

[The Jolly Wensley' Ale Bike Trail](#)

- Follow the footpath at the bottom of the C&M Club site, across the railway track and along the path until you come out at the main A684 road (0.3 miles).
- Turn left onto the A684 (past the Pheasant Inn) and follow this main road (2.1 miles) until you reach: -

Constable Burton – On the right-hand side as you enter the village you see *The Wyvill Arms*, on your right, a former 18th century farmhouse, now a well-established pub, hotel and restaurant offering dishes made with local Wensleydale produce.



Opposite the pub is the Constable Burton Hall Caravan Park. Further into the village, a tree-lined stream meanders down from Barden Moor. There is a high wall along the road. Interestingly, behind those walls stands one of the best examples of a Palladian-style stately home the UK has to offer, used extensively as a backdrop in both film and the printed press.

Built by the Wyvill family in the mid-1700s, the gardens are open to the public during the summer months. However, what can be seen today is only the most modern version of a stately home which actually dates back to the early 1600s; the original was demolished by mistake due to a misunderstanding between York architect John Carr and Sir Marmaduke Wyvill!

Carr was retained to correct the error – and the house which still stands today is testament to his efforts to please and atone for his error.

- From the Wyvill Arms, re-join the A684 for a further 0.3 miles, turn right onto Mill Lane and follow the road uphill (1.2 miles) until you reach a junction.
- Turn left onto West Moor Lane/Regional Route 71 for a nice downhill stretch of (0.9 miles) into Finghall.

Finghall – As you arrive in Finghall you reach *The Queen's Head* on your left. This pub dates from the 1700's, to which the original oak beams bear testimony. The dining room at the Queen's Head overlooks "Wild Wood" said to have inspired the author Kenneth Grahame to write the "Wind in the Willows".

The Finghall Barrel Push and village fete take place at the beginning of June.



- Re-join the main road from the Queen's Head pub (heading back the way you came in), taking the left turn & following the road up to No Man's Moor Lane/Regional Route 71 (0.6 miles)
- Turn right onto No Man's Moor Lane/Regional Route 71 (0.3 miles)
- Turn left (2.6 miles)
- Pass St. Simon and St. Jude Roman Catholic Church with its distinctive tower on the right
- Turn left and cross Ulshaw Bridge with its three arches spanning the River Ure, and arrive at

The Cover Bridge Inn a characterful old coaching inn that has been welcoming travellers for hundreds of years. Formerly called the Forrester's Arms and previously the Masons Arms, is situated alongside the River Cover, a few hundred yards upstream from the confluence with the River Ure. Although there may have been an older house on, or near the present site, the central 'T' shaped part of the inn was probably built around 1670, when there was much development in the area to cater for the increasing trade on the Drover's route up Coverdale (1695). The bar has changed little over the years, with heavy open beams, wooden settles and a roaring log fires. This is the place to enjoy well-kept ales. It was a great day so we took a seat in the rear beer garden down beside the River Cover.



- Out of the pub, turn right and join the A6108, crossing over the bridge and cycling the gradual incline of the long straight road (0.7 miles) up into East Witton.

East Witton a village lying at the edge of Jervaulx Abbey park with Coverdale to the immediate west. Here you will find *The Blue Lion Inn & Restaurant* an 18th century coaching inn, renowned for its high standards and culinary awards. East Witton Church is the resting place of TV and Radio personality Richard Whiteley.



- Re-trace the trail back down the A6108, turn right at the Cover Bridge Inn and head back over the Ulshaw Bridge.

- This time go straight on after passing over Ulshaw Bridge, heading towards Spennithorne. In the distance, you can see Middleham Castle on the left.
- Follow the road up to Wood Lane, turn left onto Wood Lane and follow this road to The Old Horn Inn, Spennithorne on your left

(2.1 miles)

Spennithorne – Spennithorne is a village has distinctive properties with high walled gardens, well worth a peek should the opportunity arise. The village is overlooked by the tower of St. Michael's Church. *The Old Horn Inn* is an interesting country pub in a small village, still retaining several drinking rooms, with a small restaurant area. We ate here as we didn't have too far back to site afterwards in the dark.



- When you leave The Old Horn Inn re-join the road and follow it uphill.
- Pass St Michael's Church on your right and take the second left turning (0.3 miles)
- Follow this road right up Harmby Bank into the village, where you will see the Pheasant Inn opposite (0.8 miles). This final stretch is mostly a walk uphill but burns off the calories!

Harmby is a village with a small waterfall which can be accessed by footpath from the main road, (you pass the sign on the right, near the top of Harmby Bank. It's one of the areas hidden gems. *The Pheasant Inn* at the top of the road completes this trail.



- Re-trace the route from Harmby back to site (0.3 miles).

Total = 12.5 miles.