

Pennine Bridleway Event Guidance

We welcome events on the Pennine Bridleway as they are a great way to introduce people to the trail and the fantastic landscapes that it passes through.

We would like to work with you to ensure your event goes smoothly and is enjoyed by all. The organisations that manage the trail have a detailed knowledge of the terrain and the facilities that are available. This guidance attempts to summarise this information in order to help you plan a successful event.

This guidance should be read alongside the [National Trail Guidance](#) document.

If you are able to demonstrate that your event has been well-run and well-received by participants and local people, and you are willing to make a small donation towards trail maintenance, then we would be happy to endorse your future events on the trail.



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Endorsement

There are benefits in working together to promote events on the National Trails. Great events make good publicity for the Trails and event organisers can tap into the promotional work that Trail Officers undertake.

Listing your event on the National Trail website exposes your event to the 1.6 million visitors using the website each year. The website provides instructions about how to upload your event information, including an image or logo.

Images, leaflets, descriptive text, web links and so on can be shared to enable joint promotion. Trail leaflets (paper or electronic) can be made available for participant information packs. Making arrangements with the Trail Officer to promote each other on social media can also be effective.

Each Trail Officer has the discretion to license the use of the National Trail logo to events.

The fundamental principles common to all National Trails are as follows:

- The logo may not be licensed to a new event in its first year. The first year is your opportunity to prove that your event is sustainable and well received.
- The logo will be dated and will be issued on an annual basis.
- The use of the logo will not be issued/will be revoked if:
 - Valid negative feedback is received about your event.
 - Unacceptable disruption is caused due to poor management.
 - Damage is caused to the Trail due to irresponsible use.
 - Donation that was agreed with Officer is not received.

Please read on to find out about specific advice for events on the Pennine Bridleway.



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Contacts

1. Your first point of contact should be the Pennine National Trails Partnership Manager, Jo McAllister.
 - Email: jo.mcallister@yorkshiredales.org.uk
 - Phone: 07879662296
 - Website: www.nationaltrail.co.uk/penninebridleway
2. The Partnership Manager will be able to put you in touch with other relevant contacts.
3. Most Local Authorities and National Parks have an events notification procedure which should be followed if your event meets their criteria. Links to this information are provided at the end of this document.
4. Inviting the Partnership Manager to attend a participant briefing session is a good way for trail specific information to be passed on, and for participants to learn more about what is special about the Pennine Way.

Route planning

1. The Pennine Bridleway is not completed in two locations; Long Preston and Glossop. The impacts of these gaps in the trail need careful consideration. There are alternative route options available for walkers and cyclists but not horse riders.

Timing

1. The timing of your event should be discussed with the Trail Manager and relevant organisations at a very early stage, before a date is fixed.
2. Avoid bank holidays and summer weekends in busy locations e.g. High Peak Trail, Hollingworth Lake, and Settle.
3. Think about the time of day that people will be passing through settlements and past farms. Try to avoid unsociable hours. It is good practice to inform landowners about the event, especially if participants will be passing through farm yards or close to properties.
4. Bear in mind the implications of your event to farmers and land managers e.g. lambing season (January to April), hay/silage cutting (May to August) and grouse shooting (August to December).



5. Consider whether your event will clash with any other local events.
6. We recommend that you carry out a reconnaissance walk/ride a year before your event is due to take place, at the same time of year. This will allow you to fully understand the conditions to expect, both on the trail and in surrounding villages e.g. how busy car parks are.

Environmental considerations

1. Bear in mind the implications of your event to wildlife e.g. ground nesting birds (April to August) and trampling across designated sites such as SSSIs, SPAs and SACs.
2. You may need to seek special permission from Natural England for events that pass through statutorily designated sites (Sites of Special Scientific Interest, Special Protection Areas and Special Areas of Conservation). If participants will be sticking to Public Rights Of Way and you have no additional infrastructure in these areas (e.g. check points) you are unlikely to need consent. You should contact Natural England if in doubt. The location of designated sites can be viewed on www.magic.gov.uk, and are summarised in Figure 1.
3. Ground nesting birds are sensitive to disturbance which can result in reduced breeding success. Events must keep closely to the path, and additional controls may be required during peak breeding season.
4. The ground conditions are likely to be wettest over the winter and spring, from November to April, though it can be wet all year. Most harm to the ground conditions is likely to occur during the wetter periods. Depending on the number of participants and the location some alternative routes may be required to avoid the most sensitive areas during winter.

Impact on communities

1. Your event is a great opportunity to support local businesses, but care must be taken not to cause disturbance to small communities. We strongly encourage the use of local suppliers for food and accommodation.
2. Small villages have limited car parking available, and are easily clogged with visitor traffic at weekends without event traffic adding to this. The use of car parks and public toilet facilities must be discussed with the relevant owner/manager in advance.

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3. The trail is open to other users at all times unless you have applied for a trail closure. The safety and experience of local users and long distance users should be considered when planning your event.
4. It is especially important to alert local horse riders of the date, time and location of your event so that they can plan their rides accordingly. Most horse riders will prefer to avoid using sections of trail whilst an event is taking place, both from an enjoyment and a safety perspective.
5. Gates along the trail must always be left as they are found (i.e. closed if they are found closed). A gate which is left open by a leading participant for the next person will inevitably be left open for the rest of the event potentially resulting in livestock escaping. The Pennine Bridleway does have a lot of gates, so this is an important message for participants. It may be wise to have stewards in place for some or all gated sections.

Availability of facilities

1. Toilet facilities are very limited along the trail. To prevent harm to the environment and littering and for the welfare of participants, temporary toilet facilities may be required. You will require permission from the landowner in order to site toilets.
2. If you plan to use existing facilities e.g. public toilets, you should consult the manager of the facilities in advance. There may not be sufficient capacity to cater for your event e.g. some facilities do not have mains water and rely on water being delivered in containers.

Safety

1. The Pennine Bridleway is often remote and difficult to access in an emergency. There is also limited mobile phone signal in many places. The terrain is also challenging, and weather conditions can be severe and unpredictable at any time of year. A comprehensive safety plan is required. It is good practice to consult with the local Mountain/Cave Rescue teams and with the Local Authority Safety Advisory Groups.
2. We recommend that you carry out a reconnaissance visit and consult again with the Trail Officer within 1 month of the event. This will allow you to identify any changes to the trail conditions and any special advice that you may need to give to participants.

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3. Safety of other users on the trail must be considered, especially if you are planning an event for cyclists or horse riders. The Safety Advisory Groups in the local authorities will be able to advise on whether trail closures will be required.

Access

1. If you are planning to site check points away from villages and public roads you may need to seek permission from landowners in order to take a vehicle along private roads and tracks. The condition of these tracks is variable, and must be checked prior to the event to ensure access is still possible.
2. If your participants are likely to stray from the path, e.g. if bunches of cyclists form and overtake one another, they may be trespassing on the land either side of the path unless you have sought permission from the landowner.
3. If you wish to set up a check point adjacent to the trail you will need permission from the landowner.

Trail maintenance activities

1. The Pennine Bridleway is subject to a range of maintenance activities each year. Some of these activities are significant enough to result in the closure of the trail. Wherever possible we will put a diversion in place if the closure is for a prolonged period of time. Temporary closures may be required when we are flying materials in by helicopter or when we are carrying out other small scale works, in which case participants will be held until it is safe to pass.
2. Early consultation with the Partnership Manager means that we can try and avoid closures during the period of your event, or help you to find alternative routes.

Events Guidance and Notification Procedures

Peak District National Park: <https://www.peakdistrict.gov.uk/visiting/planning-your-visit/running-large-events>

Derbyshire: <https://www.derbyshireprepared.org.uk/get-involved/hosting-public-event/>

Tameside: <https://www.tameside.gov.uk/licensing/outdoorevents>

Oldham: <https://www.oldham.gov.uk/info/200204/licensing/361/events>

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Rochdale Borough Council: <http://www.rochdale.gov.uk/events-and-activities/pages/apply-to-hold-an-event.aspx>

Calderdale Council: <https://www.calderdale.gov.uk/v2/residents/leisure-and-culture/parks-and-open-spaces/event-hosting-and-filming-permissions>

North Yorkshire: <https://www.northyorks.gov.uk/roadworks-road-closures-and-diversions>
(Note: scroll to the bottom of the page and select the last drop-down from the FAQ section).

Yorkshire Dales National Park: <https://www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/things-to-do/whats-on/large-scale-events/>

Cumbria County Council:
https://www.cumbria.gov.uk/events_calendar/eventsafetyinformation.asp

Derbyshire:

In Derbyshire, temporary closures of public rights of way can be viewed here:
<https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/leisure/countryside/access/rights-of-way/path-closure-register/path-closure-register.aspx>

The following mapping portal can be used to find the relevant Parish and path numbers to help identify if temporary closures will affect your event. Within the portal, switch on the public rights of way layer and click on the route in question: (the portal is accessed once the terms and conditions and been accepted):

<https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/council/partnerships/derbyshire-mapping-portal/derbyshire-mapping-portal.aspx>

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FIGURE 1:

Statutory designations along Pennine Bridleway

Scale 1:1374363

Compiled by Heather Procter on 10 January 2017

