

Route Description: In the steps of our ancestors – a walk around Calder Vale

1. There's roadside parking in Calder Vale (SD53214 45740). Walk to the bridge over the River Calder, Lappet Mill is on the R. Turn L and walk along Long Row to the end of the cottages (SD53374 45972). Follow the footpath to St Johns Church alongside the mill-race and further on. After the delightful mill pond, the path steepens, there are several bench seats to take a rest. At the top of the hill, enter the churchyard through a gate (SD53783 46329), continue through the churchyard, past the school to the access road (SD53879 46354).
2. Turn R along the Concessionary Path past the barn on the R and cross the cattle grid following the stony road to a bend (SD54030 45996), continue to Landskill.
3. Turn R into the farmyard at Landskill, cross the cobbled yard & through the stone gatepost, past the beautiful farmhouse with stone mullioned windows. Continue down the farm lane, there's a sharp bend in the road by a small pond on the L (SD53613 45763). Take the footpath to the L (heading SW) across the pastureland. The path is indistinct, walk towards the R of a large tree to find a gate (SD53405 45549). Continue the same line descending the grassy slope to the corner of the field and a signpost (SD53185 45381). Cross the footbridge and ascend the steep steps to the road by the cottages.
4. Turn L past the cottages into the woodland on a track that soon turns sharp L, take the path opposite ascending the slope to emerge from the woodland at a gate (SD52932 45082). Follow the path alongside the wire fence, cross three fields to Sullom Side (SD52414 44852). Turn R along Strickens Lane for about 400m. Take great care of fast moving traffic. Opposite Walker House is a stile (SD52432 43135) on the L.
5. Cross the stile & follow the path along the fence to a farm gate, now head L towards the buildings of Lucas's Farm and a stile (SD52098 44970). Immediately turn R by the farm house, then turn L along a stone covered road. After 50m, a gate on the R enters a meadow to a stile (SD52015 44920). Cross the meadow to a farm gate, then bear L but aim to keep the buildings of Lower House Farm to the L. At the bottom corner of the field is a small footbridge (SD51789 44848).
6. Don't cross the FB, but turn R (NNW) and aim for a farm gate by a water trough (SD51781 44939). Through the gate following the fence line (hedge), crossing a FB (SD51565 45355) and a stile (SD51513 45758) to a farm road at Cross Cottage.
7. Turn R and ascend the farm road towards Heald Farm, before Heald Farm, there's a footpath on the L, cross the stile (SD51855 45711) & follow the path through the wood to another stile. Turn L to yet another stile (SD51969 45736) before a ladder stile leads to pastureland. Ascend the pasture alongside the hedgerow to arrive at two stone gateposts (SD52219 45832). The path descends to Strickens Lane (SD52652 45925).
8. Cross Strickens Lane to a footpath at the side of a bungalow, follow the obvious path by the property to a stile & a footbridge, continue across the meadow to a stile (SD52963 45753) by a wooded area. Follow the path between the brook & the woodland fence, continue along the obvious footpath, past the rear of more properties to finally descend to the road in Calder Vale via some steps.