

Lunesdale Walk



Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty

**A walk through the rich landscapes of
Lancashire's Lune Valley**

Lunesdale Walk

Through pastures farmed by Norse settlers to riverside meadows and low-lying villages of the Lune and Wenning valleys, this is a walk of fine landscapes. You will catch glimpses of Morecambe Bay and the mountains of South Cumbria as well as the prospect of Ingleborough from several vantage points. For the most part it is gently undulating countryside, but there are steep climbs; the exceptional views are more than recompense.

The Lunesdale Walk also offers a chance to discover one of the finest paths in Roeburndale, where lichens and mosses festoon the woodland. There you will find a greenness not often seen, the pure waters of the river attract the darting kingfisher beneath overhanging boughs whilst the dipper dips and bobs amongst the rocks beneath. Within twenty minutes walk you will be on the high moorland, where acidic, peaty soils support heather and cotton grass.

The flora and fauna match the diversity of the land. The dales, woodlands and lanes are blessed with a wealth of wild flowers. The pastures are mainly given over to sheep farming, but from the pockets of woodland and parkland emerge wandering deer. On the higher ground hen harrier, buzzard and kestrels quarter the skies above fox and rabbits in the fields.



Winter floods above Loyn Bridge

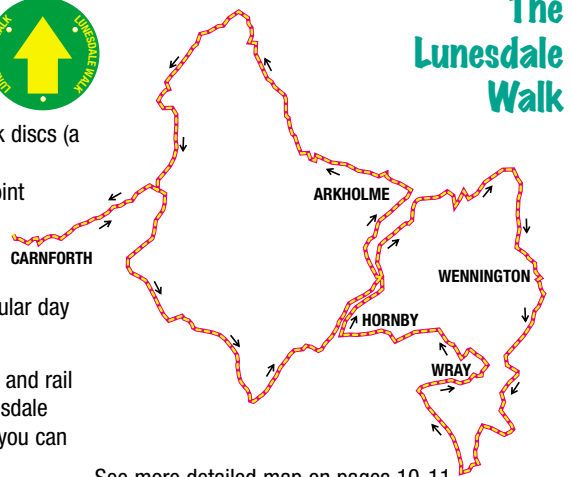
By the riversides you will probably see the heron, and on the shingle beaches the wagtails and sandpiper. In Winter swans, ducks and coots take refuge in the backwaters of the Lune, flocks of geese rest on the flood plain and fieldfare and redwing forage for food. Curlew are common on moorland and riverside.

The Lunesdale Walk introduces walkers to an exceptional part of the Forest of Bowland Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. It is special and unspoilt. Please enjoy the Lunesdale countryside, its peace, quiet and in places solitude, but also look after it. Then, others can enjoy equally its splendour in years to come.

How to use this booklet

The Lunesdale Walk traces a figure of eight, crossing at Loyn Bridge, about half a mile north of Hornby. It is waymarked throughout its 37 mile (59kms) length with dedicated waymark discs (a yellow arrow and walk name on a green background). You can pick up the Walk at any point along its length, but the most easily accessible locations are at Carnforth, Hornby and Wennington. It's ideal for a long weekend break (for the whole route) or for linear and circular day walks.

The Lune Valley is well served by both local bus and rail services which may be used to access the Lunesdale Walk at various points along its route, meaning you can enjoy a day's walk without the need for a car!



See more detailed map on pages 10-11