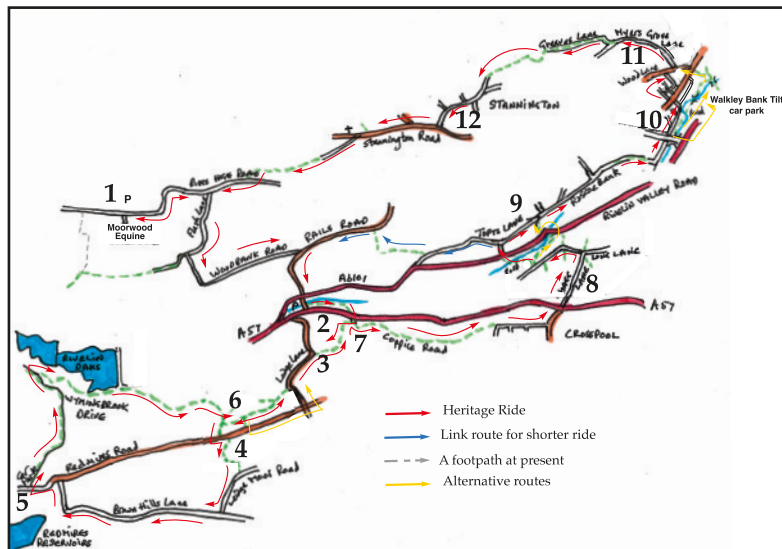


# Heritage Ride 7 - The Historic Rivelin Valley

**Mileage and time:** Full route 15 miles. 1.5 to 2 hrs for cyclists. 3 to 4 hrs on horseback. Suitable for mountain or gravel/hybrid bikes (but may need to walk up a steep hill towards fig 6).

**Description:** A fascinating mix of country and urban riding with beautiful views, long bridleways and a lot of history. There are 2 fords and 2 plank bridges; to avoid them some quite busy roads can be an alternative. Some of the hills are very steep.

**Parking:** Directions from Moorwood Equine (cyclists use roadside parking or alternative below) Moorwood Equine S6 6GR Pre book on tel: 07718 425147 (Horse livery and B&B also available) Cyclists can start at Fig 10 \* - Walkley Bank Tilt car park S6 5FY



Turn into the car park on the right, as the road bends sharply to the left, follow the bridleway from the car park, bearing left up the track going steeply uphill (*NB you will be returning this way, and if going downhill will be too steep, you can use the road instead*). Keep straight on this track, along the edge of a grass field, across a short plank bridge to a T

junction. Turn left and left again at the road taking a bridleway virtually opposite on the right, riding over the horse hop.

4. Ride through the park passing the childrens play area, over another horse hop turning right onto Lodge Moor Road. Ride up the hill and at the next T junction turn right onto Brownhills Lane. Follow the road until the next T junction and turn left.

5. Ride downhill and take the first bridleway on the right into Wyming Brook Drive, now a nature reserve. Go through the car park and over a horse hop and continue downhill along this track. Take the first right alongside Rivelin Reservoir. At the dam head, ride straight on over a horse hop and up the hill, which is steep in places.

6. Ride as far as the plank bridge and here

## Ride Directions:

1. From Moorwood Equine turn right and take the next right into Flash Lane. \*Turn left into Woodbank Road. At the T junction turn right into Rails Road. Ride downhill to the cross roads. Cross over with care passing the Rails Road car park on the right.

2. Cross the Rivelin River and about 10 yds after the bridge, turn left onto a bridleway. *You will then pass a fine example of an old pack horse bridge on your left, built about 1775. This bridleway exits onto the A57. Go straight across onto the bridleway opposite, and take the permissive bridleway immediately on the right to Lodge Lane, once part of the packhorse network. For cyclists wanting a shorter ride turn go straight on instead and continue from Fig 7.*

3. At Lodge Lane, turn left, ride up hill.

turn left to rejoin the bridleway back to Lodge Lane car park. *(NB if the road is preferable carry on up to the road and turn left. Ride along Redmires Road turn left at Lodge Lane passing the car park on your left.)* Retrace route by turning down Lodge Lane and right onto the permissive bridleway back to the T junction on Coppice Road bridleway.

7. Turn right up this bridleway and keep going as it joins Moorbank Road. At the T junction, turn left into Coldwell Lane, riding downhill to the cross roads. Cross over the main Manchester Road with care, onto Hagg Lane.

8. Ride down Hagg Lane, turning left at the bottom towards Hagg Cottages, "no through road". There are numerous bridleways round this area so take care with route finding. Follow this lane downhill and take the 3rd bridleway to the right, and ride down to the Rivelin River. *(Alternative route below if the river is in spate)* Cross the river ford, and take the track on the left past the Hind Wheel information board, uphill to arrive at the Rivelin Valley Road. Take care as you ride straight across and up the lane turning right at the T junction in front of The Rivelin Hotel. *If the river is in spate, take the 2nd permissive bridleway to the right instead (gold arrows on map) down to the Rivelin Valley Road. Here turn left along the main road for about 100 yds then right, crossing with care onto a public bridleway through Rivelin Glen Quarry up to Tofts Lane, and turn right to rejoin the route.*

*Alternatively for the shorter ride from Moorwood Equine turn left (following the blue arrows on the map) and take the bridleway on the right (Coppice Lane). At the T junction turn left into Bingley Lane. Continue along Bingley Lane, into Rails Road. Turn right into Woodbank Road and retrace steps to Moorwood Equine.*

9. Ride along Tofts Lane and turn right onto Roscoe Bank continue along here and bear right onto the bridleway. Go left onto Rivelin Park Road and continue to the cross roads. *(Alternative route to avoid ford see 10a)*

10. Turn right, downhill, for a short way. Just before the bridge take the bridleway on the left. Continue through a ford, at present impossible to ride on a bike (there are stepping stones) and difficult for horses. Once across continue over a plank bridge, bearing left to Mousehole Forge. *To avoid the ford for those not bothered by heavy traffic ride over the road bridge turning left along the main road. Turn left to the \*Car Park at Walkley Bank Tilt. For cyclists starting here rejoin the bridleway, turning right.* At Mousehole Forge take the narrow path to the left, around the edge of the old forge, exiting on Stannington Road. Go straight across with The Anvil pub to your left into Wood Lane. Turn first right into Myers Grove Lane.

**10a. Alternative route:** *To miss the bridleway and ford ride straight across by The Holly Bush pub and turn right onto Low Road. Take the second left (Middle Lane) up to the main Stannington Road and here turn left and then right onto Barlow Road. Take the next right onto Woodland View Road and ride to the T Junction turning left onto Carlby Road. At the T junction turn right onto Wood Lane passing Wood Lane Countryside Centre. Take the next left onto Myers Grove Lane.*

11. Continue on Myers Grove Lane and eventually take a right turn into Greaves Lane "no through road". Ride past the old Robin Hood pub and bear right onto the public byway, which leads up into Stannington, and becomes a tarmaced road to end in a T junction with Stannington Road.

12. Turn right and ride through the built up area, passing Spout Lane on the right. After about half a mile, with Underbank Chapel on the right, turn left onto Riggs Low Road which becomes a bridleway. At the top turn right into Riggs High Road. *For those parked at Moorwood Equine continue on this road.*

For those parked at Walkley Bank Tilt take the next left into Flash Lane and continue from Fig 1\*.