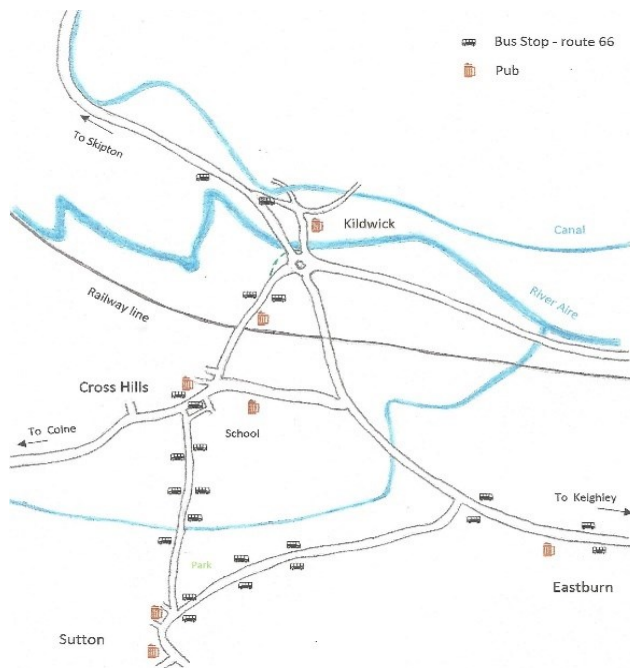


Ale Trail of Kildwick, Cross Hills, Sutton and Eastburn

An area with several pubs, served by Keighley Bus Company, includes Kildwick, Cross Hills, Sutton and Eastburn. These are villages on Dalesway bus route number 66, between Keighley and Skipton. There are seven Real Ale bars on the bus route in this area.



The pubs are within walking distance of each other, but it is possible to catch the bus between them if preferred.

Buses run twice an hour during the day on Monday to Saturday, hourly evenings and Sundays.

The best ticket to buy is a KDay ticket, which can be bought on board Keighley Bus Company services at a cost of £4.50 or via the Transdev Go web app. These tickets can also be used on the Burnley Bus Company M4 between Colne and Keighley. Up to date information about bus times and route maps can be found at:

<https://www.transdevbus.co.uk/keighley/services>.

There is no favoured route so this article will describe a route from Kildwick to Eastburn.

1. The White Lion, Kildwick

This is a Pickles Pub Company pub, near Kildwick church. It normally sells Saltaire Blonde and Taylor's Landlord. Closed Mondays & Tuesdays (except Bank Holiday) open at 4pm Wednesday & Thursday, 3pm Fridays and all-day Saturday & Sunday.

On leaving the pub head towards the river and, after crossing the river, look for a footpath on your right and follow it as it goes next to the river and under the road bridge, so avoiding crossing this very busy road. Turn right into Station Road and look out for Naylor's Brewery on your left.

2. Naylor's Beer Emporium

This sells a selection of 4 or 5 beers from the Brewery next door and occasionally a guest beer. Open 3pm to 9pm on Monday, Tuesday, Saturday & Sunday, (closed Wednesday and Thursday) with an earlier opening time of 1pm on Friday.

Turn left as you leave the brewery and head over the railway bridge to the top of Station Road. Turn left into Keighley Road and you will soon see the Old White Bear to your right.

3. Old White Bear

Built in 1735, with a chequered history, this is another Pickles Pub Company pub, selling Saltaire Blonde and a selection of beers from Naylor's Brewery. Closed Mondays & Tuesdays (except Bank Holiday). Open 12noon to 10pm Wednesday to Sunday.

From here go back the way you came, follow the main road round to the left passing the end of Station Road, and look out for Gallagher's Ale House on the right, behind The Hideaway Cafe.

4. Gallagher's Ale House

Popular micropub serving 4 or 5 changing beers with a range of beer styles. Also a selection of draught ciders. Closed Mondays & Tuesdays, open from 3pm Wednesdays & Thursdays, from 1pm Friday and from 12 noon Saturday and Sunday.

The walk from here to Sutton is a bit further, so you may prefer to take the bus from the stop opposite. The route goes along Holme Lane. After passing South Craven School, and crossing over Holme Beck, you will see a small park to your left. The bus stop near the Sutton pubs is around the corner to the left. The nearest pub is The Black Bull.

5. The Black Bull

Large building built in 1893, with several drinking areas. Tetley bitter and Leeds Pale normally on sale. Frequently shows live football on the TV screens. Open Monday to Thursday 4.30pm-9.30pm, Friday 3-9.30pm, Saturday 12noon-9.30pm and Sunday 12noon-9pm.

Further along the road past Ash Grove is The King's Arms (if you need to get your bearings look for the signpost opposite the Black Bull pointing towards Laycock).

6. The King's Arms

Homely pub with 3 distinct areas and a secluded beer garden to the rear. Sells Black Sheep bitter and 1 or 2 guest beers, such as Moorhouses White Witch and Tetley bitter. Opens at 4pm Monday to Thursday, 12 noon Friday to Sunday.

From here to The Inn at Eastburn is the furthest distance between pubs (nearly a mile), so you may prefer to take the bus from the stop round the corner from The Black Bull, next to the park. The route goes along Main Street and Sutton Lane then turns right at the lane end, the Inn at Eastburn is on the right, between the next two bus stops.

7. The Inn at Eastburn

Two separate rooms serving six or seven beers, most from local breweries. Formerly the Nightingale, and longer ago, the White Bear. Closed Mondays & Tuesdays, opens at 12noon the rest of the week.

The route described is just shy of 3 miles including the walk in to Kildwick from the bus stop. It is mostly flat, with some gentle gradients, the longest section is Sutton to Eastburn which is nearly 1 mile.

More details about these pubs can be found in WhatPub page: [Pubs in Cross Hills area](#). A range of meals are available in the two Pickles Pubs and The Eastburn Inn.

Due to limited opening hours of some of the pubs, if you want to do all pubs in one day, then the best day would be a Friday, Saturday or Sunday. However, some places do not open until 3pm on at least one of these days, so you may need to plan your route accordingly.

Details were thought to be accurate at the time of writing (early October 2020) but could change.

Please note that The Inn at Eastburn is inside the Bradford metropolitan area of West Yorkshire, whereas the other pubs are in the Craven district of North Yorkshire. Therefore, it may be subject to different Covid restrictions.

Jenny Baker
(Keighley & Craven CAMRA Social Secretary)