

Points of Interest

Thornccliffe Pond

Dates back to early 1600s - fed from Charlton Brook, it appears to have it's origins as a storage pond for Chapel Furnace. It is thought that iron made there was used to make cannon balls for Cromwell's army in the English Civil War.

Westwood Country Park

Lovely little park with woodland walking trails, cycle routes and a reservoir.

St Peter's Church

The church of the Manor House and later the Hall, it is situated in the original settlement of Tankersley and offers visitors a most interesting and peaceful visit. We know from the Domesday survey that the church existed in 1086. The churchyard contains memorials of an industrial past.

Tankersley Hall

Originally the centre of a large medieval deer park. Destroyed during the English Civil War, probably in 1643 during or after the Battle of Tankersley Moor. The ruins featured in the 1969 film 'Kes' adapted from Barry Hines' book 'Kestrel for a Knave'. Billy climbed the ruins to steal a kestrel chick from its nest.

Elsecar Reservoir

Built to feed the Dearne & Dove Canal (Elsecar Branch) which was built to transport coal, like many canals, it was quickly superseded by the railway. The reservoir has since been transformed into a nature reserve with a diverse range of wildlife.

Elsecar Park

Winner of many awards, a brilliant place for families to enjoy. Pitch n putt, crazy golf, cafe, toilets, play areas & outdoor gym, bandstand and terraced gardens.

Overview of Walk

History, industrial heritage and woodland denote this section of the Penistone Line Trail. Ancient woods like Parkin, Thornccliffe and Skier's Spring; along with later woods like New Biggin and Bell Ground planted to hide industrial scars. Woodlands were an economic asset of huge value and carefully managed and protected. Products like charcoal enabled iron to be smelted in Elsecar and Chapeltown. Ironstone was mined in Tankersley Park.

This walk explores Westwood Country Park, small sections of the Trans Pennine Trail (TPT), Barnsley Boundary Walk & Timberland Trail, also passing by the Blackburn Valley Trail (BVR), now a cycle route of approx. 6.5km from Meadowhall, in the east of Sheffield, to Chapeltown in the North.

Amenities

At the start of the walk - Asda next to Chapeltown Train Station, cafes & pubs in Chapeltown. Seating at St Peter's Church makes a peaceful and relaxing halfway stop for your own refreshments (note there are no facilities during the walk). At the end of the walk - toilets & cafe at Elsecar Park & Elsecar Heritage Centre.

** Please check for opening times and availability prior to your visit. Information correct at time of print.*

Scan the QR code to view Penistone Line Partnership's linktree to all our social media.



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The train operator for the Penistone Line is Northern.



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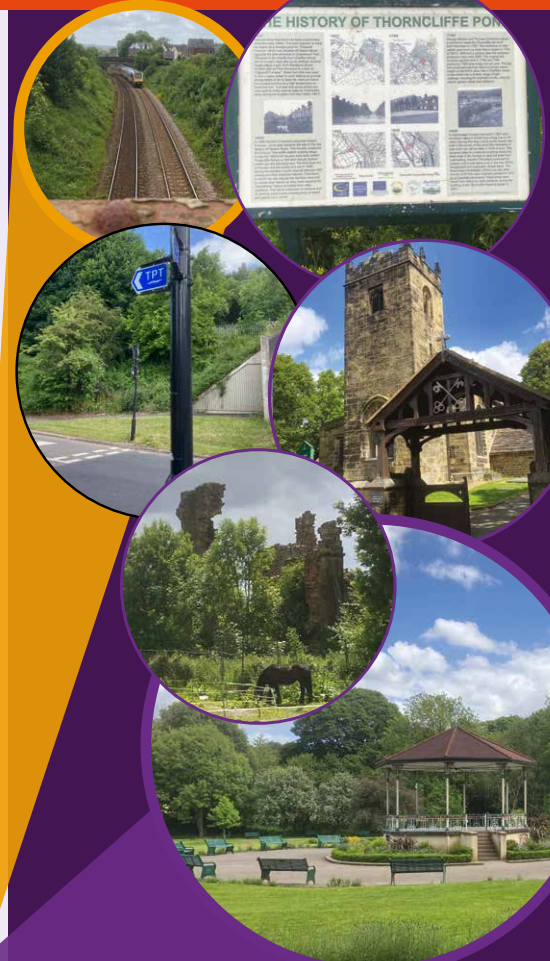


THE PENISTONE LINE TRAIL



Chapeltown to Elsecar

Walk 3 - 6 miles/9.5 km



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Route Guidance

1 Walk north along the Leeds / Barnsley / Huddersfield platform of the railway station - the sign says 'Way Out Sussex Road', this brings you to the previous Chapeltown station building and platform. Turn right across the railway bridge and immediately left along the signed public footpath between houses and railway line.

2 After a few minutes cross the line via a footbridge to reach the cul-de-sac end of Mafeking Place, keep to the path (right) passing through metal posts to carry on the footpath. Continue ahead through the woods keeping to the main path, descend to wooden steps on the left and cross the wooden footbridge over the small stream. When you reach a tarmacked road, turn right leaving behind you the abutments of a demolished railway bridge.

3 Soon you will pass Thorncliffe Pond on your right, when you reach the road turn left following TPT (Trans Pennine Trail) sign. Parkin Wood can be seen to your right, continue along Carr Road (with speed humps) to a roundabout and turn right up the hill. Cross the road and take the footpath marked TPT on the left after the business units.

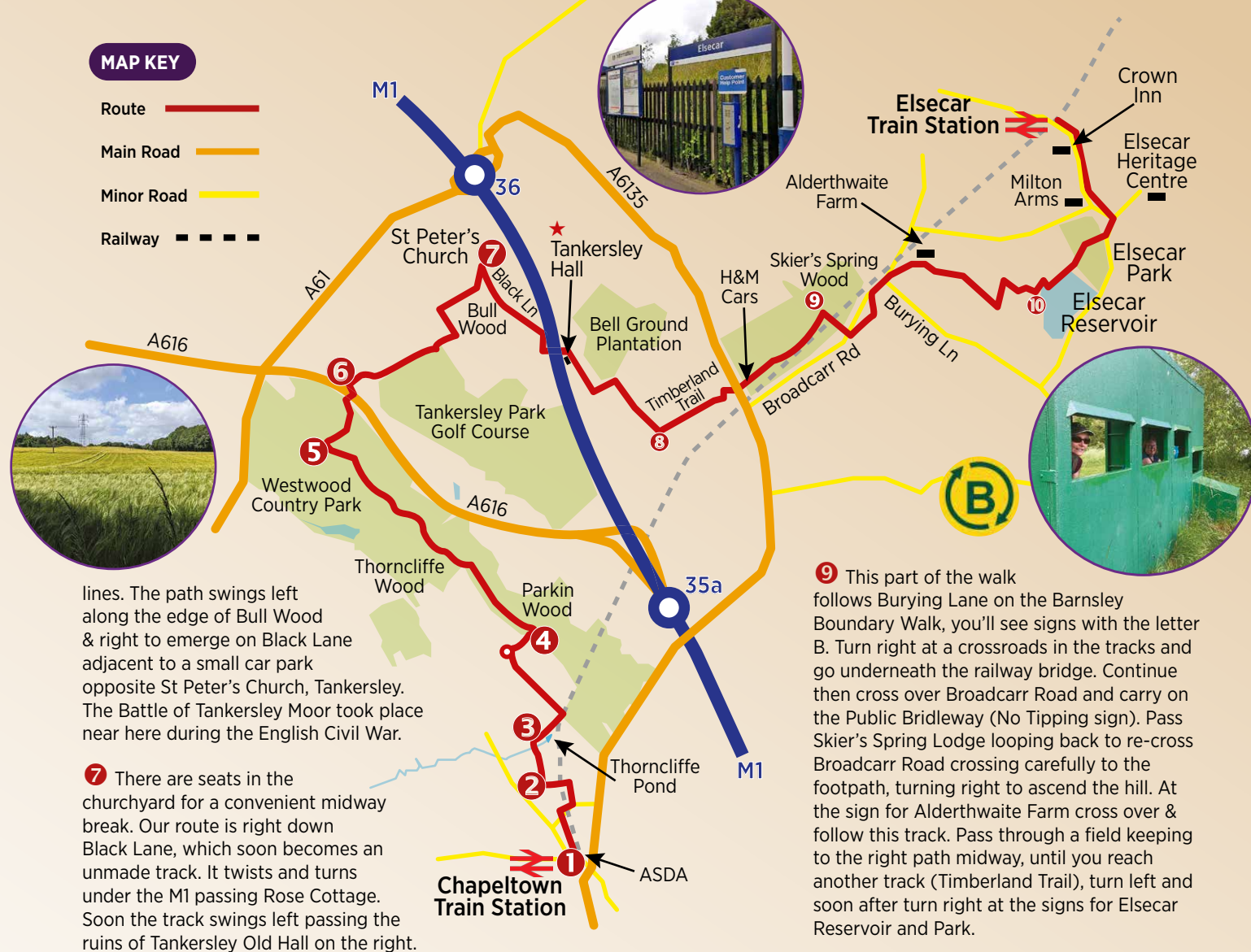
4 A broad surfaced path ascends & swings left to enter Thorncliffe Wood. Reaching a path junction with old wooden barriers, turn right and immediately at a TPT sign, through more barriers. At another junction with several tracks, take the first left to eventually emerge from the trees into Westwood Country Park overlooking High Green Estate.

5 Carry on along this track until slight decent, when you see a gate to a business unit ahead, with a Public Bridleway sign on your left - turn right onto public bridleway and ascend towards the woods (& the sound of traffic), keeping left to reach a footbridge over the A616 bypass. Cross the bridge and turn left and almost immediately right again at a Barnsley Council footpath sign. Cross a narrow dry ditch and wind up the Bankside through alder, willow and hawthorn trees until reaching a ruined drystone wall and wooden stile.

6 Turn right over the stile and take the left of the two paths past metal barriers and a bench. The path swings left along a wall past a bench. This is the approximate site of Lady's Folly, a summerhouse built by the 2nd Marquis of Rockingham who was Prime Minister twice. Deemed unsafe and past restoration the folly was demolished in 1960. You are now skirting the edge of Tankersley Golf Course and the path follows the wall to pass in front of the 6th tee (care is needed as golfers are hitting towards you). Continue on following overhead power

MAP KEY

- Route ———
- Main Road ———
- Minor Road ———
- Railway — — — —



lines. The path swings left along the edge of Bull Wood & right to emerge on Black Lane adjacent to a small car park opposite St Peter's Church, Tankersley. The Battle of Tankersley Moor took place near here during the English Civil War.

7 There are seats in the churchyard for a convenient midway break. Our route is right down Black Lane, which soon becomes an unmade track. It twists and turns under the M1 passing Rose Cottage. Soon the track swings left passing the ruins of Tankersley Old Hall on the right.

We carry on around a right hand bend passing Bell Ground Plantation on the left, and the site of the distribution centre, Wentworth Church, Keppel's Column & Hooper Stand begin to stand out on the skyline ahead / right.

8 Turn left at the TPT / Timberland Trail sign. Carry on this path, passing the old Blackburn Valley Route until you reach a road. Cross straight over the A6135 keeping the garage (H & M Cars) to your right, go straight ahead in the gap to the left of the barrier.

9 This part of the walk follows Burying Lane on the Barnsley Boundary Walk, you'll see signs with the letter B. Turn right at a crossroads in the tracks and go underneath the railway bridge. Continue then cross over Broadcarr Road and carry on the Public Bridleway (No Tipping sign). Pass Skier's Spring Lodge looping back to re-cross Broadcarr Road crossing carefully to the footpath, turning right to ascend the hill. At the sign for Alderthwaite Farm cross over & follow this track. Pass through a field keeping to the right path midway, until you reach another track (Timberland Trail), turn left and soon after turn right at the signs for Elsecar Reservoir and Park.

10 You will emerge at Elsecar Reservoir and the splendid green bird hide. Continue on through to Elsecar Park where refreshments, toilets, play and games areas, pitch and putt and even crazy golf can be found.

Walking downhill through terraced gardens, pass the bandstand and exit the park onto Wentworth Rd, turn left towards Elsecar Heritage Centre, here you'll find the historic Newcomen Beam Engine, steam railway and canal basin. At the junction (Market Hotel on right), turn left, climb the hill pass The Milton Arms and Crown Inn (thirsty work all that industry) to reach Elsecar Train Station on your left.