Introduction

Gloriously varied and unspoilt countryside awaits those who walk Pendle's own 'Three Peaks'.

Ideal for a long weekend, Pendle, Boulsworth and Weets Hills offer three enjoyable walks in this undiscovered corner of Lancashire.

Each of the walks begins and ends where there is plenty of car parking and good choice of refreshments in three of Pendle's many lovely villages. For maps, other walking guides and local bus information please see the back cover.

This guide offers landmarks and local footpaths, and maps to show suggested routes. However, there are plenty of other public footpaths for the adventurous to sample, particularly on the most breathtaking of the peaks, Pendle Hill.

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For full mail order details please contact Barnoldswick Tourist Information Centre.
**Pendle Hill**

A gentle, peaceful walk, with lovely views across Pendle and the Yorkshire Dales, it offers the contrast of vibrant green pastureland, limestone country, and moorland gritstone. Boulsworth can be reached via the bustling shopping town of Nelson or the historic market town of Colne.

**THE LOCALITY**
Boulsworth can trace its history back to Viking times, but this small town’s roots are really in its canal and textile heritage. The Leeds & Liverpool Canal passes through Boulsworth, offering an attractive feature to follow for walkers.

In the summer it is sometimes possible to visit Buncroft Mill to see the 1915 steam engine (ring Boulsworth Tourist Information Centre on 01252 666704 for opening times).

The area is surrounded by rolling farmland, but Boulsworth also offers modern facilities including a swimming pool, shops and parks.

**WALK FOOT FACTS**

6 MILES (10 KM)

Takes at least three hours.

**THE ROUTE**

1. **LETCLIFF COUNTRY PARK (Lettcliff Hill on the OS map)**

Start from the car park at Letcliff Park, at the south end of Boulsworth, signposted off the B6251 (GR 857959). There is a picnic area and toilets, as well as an expansive view of the countryside.

Walk down to the road and turn right, following the Pendle Way sign (symbolised by a witch).

Take care on this road as it has no pavement for about 100 metres, then turn left down Gillians Lane (another sign). Pass Buncroft Mill and continue straight on past houses, ignoring the Pendle Way sign which directs off to the right.

2. **WALK**

Tum first left down Mooregate Road (a Pendle Way sign soon appears again on the right).

Continue up the road, now called Folly Lane. As you gain height there are good views of the surrounding area, with Whalley in the distance.

The walk features ancient hedgerows, including holly, ash and hawthorn, home to birds, butterflies and wild roses.

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**Boulsworth Hill**

Good views, griststone outcrops, Brontë moorland, patchwork fields, wooded valleys and a hidden waterfall feature on this energetic circular walk. The walk starts at the Wycoffer Country Park Haworth Road car park at Height Laith, which is approached from Lanchester Bridge, on the Lancashire and Yorkshire border not far from the historic market town of Colne.

**THE LOCALITY**

In Norman times this whole area was a vast hunting ground. In the 13th and 14th centuries monastic cattle farms were established, which grew into the settlements of Howland and Wycoffer.

The traffic-free village of Wycoffer has been a source of inspiration for authors, poets and painters.

Ancient bridges cross over a pretty beck. The raised Wycoller Hill is believed to have been the inspiration for Bendoun Moor, in Charlotte Brontë’s novel, Jane Eyre.

Wycoffer is on the Brontë Way, which stretches from Lancashire into Yorkshire.

**WALK FACTS**

8 MILES (13 KM)

Allow at least 4 hours.

OS Outdoor Leisure Map 21 South Pennines (double sided map).

Refreshments - Wycoffer and Hollin Hall Mill.

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**THE ROUTE**

1. **HAWORTH ROAD CAR PARK**

Park in Wycoffer Country Park, Haworth Road car park at Height Laith (GR 936394). Go down the steps and path. Go left at the fork.

2. **WYCOFFER**

From Aisled Barn, turn left on the broad track with Wycoffer Beck on your right. Go past two stone bridges. Carry on, following the beck to cross another bridge (near the Brontë Way and Pendle Way signs).

3. **TURNHOLE CLOUGH**

Take the Goathoppe Hill direction over the stile by the stream (not up the winding track).

Continue with stream on right, cross the stream, by a footbridge and go left to follow a fence. Eventually, cross the fence by a stile and turn right, continuing with the stream on your left. Go through a kissing gate, and follow the fence to a stile by the stream. Go up rough steps above the stream and continue along Turnhole Clough.

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**Boulsworth Summit**

As you gain height there are good views of the surrounding area, with Whalley in the distance.

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**THE ROUTE**

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Follow straight on. The path continues through more stiles, becoming a clear grassy way bordered by clumps of reeds.

After about half a mile you will reach a large well-built cairn which is the site of a beacon lit to mark special occasions.

Continue following the wall for about 100 metres then branch right towards a small cairn.

At a gate and sign for the Pendle Way, go round the field to the right to find another sign by a gate.

Follow the track down, through a gate, with a wall on your right. This is the Parish Boundary.

Continue past a cottage and over a stile into the field, keeping the wall on your right.

After about half a mile and about 100 metres after passing Flass House, go right over a wooden stile/gate. Go down the farm track, over cattle grids to meet a road, then turn left.

When you reach the road at Lane Side Farm turn right on to Brogden Lane.

After a gate and sign for the Pendle Way, go round the field to the right to find another sign by a gate.

Follow the sign diagonally across two fields. One more stile leads the way back to Moorgate Road, turn left and then right to Bancroft Mill and recreate your steps to Letcliff Park.

Moody, magnificent and steeped in history, Pendle Hill can be seen for miles around. No visit to the area is complete without following in the footsteps of the famous Pendle Witches of 1612 (a Witches’ Trail Guide is available – see back cover). This walk starts at Barley, a village immersed in the folklore of Pendle Hill. It is a popular circular route which is spectacular but not too strenuous. Barley can be reached via the shopping town of Nelson and the appealing village of Barrowford. From Barrowford take the sign for Roughlee and then follow signs for Barley.

5 MILES (8 KM)
Can take up to four hours.
Off Outdoor Leisure Map 41 Forest of Bowland & Ribblesdale. Off Outdoor Leisure Map 21 South Pennines (double sided).

Barley - There are pubs and tea-shops in Barrowford, Roughlee and Barley.

THE LOCALITY
Pendle Hill rises out of the ancient Forest of Pendle. It is not a wooded forest, but an ancient hunting ground. The area is characterised by windswept moorland, rocky outcrops, deep-sided valleys (cloughs) and rolling fields.

Pendle Hill is surrounded by pretty villages, including the starting point of this walk, Barley, but also the nearby hamlet of Newchurch. At Newchurch, visit St Mary’s Church, the tower of which pre-dates 1612 and carries a unique ‘eye of God’.

The Pendle Witches Trail is fascinating to follow, but it is up on the sometimes eerie Pendle Hill that you understand the word ‘bewitched’.

WALK FOOT FACTS

THE ROUTE
Starting at the car park and picnic site (GR 823403), go out of the main entrance, right over the bridge to the road junction and straight across the road. Follow the sign to Barley Green, with the Village Hall on your left.

Continue along the tarmac Private Road. After passing conifer woodland on your left your route continues straight on alongside Lower Ogden Reservoir. After crossing a stile continue straight on. A variety of woodland and moorland birds, such as curlews, can be seen and heard.