

GIGGLESWICK - LONG PRESTON WALK - 28 APRIL 2015

This is a pleasant and rewarding walk, with fine views from the ridge overlooking Ribblesdale.

The route is level from Giggleswick station over fields to the west bank of the Ribble. The river is crossed by a footway on the bridge that carries the A65, Settle bypass. The path then climbs past Runley Mill to the Turnpike cottage on the main road into Settle.

There follows a more demanding climb for about a mile on a rougher track, passing several working farms. Pauses for breath are rewarded by excellent views across open country toward Settle and Pen-y-Ghent. An OS2 map is useful, to help in taking the right path to reach the top of the ridge.

From the ridge there are fine views across the Ribble Valley and towards Ingleborough. As it drops down towards Long Preston, the track becomes a tarmac road, making an easy descent into the village. There are many interesting listed buildings in Long Preston, along with a traditional maypole. The outdoor clothing company Rohan was established here. Two public houses and a tea-room allow for refreshment before continuing to the station.

John Bearpark