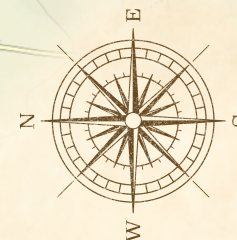


Leg 1: Bishop Thornton (St. John's) to Ripley (All Saints'), 4 miles

- 1** From St. John's Church, head east (left from the small gate) down the road, crossing straight over the crossroads.
- 2** Just as the road begins to climb uphill, turn right onto the signposted public bridleway.
- 3** At the far edge of the woodland, turn sharp left onto a tree-lined grass track.
- 4** Follow the track along the field edge into High Cayton farmyard. Turn right, following the path between the old barn and farmhouse. After passing through two metal gates, walk diagonally across the field (keep the windmill on your right) to the wooden gate.
- 5** Go through the gate, following the Nidderdale Way South along the fence, passing through the gap at the end of the dry stone wall.
- 6** After a couple of kilometers of mixed landscape, the path joins a paved lane, turn left, and head downhill to the road.
- 7** Carefully cross the main road, take the immediate cut-through opposite, and walk down to Ripley village. Turn right to follow the High Street to the market square to reach All Saints' Church. Take a breather!

God of the Wayfarer,
as we journey
from church to church,
guide our feet along
the quiet paths.
May each step bring us
closer to peace,
each sanctuary offer us rest,
and the beauty of creation restore our souls.
Amen.



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Leg 2: Ripley (All Saints')

to Burnt Yates (St. Andrew's), 3 miles

- 1 Exit the church via the north door. Turn left and follow Hollybank Lane past the castle and over the cattle grid.
- 2 Where Hollybank Lane meets the road at the top of the hill, turn your back to the road and cross the cattle grid down the track almost immediately on your right.
- 3 At the farm, turn left over a stile (just past the barn on your right), and head down the right-hand edge of the field.
- 4 Cross the stile, cross the farm track, go through the hedge gap, and head diagonally left toward the large group of trees.
- 5 Go through the gate, cross the field (woods on your right), and turn left at the field corner. At the far end of the field, two stiles in quick succession keep you going straight towards the road.
- 6 A few paces down the road to the right, and enter the field opposite through a metal gate. Walk diagonally right across the field to the road gate.
- 7 Cross the road, turn left, and follow the path up to St. Andrew's Church.

Where to begin?

This is a circular walk, so feel free to start at any point and make your way around!

Free parking is available at St. John's, and in Burnt Yates village car park. There is a large Pay and Display car park in Ripley, which is also served regularly by the 36 bus.

Leg 3: Burnt Yates (St. Andrew's)

to Bishop Thornton (St. John's), 2.5 miles

- 1 From St. Andrew's, cross the road and turn right. After a short distance take the footpath on your left just before the car park down to the fields.
- 2 Squeeze through the wall gap next to the wired-shut gate. Follow the fields downhill keeping fence on your right. There will be one farm track to cross, before you eventually find yourself rejoining the Nidderdale Way on a second track at the bottom of the hill next to the road.
- 3 Turn left onto the road. As the road starts to climb steeply, take the footpath cut-through in the crash barrier, over the wooden stile, and follow the short path between two houses. Cross the field to the far-right corner, follow the fence line (on your right) down the next field.
- 4 Continue on the Nidderdale Way and head uphill (a couple of trees mark the path) and turn right at the top fence, and follow the track into the farmyard. Turn left uphill through the yard.
- 5 Cross the courtyard, take the path to your left the hedgerow end, and head diagonally right to the far field corner. Continue across the next field, curving down to a small bridge.
- 6 Cross the bridge, walk straight across the field, go through the gate, and bear diagonally left toward the large barn. Pass through the small gate to a fenced track that returns to St. John's Church.



The Southern Churches

A scenic 9½-mile circular walk connecting the historic St. John's, All Saints', and St. Andrew's Churches

Extend Your Pilgrimage:

This route can be started with The Northern Churches walk for a longer day on the trail: switch to this leaflet at point 3 / 5. It may be used alongside one of our 'Pilgrim Walker' leaflets for a more spiritual experience.