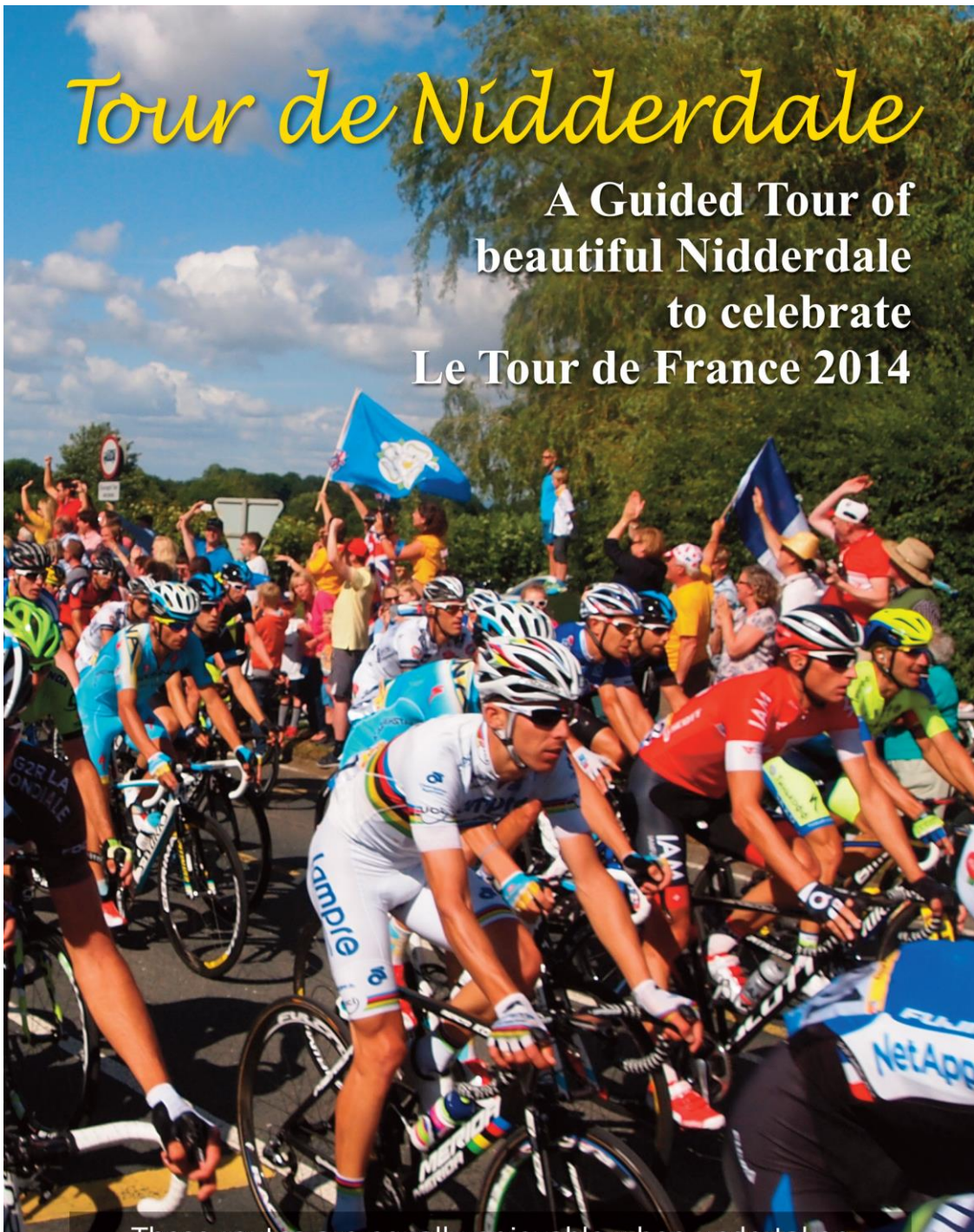


Tour de Nidderdale

A Guided Tour of
beautiful Nidderdale
to celebrate
Le Tour de France 2014



TOUR DE NIDDERDALE

The **TOUR DE NIDDERDALE** provides a legacy of July 2014 when Le Tour de France came to Yorkshire. Nidderdale occupied a pivotal position in Le Tour, as the route skirted the west, north and east of the Dale on Day One, and then followed the southern edge on Day Two.

The terrain in Nidderdale mirrors much of that encountered by Le Tour, with a combination of sweeping valleys, interspersed with pretty villages and tumbling streams. There are some steep gradients and plunging descents, which open up magnificent vistas of the open moors and fells.

The route of Tour de Nidderdale describes a figure of eight, centred on Pateley Bridge. It can all be tackled on a single ride (the **'Yellow Jersey'** route), or split into two loops. It has been designed with the experienced cyclist in mind, but can be equally well enjoyed by the motorist.

The two loops are somewhat different in character. The **'Green Jersey'** route takes in the Midd Valley, passing through many of its charming villages. The **'Polka Dot Jersey'** route is a much sterner test for the cyclist and should be attempted only by those who are fit and experienced riders. Of course, it is still perfect for the motorist, and the views are spectacular whichever way you choose to sample it.

In this brochure, the routes are described starting from the mid-point, in the town of Pateley Bridge, which sits at the heart of Nidderdale. If you are tempted by the full **'Yellow Jersey'** route you can start with either loop, (but it would be wise to tackle the **'Polka Dot'** route first).

All the routes are described in an anti-clockwise direction, to minimise the number of right-turns and to avoid the steepest of the climbs.

An optional extra, from Pateley Bridge, is a severe climb up to Greenhow, rewarded by the chance to visit the spectacular 'Coldstones Cut'.

Many of the places visited on the Tour de Nidderdale proudly display a green and gold plaque celebrating the Tour de France in our area. There are fifteen altogether - see how many you can spot. Many of the local attractions and places of interest and sustenance are also listed. We hope you will visit some of them.

These routes have been designed with safety in mind, but please remember that cycling or motoring in Nidderdale can be hazardous. Many of the roads are narrow, twisty, steep and flanked by dry-stone walls. There are no traffic lights and many of the road users may be visitors to the area and unfamiliar with the road lay-out. Please take the utmost care at all times.

The Tour de Nidderdale has been devised and prepared by



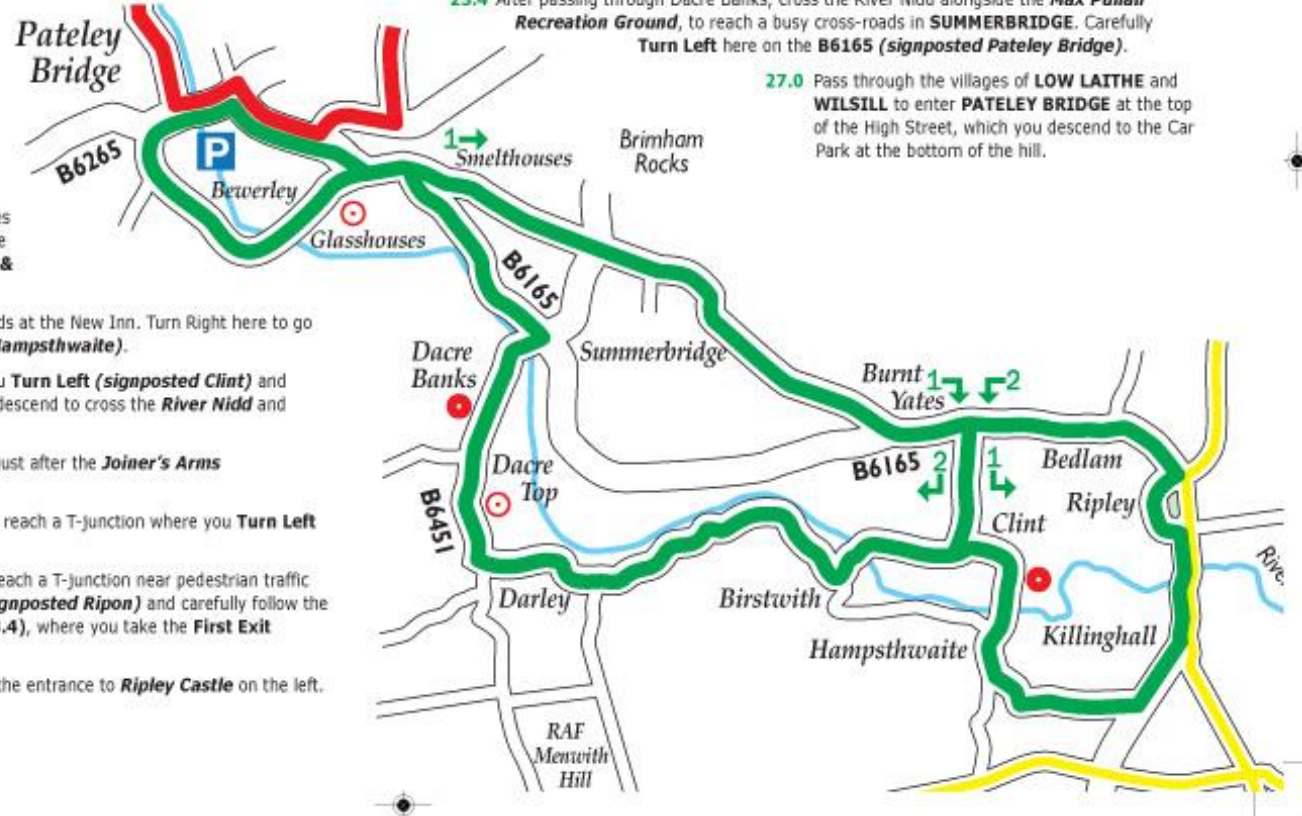
This Tour Guide has been prepared with the support of Knabs Ridge Wind Farm Community Fund and Harrogate Borough Council Community Chest



THE GREEN JERSEY ROUTE (27 MILES)

miles

- 0.0 Start from one of the Public Car Parks in **PATELEY BRIDGE**, situated at the bottom of the High Street, either side of the bridge over the River Nidd.
- 0.1 Set off on the **B6265** across the bridge away from the High Street, and as the road starts to climb, **Turn Left** opposite the **Royal Oak (signposted Bewerley Park Centre)**.
- 0.3 Pass through the village of **BEWERLEY** and as the road turns sharply right (0.7) **Turn Left** towards **Bewerley Park Centre**.
- 0.9 Pass **Bewerley Park Centre** and follow the single-track road until it turns sharply left (1.6) to cross a bridge over the River Nidd. The road winds its way steeply uphill through the village of **GLASSHOUSES** to reach the **B6165 (2.0)**. Carefully **Turn Right** here.
- 2.5 Pass through the village of **WILSILL** and then turn left on a minor road (signposted **Smelthouses**).
- 3.1 Go through the hamlet of **SMELTHOUSES** to cross a bridge over a beck and then climb gently up through **BRAISTY WOODS (3.5)**.
- 4.2 Soon you reach a crossroads, where a left-turn takes you to **BRIMHAM ROCKS**, which you may care to visit. Our route continues straight ahead (signposted **Burnt Yates**).
- 7.3 The road gradually descends for nearly 3 miles to rejoin the **B6165** in **BURNT YATES**, where you **Turn Left (signposted Knaresborough & Harrogate)**.
- 7.8 On leaving Burnt Yates, you reach a crossroads at the New Inn. **Turn Right** here to go down **Clint Bank (signposted Birstwith & Hampsthwaite)**.
- 8.6 When the road sweeps round to the right, you **Turn Left (signposted Clint)** and continue through the hamlet of **CLINT** and descend to cross the **River Nidd** and enter **HAMPSTHWAITE (9.6)**.
- 9.9 Go past the village green and then **Turn Left** just after the **Joiner's Arms (signposted Killinghall & Ripley)**.
- 11.8 This road leads uphill out of Hampsthwaite to reach a T-junction where you **Turn Left** on the **B6161 (signposted Ripon)**.
- 12.0 Go through the village of **KILLINGHALL** to reach a T-junction near pedestrian traffic lights at the **A61 (12.4)**. **Turn Left** here (signposted **Ripon**) and carefully follow the A61 over the River Nidd to a Roundabout (13.4), where you take the **First Exit (signposted Ripley)**.
- 13.6 Ride through the village of **RIPLEY**, passing the entrance to **Ripley Castle** on the left.



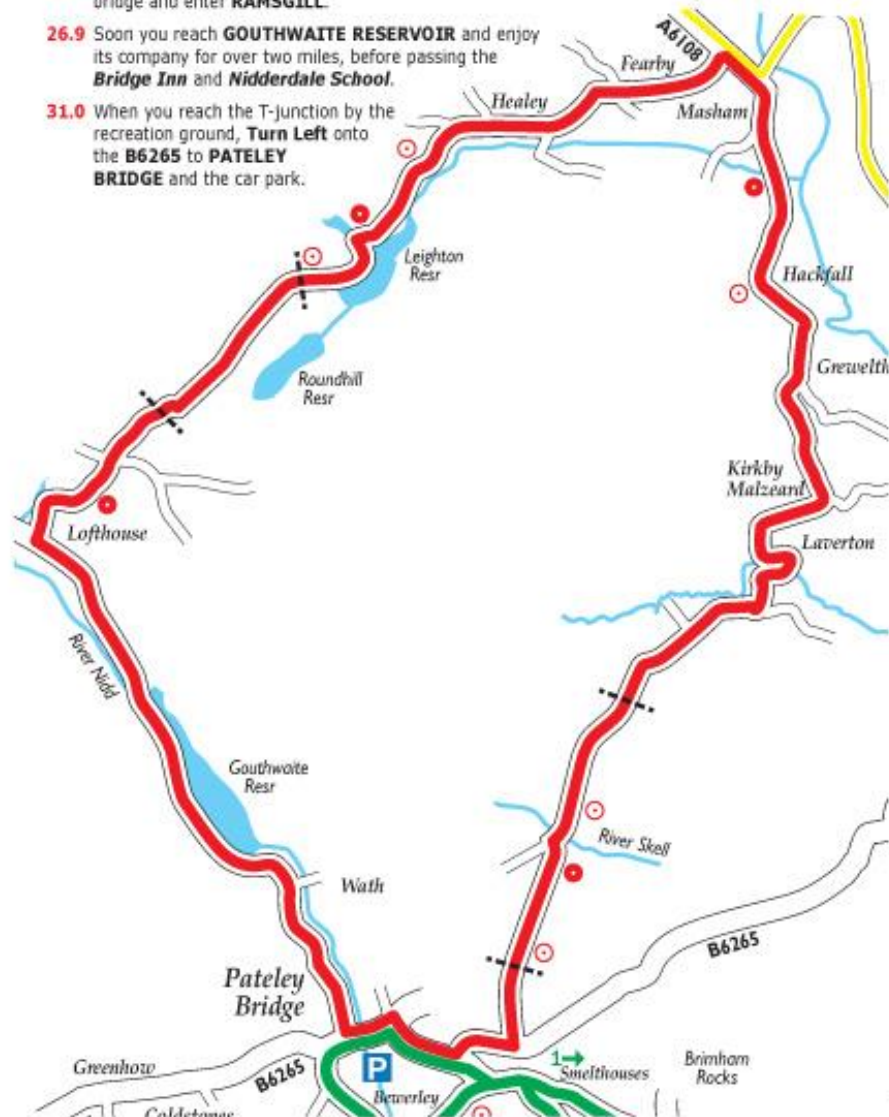
- 13.8 You reach another roundabout, where you take the **First Exit** on the **B6165 (signposted Pateley Bridge)**. Pass through the hamlet of **BEDLAM** and then uphill to reach the outskirts of **BURNT YATES**.
- 15.8 You reach the **New Inn** again (this time on your right). **Turn Left** here (signposted **Birstwith**) and again descend **Clint Bank**. When the road bends sharply right (16.6), follow it round and down to reach **BIRSTWITH**.
- 17.2 Cross the River Nidd and reach a T-junction by the village green (17.6). **Turn Right** here (signposted **Darley**).
- 19.8 Follow this road as it winds alongside the River Nidd to enter **DARLEY**. Stay on Darley Main Street to pass **Low Green** (on the left) and **Stocks Green** (on the right) (20.6). Just before the end of Main Street (21.3), the road forks. Take the **Right Fork** to reach the **B6451**. Carefully **Turn Right** here.
- 22.9 Pass **Darley Mill Centre**, climb steeply up to **DACRE TOP** and then descend to **DACRE BANKS**.
- 23.4 After passing through Dacre Banks, cross the River Nidd alongside the **Max Pullan Recreation Ground**, to reach a busy cross-roads in **SUMMERBRIDGE**. Carefully **Turn Left** here on the **B6165 (signposted Pateley Bridge)**.
- 27.0 Pass through the villages of **LOW LAITHE** and **WILSILL** to enter **PATELEY BRIDGE** at the top of the High Street, which you descend to the Car Park at the bottom of the hill.

THE POLKA-DOT JERSEY ROUTE (31 MILES)

miles

- 0.0** Start from one of the Public Car Parks in **PATELEY BRIDGE**, situated at the bottom of the High Street, either side of the bridge over the River Nidd.
- 0.1** Proceed up the High Street, **Bearing Right** at the top on Ripon Road.
- 1.2** After just over a mile **Turn Left** onto **B6265** (*signposted Ripon & Fellbeck*).
- 1.9** Pass through the hamlet of **BLAIZEFIELD** and then **Turn Left** (signposted Dallowgill & Kirkby Malzeard).
- 3.9** Ride steadily uphill to reach the moor where a downhill section is followed by a climb to cross a cattle grid.
- 4.2** Drop downhill steeply to cross a narrow bridge over the infant River Skell, then steeply uphill.
- 6.2** On the highest point of the moor, there are extensive views of Wensleydale and the Vale of York, with Nidderdale behind you. Begin your descent, and cross another cattle grid.
- 7.7** In one and a half miles, you reach a road on the left to Laverton & Kirkby Malzeard. Take care not to miss this junction. **Turn Left** here (*signposted Laverton & Kirkby Malzeard*).
- 8.0** Travel downhill to enter **LAVERTON**, where you cross a bridge over the River Laver to a T-junction (**8.3** miles). **Turn Left** (signposted Kirkby Malzeard & Masham).
- 8.9** Ascend to enter **KIRKBY MALZEARD** and **Bear Right** (*signposted Masham*).
- 9.3** In the centre of Kirkby Malzeard **Turn Left** (*signposted Grewelthorpe & Masham*).
- 10.5** At a triangular green when approaching **GREWELTHORPE** **Bear Right** and then at the next green (**10.8** miles) **Keep Left** to reach a T-junction opposite the **Crown Inn**. **Turn Left** and then **Bear Right** as you leave Grewelthorpe (*always following signposts to Masham*).
- 11.4** Sweep uphill to pass the viewpoint for **HACKFALL WOODS**.
- 14.0** Go downhill to cross a bridge and follow the road into the centre of **MASHAM**. As you reach the Market Place the route **Bears Left**, (but you may wish to pause in Masham Market Place).
- 14.1** The route continues from the Market Place for about 100 yards to an intersection, where you **Bear Left** on the **A6108** (*signposted Middleham & Leyburn*).
- 14.3** In a quarter of a mile, **Turn Left** (*signposted Leighton, Fearby & Healey*).
- 15.6** Travel through the village of **FEARBY** and then enter **HEALEY**.
- 17.6** After leaving Healey **Bear Left** (*signposted Leighton*) and run downhill and then very steeply uphill. For the next few miles, there are several steep, narrow descents. **Take great care**.
- 20.4** Cross a bridge over **LEIGHTON RESERVOIR** and then a climb up brings you to a cattle grid onto the moor, and spectacular views.
- 21.8** Cross the moor and descend steeply to cross a beck, then uphill again to cross another cattle grid atop the hill.
- 23.5** Start your descent into Nidderdale. This extremely steep downhill twists through a number of very tight bends. Take great care on this descent.

- 24.6** Enter the village of **LOFTHOUSE** and at the T-junction, **Turn Left** (*signposted Pateley Bridge*).
- 26.6** Follow the road as it winds along beside the River Nidd. After two miles, cross a narrow bridge and enter **RAMSGILL**.
- 26.9** Soon you reach **GOUTHWAITE RESERVOIR** and enjoy its company for over two miles, before passing the **Bridge Inn** and **Nidderdale School**.
- 31.0** When you reach the T-junction by the recreation ground, **Turn Left** onto the **B6265** to **PATELEY BRIDGE** and the car park.



PLACES OF INTEREST ON THE ROUTES

Some places you might like to visit include:

Bewerley

- Coldstones Cut
- Bewerley Recreation Ground
- Nidderdale Swimming Pool
- Bridgehousegate

Birstwith

- Village shop
- The Station Inn
- Children's playground

Burnt Yates & Clint

- New Inn
- Millennium seat
- Playground
- Stocks at Clint

Dacre

- Max Pullan Recreation Ground
- Royal Oak
- Dacre Village shop
- Abbott's garage

Darley

- Darley village store & Post Office
- Playing Fields, Station Rd.
- Wellington Inn
- Darley Mill Centre

Felliscliffe

- Queen's Head
- Black Bull
- Millstones

Grewelthorpe

- The Crown Inn

Hampsthwaite

- Joiner's Arms
- Sophie's Tea Shop

Hartwith/Summerbridge

- Brimham Rocks
- Summerbridge stores
- Summerbridge Post Office

Killinghall

- Three Horse Shoes
- Glebe playground
- Methodist Church

Kirkby Malzeard & Laverton

- Kirkby stores
- Queens Head
- Fish'n'chips

Masham

- Masham Town Square

Pateley Bridge

- High Street & Courtyard shops
- Nidderdale Museum
- Way of the Roses sculpture

Ripley

- Boar's Head Hotel
- Ripley Castle
- Playground
- Shops

Upper Nidderdale

- The Crown at Lofthouse
- The Crown at Middlesmoor
- Studfold Farm
- How Stean Gorge

*Keep a look
out for the
Tour de France
commemorative
plaques:*

