

HODDER VALLEY HORSEHOE

As sparsely populated as the Hodder Valley is, history can be dated back 1000 years and even further here, owing for the fertile and lush valleys that have also been nick-named “little Switzerland”, providing inhabitants for millennia. The Hodder valley is also home to Lancashire’s biggest forest, covering 1200 hectares and home to a huge variety of wildlife- Gisburn Forest has become increasingly popular in recent years thanks to the multitude of walking and biking trails and the much needed and appreciated café.

Dunsop bridge, a picturesque and tiny village to the northwest of Clitheroe is famous for being the geographical centre of the UK according to the Ordnance Survey, the carved, stone gatepost marking the location is strategically placed next to Puddleducks Café, a beautiful and handy rest stop for adventurers.



A route for explorers, this journey takes in a large stretch of Ribble Valley tackling moorland fells and deep valley floors. The route showcases picturesque villages, stunning scenic backdrops and your classic countryside greenery, making you appreciate this little-known wilderness.



Sawley - Slaidburn – Newton-in-Bowland – Dunsop Bridge – Whitewell – Longridge Old Clitheroe Road alongside the summit of the fell – Higher Hodder Bridge – Bashall Barn – Backridge Farm – Waddington West Bradford – Grindleton – Sawley



Discover more routes at
www.visitribblevalley.co.uk

 Love Ribble Valley



Ribble Valley
Borough Council

www.ribblevalley.gov.uk

Distance: 57.8km

Time: 3.52

Moderate-difficult

HODDER VALLEY HORSESHOE

CYCLE

Ribble Valley



 Funded by
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THE ROUTE

- 1.** Start in Sawley, once Yorkshire, now a Lancastrian village housing a Cistercian abbey founded in 1148. Pass the Spread Eagle, over the bridge and carry on towards open fields and winding roads. Eventually arriving in Holden, turn left towards the cluster of houses, taking your immediate right on a road facing up and out of Holden with the valley to your left.
- 2.** Stay on this road for the next 2.5 miles veering left onto Tinklers Lane. Turn Left onto the B6478 towards Slaidburn, exiting Tinklers Lane around the hairpin bend and then over the bridge to the village front where the tearooms serve delicious treats. Follow the street through and take the first left onto Church Street, past the Post Office, school and church.
- 3.** Stay on this road, passing through Newton-in-Bowland, a beautiful village with houses scattered around haphazardly, be sure to check out Parkers Arms, a multi-award winning restaurant made for comfort.
- 4.** The road out of Newton, can get very narrow with plenty of dips in the road, traverse this valley road carefully, and you'll appreciate the beauty all the better. Dunsop Bridge begins at Wood End Farm -Keep an eye out for cuddly Alpacas! - and exudes an enchanting appeal with parks, walks, resident ducks and Puddleducks Tearoom, outside of which is a stone gatepost commemorating the geographical centre of the United Kingdom.
- 5.** Over the bridge and up out of the centre, leads to a T-junction, carry on bearing left with the course of the road, away from the Trough of Bowland. Follow the road for 2.4 miles and you'll find yourself in Whitewell, made famous by visits from the Queen.
- 6.** Staying on the road initially running parallel to the river for the next 3.4 miles, over a small bridge and ignoring the left turn, cycling on the long straight roads. Cross over the grade II listed Doeford Bridge and bypass the junction leading to Loud Mytham/Little Bowland.

- 7.** This road will open at another T-junction, where you will be turning right towards Gibbon Bridge and then taking the very first left onto a smaller road which, very soon, will also open out onto another junction. Go left uphill and pass the White railings, framing the road going straight over the fell, do not go up this road unless you're experienced with inclines.
- 8.** Cycle parallel to Longridge Fell, Taking the next left road, a great place to have a drink and a bite to eat is Little Town Dairy, a farm on your left which produces yoghurts and farm foods. Continue past Little Town Dairy and The Derby Arms and into Longridge, going over the roundabout past Sainsburys, at the next mini roundabout, take a left-up Berry Lane. At the top of Berry Lane, opposite The Dog Inn, turn left and then left again after the takeaway, to take the road up to Jeffrey Hill.
- 9.** Pass the reservoir, the Caravan site and the Holiday Park, onto the road that carries on going up out of Longridge, keep on this road until you come to a crossroads at the top of the hill. Go straight on across the crossroads, following Old Clitheroe Road along the top of the fell.
- 10.** Stay on this road, passing any right turnings, until you reach Kemple End (also known as the steep end of Longridge Fell), the road here changes dramatically, dropping almost 112 meters in 0.7 miles, make sure you test your breaks beforehand as there are tight corners on the way down.
- 11.** Head left and make your way across Higher Hodder Bridge and up the other side, staying on the road for approx. 0.8 miles until you're facing Bashall Barn on a T-Junction. Heading left and then immediately right will take you past this popular wedding venue and onto Twitter Lane, it sits atop an old ridge that has good views over it's hedges for miles around.

- 12.** Pass through the small business centre of Backridge Farm and after 0.9miles the long winding road makes an appearance in Waddington, a great village to explore and an even better one to find a place to eat.
- 13.** From the centre of Waddington, make your way to Higher Buck Inn, taking the road that this pub is sat on and following it out of the village towards West Bradford. Stay on this road, passing through West Bradford and Grindleton before arriving at the bridge in Sawley where you started your journey. The Spread Eagle is a great way to end the day with their award-winning ales and wines paired beautifully with a hearty pub dinner.





Dunsop Bridge



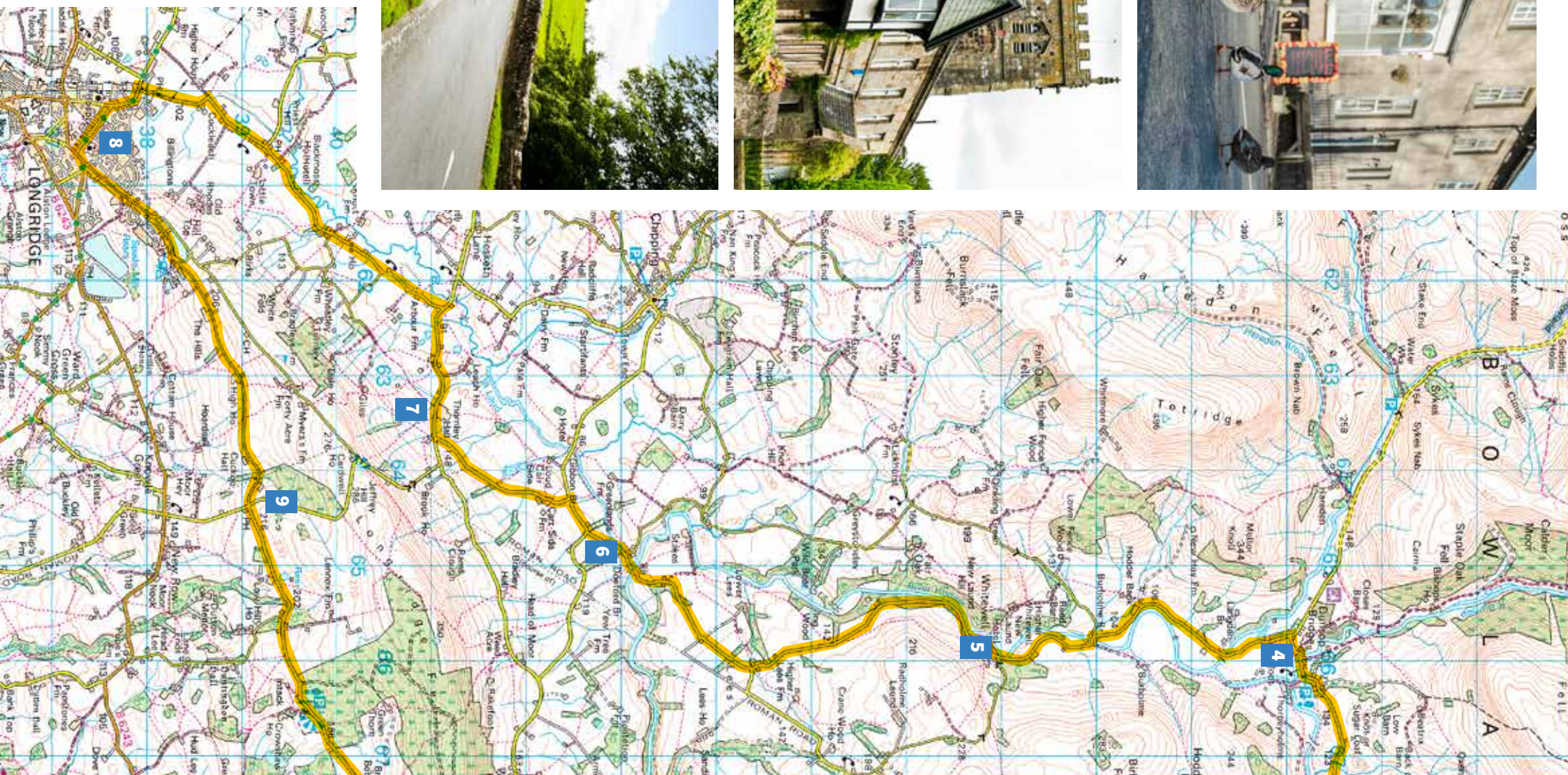
Bolton-by-Bowland

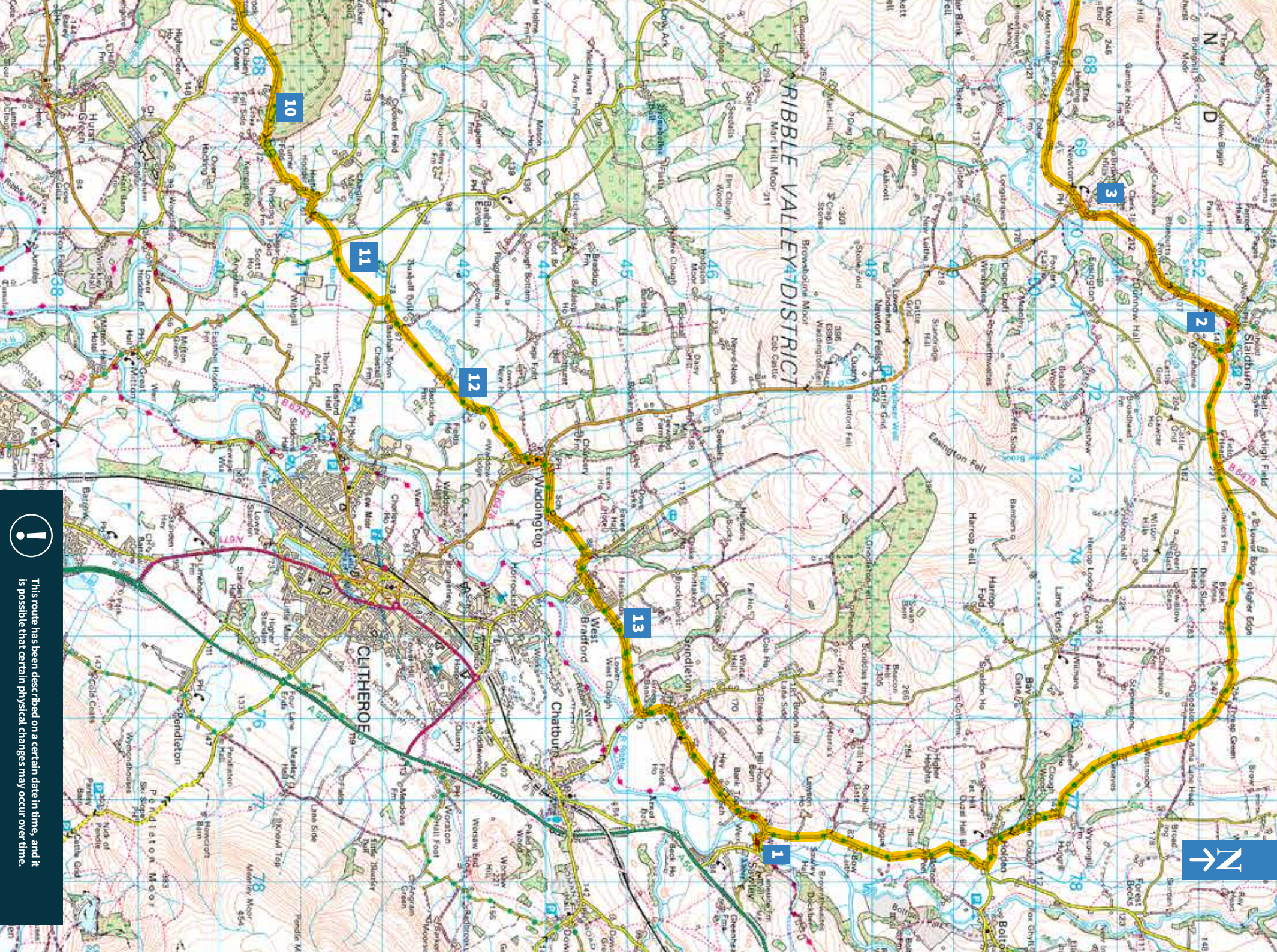


Newton-in-Bowland



Stalldurn





This route has been described on a certain date in time, and it is possible that certain physical changes may occur over time.