

White Rose Classic 2023 Rider Road Book

Yorkshire's Premier Sportive



Welcome to the White Rose Classic

Contents

- New / changes for 2023
- What you need to know
- Feed Stops
- The Routes
- The Climbs

The White Rose Classic is a road cycling sportive in the heart of the Yorkshire Dales organised entirely by volunteers from Ilkley Cycling Club since 2012.

You get the chance to ride up hill and down dale in some of the most spectacular scenery Britain has to offer. No wonder the Tour de France came here in 2014, and the Tour de Yorkshire become an annual event until 2020. The we had the World Professional Road Racing Championships were held here in September 2019.

Whichever route you have chosen to ride on the day, use this document to prepare for where to park, Sign On, the Routes, the Climbs, the Timing, and, of course, the food to fuel you through the day. Take it all in now so that on the day of the Event you can enjoy yourself!

New / changes for 2023



All routes renamed, These are now 'The Short One', 'The Challenge' & 'The Epic One'
Updated 'Short' route
Amended run in to HQ on the 'Medium' and long routes

Please use the GPX files provided and observe all event route signage.



- For 2023, as per 2022 you do not need to bring a 'Signed' waiver form at sign on. This now part of the T&C's section when entering the event – please re-read the 'event disclaimer' section before attending the event [here](#)
- You still need to provide identification at 'Sign On' to obtain you ride number which will need to be signed for



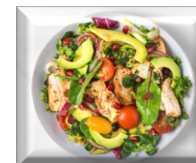
New for 2023, we have moved away from our own in-house timing system and hired a 3rd party provider, Race Best.



At 'Sign On, you will receive your timing chip which needs to be attached to your seat post. Timing is recorded from the moment you cross the start line until you finish your route. There are NO timing splits at the feed stops either, this has also been removed.

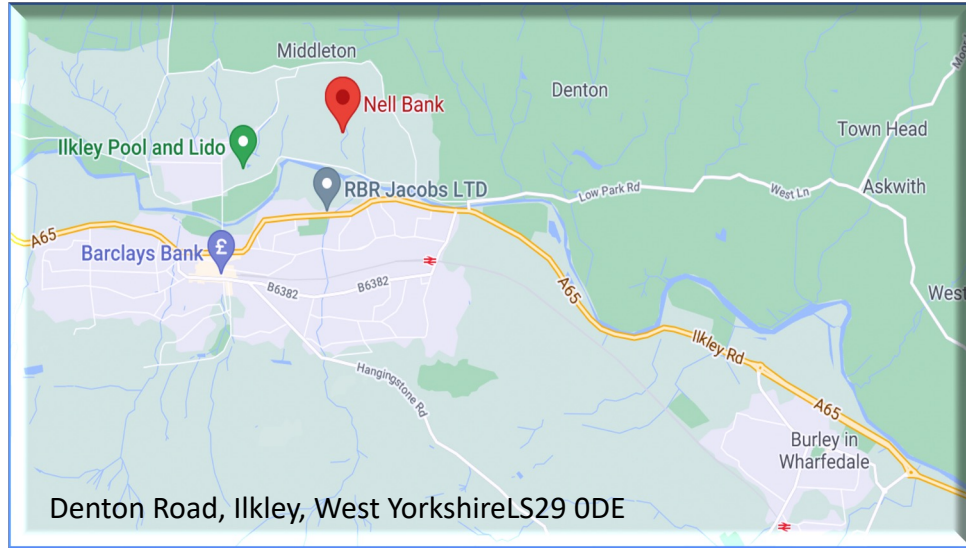


For 2023 The Commute Coffee house will be providing your caffeine fix



For 2023 we will be providing a ticket to obtain your free post ride meal.

Nell Bank HQ - What you need to know.



Nell Bank Site Facilities

- Free car parking – [Event Marshall's will direct you](#)
 - Please obey the car park signage as the event operates a separate carpark entrance and exit – this is for the safety of returning cyclists and you.
 - Riders also exit on to Denton Rd, please be careful and follow the instructions from the Marshalls.
- Toilets & Changing facilities onsite
- Campervans allowed – please contact Nell Bank directly for further details
- Family and Friends are welcome to watch riders finish – **PLEASE NOTE NO DOGS are permitted on the Nell Bank Site.**

HQ is open from: 6.30am until 6:30pm

- If you have not finished by 6:00pm (or, preferably when you know you cannot make it on time), call Event HQ at the number given to you at Sign On.
- Meal service ends at 5:00pm. For late arrivals, we'll do our best to provide a little sustenance for recovery.

Bike Racks

- There are bike racks for your bike when you Sign On and after the event.
- This is an unsecured location, you are responsible for your bike - secure your bike! We have never had trouble during the event, and we would like to keep it that way. Please follow these simple, common-sense rules:
- The same is true at all the feed stations. Don't assume that because others have left their bikes unattended that it is safe to leave your bike.

COVID-19

Whilst there are no official government or local council restrictions to follow, as an event we have an obligation to protect all staff, volunteers and riders. Therefore, please be considerate to others, follow any signage we have to display and follow good hygiene practices whilst at our HQ and Feed stations. ☺



What you need to know – Registration and Event Sign On



Event Timing will be provide by Race Best

- Sign On is open from 06:45am until 08:45
- Epic route riders should have set off by 07:30
- Challenge route riders should have set off by 8.15am
- Those on the short one must have set off by 9.00am

PLEASE abide by these timings as this ensures you have plenty of time to get around your preferred route. Please refer to the routes page on our website for more info: <https://whiteroseclassic.org.uk/routes/>

All riders
must
have left
HQ by
9.00am

You will need to provide identification in order to receive your RIDER PACK (credit card, drivers licence, etc.).

Registrations close at midnight on Thursday 30th June 2022

Other Key Points for Sign On

- Please check your emergency contact details .
- If you have made a last minute decision to change route when signing on, please inform us at sign on and we will update your entry details. If you change routes while on the road, please let us know on your return so we can ensure your time accurately reflects the route you were riding.

No riders
under the
age of 18
allowed

If you abandon the ride, please contact Event HQ using the number provided on the back of the race number for your bike.

What you need to know – Pre Ride Safety & Event Timing

The White Rose Classic is a non-competitive event. If you ride recklessly or endanger others, whether on the road, entering or leaving the feed stops or anywhere else while an Event Participant, you will be asked to drop out of the event.



- **You must** ensure your bike is road safe and in full working order before arriving at the event.
- **You must** be self sufficient on route and be able to fix any minor issues your self, i.e. flat tyres, dropped chains etc.
- **You must** have a hard- shell helmet conforming to CE standard EN1078 to be allowed to start.
- **We do not allow** 'Tri-Bars' – you will not be allowed to ride if you have these on your bike – these present a potential danger to other riders on route.



We will have a bike mechanic at HQ to check over your bike if required to ensure it is ready for the sportive. Any parts required to fix an issue will have to be paid by yourself.

We also place a 2nd mechanic at the 1st feed stop in Grassington. Once the Grassington feed stop closes this mechanic will be around to cover the area in and around Grassington as riders are returning. The mechanic is stood down from around 4pm.

Highway Code

As the event is run on open public roads you must abide by the 'Highway Code' at all times. It is your responsibility to ensure you are fully aware of the recent changes to the highway code for cyclists.



Event Marshal's

A select few locations along the road. They are there for everyone's safety. Please follow their directions. If they want you to slow down or stop, it is for your safety!



What you need to know – Start & Finish Line

Start Line



- Follow the directions to the start line
- Line up in the Start Chute – we will group you in to small groups and release at 2-3 minute intervals
- You will be given a short rider briefing by the Start Marshal.
- **Stay to the left hand side of the lane** until you exit on to Denton Road – riders may be coming on the right hand side to sign on.

Finish Line

- The Start Line will become the finish area after 9:00. Once you cross the finish line you should receive a text message with your time.
 - You must dismount your bike before leaving the finish area for the event village.
 - Walk your bike to the racks or back to your car before going to the finish village area.

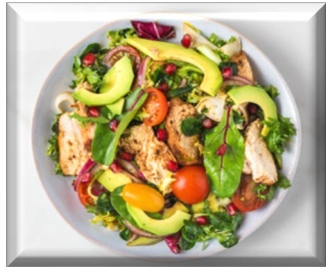
Finish line closes at 18:00, call HQ if you are not there by that time!



What you need to know - HQ Start & Finish refreshments



Start your day the Italian way with cappuccino, flat white, espresso... from **The Commute** who will be on site for you to purchase hot drinks. They also have a selectin of pre ride nibbles



When you've finished you are entitled to an free post-ride meal which is included in your entry fee. Meals will be served from 12:00 until 17:00, featuring freshly made dishes from Country Kitchen catering. Just provide your name and ride no for a meal.

**Drinks are not included in the free meal but can be purchased.*



Yorkshire Dales ice cream van will be in HQ for Riders and Family/Friends to purchase ice creams etc. in the finishes village.



Ilkley Brewery will be in the post ride village for you to purchase a post rider acholic beverage, riders are entitled to a discount on their first purchase.

What you need to know – Ride Safety



Dibbles Bridge

- The White Rose Classic is run on public highways. Riders must follow the Highway Code. Please be courteous and patient with other road users. These are roads that are shared by cyclists, drivers, horses and others year around. We want to make a good impression.
- There will be first-aid response vehicles on the road, provided by a professional service. The vehicles will be moving as the event progresses. If you need medical assistance whilst on the route, then call the Emergency Number listed provided prior on at Sign On, and we will contact the nearest available response vehicle to attend as soon as possible.
- If you abandon the ride in the middle, you **MUST** contact event headquarters to let us know on the emergency number provided at Sign On.
- **If the situation is a serious medical emergency**, you, or someone you are with, should **call 999 first**. If you are in an area with no mobile signal, please flag down another Event rider and ask them to call as soon as they get to a place with a signal, noting your location.

One special mention goes to an **unexpectedly dangerous point** at approximately mile 27 for all riders: the route on the B6265 jogs sharply right over **Dibbles Bridge** after a very fast downhill and exactly where the road drops in a 10%+ gradient. There will be a marshal waving a flag above this point. Please scrub your speed as soon as you can see the bridge or marshal. It comes up much faster than you think. This is the exact location of the tragic 1975 [Dibbles Bridge Coach Crash](#), still considered, “the worst-ever road accident in the United Kingdom.” More recently, they were two fatal accidents when local cyclists failed to negotiate the corner (not on the White Rose Classic).

- Be sensible about the clothing you bring. Some of the climbs approach an altitude of 2000 feet and are very exposed to strong winds and rain. Remember, in Yorkshire you can experience two, and sometimes three, seasons in a single day!

- Please ensure you have cash with you, debit/credit card etc in case you need to pay for something in an emergency, i.e. pay for mechanical services.

What you need to know – Other Points



The entire route is carefully signed, our goal is to make it easy for anyone to follow the route, even without a GPS.

- There are signs at main intersections, as well as intermediate signs to help reassure you are on the right track
- Pay particular attention to the signs where the routes splits – there are new ones this year:
- After the Grassington feed station, the Short Route turns left onto the B6160, while the Medium and Long Routes turn right immediately after. This is a busy junction. Proceed carefully, particularly if you are turning right.
- After Kilnsey, the Long Route bears right, staying on the main road (B6160), while the Medium Route leaves the B6160 bearing left.

[GPX files are available for all 3 Routes in the routes section on the next few pages of this guide.](#)

You are responsible for the condition of your bike and for simple repairs out on the road, such as fixing punctures. Please bring with you a couple spare tubes, a pump, and a multitool. Even if you don't know how to use them, you are likely to find someone who can.



- Our local shop, [Wheelbase Yorkshire](#), will be set up with a gazebo at event HQ, there are they if you would like your bike checking over to ensure it is ok to ride the route.

- We will also have a bike mechanic based at the Grassington Feed stop.



“There are also local bike shops in Hawes and Settle if you need any spare parts”

For 2023 we are aiming to provide a ‘SAG wagon’ but if we can not you will need to make your way home via the nearest village or town. There is train service that covers part of the Settle Medium and Hawes Long Routes. See your rider pack for more details

Feed Stops



Grassington Feed Stop

Open 08:00-13:00

The Grassington Feed Stop is at ['Wharfedale Rugby Club'](#) on the edge of Grassington with Thresfield.

- All routes stop here: Mile 29

For separate purchase, we will have an local independent coffee stall set up for those looking for a proper jolt of coffee and various cold drinks and snacks.

Toilets are available around the side of the Rugby Club. Please use the toilets – not the walls or bushes in the car park.

They'll be a selection of pre made sandwiches, pastries, Fruit loafs, Bananas and Haribo's along with fresh water, energy gels and bars.

Hawes Creamery

Open 09:00-13:30

We are hosted in Hawes by the famed [Wensleydale Creamery](#). This is a popular place, so please keep your bikes out of the way of cars and others in the area

This is a “lite” feed station with energy drinks, gels, fruit, sweets etc.

Toilets are available in building next to the feed station.

Long Route only: mile 52

Settle Feed Stop

Open 10:00-15:30

Outside the [Settle Area Swimming Pool](#) on the B6480

Port-a-loos are available at the feed station.

They'll be a selection of pre made sandwiches, pastries, Fruit loafs, Bananas and Haribo's along with fresh water, energy gels and bars.

Medium Route: mile 53 and Long Route: mile 89

Route Details



Key Route Changes

Route – The short One

We have updated this route for 2023 to hopefully to make it a more enjoyable ride whilst still testing those that want a shorter route. In 2022 we remove the final climb, Langbar and for 2023 the following has changed:

- Removal of the Norwood Edge Climb.
- Removal of the descent down Dibbles bridge – see page 10
- Removal of the Westend & Hoodstorth ascents
- Added in the Ascent of Askwith / Moor Lane – this comes much sooner after leaving HQ, (3 miles) so have your climbing legs ready
- Added in the descent of Skyreholme, more technical than Dibbles bridge and runs along side Dibbles bridge taking you out rightwards before you swing back round towards Grassington
- The route then takes you through Appletreewick and the backroad via Burnsall – be sure to have a glance to your left and look down on Burnsall.
- The final change is when leaving the 1st feed stop, we will now take you back to HQ via Cracoe, into Thorpe which is the medium and long routes way back to HQ.

Please pay attention to the Route Spilt Signage

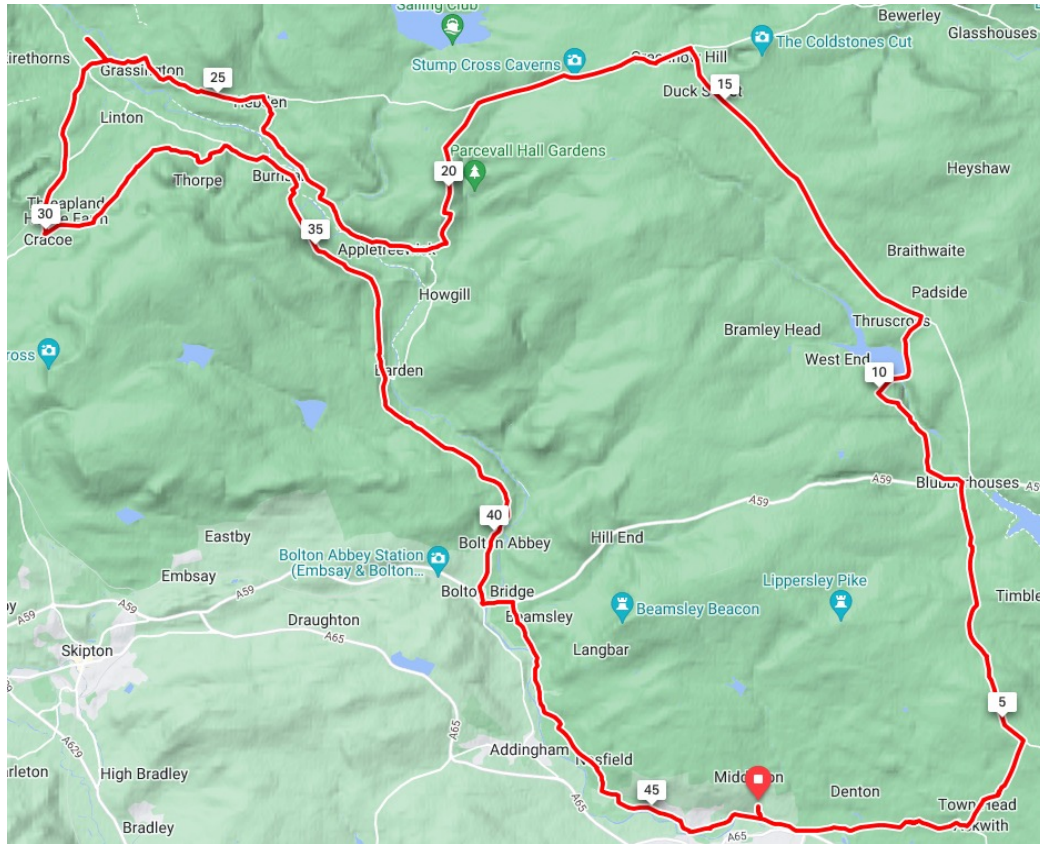
Route – ‘The Challenge’ & ‘The Epic One’

Once you have ascended the final climb of the day, Langbar, you will now do the full decent of Langbar road. This avoids the decent through the residential area the ‘Curly Hill decent runs through, which creates extra hazards of reversing / parked cars pulling out on riders.

- The full decent down Langbar in to Ilkley is a fast and technical decent with 2 sets of S-bends, the decent will be signed but you must take care down this decent.

[GPX files are available for all 3 routes in the routes section on the next few pages of this guide.](#)

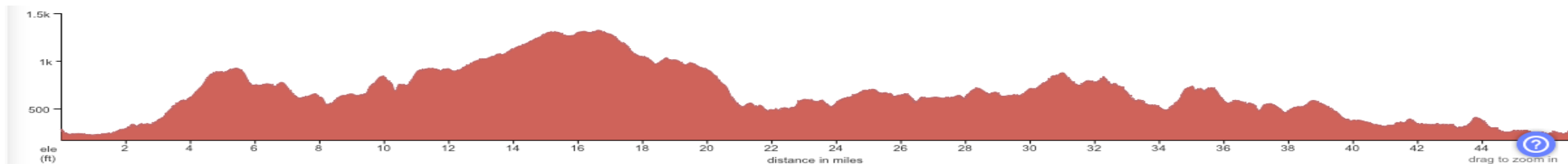
Short Route



The White Rose Short Route is perfect for those taking on a first sportive challenge who want to see why so many cyclists are drawn to Yorkshire.

At 46.9 miles it is plenty long enough to get a feel for the beauty - and challenges - of the area. Whilst the route has been updated for 2023 it is still a lumpy ride with some steep “bumps” along the way, before a well-earned rest at the [Grassington feed stop](#).

RIDE WITH GPS – [The Short One](#)



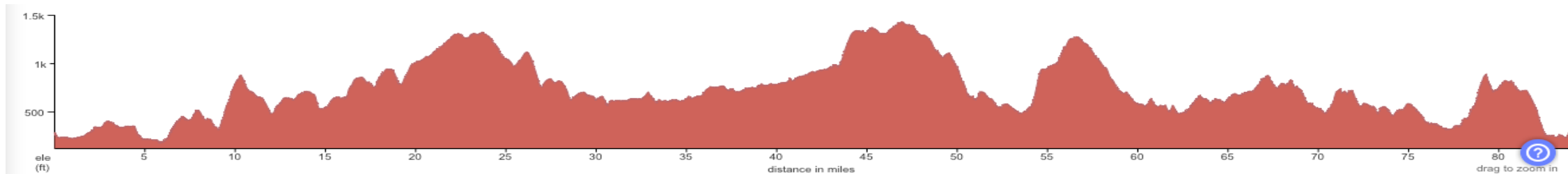
Medium Route

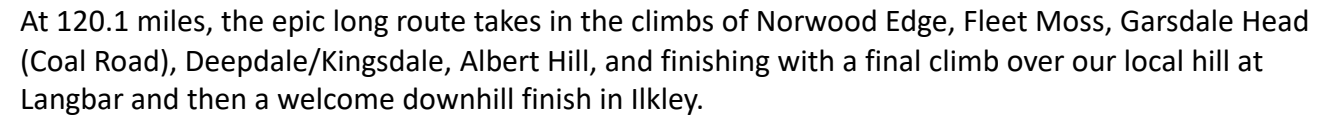


At 83.9 miles, you will ride into the heart of the Yorkshire Dales, starting up Norwood Edge, over Greenhow to the [first feed stop in Grassington](#). From Kilnsey in Wharfedale the Route ventures into remote Littondale and Silverdale, past Pen-Y-Ghent, before dropping into the ancient Ribblesdale market town of Settle and the [final feed stop at Settle Swimming Pool](#).

From Settle you tackle the steepest climb of the day, Albert Hill, before sweeping back down to revisit the Grassington feed stop. The route then heads down the Wharfe Valley to the final climb up Langbar and a welcome downhill finish in Ilkley.

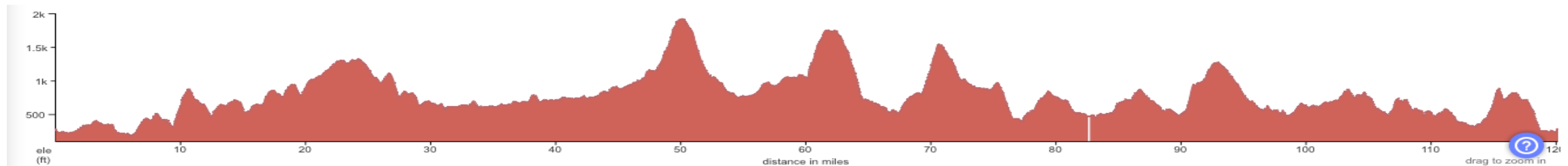
RIDE WITH GPS – [The Challenge](#)





3 feed stops, Grassington Rugby Club, Hawes Creamery & Settle Swimming Pool

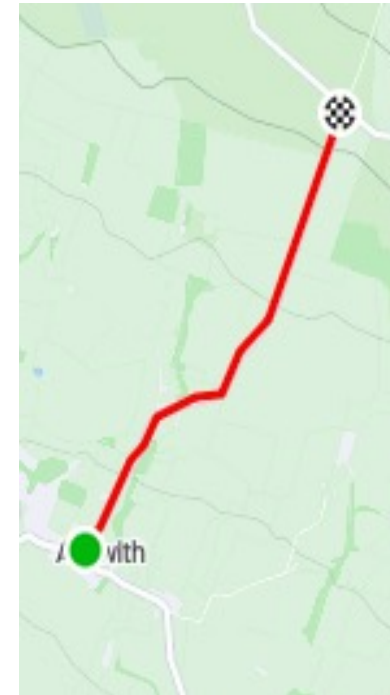
RIDE WITH GPS – [The Epic One](#)



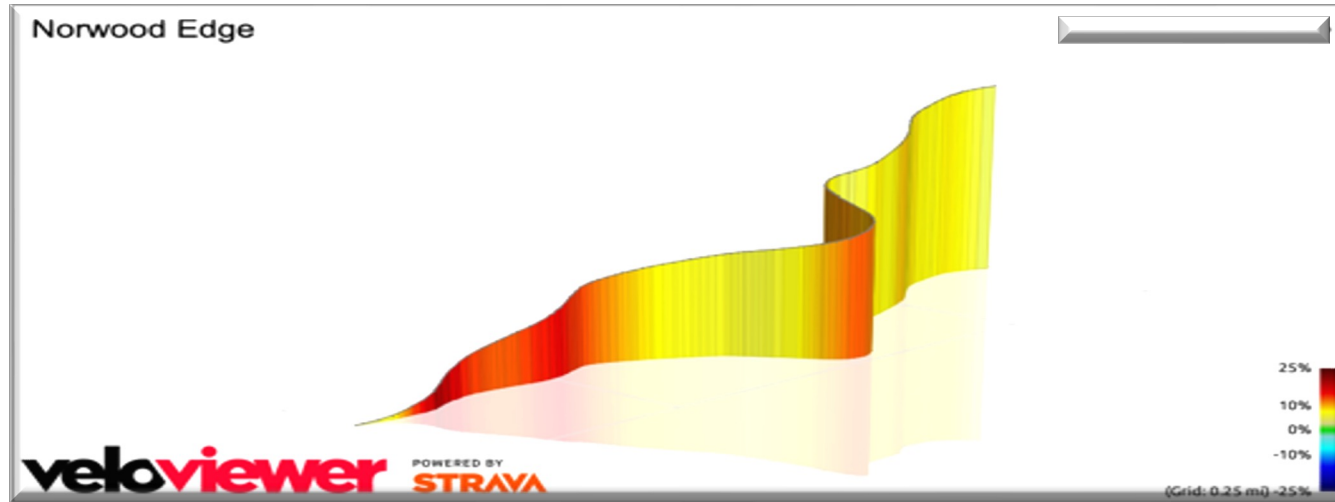
Askwith Lane / Moor Lane Climb



- 'Short Route Only': mile 3.1, kilometre 5
- First climb of the day for this route
- 1.33 miles, 1.9km, average 6.5%, Elevation gain 456ft, ascent 688ft (Strava Cat 4 climb)

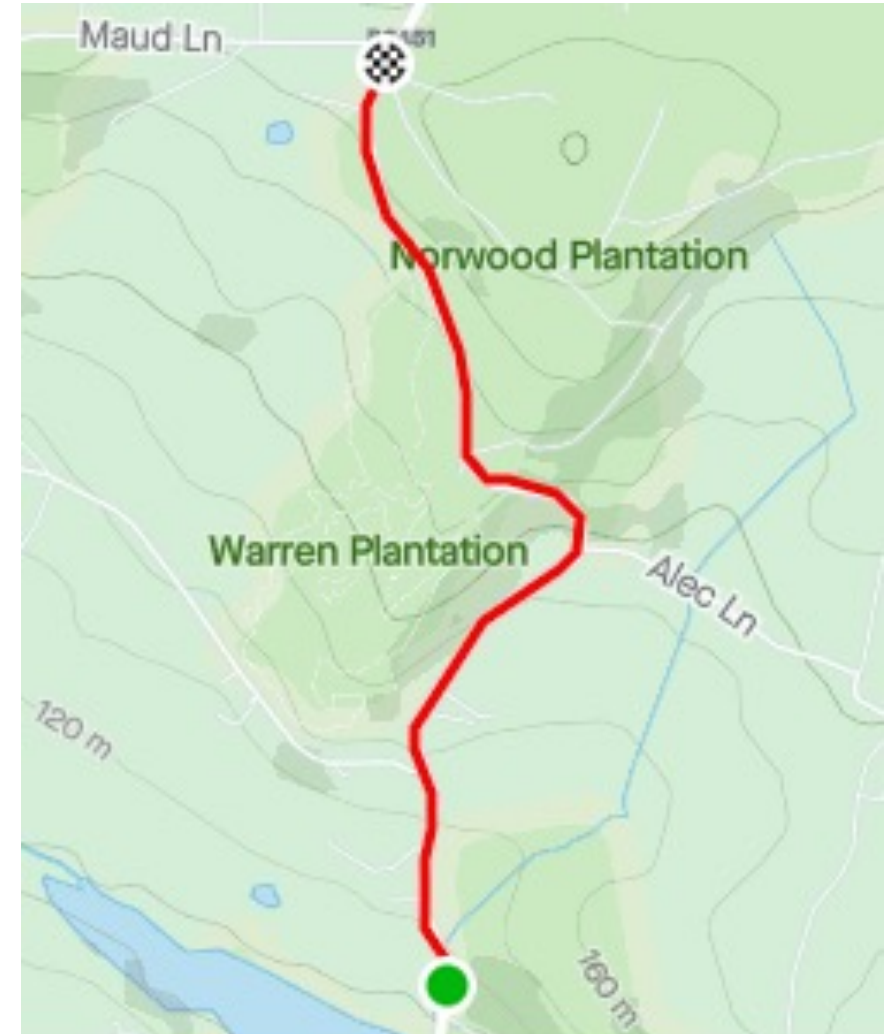


Norwood Edge Climb

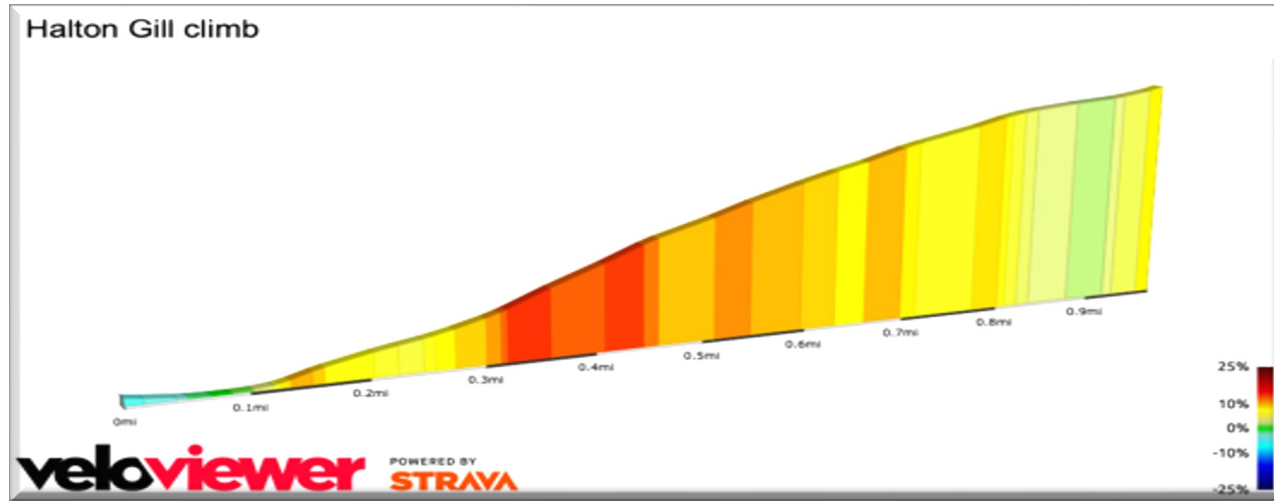


- 'Challenge' & 'Epic' routes: mile 9.5, kilometre 15
- First major climb of the day is Norwood Edge, or, as locals would have it, "Nor'd Edge."
- 1.2m 1.9km, average 9%, max 16%, ascent 551 ft 168m, Strava Cat 3
- #53 on Simon Warren's list of the 100 Greatest Climbs, rating 5/10.
- This climb comes less than 10 miles into the ride. Don't blow yourself up when you tackle it. It's a relatively steady climb, so take it that way, and leave plenty in the tank for what is to come later in the day!

[Strava - White Rose Classic Segment - Norwood Edge](#)



Silverdale / Halton Gill Climb

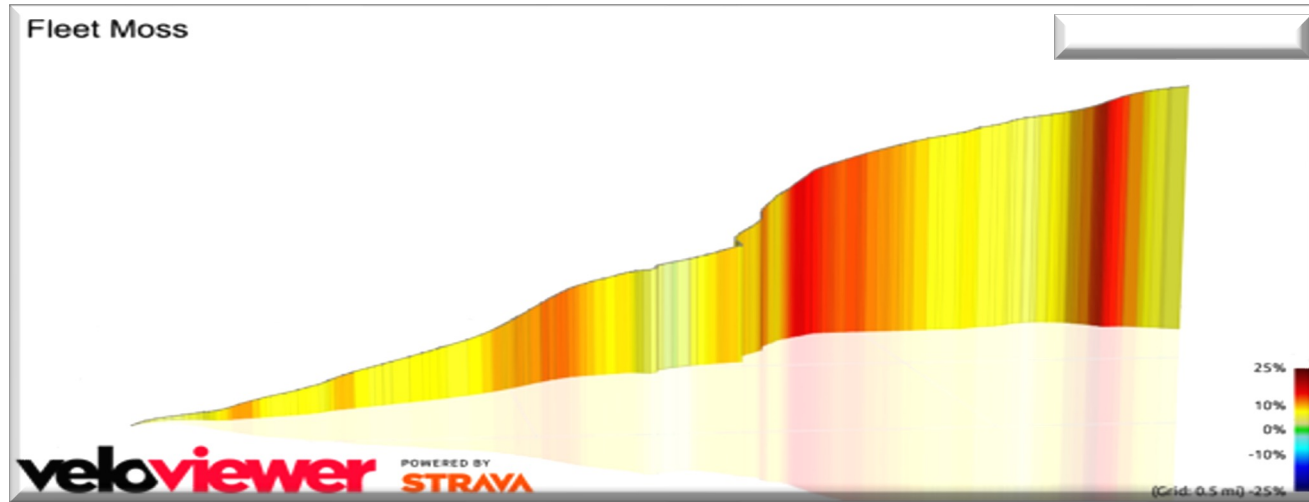


- Medium Route: mile 42, kilometre 68
- One of the prettiest climbs in all of Yorkshire. You can imagine yourself in a very remote part of the world, with Pen-Y-Ghent, one of the famous Yorkshire 3 Peaks looming on the right.
- 3.6m 5.9km, average 2%, Max 12%, ascent 467ft/142m
- This climb is mostly front- loaded. Although it feels like it goes on forever, after the first mile you have done the bulk of the climbing and you can start to enjoy the rare solitude.
- The descent into Stainforth that follows requires **caution**. It is steep and very fast

[Strava - White Rose Classic Segment - Halton Gill](#)



Fleet Moss Climb

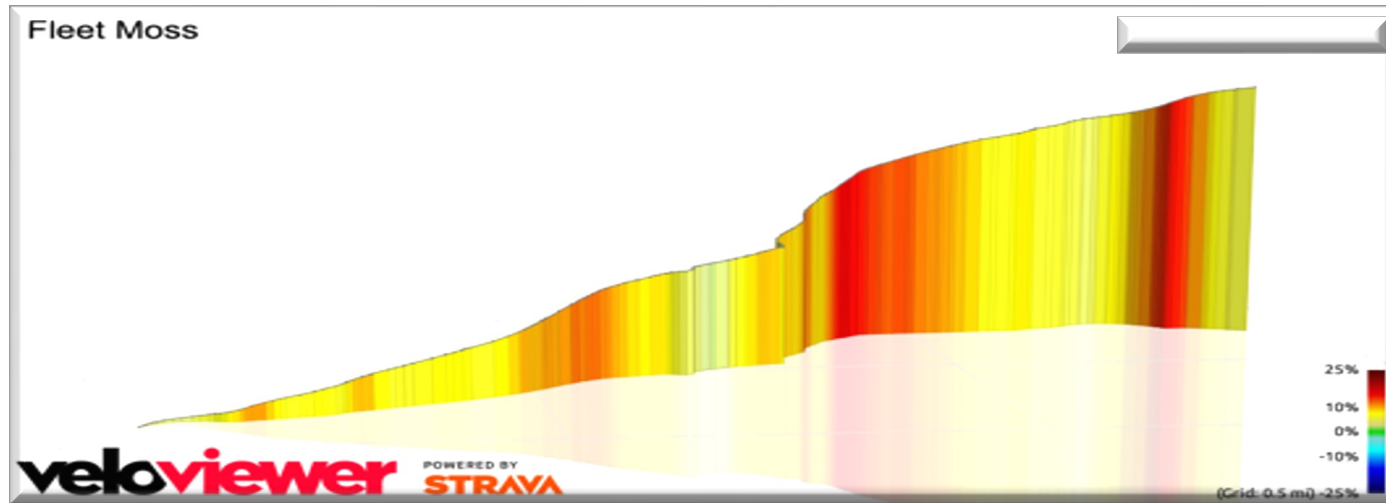


- Long Route: mile 46 kilometre
- This is one of the iconic climbs of the Yorkshire Dales. Although the Strava segment starts at the hamlet of Oughtershaw, you have been climbing steadily for over 10 miles, “starting” the climb at an altitude of over 1100 feet.
- 2.1m 3.5km, average 7%, max 18%, ascent 771ft/235m, Strava Cat 3.
- #50 on Simon Warren’s list of the 100 Greatest Climbs, rating 9/10
- As you near the top, there are some steep ramps of nearly 20%, and if the wind is blowing, hold on tightly as you are very exposed at an altitude of almost 2000ft/600m.

[Strava - White Rose Classic Segment - Fleet Moss](#)



Coal Road Climb



- Long Route: mile 59 kilometre 95
- Sounds kind of tame, eh? Don't be fooled, this is one of the toughest of the day. It is also remote & exposed. If the wind is blowing or there is rain, button up before the ascent. — 1.6m/2.7km, average 8%, max 20%+, ascent 715ft/218m, Strava Cat 3
- #73 on Simon Warren's list of the 100 Greatest Climbs, rating 7/10
- The Coal Road has some cruel pitches at the bottom that are over 20% and it has a summit that somehow keeps moving away as you approach. Take your time, because even from the top of this brute, you still have 50 miles to ride!
- There is a **special caution** on the descent from the Coal Road. It gets very steep, with hairpin bends just as you drop into the road in Dentdale. **Scrub your speed as soon as you see the trees along the road.**

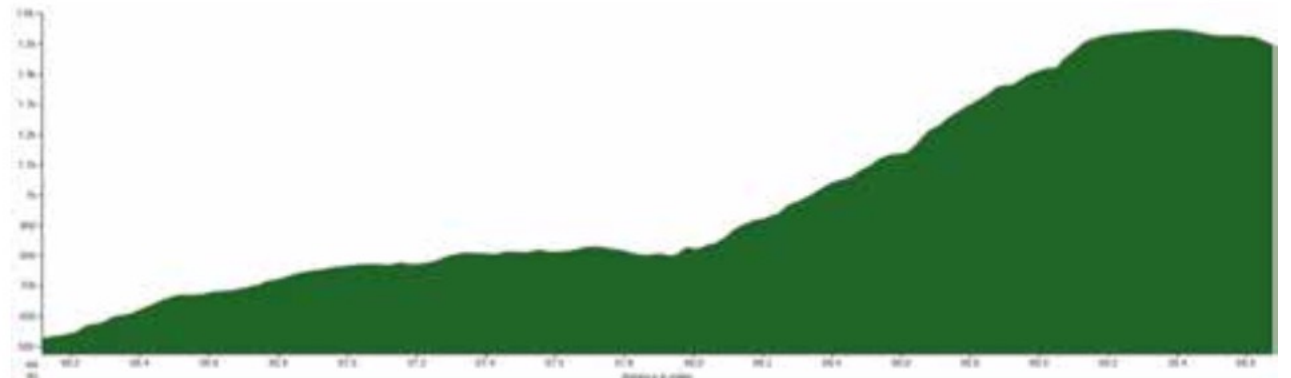


[Strava - White Rose Classic Segment - Coal Road](#)

Deepdale / Kingsdale Climb



- Long Route: mile 66, kilometre 106
- As per the 2019 route, **turn right instead of left** at the bottom of Coal Road. You have 3 miles down secluded Dentedale until you turn up a very quiet road for some serious work.
- There are 4 gates on this road. [This will not be marshalled at the gate, so please leave it as you found it, open or closed.](#)
- 2.9m/4.6km, average 6%, max >20%, ascent 930ft/280m.
- Depending, of course, on the wind and how clear it is, the descent through Kingsdale down to Ingleton is one of the finest in Britain. You can save a lot of energy here letting gravity whisk you down to the valley, with only a few turns requiring brakes to check your speed.



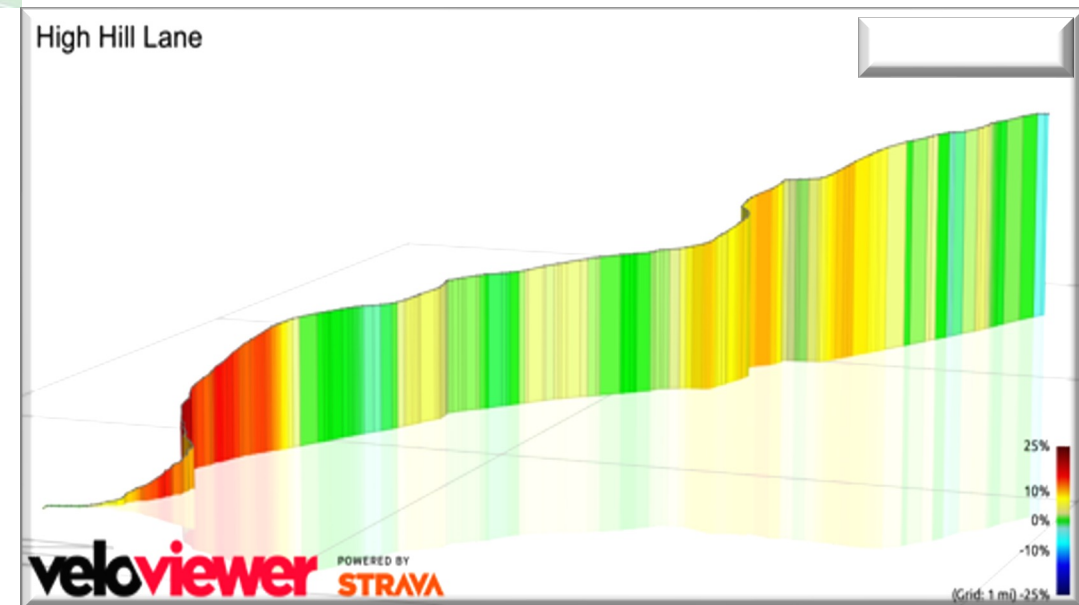
Albert Hill Climb



- Medium Route: mile 53.5, kilometre 86
- Long Route: mile 89, kilometre 143
- This is a tough climb, with a long section of 20% and more, on the appropriately named, High Hill Lane. It is a classic Yorkshire climb, with one false summit after another.

- 2.3m 3.75km, average 6%, max 20%+, ascent 712ft 217m, Strava Cat 3.
- This is the one that you have been saving your energy for! Keep a little in the tank for a glorious descent before the final climb before the finish back in Ilkley.
- The road is quite narrow in places, so between cars and riders weaving up the road, you may need a little patience to stay safe.

[Strava - White Rose Classic Segment - Albert Hill](#)



Langbar – The Final Climb



- Medium Route: mile 79, kilometre 127
- Long Route: mile 114.5, kilometre 184
- The last climb of the day! It is shared across all routes, and is an Ilkley Cycling Club favourite for bragging rights at t'pub.

- 1.3m 2.1km, average 7%, max 16%, ascent 494ft 151m, Strava Cat 4
- Don't be fooled by the average here.
- Langbar has a couple of extended 15%+ sections... and it is at the end of the day. Save a little for for this one, but savour the top, as it is (mostly) downhill from here!

[Strava - White Rose Classic Segment - Proper Langbar](#)

