

**The Ultimate
Guide to
Completing
Janet's Foss,
Gordale Scar
and Malham
Cove**



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OVERVIEW



Gordale Scar



Gordale Scar is an enticing and exciting part of the Malham Cove route, but it won't be for everyone. There's a climb/scramble up the bottom section of Gordale Scar. The rocks can be slippery. No specialised climbing equipment is required but you must be comfortable with heights and climbing.

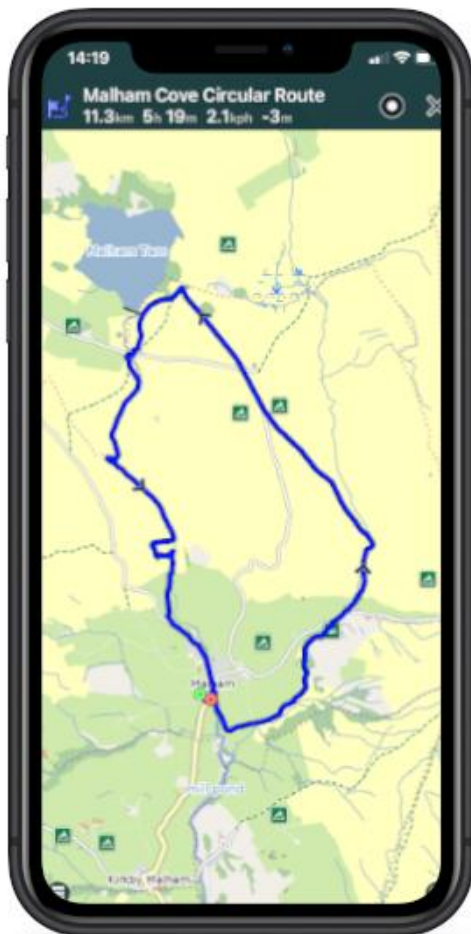
If you cannot complete Gordale Scar safely, you can take an alternative route (Page 46) to bypass Gordale Scar. The detour will add approximately one hour to your walk.

ROUTE AND MAPS

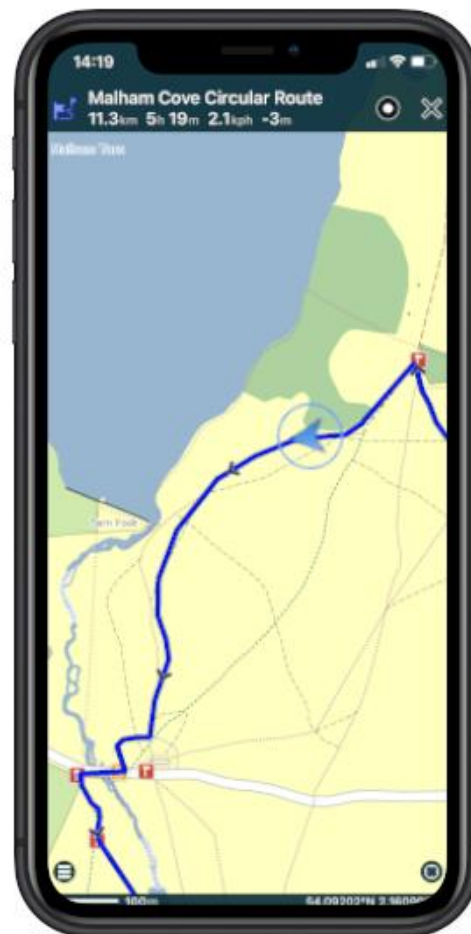


Digital Map

You can download the Janet's Foss, Gordale Scar and Malham Cove route and navigate using your smartphone. Using your phone's GPS you can track yourself along the route.



Janet's Foss, Malham Tarn and Malham Cove route



GPS and route



WALKTHROUGH

JANET'S FOSS TO GORDALE SCAR



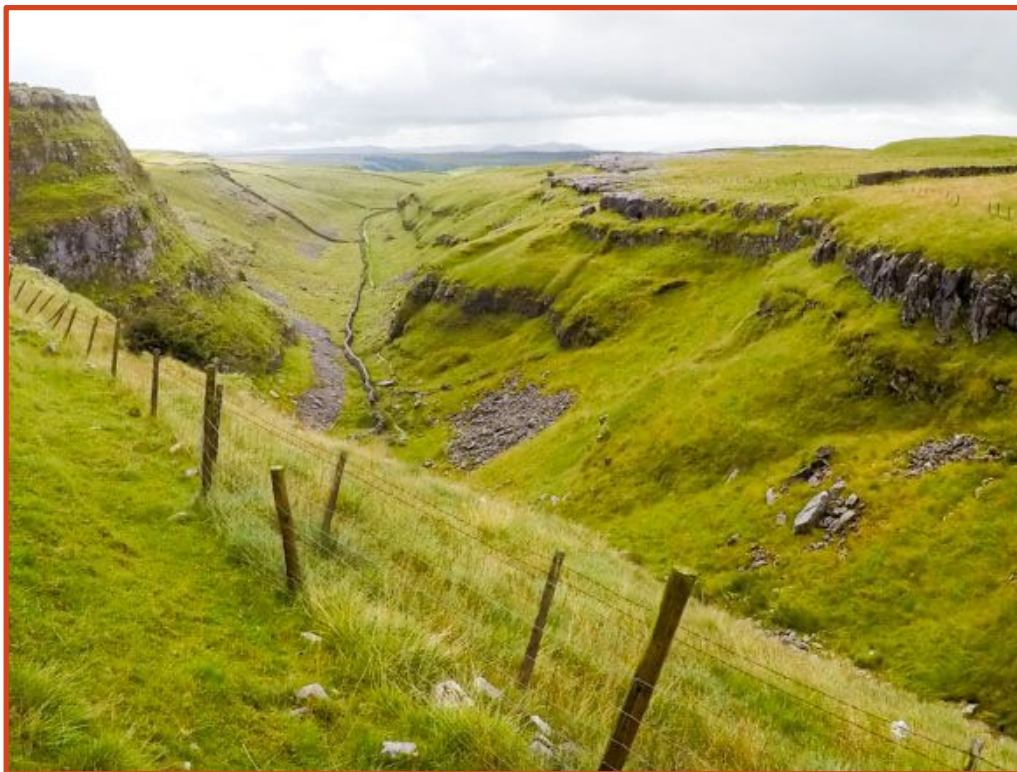
After a couple of minutes walk, take the left turn from the road. This path leads to Gordale Scar.



WALKTHROUGH

MALHAM TARN TO MALHAM COVE

Step over the wooden stile and follow the decline.

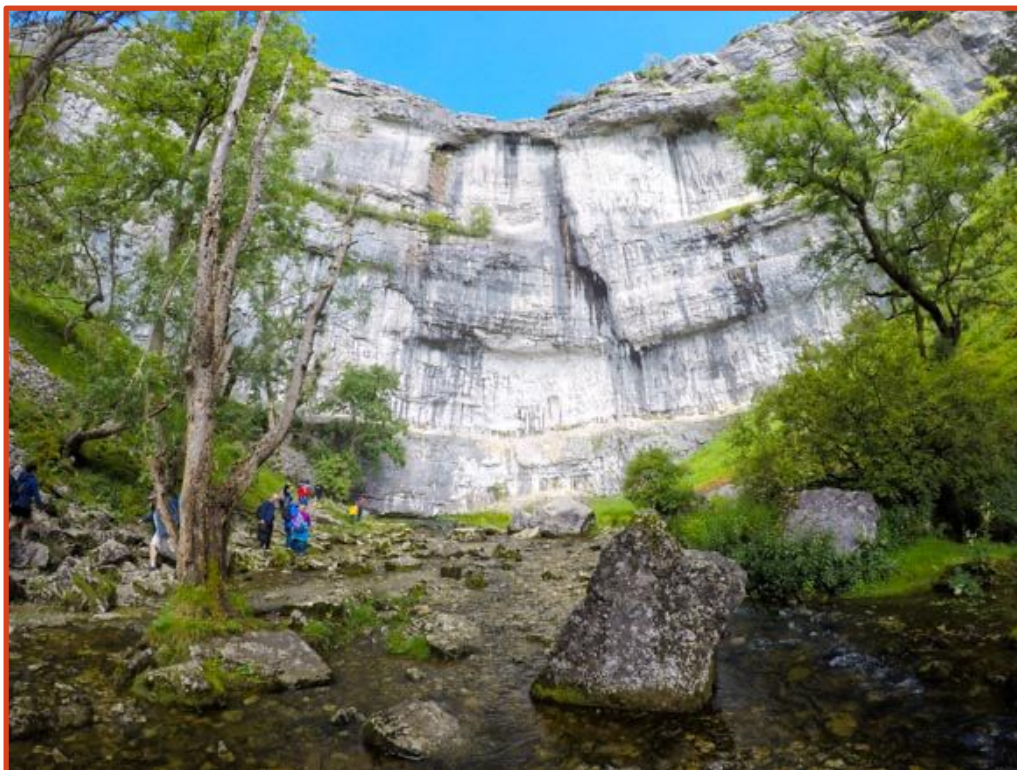


WALKTHROUGH

MALHAM COVE TO MALHAM



At the bottom of the steps, you can head closer to Malham Cove and appreciate the height of Malham Cove from Malham Beck.





Gordale Scar Bypass

Gordale Scar can be quite intimidating to scramble and not everyone will be comfortable climbing up Gordale Scar. If you cannot complete the passage through Gordale Scar you can follow this route to the top of Gordale Scar and continue your walk to Malham Tarn. It **will take approximately one hour** to complete this bypass of Gordale Scar.

From Gordale Scar, follow the path back the way you came. Go through the gate and turn right onto the road.



What equipment do you need to complete Malham Cove and Gordale Scar?

You need the [OL02 Yorkshire Dales: Southern and Western Areas OS](#) map to plot your route. You will need warm clothes (it may be cold, even in summer) and a backpack to keep it all in. Visit the [hiking equipment page](#) to ensure you have all of the required equipment.

Can you visit Malham Cove all year round?

You can visit Malham Cove on any day of the year. It can be cold and windy due to the open nature of the countryside, especially outside of summer. If you wish to visit Malham Cove in sunshine with chances of better weather, it is recommended to plan your trip between April-September.

Is Malham Cove in Harry Potter?

Yes, Harry and Hermione are at the top of Malham Cove in Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows.

How hard is Gordale Scar?

Gordale Scar is difficult for those who are not used to climbing or scrambling. The rocks can be slippery to grip with your hands or shoes. To complete Gordale Scar, ensure you are comfortable with heights and have good balance and coordination. If you can hold your own bodyweight, you shouldn't have a problem with Gordale Scar.

Is Malham Cove free to complete?

Visiting Malham Cove, Gordale Scar and Janet's Foss is free to complete.