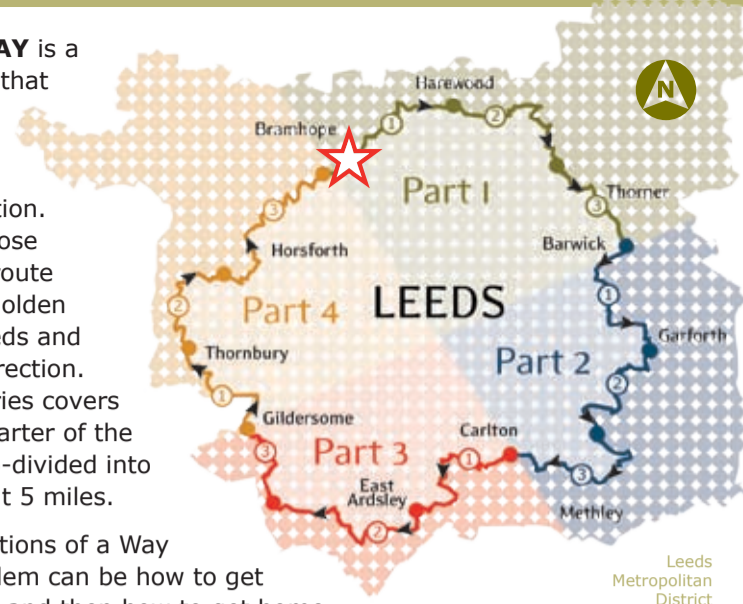


# Leeds Country Way



## Part 1 Golden Acre Park to Barwick-in-Elmet

**LEEDS COUNTRY WAY** is a 62 mile circular route that can be started at any point along the way and could be walked in either direction. However, for the purpose of these leaflets, the route description starts at Golden Acre Park in north Leeds and goes in a clockwise direction. Each leaflet in this series covers approximately one quarter of the circle, and each is sub-divided into three sections of about 5 miles.



If you are walking sections of a Way like this, one big problem can be how to get to your starting point, and then how to get home again at the end. This problem is relatively easily solved on the Leeds Country Way by using public transport that is available at many points along the route.

**M** For bus and train information contact Metro on: 0113 245 7676, between 7am and 10pm or [www.wymetro.com](http://www.wymetro.com)

Parking	Start point	Boating	LCW
Bus stop	Danger	Pond	Motorway
Telephone	Summit	Bird garden	Roundabout
Toilets	Trig Point	Nature area	Main 'A' road
Cafe	Golf course	Wild Birds	Main 'B' road
(summer only)	Historic house	Sports ground	Paved road
Eatery	Church	Housing	Other paths
Pub	Wood	Green Space	Recreational routes
Railway Station	Bridge	Water	Stream / River

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## Part 1 Golden Acre Park to Barwick-in-Elmet

However you arrive at Golden Acre Park, make your way to the display boards at the bottom of the main car park. From that corner use the underpass to gain access to the park.

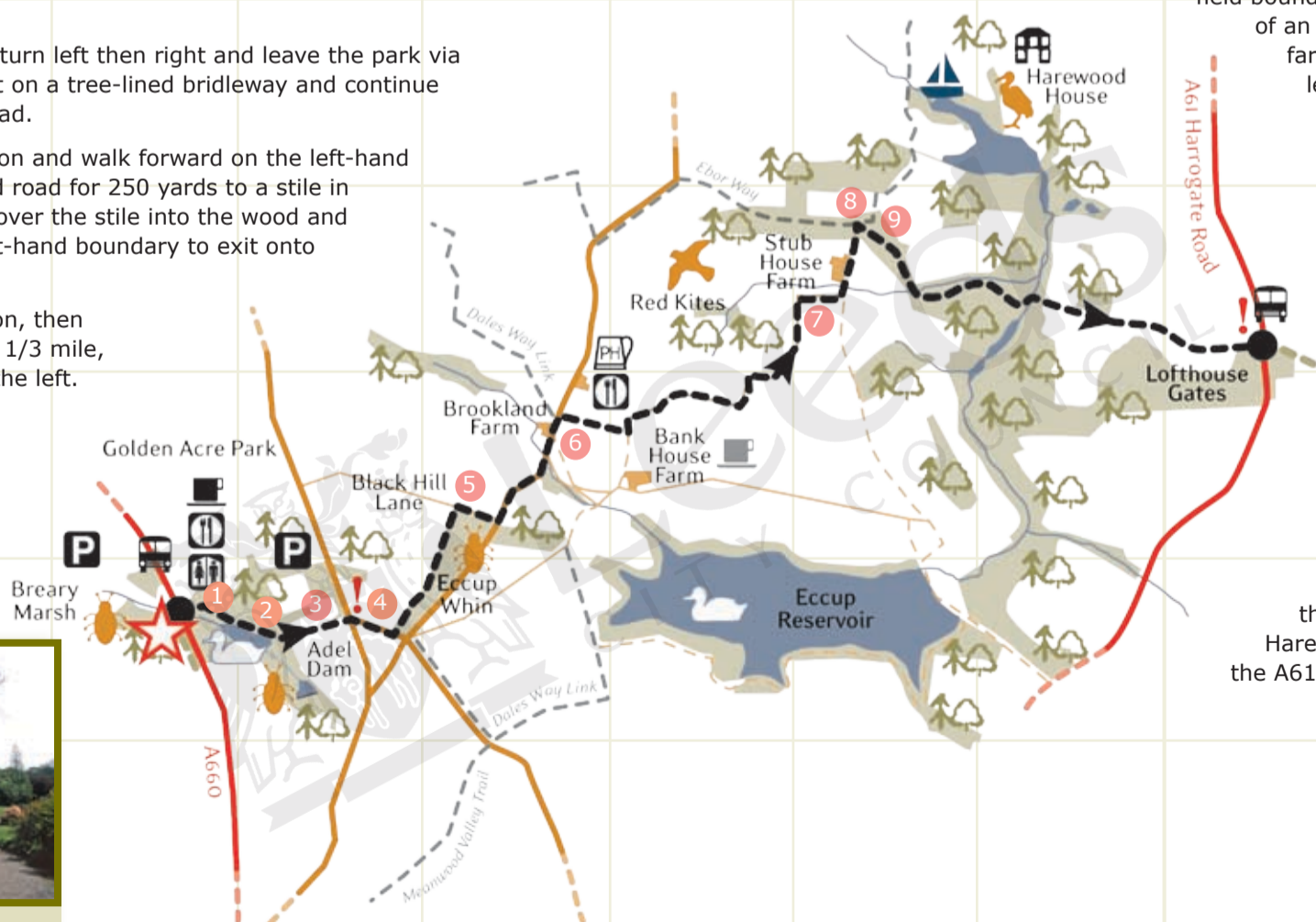
- 1 On entering the park, turn left along the wall-side for 95 yards to the point where a broad flight of steps joins the path on the left. Turn right here onto another path passing beneath the café and toilet block.
- 2 Continue straight ahead down the length of the park with the lake on one's right.
- 3 At the far corner of the lake turn left then right and leave the park via a kissing gate. Then turn left on a tree-lined brideway and continue along this to the metalled road.
- 4 Go straight across the junction and walk forward on the left-hand verge alongside the metalled road for 250 yards to a stile in woodland on the left. Cross over the stile into the wood and follow the path along the left-hand boundary to exit onto Black Hill Lane.
- 5 Turn right here to a T-junction, then left along the road for about 1/3 mile, passing Brookland Farm on the left.
- 6 After another 100 yards turn right over a stile in a hedgerow, before reaching the New Inn. Go straight across the field towards a power-line pole and a waymark post beyond.



Golden Acre Park

Cross a stone stile, another smaller field, and a wooden stile into a brideway beyond. Turn left here - this continues between hedges for a mile, though there are 4 nearly right-angled bends in that section. Nevertheless, the line is very obvious. Where the hedged lane finishes the route continues forward through the field down a broad grassy track to the bottom of that field.

- 7 From there turn right and follow the field boundary along the edge of an open area to a farm track, then turn left passing Stub House Farm on your left. Go over the brow of the hill and enter the woodland.



- 8 Only 20 yards into the wood the track divides and our route turns to the right.
- 9 From here follow the wide brideway for 1 1/2 miles through the Harewood Estate to the A61 at Lofthouse Lodge.

## Leeds Country Way: Part 1 Section 1 Golden Acre Park to Lofthouse Lodge (5 miles)







From Lofthouse Lodge on the A61 take the metalled road opposite-sign posted to Wike. Pass Lofthouse Farm and after 700 yards turn left into a bridgeway. Continue along this for 5/8 mile to Biggin Farm.

- 1 Beyond the farm the route narrows a little and then becomes a field path but continues straight ahead to a T-junction with a broad fenced lane. Go through the gate into this lane and turn left. For the next 1/3 mile follow this bridgeway until it comes out into the farm access lane near Gateon House Farm. Continue forward along that lane for 5/8 mile to join a metalled road near Rigton Grange Farm.

Go through this and bear left along the surfaced path, which soon joins the access lane and leads down to the metalled road in Bardsey Village opposite the Bingley Arms.

- 4 Turn left along the road, pass the Church Lych Gate and continue to a small gate that leads into the churchyard level with the Church itself. Cross behind the Church down to the bottom of the churchyard, out through a gate and down a hedged path to a footbridge over the stream. The path goes up the far slope to emerge from the trees at the bottom of the field. Turn half-right to cut the corner of the field and cross over to the back of the houses. Continue uphill following the field side until one comes to a junction of paths. Step right here into a grassy bridgeway. Continue leftward (south) to the end of the track at the start of the houses. Leave the track via a gate straight-ahead and go forward down the lane serving the houses. This leads out at the bottom of the hill onto the A58 Leeds/Wetherby road just north of Scarcroft.



- 2 Turn right along that road for about 500 yards taking great care with the passing traffic.
- 3 Just beyond the highest point on the road is a house standing alone on the right. Turn left through a stile opposite the house and go down the field side to the bottom of the cultivated land. Enter the area of scrub and bracken and very soon turn left to walk along the hillside just below the bottom of the cultivated field. In about 150 yards the path comes near the side of a small stream. Walk alongside this to a stile on your right. Cross over the stile and then cross the next field to a gateway.

- 5 Cross the main road, taking great care, and go left up the pavement for 15 yards to a sign reading "Public Bridleway to Nature Reserve" (Hetchell Woods) pointing onto a track alongside the field wall. Follow this track to the end of the first field and turn right there up the hedge side. Keep that on your left as you walk over the ridge and down the slope beyond. At the bottom of the field go through an open gateway into an area of uncultivated land. Turn left and follow a path through this area walking parallel with the stream. The uncultivated area narrows down and then the path swings right onto a stoned path through some swampy ground. This path leads to a footbridge and then to a stile in the field corner. Turn left over the stile and walk up the field side to come out into a lane. Turn right along it to a metalled road 30 yards further on. (Thorner Lane, Scarcroft).

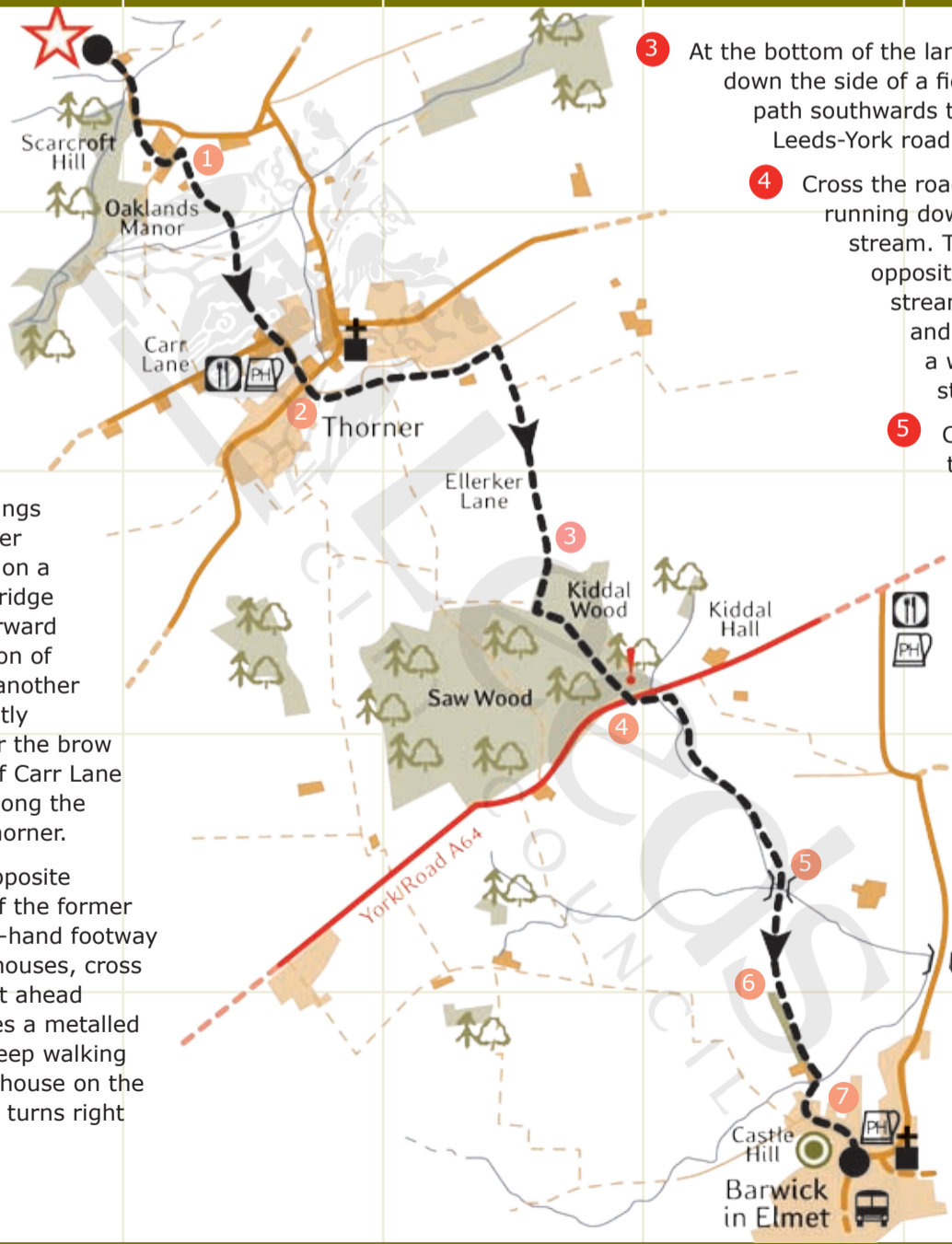
## Leeds Country Way: Part 1 Section 2 Lofthouse Lodge to Scarcroft Hill (5 miles)

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Turn left along the road and walk downhill at first, round a couple of bends then rising towards Scarcroft Hill. Instead of continuing to the top along the road, look out for a stile in the stone wall on the right. Cross over this and follow the path straight up the hill, passing a large tree towards a stable block. Go through a couple of gates here to exit onto a concrete roadway. Turn left along this for 50 yards, then turn right beyond the last building 'The East Lodge' into a 9 feet wide lane.

- 1 Continue past the rear of all the buildings and shortly a stile on the left leads over into the field. Turn right and continue on a well-defined line downhill to the footbridge and kissing gate at the stream. Go forward up the side of the next field to a section of fence across the line of the path and another kissing gate. Pass through into a slightly sunken lane, which leads forward over the brow of the hill, and down to the junction of Carr Lane and Station Lane. Continue forward along the metalled road to the main street in Thorner.
- 2 Cross the main street into the road opposite (Stead Lane) and walk past the end of the former railway embankment. Stay on the left-hand footway until the road swings left up into the houses, cross the road and continue walking straight ahead along a stoned bridgeway. This acquires a metalled surface again 220 yards further on. Keep walking straight ahead until you pass the last house on the left and just after that point our route turns right along Ellerker Lane.



- 3 At the bottom of the lane a gate leads through into a fenced path down the side of a field and into Kiddal Wood. Follow the marked path southwards through the woods for 700 yards, to the A64 Leeds-York road.
- 4 Cross the road with great care and turn into a path running down the embankment and crossing the stream. This leads into the edge of the field on the opposite bank where one turns right to follow the streamside for almost 500 yards to a field gate and stile. Beyond that the route opens out into a wide grassy lane and one should keep going straight ahead to the fence at the far end.
- 5 Cross a stile here and continue ahead to the footbridge over the stream. Turning slightly right, cross the first narrow field to a headland path next to a hedgerow. The path leads uphill along the edge of the field with the hedge on one's right. Continue straight ahead over the ridge to the top of an enclosed lane.
- 6 Do not descend into this but, instead, continue around the headland above it and on its left (eastern) side, eventually descending to re-join it just before crossing a footbridge next to the ford.
- 7 Continue up the lane ahead to meet a metalled road then bear left along The Boyle to the Maypole at the end of Main Street.

## Leeds Country Way: Part 1 Section 3 Scarcroft Hill to Barwick-in-Elmet (4 miles)

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