

A Cartford Countryside Walk

We've mapped out a leisurely walk that starts and finishes at the inn. It begins from the outside dining area and goes along the banks of the River Wyre, through pleasant fields and down country lanes before returning over the Cartford Bridge to the inn. It's good for whiling away a few hours before lunch, or you might choose to enjoy a pint afterwards. The walk has a different feeling depending on the time of year as sights and scenery change with the seasons.

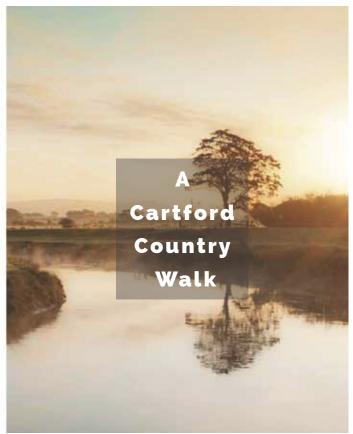
The walk is 4 miles long and takes about two hours. The terrain is flat and mostly goes along footpaths, but the lanes and fields get muddy when wet so it's often best to wear walking boots or wellies.

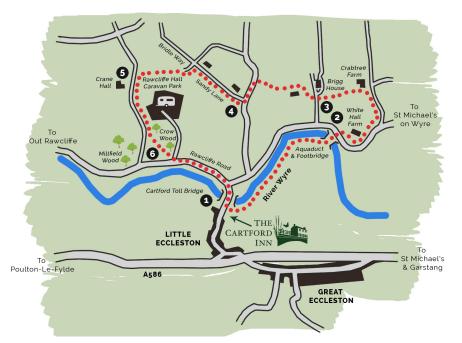


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- I. Leave the main entrance of the inn to the outside dining areas and walk along the fence by the river to the end of the car park. Heading away from the inn, walk on top of the flood bank, following the river bend. These fields nearly always have cows in them. As you walk you will see some of the tallest of the Bowland fells as you look across the countryside. You'll eventually get to an aqueduct and a bridge you should use to cross the river.
- 2. After crossing the bridge you come out onto Rawcliffe Road. Turn right and walk along the road and past the buildings of White Hall Farm on the left. Afterwards you will see a more rugged track splitting from the left of the road called 'Hagg Lane'. Go this way until you approach the farmyard buildings of Crabtree Farm. On the left you should notice a wooden stile. Climb over this and into an open field with a large tree and and smaller one.
- 3. Walk along the perimeter of the field to the other side. There is another stile you should climb over into the neighbouring field. Cross this field too. At the other side of this field there is a track that leading into another field. Walk into this field, but before walking far, look to the right and notice a gap in the hedge and a stile. Traverse this stile and you will find yourself in a garden. The garden is left to grow wild and attract an array of seasonal flora and fauna. The owner of the garden keeps a path mown through the garden especially for walkers; this will lead you to a trail. Pass by the cottages on the left and continue down the road to the junction. Turn left on to Lancaster Road.
- 4. Walk for about 200 metres until you get to the next right turn. Take this exit and walk down Sandy Lane; a long bridleway. You'll pass by a pond on your left and two houses on the right before you get to an intersection where a grassy walkway goes off to the left. Go through the metal gate and walk towards the woods, but take the path that forks off to the right and exits the wood into a field. Cross over two fields until you reach another farm track.
- 5. Turning left and follow the track as it goes past Crane Hall on the right and Rawcliffe Hall and caravan park on the left. At the start of Millfield Wood on the right, go through the gate on the left and cut across the fields to the tall trees at far side of the field and exiting on to Rawcliffe Road.
- 6. From here you just have to continue along the road that begins to follow the River Wyre and all the way to the Cartford Bridge, over the bridge and back to the inn.