



VALLEY VIEWS ESCAPE

LOCAL WALKING GUIDE

Walks Within 5 Miles

Easy, medium and harder walks close to Todber Valley

Riverside paths • pretty villages • wildlife • heritage • big Ribble Valley views

EASY

Gentler and shorter

MEDIUM

Fields, stiles or muddier ground

HARD

Longer day with more demanding sections

The 'From Todber' figure is an approximate road distance to the usual walk start. Actual routes and path conditions can vary, especially after wet weather.



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CHOOSE THE RIGHT WALK FOR THE DAY

At a Glance

WALK	LEVEL	ROUTE	FROM TODBER	BEST FOR
Gisburn Village & Park	Easy	2.2 mi	≈ 2 mi	Village, river & gentle scenery
Bolton-by-Bowland Circular	Medium	3.25 mi	≈ 4–5 mi	Wildlife & pretty village
Rimington Heritage Trail	Medium	4.5 mi	≈ 3–4 mi	Local history & Dales views
Sawley Abbey & River Ribble	Medium	5.2 mi	≈ 5 mi	Abbey ruins & riverside
Sawley – Gisburn – Bolton Circuit	Hard	10–10.6 mi	≈ 5 mi	Full-day local challenge

A NOTE FOR DOG WALKERS

- Most of these routes cross working farmland. Keep dogs on a lead or under very close control around sheep and cattle.
- Some routes include wooden or stone stiles, so they may be awkward for very small, older or less agile dogs.
- After rain, field paths can be very muddy. Walking boots or sturdy shoes are a better choice than trainers.



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VILLAGE PATHS • RIVER RIBBLE • GENTLE LOCAL OPTION

Gisburn Village & Gisburn Park

FROM TODBER	WALK DISTANCE	ALLOW	LEVEL
Approx. 2 miles	About 2.2 miles	1-1½ hrs	EASY

The easiest walk in this guide and a good choice for a relaxed morning or late-afternoon stroll. It loops around Gisburn Park and reaches Gisburn Bridge on the River Ribble, with village and countryside views along the way.

MEANINGFUL THINGS TO LOOK OUT FOR

- Gisburn's historic stone village centre and parish church.
- Stock Beck and Gisburn Bridge, with attractive views along the River Ribble.
- Mature parkland, old estate trees and open farmland around Gisburn Park.
- Ducks, wagtails and other riverside birds; you may also see deer around the wider estate.

TERRAIN & GOOD TO KNOW

Mostly easy lanes and paths, with some field sections. It is generally straightforward, but grass and riverside paths can be muddy after rain.

VALLEY VIEWS TIP Ideal for the first or last day of a stay when you want a proper walk without using up half the day.



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PRETTY VILLAGE • SKIRDEN BECK • WILDLIFE

Bolton-by-Bowland Circular

FROM TODBER	WALK DISTANCE	ALLOW	LEVEL
Approx. 4–5 miles	3.25 miles	1½–2 hrs	MEDIUM

A lovely circular route south of Bolton-by-Bowland. It is not very long, but fields, stiles and boggier sections make it more of a countryside walk than a simple village stroll.

MEANINGFUL THINGS TO LOOK OUT FOR

- Skirden Beck — look out for the bright blue flash of a kingfisher.
- Bolton-by-Bowland's two village greens, attractive stone cottages and historic church.
- Traditional Forest of Bowland farmland, hedgerows and old field boundaries.
- Seasonal wildflowers, songbirds and grazing livestock.

TERRAIN & GOOD TO KNOW

Roads, tracks and fields with stiles. Official route guidance warns that it can get muddy or boggy in places, with some unpaved road sections. Expect livestock.

VALLEY VIEWS TIP Leave a little time to wander around the village itself; it is one of the prettiest places close to Todber Valley.



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LEAD-MINING HISTORY • OLD FARMS • BIG VIEWS

Rimington Heritage Trail

FROM TODBER	WALK DISTANCE	ALLOW	LEVEL
Approx. 3–4 miles	About 4.5 miles	2–2½ hrs	MEDIUM

One of the most interesting nearby walks if you enjoy local history. The trail circles Rimington and surrounding countryside, linking old farms, former industrial sites and wide views north towards the Yorkshire Dales.

MEANINGFUL THINGS TO LOOK OUT FOR

- Remains of old bell pits and the former Skeleron lead-mining area.
- Historic farmsteads, Rimington Manor House and traces of the parish's weaving and mill history.
- Martin Top Chapel, dating from the early 19th century.
- On a clear day, views towards Ingleborough and Pen-y-ghent.

TERRAIN & GOOD TO KNOW

Tracks, fields and roads with kissing gates plus wooden and stone stiles. The official trail notes that it can be wet underfoot and stiles may be slippery. Dogs should be on a lead.

VALLEY VIEWS TIP Best choice for guests who like to have a story behind what they are looking at, rather than just scenery.



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CISTERCIAN RUINS • RIVER RIBBLE • HISTORIC BRIDGE

Sawley Abbey & River Ribble

FROM TODBER	WALK DISTANCE	ALLOW	LEVEL
Approx. 5 miles	About 5.2 miles	2½–3 hrs	MEDIUM

A beautiful walk based around Sawley, combining one of the Ribble Valley's most atmospheric historic sites with a scenic stretch of the River Ribble.

MEANINGFUL THINGS TO LOOK OUT FOR

- The ruins of Sawley Abbey, a Cistercian monastery founded in the 12th century.
- Sawley's handsome old bridge and broad views along the River Ribble.
- Riverside meadows, woodland and traditional stone-built village scenery.
- Long views across the Ribble Valley, with Pendle Hill visible from parts of the surrounding countryside.

TERRAIN & GOOD TO KNOW

A mixture of riverside paths, fields and tracks. Low-lying sections can be wet after rain and there may be stiles and uneven ground. Allow extra time if you want to explore the abbey ruins properly.

VALLEY VIEWS TIP Probably the best all-round visitor walk here: history, a pretty village and classic Ribble Valley scenery in one outing.



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RIBBLE WAY • THREE VILLAGES • FULL WALKING DAY

Sawley – Gisburn – Bolton-by-Bowland Circuit

FROM TODBER	WALK DISTANCE	ALLOW	LEVEL
Start approx. 5 miles	About 10–10.6 miles	4½–5½ hrs	HARD

The big local walk for keen walkers. This circuit links Sawley, Gisburn and Bolton-by-Bowland using stretches of the Ribble Way, woodland, farmland and village paths.

MEANINGFUL THINGS TO LOOK OUT FOR

- Sawley Abbey and the River Ribble at Sawley Bridge.
- The Ribble Way and Steep Wood — particularly attractive in spring when bluebells and wild garlic can fill the woodland floor.
- Open farmland and views towards Pendle Hill.
- Skirden Beck, Bolton-by-Bowland and the possibility of deer and other wildlife along the route.

TERRAIN & GOOD TO KNOW

A long low-level route with many field paths and stiles. Riverside and woodland sections can be wet or slippery, and there are some steeper steps and dips. Good walking footwear, water and enough daylight are important.

VALLEY VIEWS TIP Save this for a dry, clear day. It is a proper half-day-to-full-day walk rather than a casual stroll.



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BEFORE YOU HEAD OUT

Walking Safely

- Check the weather and daylight, especially for the longer routes.
- Use an up-to-date OS map, GPX route or walking app for navigation; countryside diversions can change.
- River and low-lying field paths can become very wet after prolonged rain.
- Take particular care near cattle and keep dogs under close control around livestock.
- Parking arrangements, access and path conditions can change, so check local signs on the day.

USEFUL ROUTE SOURCES

Route information has been checked against local and established walking sources including the Forest of Bowland, local parish walking information, Ribble riverside route information and published Ribble Valley walking guides.

VALLEY VIEWS TIP If guests only have time for one walk, Sawley Abbey & the River Ribble gives the best mix of history and scenery. For the gentlest option, choose Gisburn Village & Park.

Prepared for Valley Views Escape • September 2026