continue. Go past the Bolton Abbey sign and back over the small bridge, keeping the main river to your left.

6 When you get to the path junction, turn right (signposted 'Strid Shop and Car Park'). At the T-junction, turn right following a yellow arrow. Walk past the toilets and retrace your steps to the site.



Ordnance Survey
Landranger Map 104

The Club currently offers a 30% discount on Ordnance Survey Landranger and Explorer Maps – see caravanclub.co.uk/books for details

JO VAUGHAN TALKS YOU THROUGH A GENTLE RIVERSIDE WALK IN THE BEAUTIFUL BOLTON ABBEY REGION OF NORTH YORKSHIRE

THERE'S MORE than the obvious reason to enjoy a stay at The Caravan Club's Strid Wood site. Apart from the fact that Bolton Abbey is just down the road, the site is also situated on the river Wharfe – a scenic waterway that has footpaths running for miles along its length.

I don't usually walk along lanes (I find it can often be tedious territory), but this ramble does follow a strip of tarmac for quite some distance as the views over the valley make it worthwhile. Traffic is very light and shouldn't be travelling fast on these narrow lanes, but stick to the usual

rules about keeping to the right side of the road and wearing bright clothing that can easily be seen by drivers.

I had my little dog, Dino, with me but if you haven't got a canine you could try an alternative route, continuing straight ahead onto the moors instead of turning left onto the lane at the end of instruction 2. Use the Bolton Abbey walking map, as supplied by the campsite for £1.50, to find your way to Howgill. Keep between woodland and Earl Seat before turning left into Howgill and then rejoin our route by the river, turning so the water is on your right and you're heading roughly south.

INFORMATION GENERAL

CLUB SITE: Strid Wood Caravan Club Site, Bolton Abbey, Skipton, North Yorkshire BD23 6AN. Tel 01756 710433. Open 27 March to 4 January
DISTANCE: 4.1 miles/6.6km
TERRAIN: Half lane, half good footpaths
NUMBER OF STILES: 3
ESSENTIAL EQUIPMENT: Ordnance Survey Explorer Map OL2, long trousers
LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY: Easy
FRESHMENTS: Possibly at Barden Bridge
TOILETS: Car park beside campsite



INFORMATION ATTRACTIONS

- Bolton Abbey**, Skipton, North Yorkshire BD23 6EX. Tel 01756 718009. Cost: £6 per vehicle to visit the estate. Open 9am to 6pm
- Lower Heugh Cottage Garden**, 14 Kirk Lane, Eastby, Skipton, North Yorkshire BD23 6SH. A private, non-commercial, one-acre Japanese Kaiyushiki garden that won a Yorkshire in Bloom Gold Award in both 2007 and 2008. Tel 01756 793702. Adults £4. Open by appointment only so a one-hour tour can be arranged, as well as tea and cake
- Hesketh Farm Park**, Hesketh House, Bolton Abbey, Skipton, North Yorkshire BD23 6HA. This modern working farm enables visitors to interact with the animals and has indoor and outdoor play areas for all ages. Tel 01756 710444 or see heskethfarmpark.co.uk. Adults and children £4.50, under-2s £2. Family tickets available. Full disabled access. Open 4 April to 6 September from Tuesday to Sunday, and selected dates at other times