

VALLEY VIEWS ESCAPE

*Beautiful places.
Relaxed stays.*

YOUR GUIDE TO *Places to Visit* — NEAR GISBURN —

From peaceful walks and historic towns to charming villages and country pubs, discover the best of the Ribble Valley right on your doorstep.

Make memories. Take it all in. 🐾



All times are approximate drive times from Gisburn



Dogs welcome in most places – please always check in advance



Support local and enjoy the little things



1. GISBURN FOREST & STOCKS RESERVOIR

🚗 5 mins

Woodland walks, biking trails and beautiful views around the reservoir.

PUB PICK: The White Bull, Gisburn



2. CLITHEROE



🚗 15 mins

Historic castle, independent shops, cafés and the famous Holmes Mill.

PUB PICK: The Emporium, Clitheroe



3. SKIPTON



🚗 30 mins

Vibrant market town, canal side walks, Skipton Castle and great shopping.

PUB PICK: The Craven Heifer, Skipton



4. BOLTON ABBEY



🚗 25 mins

Stunning riverside walks, famous stepping stones and Bolton Abbey Estate.

PUB PICK: The Devonshire Arms



5. MALHAM



🚗 45 mins

Visit Malham Cove, Gordale Scar and this lovely limestone village.

PUB PICK: The Lister Arms, Malham



6. PENDLE HILL & BARLEY



🚗 25 mins

Scenic walks and sweeping views in the heart of Pendle Witch country.

PUB PICK: The Forresters, Barley



7. DOWNHAM



🚗 20 mins

One of the most beautiful villages in the Ribble Valley with riverside charm.

PUB PICK: The Assheton Arms



8. WADDINGTON



🚗 10 mins

Pretty village on the river with a welcoming pub and country walks.

PUB PICK: The Higher Buck, Waddington



9. BOLTON-BY-BOWLAND



🚗 15 mins

Quiet, traditional village with a bakery, deli and lovely countryside.

PUB PICK: The Coach & Horses



10. DUNSOP BRIDGE & FOREST OF BOWLAND



🚗 25 mins

Explore the Forest of Bowland – perfect for walks and wildlife.

PUB PICK: The Dunsop Bridge Hotel



11. SAWLEY ABBEY



🚗 10 mins

Historic ruins in a peaceful setting – ideal for a short visit and picnic.

PUB PICK: The White Bull, Gisburn



12. TOLKIEN TRAIL HURST GREEN



🚗 15 mins

7 mile circular walk with amazing views – said to have inspired Tolkien.

PUB PICK: The New Inn, Hurst Green

Enjoy Your Stay 🐾

We hope you love exploring our beautiful corner of the Ribble Valley as much as we do. Relax, unwind and make wonderful memories. We can't wait to welcome you back! ❤️



LOCAL TIPS

- ✓ Check opening times before you travel
- ✓ Wear sturdy shoes for countryside walks
- ✓ Take a coat – the weather changes!
- ✓ Many places are cashless

SHARE YOUR ADVENTURES



We'd love to see your photos!
Tag us in your posts
@valleyviewsecape
or leave us a review.

Thank you! 🐾



VALLEY VIEWS ESCAPE • BEAUTIFUL PLACES. RELAXED STAYS.

FOREST WALKS • RESERVOIR VIEWS • BIG SKIES

Gisburn Forest & Stocks Reservoir

FROM GISBURN
20-25 mins

DOGS
Yes - under control

PERFECT FOR
Walks & fresh air

ALLOW
2-5 hrs

One of the best outdoor days close to Valley Views Escape. Gisburn Forest has miles of woodland trails, dramatic Bowland scenery and mountain-bike routes, while Stocks Reservoir offers open water views and a peaceful change of pace.

WHY WE LIKE IT

- For an easier stroll, look at the shorter forest and reservoir trails rather than committing to the full circular route.
- The full Stocks Circular path is about 8 miles, so it is a proper half-day walk.
- Parking is available at Gisburn Hub, Cocklet Hill and Stocks Reservoir; charges apply.
- The forest is also a recognised Dark Sky Discovery Site - lovely on a clear evening.

PUB PICK The White Bull, Gisburn

A traditional 18th-century village coaching inn - ideal for a meal or drink on the way back. • Dog friendly

VALLEY VIEWS TIP *If the weather is mixed, choose a village or town page; save the forest, hills and Dales walks for the clearest day.*



VALLEY VIEWS ESCAPE • BEAUTIFUL PLACES. RELAXED STAYS.

RUINS • RIVER RIBBLE • EASY AFTERNOON

Sawley Abbey & Riverside

FROM GISBURN
5-10 mins

DOGS
Yes outdoors

PERFECT FOR
Short scenic trips

ALLOW
1-3 hrs

Sawley is one of the easiest little outings from Gisburn. The remains of the 12th-century Cistercian abbey sit beside the River Ribble with hills rising behind - a lovely spot for a gentle wander, photos and a relaxed pub lunch.

WHY WE LIKE IT

- The abbey ruins are free to visit.
- Pair it with a riverside walk for a simple morning or afternoon out.
- It is especially pretty in spring and autumn when the surrounding countryside changes colour.
- A great choice when you want to go somewhere without spending most of the day in the car.

PUB PICK The Spread Eagle, Sawley

Historic riverside coaching inn directly opposite the abbey, known for food, drinks and countryside atmosphere. • Dog friendly

VALLEY VIEWS TIP *If the weather is mixed, choose a village or town page; save the forest, hills and Dales walks for the clearest day.*



VALLEY VIEWS ESCAPE • BEAUTIFUL PLACES. RELAXED STAYS.

VILLAGE GREEN • STONE COTTAGES • COUNTRY PUB

Bolton-by-Bowland

FROM GISBURN
10-15 mins

DOGS
Great for walks

PERFECT FOR
Slow afternoons

ALLOW
2-4 hrs

A picture-postcard Ribble Valley village with a broad green, stone cottages and quiet lanes. Bolton-by-Bowland is perfect for a leisurely stroll followed by a long lunch - the sort of place that makes a holiday feel properly rural.

WHY WE LIKE IT

- Take a wander around the village green and church before lunch.
- There are lovely lanes and countryside walks leading out from the village.
- Combine with Sawley Abbey for an easy local day without lots of driving.
- Particularly good if you want a quieter alternative to Clitheroe or Skipton.

PUB PICK The Coach & Horses

Stylishly restored coaching inn with a two-AA-Rosette dining experience and a cosy bar. • Dogs, walkers & cyclists welcome in the bar

VALLEY VIEWS TIP *If the weather is mixed, choose a village or town page; save the forest, hills and Dales walks for the clearest day.*



VALLEY VIEWS ESCAPE • BEAUTIFUL PLACES. RELAXED STAYS.

CASTLE • INDEPENDENTS • FOOD & DRINK

Clitheroe

FROM GISBURN
15 mins

DOGS
Town & grounds

PERFECT FOR
Shopping & lunch

ALLOW
3-6 hrs

Clitheroe is the local go-to town for a proper wander: independent shops, cafés, food, a historic castle and views across the Ribble Valley. It works just as well for a rainy-day browse as it does for a sunny afternoon.

WHY WE LIKE IT

- Walk up through Clitheroe Castle grounds for views over the town and surrounding countryside.
- The Castle Museum remains open while the keep itself is undergoing restoration work.
- Browse the independent shops around the centre, then head towards Holmes Mill for food and drinks.
- Dogs can enjoy the castle grounds; access inside the museum is for assistance dogs.

PUB PICK Bowland Beer Hall at Holmes Mill

A lively local favourite for Bowland Brewery beer, food and an easygoing Ribble Valley atmosphere. • Check current dog areas before visiting

VALLEY VIEWS TIP *If the weather is mixed, choose a village or town page; save the forest, hills and Dales walks for the clearest day.*



VALLEY VIEWS ESCAPE • BEAUTIFUL PLACES. RELAXED STAYS.

BROOKSIDE VILLAGE • PRETTY STREETS • GOOD FOOD

Waddington

FROM GISBURN
20 mins

DOGS
Very dog friendly

PERFECT FOR
Village & pub

ALLOW
2-4 hrs

Waddington is one of the Ribble Valley's prettiest villages, with stone cottages, a stream running through the centre and the Forest of Bowland almost on the doorstep. It is ideal for a walk-and-pub sort of day.

WHY WE LIKE IT

- Wander the village slowly - the brook, bridges and old stone buildings are the charm.
- Use it as a starting point for a longer countryside walk if you fancy stretching your legs.
- It is easy to combine with Clitheroe on the same day.
- There are several good pubs here, so it is also a strong choice for an evening meal.

PUB PICK The Higher Buck

Smart but relaxed country pub known for freshly prepared food and local ingredients. • Dogs welcome on request / dog-friendly areas

VALLEY VIEWS TIP *If the weather is mixed, choose a village or town page; save the forest, hills and Dales walks for the clearest day.*



VALLEY VIEWS ESCAPE • BEAUTIFUL PLACES. RELAXED STAYS.

PENDLE VIEWS • UNSPOILT VILLAGE • FILM-SET PRETTY

Downham

FROM GISBURN
15-20 mins

DOGS
Yes - village walks

PERFECT FOR
Photos & lunch

ALLOW
2-4 hrs

Downham is one of those villages that looks almost too perfect to be real. With limestone cottages, open views towards Pendle Hill and very little modern clutter, it is a beautiful place to wander with no real agenda.

WHY WE LIKE IT

- Enjoy the village itself rather than rushing - this is a place for a slow stroll.
- The views towards Pendle Hill are particularly lovely on a clear day.
- Good choice for guests who want something scenic without a strenuous walk.
- Combine it with Barley or Clitheroe if you want to make a longer day of it.

PUB PICK The Assheton Arms

A handsome village inn serving locally sourced dishes, ales, wine and classic country-pub favourites. • Dog friendly

VALLEY VIEWS TIP *If the weather is mixed, choose a village or town page; save the forest, hills and Dales walks for the clearest day.*



VALLEY VIEWS ESCAPE • BEAUTIFUL PLACES. RELAXED STAYS.

ICONIC HILL • PENDLE WITCH COUNTRY • WALKERS' FAVOURITE

Pendle Hill & Barley

FROM GISBURN
25 mins

DOGS
Yes - leads near stock

PERFECT FOR
Big walks

ALLOW
3-6 hrs

For a more active day, head to Barley at the foot of Pendle Hill. The village is a lovely base for walks around the reservoirs or a climb towards the summit, with classic Lancashire views and plenty of local history.

WHY WE LIKE IT

- Barley has a visitor car park, café and facilities, making it an easy starting point.
- A shorter Pendle Hill route from Barley is around 6.5 km and typically takes a little over two hours for regular walkers.
- If you do not fancy the summit, the reservoir walks still give you a proper taste of the landscape.
- Weather changes quickly on the hill - take sensible footwear and layers.

PUB PICK The Pendle Inn

Traditional Barley village pub - a natural stop after walking Pendle Hill or the reservoirs. • Pets welcome

VALLEY VIEWS TIP *If the weather is mixed, choose a village or town page; save the forest, hills and Dales walks for the clearest day.*



VALLEY VIEWS ESCAPE • BEAUTIFUL PLACES. RELAXED STAYS.

RIVER WALKS • STONYHURST • TOLKIEN COUNTRY

Hurst Green & The Tolkien Trail

FROM GISBURN

25 mins

DOGS

Yes - countryside rules

PERFECT FOR

Scenic walking

ALLOW

3-5 hrs

Hurst Green is best known as the starting point for the Tolkien Trail, a beautiful Ribble Valley walk through woodland, riverside scenery and countryside around Stonyhurst. It is one of the area's most characterful walks.

WHY WE LIKE IT

- The route starts near the Shireburn Arms in Hurst Green.
- Expect a mixture of lanes, tracks, fields and riverside sections.
- Keep dogs close around livestock and follow local signs.
- This is a lovely choice for a dry day when you want a longer walk without a major climb.

PUB PICK The Shireburn Arms

A 300-year-old country inn with sweeping Ribble Valley views and a relaxed bar and dining room. • Dogs welcome for dining in designated areas

VALLEY VIEWS TIP *If the weather is mixed, choose a village or town page; save the forest, hills and Dales walks for the clearest day.*



VALLEY VIEWS ESCAPE • BEAUTIFUL PLACES. RELAXED STAYS.

CASTLE • CANAL • MARKET TOWN

Skipton

FROM GISBURN
20 mins

DOGS
Very good option

PERFECT FOR
All-day outing

ALLOW
4-7 hrs

Skipton gives you a bit of everything: one of England's best-preserved medieval castles, a lively high street, the Leeds & Liverpool Canal and plenty of places to eat. It is an easy full-day option from Gisburn.

WHY WE LIKE IT

- Explore Skipton Castle - dogs are allowed on a short lead inside the castle, except the tearoom and shop.
- Walk along the canal or through Skipton Castle Woods after the town centre.
- Market days make the high street especially lively.
- Ideal if your group wants shopping, history and a walk all in one place.

PUB PICK The Woolly Sheep Inn

Popular traditional Skipton pub in the town centre - handy after shopping, the canal or castle. • Check current dog policy when booking a table

VALLEY VIEWS TIP *If the weather is mixed, choose a village or town page; save the forest, hills and Dales walks for the clearest day.*



VALLEY VIEWS ESCAPE • BEAUTIFUL PLACES. RELAXED STAYS.

PRIORY RUINS • STEPPING STONES • RIVERSIDE WALKS

Bolton Abbey Estate

FROM GISBURN
30 mins

DOGS
Yes - restrictions

PERFECT FOR
Classic day out

ALLOW
4-7 hrs

A beautiful Yorkshire estate centred on the atmospheric priory ruins beside the River Wharfe. The famous stepping stones, riverside trails and Strid Wood make this one of the best all-round days out within easy reach of Gisburn.

WHY WE LIKE IT

- There are several estate car parks, so choose according to the walk or area you want to visit.
- The main Bolton Abbey car park is best for the priory ruins, stepping stones and riverside.
- Dogs are welcome on riverside paths; leads are required on woodland trails and some areas are excluded for wildlife protection.
- Book/check parking arrangements before travelling at busy times.

PUB PICK The Devonshire Arms / Cavendish Pavilion

For a treat, look at the Devonshire Arms nearby; for something casual, the estate's Cavendish Pavilion is right by the river. • Check venue-specific dog areas

VALLEY VIEWS TIP *If the weather is mixed, choose a village or town page; save the forest, hills and Dales walks for the clearest day.*



VALLEY VIEWS ESCAPE • BEAUTIFUL PLACES. RELAXED STAYS.

MALHAM COVE • JANET'S FOSS • DALES SCENERY

Malham

FROM GISBURN
30-35 mins

DOGS
Yes - countryside rules

PERFECT FOR
Dales adventure

ALLOW
4-7 hrs

Malham is one of the most impressive landscapes in the Yorkshire Dales. The classic walk takes in limestone scenery, Janet's Foss and Malham Cove, with the village making a perfect base for food and drinks afterwards.

WHY WE LIKE IT

- The National Park Visitor Centre has the main village car park; Malham can be very busy at weekends and holidays.
- The path towards Malham Cove is well surfaced for much of the lower approach.
- A longer landscape walk can include Janet's Foss and Gordale Scar.
- Keep dogs under close control around livestock and note that some sensitive nature-reserve areas have restrictions.

PUB PICK The Lister Arms

Charming dog-friendly country inn in the heart of Malham - exactly the sort of place you want after a Dales walk. • Dog friendly

VALLEY VIEWS TIP *If the weather is mixed, choose a village or town page; save the forest, hills and Dales walks for the clearest day.*



VALLEY VIEWS ESCAPE • BEAUTIFUL PLACES. RELAXED STAYS.

SCENIC DRIVE • RIVERS • DEEP COUNTRYSIDE

Dunsop Bridge & The Forest of Bowland

FROM GISBURN
30-35 mins

DOGS
Excellent walking

PERFECT FOR
Quiet scenery

ALLOW
3-6 hrs

For a peaceful Bowland day, drive through the Ribble Valley towards Dunsop Bridge. The journey is part of the attraction: winding lanes, open fell views, rivers and some of Lancashire's most unspoilt countryside.

WHY WE LIKE IT

- Dunsop Bridge is a lovely base for gentle riverside walking or longer routes into Bowland.
- Take your time on the drive - the landscape and viewpoints are the point.
- This is a quieter choice than Malham or Skipton, especially outside peak weekends.
- Mobile signal can be patchy in deeper parts of Bowland, so have directions saved before setting out.

PUB PICK The Inn at Whitewell

A celebrated country inn overlooking the River Hodder - ideal for a special lunch or drink while exploring Bowland. • Check current dog-friendly dining areas

VALLEY VIEWS TIP *If the weather is mixed, choose a village or town page; save the forest, hills and Dales walks for the clearest day.*



VALLEY VIEWS ESCAPE • BEAUTIFUL PLACES. RELAXED STAYS.

GOOD FOOD • COSY BARS • MUDDY-BOOT FRIENDLY

Our Favourite Country Pubs

A few lovely places to eat and drink while you explore. We have leaned towards pubs with character, good countryside locations and easy links to the days out in this guide.

PUB & PLACE	WHY GO
The White Bull Gisburn • Dog friendly	Closest easy pub option; traditional coaching-inn feel.
The Spread Eagle Sawley • Dog friendly	Riverside setting opposite Sawley Abbey; excellent for a walk-and-lunch outing.
The Coach & Horses Bolton-by-Bowland • Dogs welcome in bar	Smart village inn with polished dining and a cosy bar.
The Higher Buck Waddington • Dog friendly areas	Stylish country pub with strong local-food reputation.
The Assheton Arms Downham • Dog friendly	Beautiful village setting with locally sourced food and ales.
The Pendle Inn Barley • Pets welcome	Perfect after Pendle Hill or reservoir walks.
The Shireburn Arms Hurst Green • Dog friendly areas	Historic inn and natural starting point for the Tolkien Trail.
The Lister Arms Malham • Dog friendly	Classic Dales inn in the centre of Malham.
The Inn at Whitewell Forest of Bowland • Check dog areas	Special-occasion country pub with River Hodder views.
The Woolly Sheep Inn Skipton • Check current policy	Traditional town-centre pub, easy after castle/canal exploring.

For popular pubs, Sunday lunch and busy weekends, booking ahead is a good idea.