

The Really Big Cycle Guide WEST

Todmorden



Todmorden is home to Stoodley Pike monument, and has some of the best mountain bike terrain in Yorkshire with miles of bridleway networks. Explore the independent shops & cafes, thriving markets and amazing architecture.

The life sized statue, installed next to the Memorial Gardens, has gained a wide-spread reputation for bringing good luck to anybody that gives it a friendly pat.

Just outside the town centre is Centre Vale Park, where you can enjoy crazy golf, tennis, bowling and events throughout the year. You'll also find The Lucky Dog, as made famous by Derren Brown in his channel 4 TV show 'The Experiments'.

- 3 Lucky Dog at Centre Vale Park



Hebden Bridge



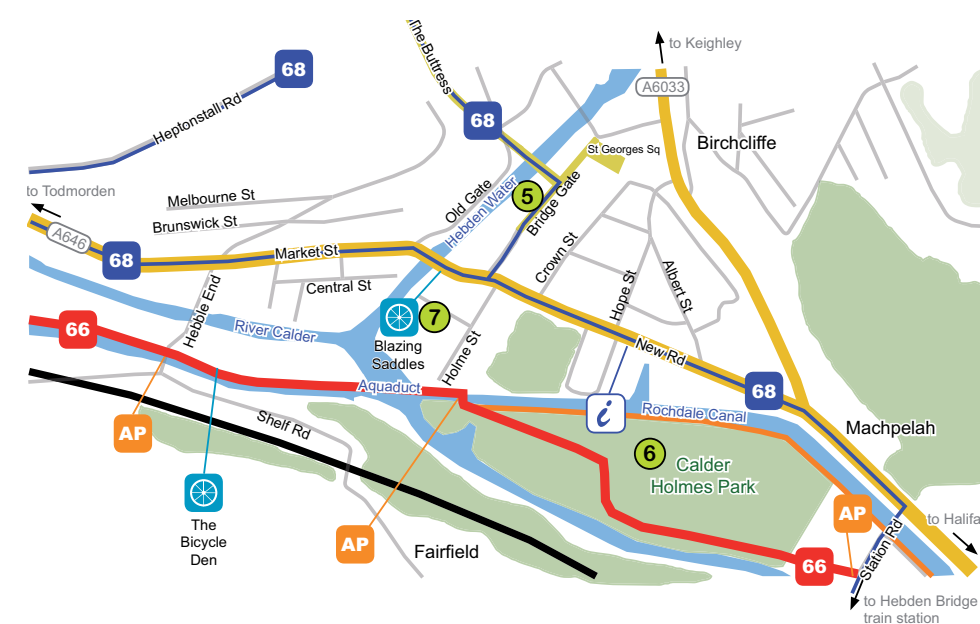
Hebden Bridge, voted as the "fourth funkier town in the world" and "the greatest town in Europe" is full of great independent shops, many of which showcase the work of local artists.

On the outskirts of the town, a favourite stop for cyclists is Stubbing Wharf Pub situated on the banks of the canal. In the town there are plenty of cafes to fuel up with coffee and cake. Coffee Cali is cycling friendly with lots of bike racks to the rear and there's even one smack in the middle of Calder

Holmes Park, which sits between the Rochdale Canal and the River Calder.

Blazing Saddles bike shop offers free bike lock hire too for that much needed pit stop.

- 4 Stubbing Wharf Pub
- 5 Coffee Cali
- 6 Calder Holmes Park
- 7 Blazing Saddles bike shop



Mytholmroyd



Lair of 18th century counterfeiting gang the 'Cragg Vale Coiners', birthplace of the late Poet Laureate Ted Hughes; Mytholmroyd is home to the World Dock Pudding Championships.

The steep and winding Cragg Road, the longest continuous incline in England, leads from Mytholmroyd, winding its way up to beautiful heather-clad moorland 1,000 feet above. The Dusty Miller pub by the side of the canal offers a warm welcome and good food.

Also on the canalside you can read one of the many interpretation boards that tell the amazing history of the canal. Close by is the sculpture of a crow, commemorating the work of poet Laureate Ted Hughes. Newly opened Craggies Café at Cragg Vale Business park offers a welcome cycle friendly pit stop for those attempting Cragg Vale.

- 8 Ted's House
- 9 Cragg Vale Incline



MODESTLY MAGNIFICENT

Sowerby Bridge



The Rochdale Canal and Calder & Hebble Navigation meet at Sowerby Bridge and the Wharf area is the heart of the town's great food and drink offer, with the Moorings Pub & Kitchen, Temujin Mongolian stir fry and Gabriel's Coffee Lounge.

Visit Tuel Lane Lock, the deepest in the country, and the adjacent Sowerby Bridge Market.

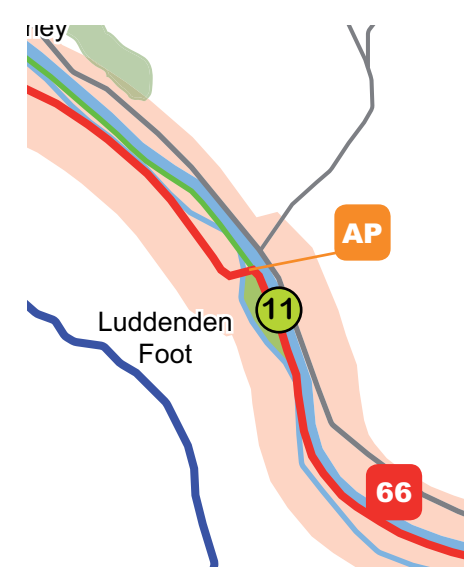
- 12 Sowerby Bridge Wharf



Luddendenfoot

Luddendenfoot may only be small but there's more sculpture and interpretation boards by the canal-side Holmes Park, a couple of pubs and a restaurant. The village of Luddenden on the millstone grit flanks of the valley above has been a conservation area since 1973 and offers some great views.

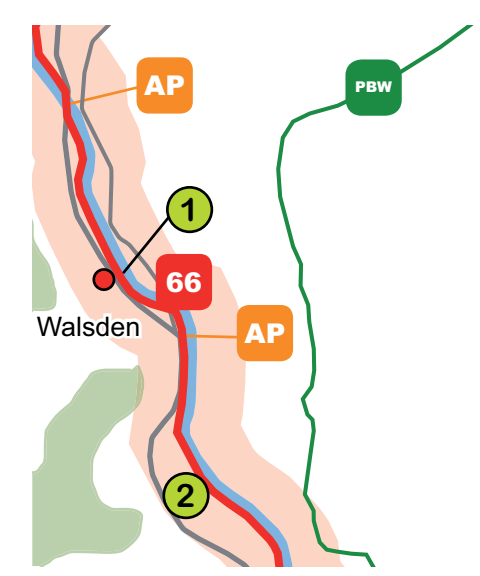
- 10 Jerusalem Farm Local Nature Reserve & camp site
- 11 Holmes Park



Walsden

Famed for the Summit Tunnel and the highest canal lock in the country, Walsden is home to the ever-popular Grandma Pollard's Chippy "frying tonight" for over 50 years! (Not open at the weekends) and the impressive Gordon Rigg Garden Centre, with everything from plants and greenery to crafts, home furnishings and a café.

- 1 Grandma Pollards Chippy
- 2 Gordon Riggs



Cragg Vale Coiners



The tranquility of Mytholmroyd belies a murky past involving an 18th century counterfeiting gang, the 'Cragg Vale Coiners'. This gang's activities were said to be so damaging that they threatened to wreck Britain's currency.

'King' David Hartley and his men used ironworking as a cover to clip the edges from gold coins, milling the edges back so the change was unnoticeable, and making counterfeit coins from the shavings whilst returning the clipped coins into circulation.

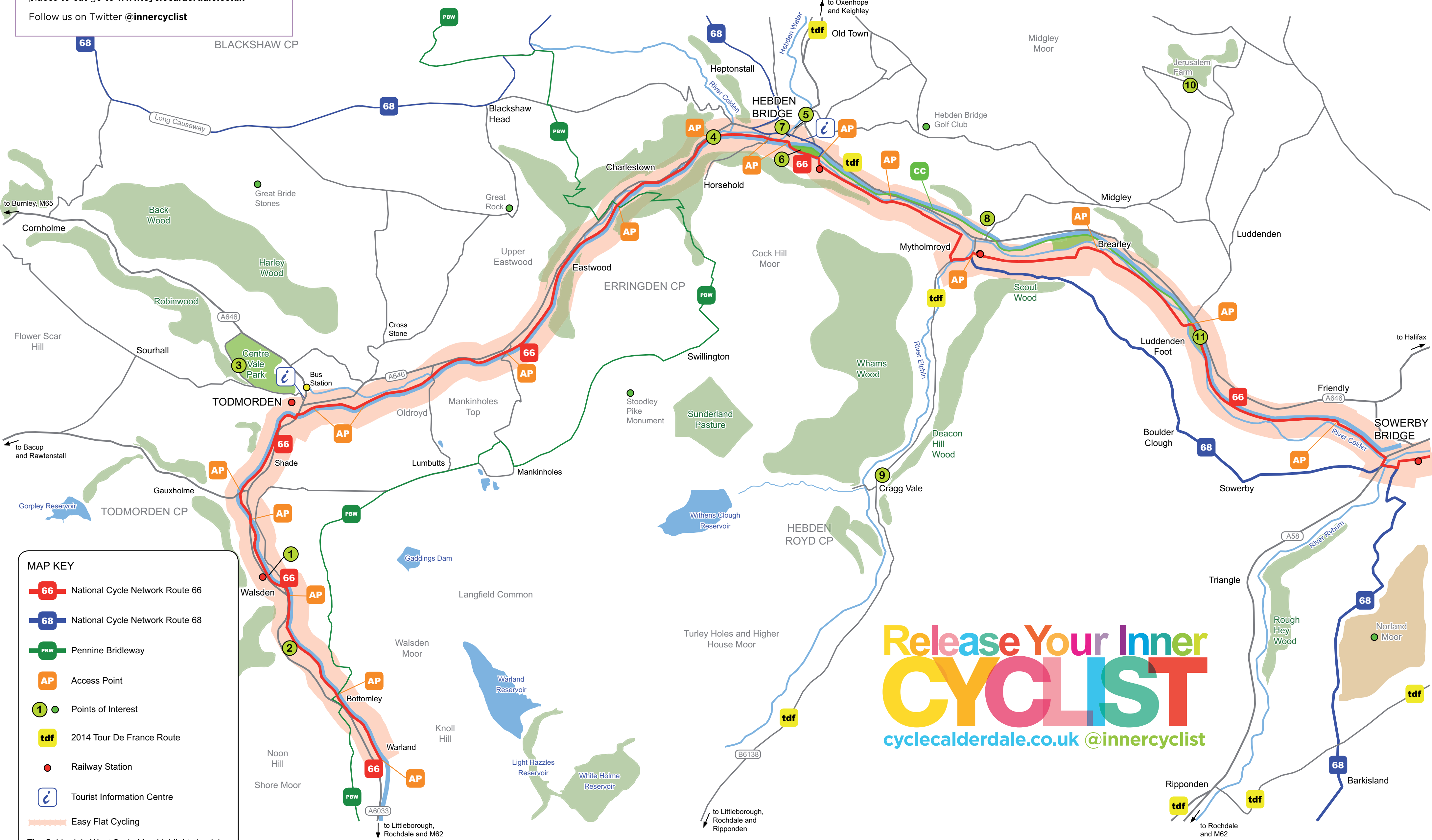
Rumours of the gang's activities reached the authorities, who sent an excise man named William Deighton to investigate. Deighton was murdered and the subsequent reward offered for information led to the arrest of over 30 people, including 'King David' Hartley, who was sentenced to death and on April 28th 1770.



CALDERDALE WEST

For more cycling routes and cycling events or information on accommodation, attractions and places to eat go to www.cyclecalderdale.co.uk

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MAP KEY

- National Cycle Network Route 66
- National Cycle Network Route 68
- Pennine Bridleway
- Access Point
- Points of Interest
- 2014 Tour De France Route
- Railway Station
- Tourist Information Centre
- Easy Flat Cycling

The Calderdale West Cycle Map highlights in pink the areas that offer easy flat cycling. All other routes and roads outside this area should be considered hard or very hard due to the steep sided valleys of Calderdale.

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