



## Walk 2: Bradford Fair Trade Way Shipley to Bingley

3 miles (5km) Linear (return by train)

Bradford District Fair Trade Way



Hirst Wood Lock

The Fair Trade Way is a scenic, circular walking route linking all the Fairtrade villages and towns in the Bradford district: Bradford, Shipley, Bingley, Baildon, Burley, Ilkley, Keighley, Haworth, Denholme and Thornton. Each community supports the Fairtrade principle of "Take a Step" for Fairtrade. For further information visit: [www.fairtradeway.org.uk/](http://www.fairtradeway.org.uk/)

### Fact File

<b>TIME</b>	1 hour 30 mins to 2 hours
<b>GOING</b>	Easy - could be some muddy sections
<b>MAP</b>	OS Explorer 288 Bradford and Huddersfield
<b>TRAIN</b>	Frequent services to Shipley
<b>PARKING</b>	Roads around station and at Bingley Arts Centre
<b>RETURN</b>	Train Burley to Baildon half hourly (at 29 mins and 59 mins)
<b>TOILETS</b>	Pubs and cafes in Saltaire and Bingley
<b>FAIRTRADE</b>	Bingley Co-op and J Sainsbury's

### The walk start point

There are several places from where you can start this walk. For the benefit of the route information this walk starts from Shipley Station which is highly accessible and links with the first leg of Bradford Fair Trade Way. There is parking and access to bus routes as well as the centre of Shipley.

### Walk information

A 3 mile (5km) level walk through beautiful countryside, taking in the Leeds and Liverpool canal, the River Aire, and Hirst Wood.

An ideal family walk with plenty of industrial heritage and natural history, as well as some close up views of the magnificent structures along the Bingley bypass road.

Comfortable strong walking shoes are recommended along with outdoor clothing to suit the season. A light snack/picnic is advisable especially when walking with children. Please take care when walking along the river and canal banks and keep children under close supervision at all times. This walk is not suitable for pushchairs or wheelchairs and people who have walking difficulties.

For further travel information contact Metroline on 0113 245 7676 or visit: [www.wymetro.com](http://www.wymetro.com)

### The Walk Route

From Shipley station take the main entrance road down to Leeds Road crossing at the lights. Then take the path on left of the building ahead (Killips Carpets) to the narrow footbridge across the Leeds and Liverpool canal. Looking back towards Leeds an ancient packhorse bridge spans the canal at the Bradford canal junction.

Turn left towards Shipley and walk the canal towpath for approximately 2 miles passing a variety of industrial relics including Salts Mill.

Alternatively, go down the steps to the street (Croft Road) and follow left to main road. Across Otley Road turn right to Baildon Bridge (look out for the dog in the dinghy on the bridge) and take riverside Sculpture Trail (signed Airedale Way) for about a mile where this path rejoins the canal at Salts Mill. Follow the towpath.

On the left after Salts Mill is Saltaire United Reformed Church, one of the jewels of Saltaire. The route can be accessed from Victoria Road, Saltaire at this point.

Follow canal towpath to the next lock (Hirst Lock) and cross by the bridge to a car park.

Enter Hirst Wood through the gate and take the line of the main path through an area of mature beech woodland. Do not deviate until you see a low, broken wall on the left. At this point take a less walked path down past a finger post directing to "Woodland Walk".

Drop down to the river bank and turning left go under the railway viaduct. Cross the small bridge and follow the river bank. *Caution - this section can be muddy and slippery when wet and is very close to the river.*

To avoid this short river section take path left past the stable and turn left onto Branksome Drive for 100m. Go around the bend on Branksome Grove to a finger post marking the start of a walled path on your right back to the river.

At this point you enter a section of high walled path before dropping down under the Bingley bypass viaduct to a wooden bridge over Cottingley Beck and a section of railway sleeper and boarded walk across a boggy area. Again, take care when wet. Follow the path and round a loop of the river past Bingley Rugby Club sports fields. Keep to the river bank past gardens and workshops to steps climbing up to the B6265 which should be crossed with great care.

Now walk along Beckfoot Lane past Shipley Golf Club until you reach a signed narrow path on the right running alongside allotments toward the Myrtle Park and river.

*200m beyond this point further down Beckfoot Lane is picturesque Beckfoot Bridge and ford – worth a look but not part of this walk.*

Across the river follow the path with the railing along the edge of Myrtle Park. Keep on this path bearing left until you reach the centre of Bingley. Cross the main road and descend to the station. Alternatively, walk through the station and follow the path on the right until you find signs to the canal and follow the towpath back to Saltaire and Shipley; about 2.5 miles.

#### Footnote

We hope you enjoyed your walk. If so tell your friends, if not, or you have encountered any problems please tell us at:

#### City of Bradford Metropolitan District Council

Countryside and Rights of Way Service  
Jacobs Well, Bradford BD1 5RW

Tel: 01274 432666

[www.bradford.gov.uk/countryside](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/countryside)



Walk route devised by  
Bradford District Fair Trade Way

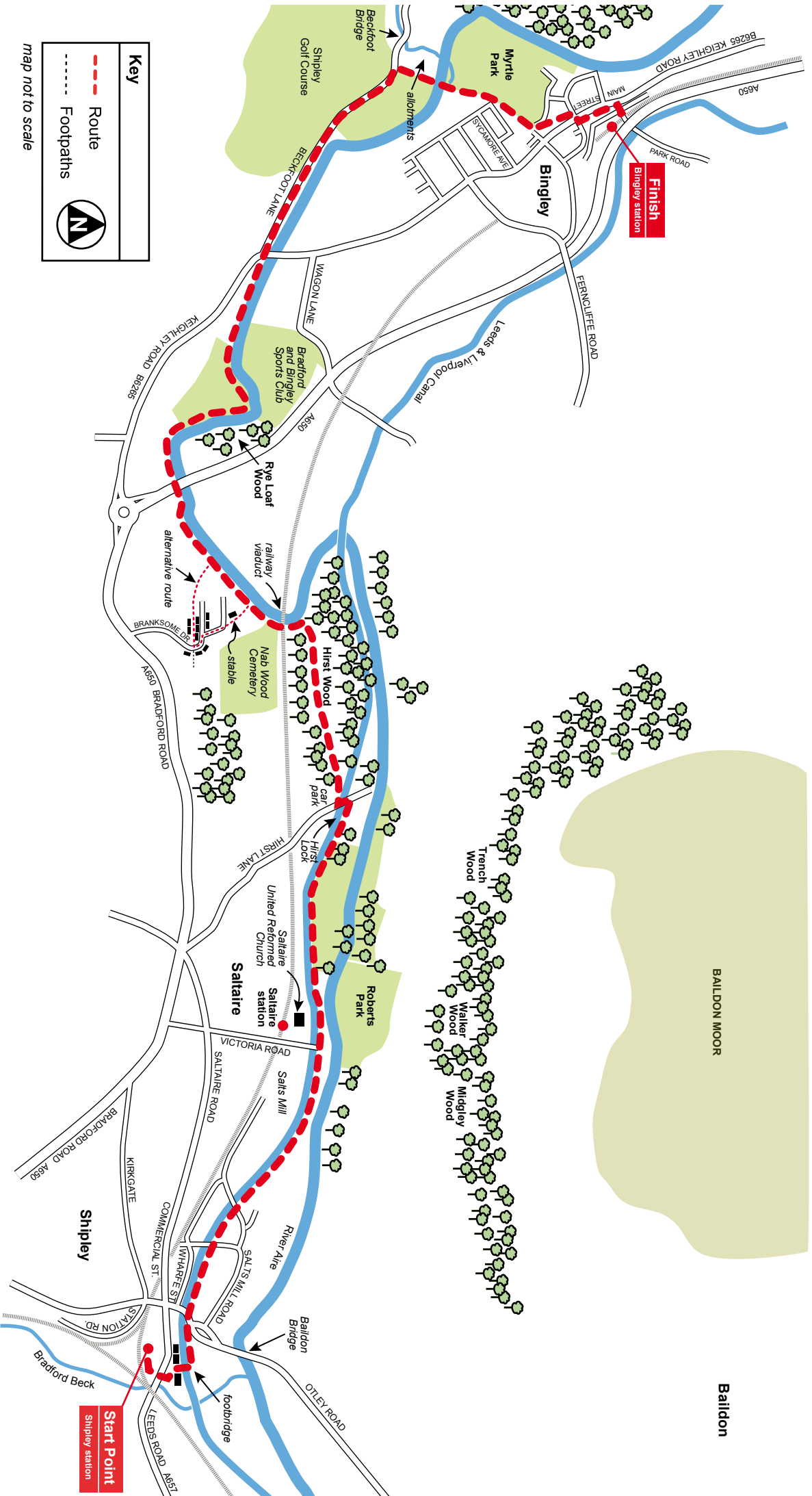
**City of Bradford MDC**

[www.bradford.gov.uk](http://www.bradford.gov.uk)

JUNE 2015

# Walk 2: Bradford Fair Trade Way Shiptley to Bingley

5 miles (8km) Linear



**Key**

- Route
- Footpaths

map not to scale