



Wood Top Circular, Mytholmroyd January 2026

Getting there and parking

Start the walk at Burnley Road Free Car Park, Mytholmroyd, Hebden Bridge, HX7 5LN (next to Russell Dean). Current fees - 40p 2hrs, 80p 3hrs

Other information

Walk length 2.75 miles

Circular walk

Easy/Moderate Ability with one long gentle pull uphill from Nest Lane.

A route with generally good paths but some with uneven stones.

Walking boots and poles are advisable.

Toilet facilities at the start and end in Mytholmroyd cafes and PHs. No obvious public conveniences.

There are yellow 'Wood Top Circular' way-markers on the route that can be followed.

Route Details and reflections

Exit the car park and turn right along the main road. On reaching the pedestrian crossing, cross the road to turn left over the footbridge. Proceed ahead towards the railway station.

Follow the road, bending right, passing the Shoulder of Mutton PH and its car park until you get to Stocks Lane and the Old Fire Station.

REFLECTION 1 Old Fire Station



Stand in a safe place where you can see the Old Fire Station.

- Believed to have been built in 1898. Think about the past life of this building.
- Look at the doors and think how many times those doors will have been open to go to an emergency.

- Think about those who worked here and the danger they put themselves in so that they could help others.
- Think about those fire personnel who still respond to emergencies helping to put fires out or other emergencies.
- Give thanks for those who put their lives in danger or put others before themselves as they respond to difficult or dangerous situations.

Journey on

Continue on Stocks Lane (going to the right of the 'Old Fire Station Studio') to then shortly turn left into Nest Lane. Continue ahead as Nest Lane becomes Park Lane. At the junction of the lane of Roger Gate, continue straight ahead along Park Lane.



Continue as the road begins to rise, passing the footpath off to the right. As the road progresses you reach a clearing with fields either side of the road.

As you pass Park Farm Cottages keep on the track to the right, straight ahead, and continue along the lane.

Go past Lane Side (house). Stop on the old bridge.

Reflection 2 - stream



- Be still for a moment. What do you notice or hear?
- As you look at the water travelling down the gully and under the bridge think about how this water course is naturally made.
- Water has a tendency to find the lowest and shortest route through a landscape depending upon the flow.
- Think about how at times water finds a new route re-navigating through a landscape.
- In parts of the country, water is being rerouted or taken back to its natural course to help with reducing flooding or developing marshland

areas. Think of a time when you have seen something natural allowed to just develop and see what it becomes.

- Think of how we can help to allow nature to just be.
- Think of those times when you have just stopped and just been in the moment. To just be.

JOURNEY ON

Continue ahead along Wood Hey Lane.

At the end of Wood Hey Lane, you meet Spencer Lane, turn right down a concrete track.

Follow the concrete track downhill, passing an old post box mounted on a telegraph pole to your left. You will see an old cottage with mullioned window.

Note - Wood Top was an old hand-loom weaving hamlet. By the late 19th century it produced fustian - hard-wearing cotton material. As you continue walking, around the back of the house you may notice a 1657 date-stone in the far corner on your left.

As you pass the bottom of the house, you cross a cobbled track, which immediately turns into concrete, turn right to follow a gravel track. Almost doubling back on yourself.

After 75 yards turn left down a track and stop under the first old oak tree for the next reflection.

Reflection 4 (1.5miles)



- Be still for a moment
- Take a look around, what do you notice?
- As you stand under the oak tree think about how long this tree might have stood here.

- Think about all the people who may have walked under it and even collected leaves or acorns.
- When I first did this walk a few years ago, it is was full of leaves and acorns. Think about how the seasons change and how the colours of the leaves change and eventually disappear and reappear the following year.
- Creation isn't just functional, it's beautiful and meaningful. We pause to think about how the natural world shows us a glimpse of the nature of God.
- How the seasons show that the universe wasn't just created but 'something' is still actively involved in sustaining Creation.
- How the tiny acorn turns into a magnificent oak tree, without any human intervention.
- Like an artist signing their masterpiece, can you see the signature of a Creator?

Journey on

Continue on along the track.

The track reaches the large stone gable end of Carr Farm. At this point, turn left and follow the track downhill. Continue downhill, crossing a railway bridge.

At the bottom of the hill, as you reach the new houses, continue ahead slightly to the right, along a wide road with industrial units, heading towards EPS Hire Centres. Note - do not cross the bridge to the left ahead of you.

Continue pass the industrial units onto a rough road with a wall to the right and zinc fencing to the left-hand side.

At the end of this road, turn right onto a tarmac path. The tarmac path rises after about 25 yards to turn left to rejoin Caldene Avenue. Continue along Caldene Avenue. As you approach Mytholmroyd centre, it bends round to the left, with a bridge over the river to join the main road. Stop for a reflection on the bridge.

Reflection 4



- You have already crossed this river once at the start of the walk

- Since we first crossed it, many gallons of water have passed underneath this bridge.
- There is a saying, 'that's water under the bridge'. Think about what that means for you.
- Things and life moves on as each molecule of water moves along the river leaving the past behind and off on a new adventure.
- This is the end of the walk and so we move on. As we move on, we know we don't travel alone, we have companions on the way and we have a God who loves us, helps us and guides us as we undertake a new adventure and a new journey.
- Let's be thankful for those who we travel through life with and with our God who will never leave our side.

Continue to cross the bridge. Turn right along the main road for the short walk back to the car park on the left hand side.

Optional stop at a café at the end of the walk in the centre of Mytholmroyd.