

Newgate Bank - Rievaulx Abbey or Bridge 4 1/4 or 4 1/2 miles, approximately 2 hours.

Transport **M4**

Map 1:25,000 OL26 or 1:50,000 Malton & Pickering 100

Start

Newgate Bank car park entrance on the B1257 just under 5 miles northwest of Helmsley.

Points of interest

The Rye, a beautiful river, is home to herons, kingfishers, trout, lampreys and the white clawed crayfish.

Below Newgate Bank you will arrive at Broadway Foot. Until 2013, when it burnt down, this was a beautiful thatched cottage. It is now transformed into an interesting modern house.

Shaken Bridge was almost completely destroyed in a flash flood in 2003; the name is believed by some to have been derived from the Old English "sceacre"; a robber.

Barnclose Farm was originally a cruck cottage and is a lovely old building. Please keep to the public right of way approaching and through the farm.

From Bow Bridge to Rievaulx a former canalised section of the Rye was believed to have been created to carry the stone from local quarries to build the Abbey. This would make it one of the first transport canals in Britain. The C18th Rievaulx Bridge has a somewhat incongruous 1940's WWII concrete tank crossing ramp on the river bank next to it.

Route

Take the footpath on the opposite side of the road to Newgate Bank Car Park.

Turn left walking parallel with the road for a short distance until the path veers right down to a gate. Go through gate and follow a good bridleway down through woods to bottom of hill where a path turns to the left.

After a short distance take the right fork and head downhill through the woods to come out on a tarmac lane at Broadway Foot.

Turn left and follow the track until it bends slightly left less than 1/4 mile after entering a small wood.

At this point take the footpath taking you through the wood which cuts the corner to Shaken Bridge.

Turn right at the road and cross the River Rye over the bridge.

Take the next bridle way on your left up the hill to Shaken Bridge Farm (Bilsdale Riding Centre).

Skirt around the farm and continue on the bridleway through Prest Wood to Barnclose Farm.

Pass between the farm buildings and farmhouse then turn immediately right and follow the path to Tylas Farm.

Keep on the bridleway at the wood edge through Lambert Hag Wood. You now have the choice of two routes.

Either. ...

Turn left, crossing the Rye over Bow Bridge. As the lane begins to climb take the footpath off to the right and follow it along the straight course of the former canal to Rievaulx.

Or...

The second option is to ignore the track to Bow Bridge, carry on through Ashberry Wood to Ashberry Farm and turn left to end the walk along the road back to Rievaulx Bridge. You can either board the M4 there or walk back the half mile along the road and the banks of the Rye and do so at the Abbey.

