

# Introducing... The Yorkshire Dales

The Yorkshire Dales is a varied and beautiful area stretching from the M6 in the West to the A1M in the East, covering approximately 1,500 square miles. Within the core of this area is The Yorkshire Dales National Park, which was specifically created in 1954 to help protect the landscape and way-of-life in the Dales for future generations to enjoy.

To the east is Nidderdale Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty with its windswept moorlands and tranquil meadowlands – offering the visitor to the Yorkshire Dales a choice of nationally important landscapes to explore.

The Yorkshire Dales are a delightful blend of stunning natural beauty, traditional experiences, fascinating sites and endless ways to pass a memorable holiday. If you are looking for a day excursion or a long-distance tour, the Yorkshire Dales offers breathtaking scenery where rich heritage lies around every corner. It is a place of festivals, pageantry, colourful local markets and a dazzling array of craft shops. Whatever your interests or age, you will find it a unique place to explore, discovering secrets and treasures for years of happy memories.

Travelling around the Dales by coach or minibus allows passengers to relax, unwind and enjoy the scenery of a peaceful and unspoilt environment. By travelling in a group, you are helping to reduce the numbers of vehicles and congestion on the Dales' roads.

The National Park Authority and other local authorities in the area have made available carefully sited and screened facilities for car and coach parking to minimise the impact on the landscape. Please use the coach parks shown on the map so that your vehicle does not cause access problems and congestion for local farm traffic and emergency vehicles. By using the coach parks provided, you will also minimise the visual impact of your parked vehicles on the attractive Yorkshire Dales scenery.

## How can we help you

A wealth of information is available to help you to get the most from your visit to the Yorkshire Dales. Our staff have detailed local knowledge to help you plan your itinerary, including information on local events and accommodation.

**AYSGARTH FALLS NATIONAL PARK CENTRE**  
Aysgarth Falls, Leyburn,  
North Yorkshire DL8 3TH  
Tel: 01969 662910  
Email:  
aysgarth@yorkshiredales.org.uk

**GRASSINGTON NATIONAL PARK CENTRE**  
Hebden Road, Grassington,  
Skipton BD23 5LB  
Tel: 01756 751690  
Email:  
grassington@yorkshiredales.org.uk

**HARROGATE**  
Royal Baths, Crescent Road,  
Harrogate HG1 2RR  
Tel: 01423 537300  
Email:  
tic@harrogate.gov.uk

**HAWES NATIONAL PARK CENTRE**  
(Dales Countryside Museum)  
Station Yard, Hawes,  
North Yorkshire DL8 3NT  
Tel: 01969 666210  
Email:  
hawes@yorkshiredales.org.uk

**HORTON-IN-RIBBLESDALE**  
Pen-y-ghent Café,  
Horton-in-Ribblesdale,  
Settle, North Yorkshire  
BD24 0HE  
Tel: 01729 860333  
Email:  
mail@pen-y-ghentcafe.co.uk

**ILKLEY**  
Station Road, Ilkley,  
LS29 8HB  
Tel: 01943 602319  
Email:  
ilkley.vic@bradford.gov.uk

**INGLETON**  
Community Centre, Ingleton,  
Carnforth, Lancashire  
LA6 3HJ  
Tel: 015242 41049  
Email:  
ingletontic@hotmail.com

**KIRKBY LONSDALE**  
24 Main Street,  
Kirkby Lonsdale,  
Cumbria LA6 2AE  
Tel: 015242 71437  
Email:  
info@lovelhelune.gmail

**KIRKBY STEPHEN**  
Market Street,  
Kirkby Stephen, Cumbria  
CA17 4QN  
Tel: 017683 71199  
Email:  
visit@uecp.org.uk

**LEYBURN**  
Dales Haven Guest House,  
Market Place, Leyburn,  
North Yorkshire DL8 5BB  
Tel: 01969 622317  
Email:  
info@welcometoleyburn.co.uk

**MALHAM NATIONAL PARK CENTRE**  
Malham, Skipton,  
North Yorkshire BD23 4DA  
Tel: 01729 833200  
Email:  
malham@yorkshiredales.org.uk

**PATELEY BRIDGE**  
18 High Street, Pateley Bridge,  
North Yorkshire HG3 5AW  
Tel: 01423 711147  
Email:  
pbtic@harrogate.gov.uk

**REETH NATIONAL PARK CENTRE**  
Hudson House, Reeth,  
Richmond,  
North Yorkshire DL11 6TB  
Tel: 01748 884059  
Email:  
reeth@yorkshiredales.org.uk

**RICHMOND**  
The Old Cinema  
2 Queens Road  
North Yorkshire  
DL10 4DN  
Tel: 01748 850549  
Email:  
hilda@richmondtouristinformation.co.uk

**RIPON**  
Minster Road, Ripon,  
North Yorkshire HG4 1QT  
Tel: 0845 3890178  
Email:  
ripontic@harrogate.gov.uk

**SEDBERGH**  
72 Main Street,  
Sedburgh,  
Cumbria LA10 5AD  
Tel: 015396 20125  
Email:  
tic@sedburgh.org.uk

**SETTLE**  
Town Hall, Cheapside,  
Settle, North Yorkshire  
BD24 9EJ  
Tel: 01729 825192  
Email:  
settle@ybtic.co.uk

**SKIPTON**  
Town Hall, High Street,  
Skipton  
BD23 1AH  
Tel: 01756 792809  
Email:  
skipton@ybtic.co.uk



Above:  
Ribbleshead Viaduct

## Organisers of recreational events

Large-scale events can have a significant impact on the environment and local communities within the Yorkshire Dales.

Sustainable recreational use of the area can be achieved by understanding how the right activities can take place at the right time in the right place. Organisers of recreational events are encouraged to be mindful of this in the planning of any events.

The National Park Authority is also pleased to give further advice and publishes 'A Good Practice Guide' for the organisers of large scale events within the National Park. Tel: **0300 456 0030**. Email [info@yorkshiredales.org.uk](mailto:info@yorkshiredales.org.uk)

For organisers of recreational events in the Three Peaks area, email [threepeaksproject@yorkshiredales.org.uk](mailto:threepeaksproject@yorkshiredales.org.uk) [www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/largescaleevents](http://www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/largescaleevents)

## Educational and school visits

The tremendous variety of education opportunities in the Yorkshire Dales brings huge numbers of groups to the area every year. We ask you to consider at the planning and implementation stages how you can minimise your impact on the environment and local communities.

## Outdoor Activity Providers

There are many opportunities for visitors to participate in more adventurous activities in the Yorkshire Dales such as rock climbing, sailing and caving. For more information on licensed guides in the Yorkshire Dales contact the Adventure Activities Licensing Authority. [www.aala.org.uk](http://www.aala.org.uk)

# Group Organisers' and Coach Drivers' Guide to the Yorkshire Dales



## Planning your visits

For detailed guidelines on planning educational and school visits, please refer to guidance produced by local educational authorities or governing bodies.

- A preparatory visit will assist by checking out background information, accommodation, activities, and study sites.
- Check facilities such as toilets, parking etc for all sites in advance. Try to avoid busy holiday periods and make bookings where necessary.
- Check transport routes to ensure they are suitable for your type of vehicle.
- Remember that most of the land in the Yorkshire Dales is privately owned. Check all rights of way and confirm with land owners that both access and your activity are permissible.
- Thoroughly check safety hazards for all activities. Documented risk assessments are standard practice for many authorities.
- Make sure your party will be suitably dressed, appropriately equipped, and physically fit for the things you expect them to do.
- Prepare for the possibility of poor weather conditions and accidents. Make alternative arrangements well in advance.
- Keep your party to a manageable size and ensure that you have adequate supervision.



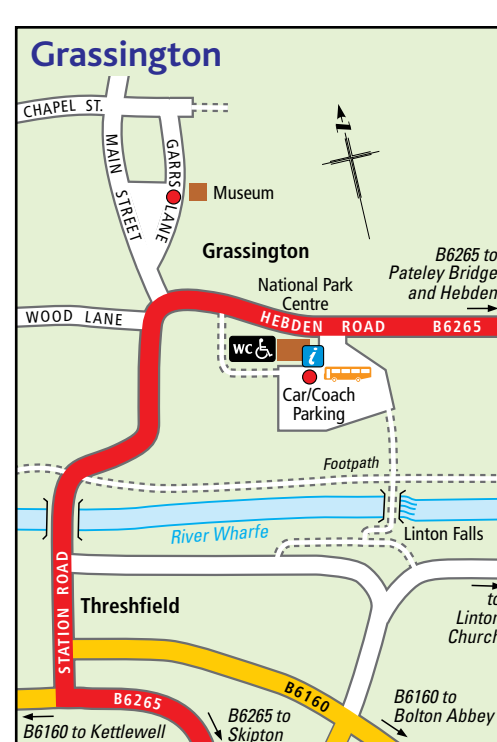
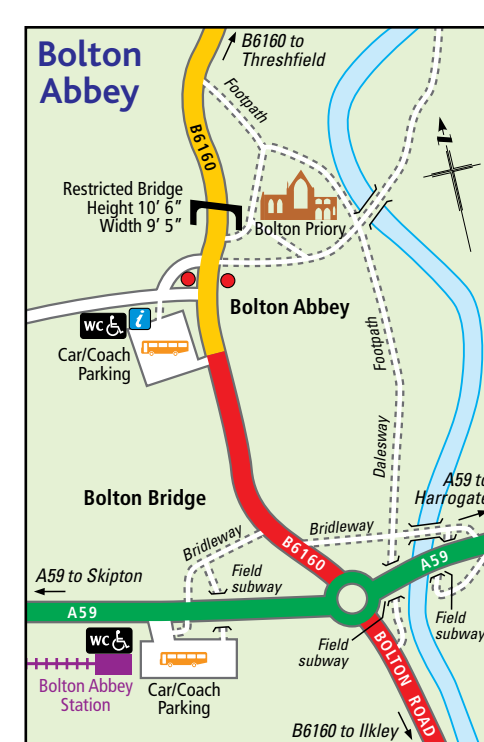
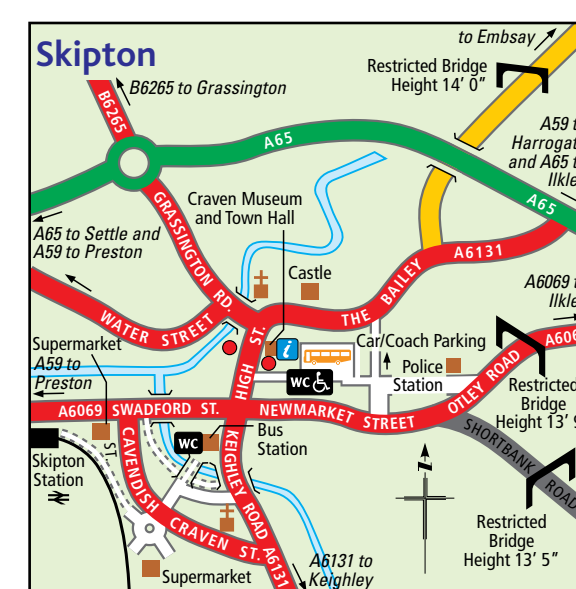
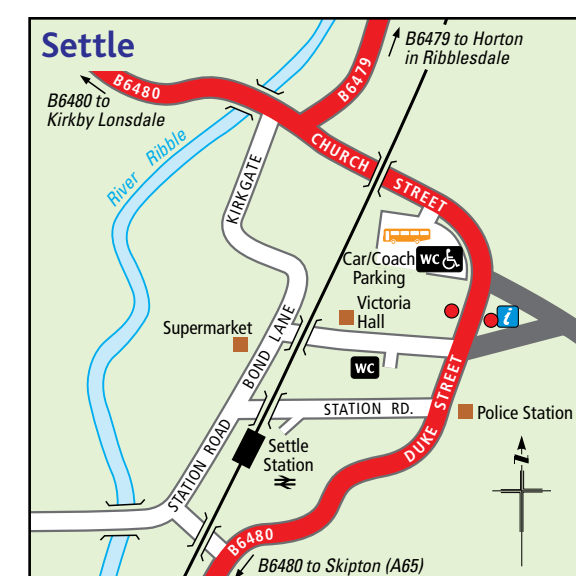
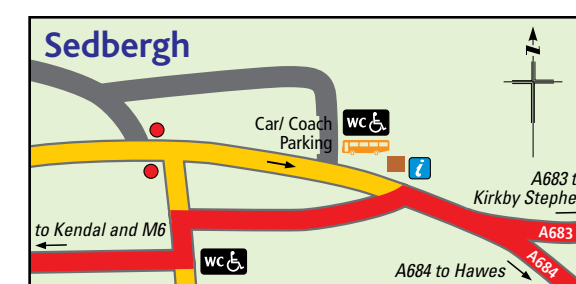
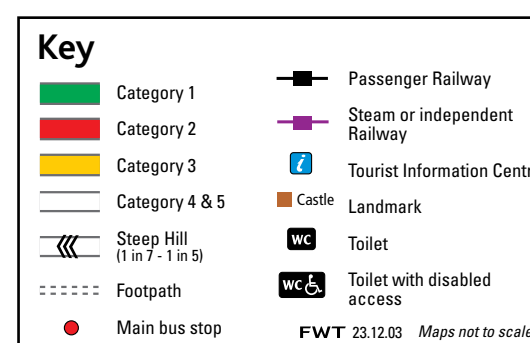
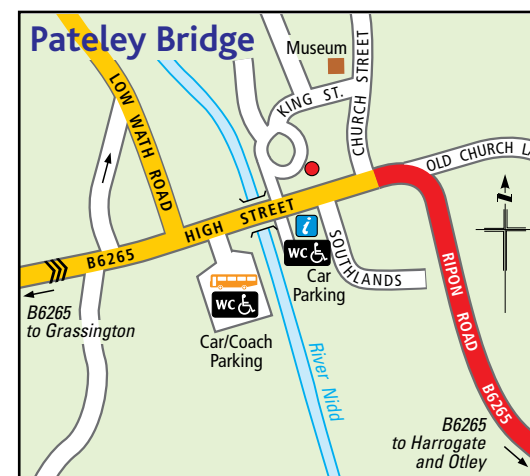
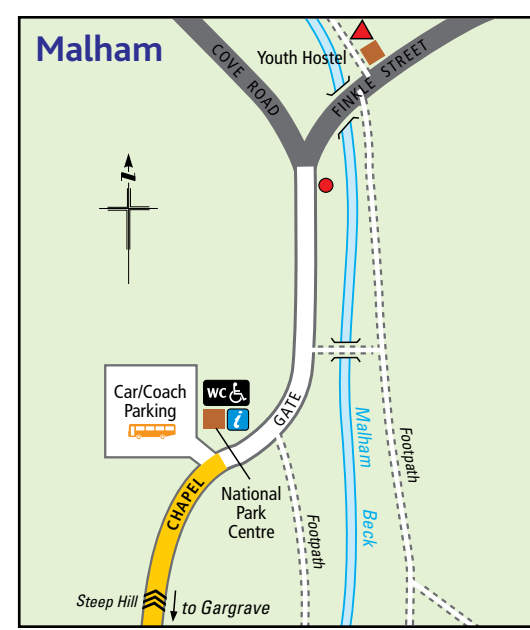
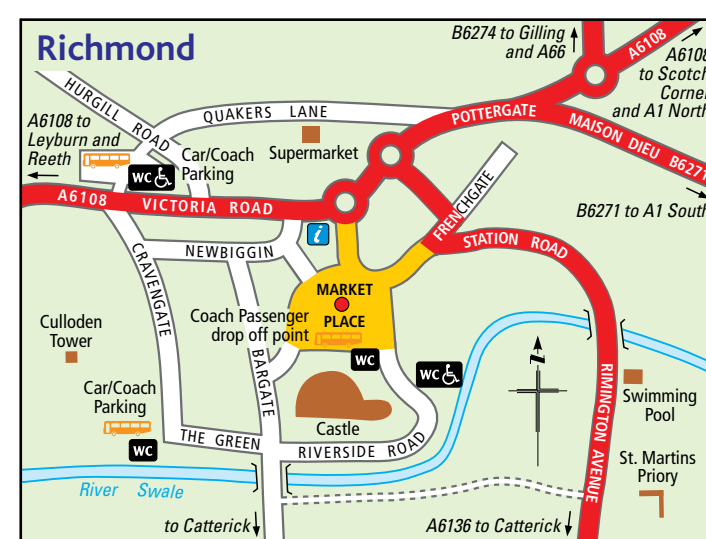
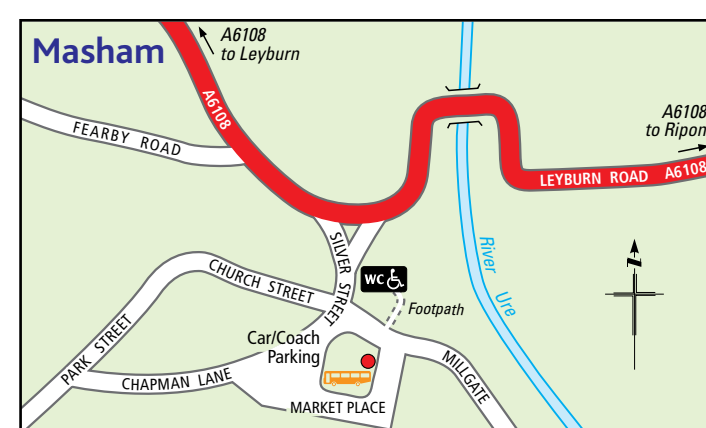
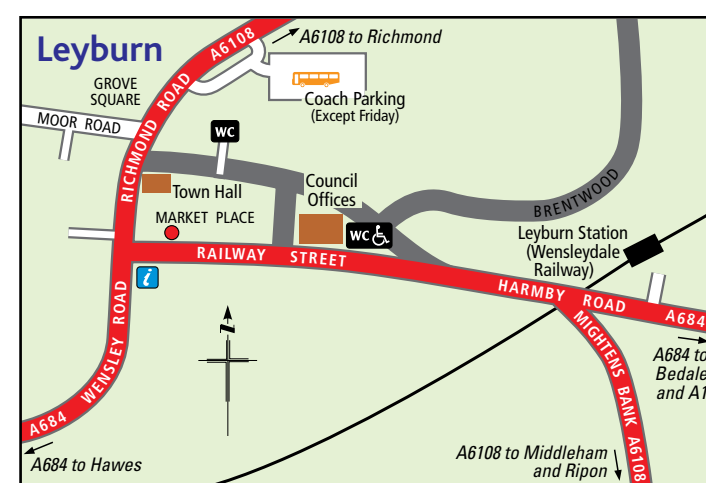
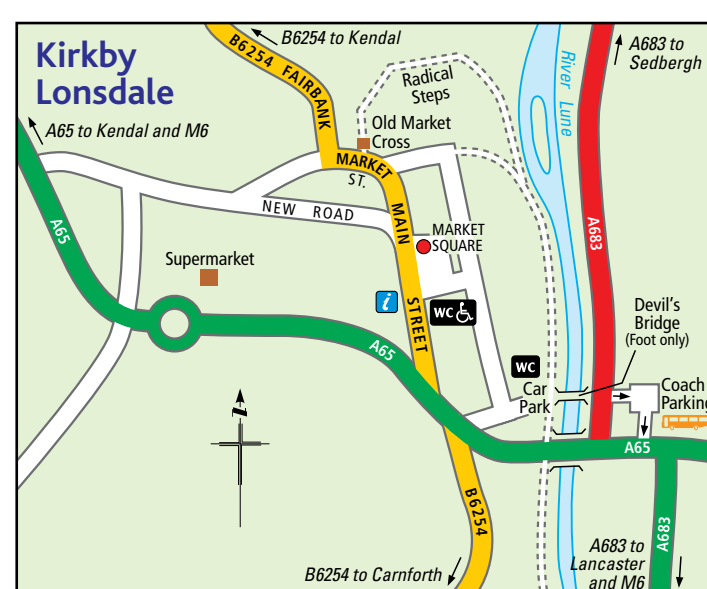
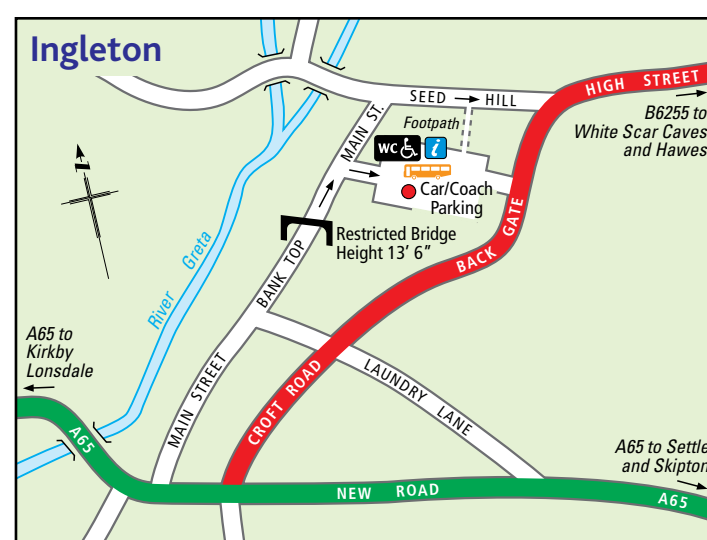
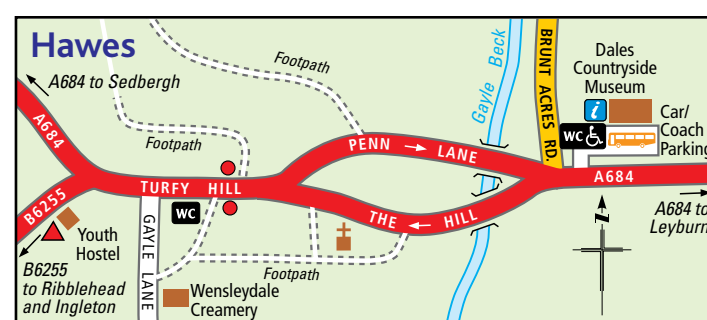
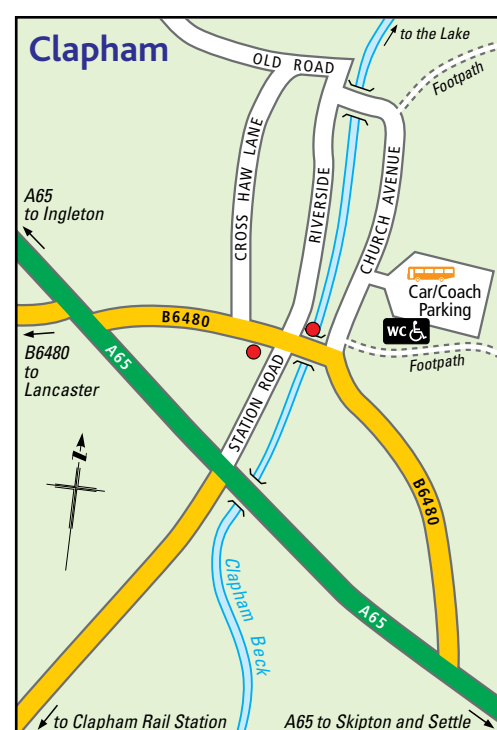
YORKSHIRE DALES  
National Park

one of Britain's breathing spaces

## Accessible Dales

The Yorkshire Dales is a wonderful location for people with additional needs. There are a number of special routes and trails which help to increase access to the countryside and a range of accessible attractions and accommodation.

For details of special access sites and access guides to the area, please contact any National Park or Tourist Information Centre or email [info@yorkshiredales.org.uk](mailto:info@yorkshiredales.org.uk)



## Group Organisers' and Coach Drivers' Guide to the Yorkshire Dales

This guide aims to help group organisers, tour planners and drivers to plan visits and excursions to the Yorkshire Dales so that their clients get the maximum enjoyment from the area, while at the same time preserving the area's special qualities.

Coach parking has been provided at most of the popular tourist locations within easy walking distance of the main facilities and points of interest. In most cases, toilets are available (some with facilities for people with disabilities) and in many cases, a National Park Centre or Tourist Information Centre is close by.

Parking is usually free for vehicles with over sixteen passenger seats. Group organisers, tour planners and coach drivers can help to conserve the special qualities of the Yorkshire Dales by following the advice given in this leaflet.

Published by the Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority.

To find out more:  
visit [www.yorkshiredales.org.uk](http://www.yorkshiredales.org.uk)  
call 0300 456 0030  
email [info@yorkshiredales.org.uk](mailto:info@yorkshiredales.org.uk)

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YORKSHIRE DALES  
National Park Authority

# Group Organisers' and Coach Drivers' Guide to the Yorkshire Dales



## Tips for drivers of coaches and other large vehicles

- Please do not rely on satellite navigation systems to plan your route
- Use the hierarchy of roads and advisory one-way systems shown on the map to plan the best routes for your journey. This map has been devised not only to prevent large vehicles meeting but also to ensure that larger vehicles approach narrow bridges from the correct direction to allow them to cross with care. Note: some longer vehicles may find it impossible to cross these bridges if they approach from the wrong direction.
- Please park in designated parking areas or surfaced lay-bys only. Do not park in informal or designated passing places, or in locations that would cause problems for large vehicles.
- Avoid driving on roadside verges as these are often sensitive habitats for wild flowers and are important features in the landscape.
- Consider the use of smaller vehicles if your tour includes the narrower roads in the Dales.
- Drive with extreme care on all roads within the Yorkshire Dales; they are legitimately used by walkers and cyclists as well as vehicles. Farm animals and slow moving vehicles are also frequently encountered.
- Use lay-bys to allow traffic to pass when necessary.

## Categories of roads in the Yorkshire Dales

### Category 1 roads

Suitable for all traffic. Motorways and trunk roads, including the continuing upgrading of the A59 and A65, that provide a ring road round the National Park and reduce the need for through traffic within the park.

### Category 2 roads

Suitable for all conventional passenger-carrying vehicles. At a few locations it may be difficult for full size vehicles or large goods vehicles to pass one another. These are secondary distributor A roads (and B roads upgraded to accommodate quarry and other essential access traffic). Since they often pass through villages and contain stretches of steep and narrow road, their capacity is somewhat limited and unsuited to long-distance, heavy, commercial traffic.

### Category 3 roads

Width and weight restrictions and physical pinch points will preclude the use of some category 3 roads by full-size coaches.

Suitable for coaches outside peak periods only. Likely to be congested on weekends between May and September inclusive and every day in July and August and should be avoided by coaches if possible.

Mini or midi-buses will be more suited to the restricted widths and tight bends encountered on these roads. Where coach tours cannot avoid these roads, drivers are advised to operate the suggested one-way system shown on the map, which should help to minimize conflicts. Beware, however, that this system is advisory only and that on-coming vehicles will still be encountered.

### Category 4 and 5 roads

These roads are unsuitable for coaches at all times due to physical dimension or width or weight restrictions. Steep gradients have not been marked on this map. Some of these routes may be passable with care in a minibus.

## The Yorkshire Dales Visitor Code

### Help us keep the Dales special

- Stay on rights of way, especially through fields and meadows, to reduce your impact on the landscape.
- Use your car less and think about other means of getting around.
- Stay overnight or shop locally rather than bringing food with you - this helps boost the local economy and ensures a sustainable future for those who live and work here.
- Respect the life and work of people who live here - remember 95% of the land is privately owned.
- Join one of our member organisations and give something back to the area you love - become a Friend of the Three Peaks or the Dales Countryside Museum and enjoy access to special events, newsletters and merchandise.

### Respect...Protect...Enjoy

- We want you to enjoy your visit to the National Park - and for other people to enjoy themselves as just as much after you have gone home - so please follow the Countryside Code:
- Be safe - plan ahead and follow any signs
  - Leave gates and property as you find them
  - Protect plants and animals, and take your litter home
  - Keep dogs under effective control
  - Consider other people.