



# Discover Nidderdale NATIONAL LANDSCAPE

Exceptional countryside in the heart of Yorkshire



A pocket guide to help you explore and  
discover one of the UK's finest landscapes

[nidderdale-nl.org.uk](http://nidderdale-nl.org.uk)

© Leanne Fox



# Welcome to Nidderdale NATIONAL LANDSCAPE

A DESIGNATED AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY

## AN AREA FULL OF CONTRASTS AND RICH IN WILDLIFE

Exhilarating, windswept moorlands and steep valleys merge into gently rolling pastoral scenes, peaceful woodlands and tranquil expanses of water.

An outdoor playground whatever you're into - from leisurely strolls through picturesque villages, to days out with the kids at unique attractions. Enjoy adrenaline-fuelled activities such as cycling, kayaking, climbing or caving, or simply soak up the peace and tranquillity. Be awed by dramatic views by day and dark, star-filled skies by night.

This is a beautiful landscape, protected for you. A place to escape and get closer to nature. Come explore it, enjoy it and help conserve it.



© Christy Irish

## GETTING HERE

### By Car from

North: A66 and A1(M).

East: A1(M), A61 and A59.

South: A65, A660, M62 and M1.

West: A65, A59 and M65.

### By Bus

Regular buses: Harrogate-Pateley Bridge (no. 24), and Leeds-Harrogate-Ripon (no. 36). Additional services by DalesBus all year round, including Upper Nidderdale. For all services and timetables please visit [www.dalesbus.org](http://www.dalesbus.org)

### By Train

To Harrogate (regular services from London, Leeds and York) and Ilkley (regular services from Leeds and Bradford), with regular onward bus services into Nidderdale National Landscape.

### By Plane

Leeds Bradford International Airport is 4 miles south of Nidderdale National Landscape. Regular bus services run from the airport to Harrogate and Otley where connecting services run into the National Landscape.



Use our map over the page to help plan your visit.

Traveline journey planner is a great tool to help you plan your journey, visit [traveline.info](http://traveline.info)



# Explore

## LOVE WALKING?

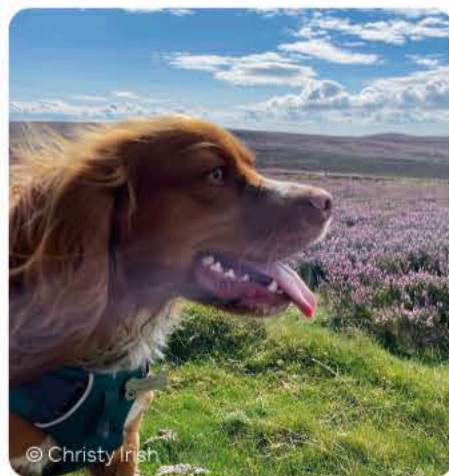
Whether you are an experienced walker or just fancy a gentle stroll, Nidderdale National Landscape is the perfect location.

Lesser known than some of the other dales but full of dramatic landscapes, cosy pubs and unspoilt villages, if you need a bit of inspiration of where to walk we've got it covered.

### SELF-GUIDED WALKS



On our website you will find routes with maps and points of interest. They vary in length and difficulty, so there is something for everyone.



### WALKING WITH DOGS

The open spaces and stunning countryside of Nidderdale National Landscape are wonderful to explore with your dog. However, dogs can pose a danger to animals and birds. A few simple steps can make a huge difference:

**Always** keep your dog on a short lead around livestock and on moorland.

**Stick** to the footpaths.

**Check** signs for local restrictions.

**Clean** up after your dog.

**If you feel threatened** by cows let your dog off the lead.



### ACCESS FOR ALL



Developed with wheelchair users in mind, these routes are also useful for children, pushchairs and anyone with limited mobility.

### AUDIO WALKS

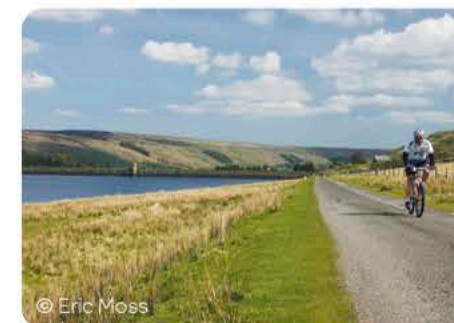


An audio guide taking you through parts of Nidderdale National Landscape.

## EXPLORE BY BIKE

With its quiet roads, great hill climbs and breathtaking scenery, Nidderdale National Landscape is the perfect location for on and off-road cycling.

From challenging routes to test the experienced cyclist to quiet family-friendly rides, we've got a few suggestions to inspire you.



### Road cycling

An awe-inspiring way to explore some of the beautiful scenery, small towns and villages.

### Family routes

There is a great network of quiet roads and lanes, as well as off-road routes, for younger or less confident riders.

### Mountain biking

Whether you're a beginner or an experienced rider, there are a variety of routes to challenge your skills.



### Hill climbs

Challenge yourself on some of the incredible hill climbs that have featured in the Tour de France Grand Départ and the Tour de Yorkshire.

Exploring on two wheels is a great way to soak up the scenery!

If you don't have your own bike, why not hire one? Or book a guided ride if you want someone to ride with or need a confidence boost.



Check out our website for more information and a selection of routes to get you started.

### Up for a bigger challenge?

Try the Way of the Roses coast-to-coast route and



explore Nidderdale National Landscape on the way.

[www.wayoftheroses.co.uk](http://www.wayoftheroses.co.uk)



# Those who visit the countryside

## LOVE THE COUNTRYSIDE

You're birdwatchers, history buffs, wildlife lovers, keen walkers, mountain bikers or maybe just in search of the peace and tranquillity a National Landscape affords.

### HELP US TO PROTECT THIS SPECIAL LANDSCAPE BY:

**Always** keeping your dog on a short lead when near livestock and on moorland.

**Preventing** uncontrolled fires which can be started so easily by BBQs, cigarette ends and spent matches.

**Protecting** plants and animals by taking your litter and dog poo home.

**Following** the Countryside Code, scan the QR code for full details.



### CHECK-CLEAN-DRY

Help prevent the spread of non-native species and wildlife diseases by:

**Checking** for and removing any mud or plant material, leaving them on site.

**Cleaning** your shoes thoroughly.

**Drying** them as well as you can.



© Paul Skirrow

### HELP US TO PROTECT VULNERABLE BIRDS

Between 1 March and 31 July, please keep your dog on a lead even if there is no livestock on the land. This is to protect birds that nest on the ground, such as curlew and lapwing. You can't always see them but they can be disturbed very easily by dogs, causing them to leave their nests which leaves their young vulnerable.

Many of these birds are now endangered and we are working very hard to protect them.





### 1. JERVAULX ABBEY

P 🐾 £ H 🦋 🌿

A stunning ruined abbey set in tranquil parkland and noted for the vast number of flowers that grow amongst its walls. Privately owned with honesty box entry.

### 2. MASHAM

🦿 P 🦋 🐾 🌿 🌳 🏠 🚰

Boasting Yorkshire's largest market square, Masham is a wonderful small town famed for its family-run breweries, steam engine rally and annual sheep fair.

### 3. SCAR HOUSE & ANGRAM RESERVOIRS

P \* 🐾 H 🦋 🌿

Located at the top of Nidderdale, these stunning reservoirs are perfect for walking and have a fascinating history.

### 4. DRUID'S TEMPLE

P 🐾 H 🦋 🌿 🌳 🏠 🚰

An atmospheric folly set in pine woodland on the Swinton Estate, near Masham. Perfect for families to explore on foot or by bike.

### 5. HACKFALL

P 🐾 H 🦋 🌿

A beautiful Grade I listed woodland with follies, waterfalls and surprise views.

### 6. LIME TREE OBSERVATORY & PLANETARIUM

🦿 P £

Learn about the stars and view the night sky through a professional telescope with the help of experts. Open for public events throughout the year. Pre-booking essential.

### Kayaking at Scar House Reservoir



### 7. RIPON

🦿 P 🐾 🌿 🏠 🚰

One of the smallest cities in the UK, Ripon has a stunning cathedral, traditional market square, a host of attractions and many independent shops.

### 8. FOUNTAINS ABBEY & STUDLEY ROYAL

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A stunning World Heritage Site with a ruined Cistercian abbey, water garden, deer park and more (National Trust).



### 9. BRIMHAM ROCKS

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An amazing collection of weird and wonderful rock formations scattered over 50 acres of moorland (National Trust).

### 10. PATELEY BRIDGE

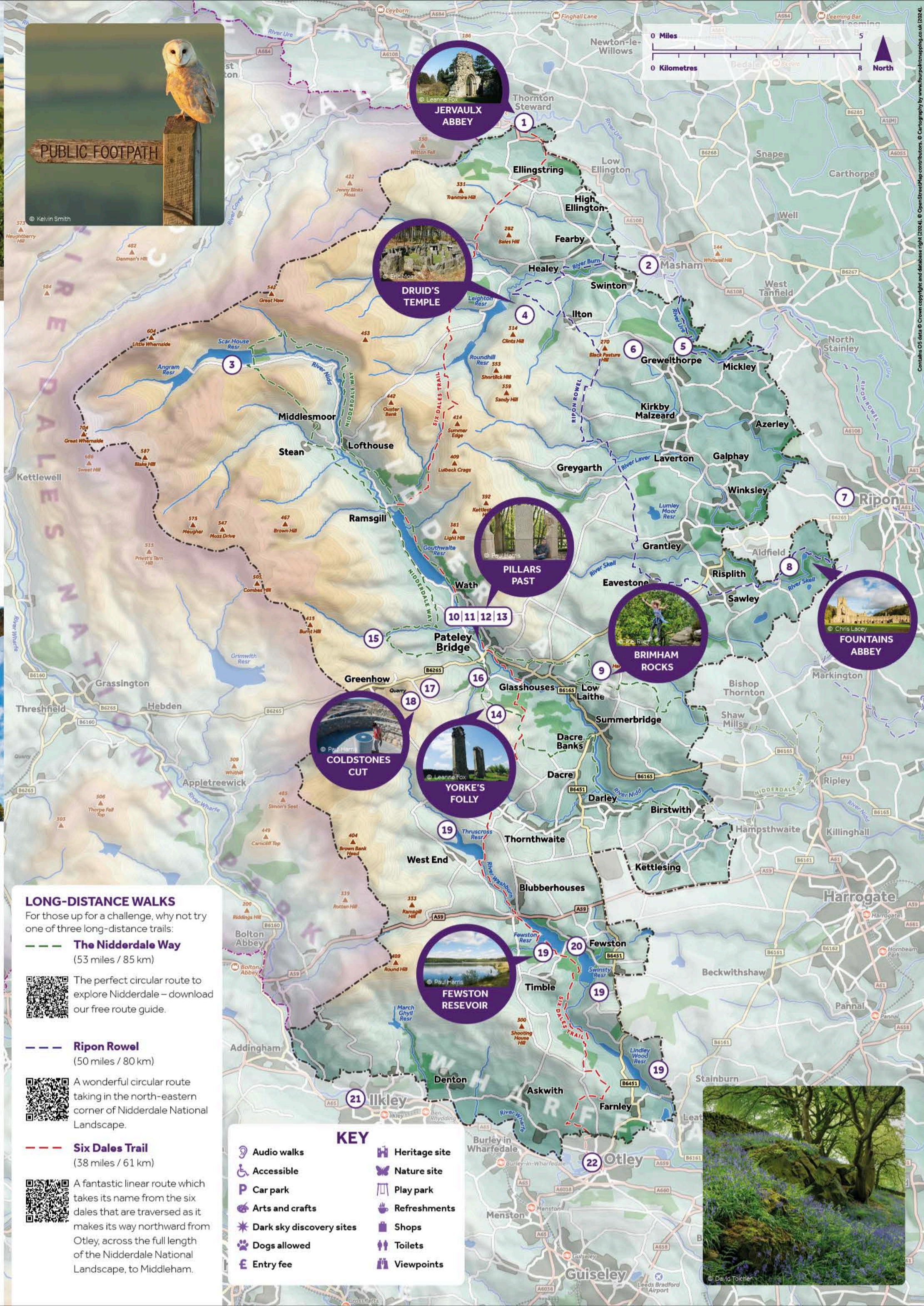
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A pretty little town, at the heart of the National Landscape, with many independent shops and eateries. Grab an award-winning pork pie before exploring Nidderdale Museum and the hive of artisan workshops at The Old Workhouse.

### 11. ST. MARY'S CHURCH & CHURCHYARD

H

A ruined church set on the hillside above Pateley Bridge.



### LONG-DISTANCE WALKS

For those up for a challenge, why not try one of three long-distance trails:

--- **The Nidderdale Way**  
(53 miles / 85 km)



The perfect circular route to explore Nidderdale – download our free route guide.

--- **Ripon Rowel**  
(50 miles / 80 km)



A wonderful circular route taking in the north-eastern corner of Nidderdale National Landscape.

--- **Six Dales Trail**  
(38 miles / 61 km)



A fantastic linear route which takes its name from the six dales that are traversed as it makes its way northward from Otley, across the full length of the Nidderdale National Landscape, to Middleham.

### KEY

- 🦋 Audio walks
- 🦿 Accessible
- P Car park
- 🦋 Arts and crafts
- 🌟 Dark sky discovery sites
- 🐾 Dogs allowed
- £ Entry fee
- H Heritage site
- 🦋 Nature site
- 🌿 Play park
- 🍷 Refreshments
- 🏠 Shops
- 🚰 Toilets
- 📍 Viewpoints



### 12. PILLARS PAST

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A wonderful carved stone sculpture on the banks of the River Nidd at Pateley Bridge, representing the history of the area. Part of the Way of the Roses 'Passing Places' public art trail.

### 13. NIDDERDALE MUSEUM

P £ 🌿

An amazing collection of artefacts telling the story of life in Nidderdale.

### 14. YORKE'S FOLLY

🐾 H 🌿

A Grade II listed folly which dominates the skyline above the village of Beverley and sits on the Nidderdale Way.

### 15. PROSPEROUS LEAD MINE

🐾 H

Extensive remains of the spoil heaps and the upstanding walls of the smelt mill provide a glimpse into the area's industrial past.

### 16. FISHPOND WOOD

🐾 H 🦋

A beautiful ancient and semi-natural woodland with a large pond at its heart and an 18th century icehouse tucked away in a corner.

### 17. TOFT GATE LIME KILN

🦋 P \* 🐾 H

The remains of a lime kiln on the edge of Greenhow village.

Before visiting, we recommend that you check details, reviews and opening times online. Inclusion in this guide does not constitute an endorsement by Nidderdale National Landscape.

### 18. COLDSTONES CUT

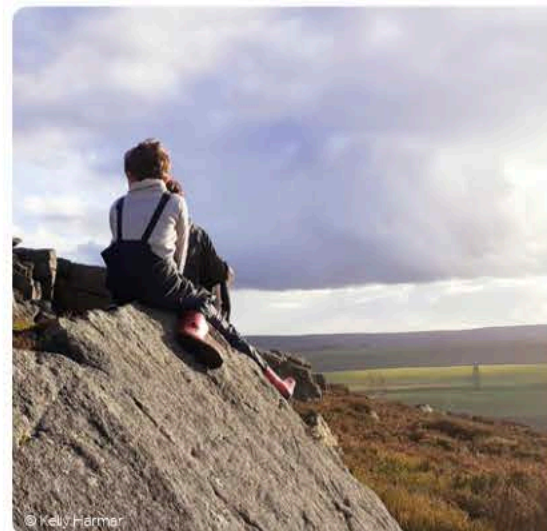
🦋 🦿 P 🐾 🌿

Yorkshire's biggest and highest public artwork on a monumental scale with viewpoints and a platform overlooking the working quarry.

### 19. WASHBURN VALLEY RESERVOIRS

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Lindley Wood, Swinsty, Fewston and Thruscross reservoirs are beautiful to visit and are a haven for wildlife. The reservoirs are owned by Yorkshire Water and are very popular with walkers.



### 20. WASHBURN HERITAGE CENTRE

P H 🌿

Exhibitions, displays and a café on the edge of Fewston Reservoir.

### 21. ILKLEY

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A pretty Victorian spa town, with the famous Cow and Calf Rocks sitting proudly on the moor. A rock climber's paradise, with fine tea rooms for you to refuel at.

### 22. OTLEY

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A historic market town with a range of independent shops and cobbled streets.

For more information on things to do and see, scan the QR code.





# One of the most special and protected LANDSCAPES IN THE COUNTRY



Nidderdale National Landscape is a living, working landscape that covers 233 square miles in the heart of the Yorkshire Dales. It is home to important wildlife and habitats, dark night skies, a rich history and a diverse landscape.



The Nidderdale National Landscape team work with local people and organisations to protect and enhance this beautiful area for all to enjoy.

Visit [nidderdale-nl.org.uk](http://nidderdale-nl.org.uk) to discover more about this special place and how you can help us protect it.

There are 46 National Landscapes in the UK and 66% of people in England live within half an hour of their nearest National Landscape. Each has its own special characteristics.

Find out more at [national-landscapes.org.uk](http://national-landscapes.org.uk)



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