The view toward **Meltham Moor** from Netherton Edge





Lord's Mill, a Grade II listed watermill on Mag Brook, currently derelict

Castle Hill and Victoria Tower. A representation of the tower appears on the badge of Huddersfield Town A.F.C.



Castle Hill earthworks; the summit has the remains of two hillforts and a 12th-century motte-and-bailey castle, as well as the Victoria Tower of 1899.



Upper Steps Mill is a former woollen mill now converted to residential use. Its millpond survives as a long, narrow fishing pond.



Honley Wells are two Grade II listed stone water troughs dating from the late 18th century. A plaque dated 1796 reads "Any Person who damages these Wells or defiles the water incurs the Penalty of Ten Shillings".



The toposcope at the top of the Victoria Tower

Text, photos and mapping by
Walks from the Door
www.walksfromthedoor.co.uk

JACOBS WELL
HONLEY

Walking with us!

MAG DALE
A short stroll through a riverside open space, returning via the historic centre of Honley.

MAG DALE & SPRING WOOD
A varied walk with waterside sections, rocky viewpoints, woodland and villagescape.

CASTLE HILL
A scenic walk to a famous local landmark and viewpoint.

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MAG DALE

1½ miles: fairly easy

A short stroll through a riverside open space, returning via the historic centre of Honley. Allow about 1 hour. One steep climb, and an avoidable steep flight of steps down at the end.

1 From the front door of the Jacob's Well, turn left along the main road. **2** Cross the River Holme and turn left at the lights, crossing the river again. **3** At the bottom of Old Turnpike, cross Eastgate (the road to your right). **4** When Eastgate bends left and heads uphill, Follow the path on the right with a Holme Valley Riverside Way roundel. **5** Beyond some garages and a house, continue straight ahead through a gate, staying on the signposted Riverside Way with a wall on your left and the river away to your right. **6** After a pair of gates, enter the Magdale Fields open space. **7** After a short distance, turn right through a metal archway and walk down steps to a weir (you can avoid these steps if you prefer by carrying straight on and jumping to step 10). **8** Follow the riverside path downstream to another weir. **9** Turn left over Whitby Bridge to rejoin the main path and turn right. **10** Cross a narrow footbridge and turn right, still following the Riverside Way. **11** Turn sharp left just before the weir on your right, and follow a path along the side of a long lake with fishing platforms. **12** As the lake narrows, drop left onto a parallel path and follow it right. **13** Cross a footbridge and bear left below a terrace of listed cottages. **14** At the end of a hedged path, turn right along a driveway to the road. **15** Turn left and bear left over Mag Bridge. **16** Follow the road right, uphill. **17** At the junction with Thirstin Road, keep left (Green Cliff) and continue uphill past Greendale Court (left) and Greenway (right). **18** At the top of the hill, descend into the centre of Honley village, past St Mary's Mews (left) and Town Head (right). **19** Carry straight on at the junction with School Street, past the parish church and the end of St Mary's Road on the left. **20** At the bottom of Church Street, cross Eastgate with care and continue along Southgate, opposite. **21** After 300m, turn hard left at the junction with Old Turnpike. **22** Look out for a footpath sign on the right indicating the top of a steep flight of worn stone steps leading down to the Jacob's Well. (These can be avoided by continuing down Old Turnpike to Honley Bridge and turning right and right again.)

MAG DALE & SPRING WOOD

4¼ miles: moderate

A varied walk with waterside sections, rocky viewpoints, woodland and villagescape. Allow 2 hours. Woodland paths may be muddy. A couple of moderate climbs, and an avoidable steep flight of steps down at the end.

Follow steps **1-14** of the Mag Dale walk, above.
15 Turn right and walk uphill, passing a bench and bin at the junction with Mag Dale. **16** At the road junction at the top of the hill, keep left (Sandbeds). **17** Keep straight on at the next junction (departing from the waymarked Riverside Way). **18** When Netherton Moor Road bends right, there are two footpaths off to the left, either side of a driveway; take the second, through a kissing gate. **19** Follow the path into woodland and continue ahead, keeping to the level ground above the slope to your left. **20** The path runs along the right-hand edge of the woodland, eventually passing a couple of rocky outcrops on the left and with views to Castle Hill on the right. **21** Pass the rear of a couple of houses on the outskirts of Netherton then turn sharp left at the end of the path. **22** Walk below a terrace of houses and a detached house beyond. **23** The driveway continues downhill to a final house; pick up a footpath through a gate into woodland beyond. **24** Follow the path downhill through the trees. **25** At a fork, you can take either path but the lower gives good views of listed Lord's Mill; continuing within the woodland, the paths reunite and run along the bottom of the wood. **26** Just beyond a boulder on the left, the path divides again; take the right-hand fork, between two small boulders (if you miss this slightly obscure path, the wider path ahead leads up and down through the wood to a fork where you turn right to reach step 29). **27** The narrow, lower path winds along the bottom of the woodland before crossing below the tiny waterfall at Spring Head Well over stepping stones. **28** Shortly afterwards, meet another path at a squeeze stile. **29** Exit the wood via a gateway and follow the driveway beyond to Mag Bridge.
Turn right over the bridge and jump to step 16 of the Mag Dale walk for directions back to the Jacob's Well.

CASTLE HILL

5¾ miles: fairly strenuous

A scenic walk to a famous local landmark and viewpoint. Allow 3 hours. Some moderate ascents, steps and rocky ground. Livestock likely.

Follow steps **1-10** of the Mag Dale walk, above.
11 Pass a weir on your right, then follow a driveway between houses and gardens out to the road. **12** Turn right over the river and walk up to the main road. **13** Turn left past a bus stop and cross with care opposite the petrol station. **14** Turn left then immediately right into a side-road. **15** After a short distance, turn right onto a footpath signposted to Upper Park Wood LNR. **16** Follow the left fork and go through a tunnel. **17** On your emergence, turn right onto a stony, ascending footpath. **18** Skirt the left-hand edge of a couple of fields to a wooden kissing gate, then climb the grassy hillside with woodland on your left to a crossing path and bench. **19** Behind the bench, go through a kissing gate with a roundel for the Castle Hill Geology Trail. **20** Bear left through the woodland to a gate into fields. **21** Climb to another hand-gate and bear left along the edge of the cemetery towards the Victoria Tower. **22** When you reach the road, turn right. **23** Cross with care to a bus stop and go through the adjacent gateway, following the left-hand field edge. **24** Drop down to cross a stile above a wood, then pass another stile at the end of the trees. **25** A short way along the next field, turn left through a gateway and follow the right-hand wall to a stile in the corner. **26** Continue along the field edge to the next corner, where you turn right across the field on your right. **27** At the far side, ignoring the stile ahead, turn left and walk out to the road, emerging via a stile to the right of a Grade II listed terrace of cottages. **28** Turn right along the road towards Castle Hill. **29** At a road junction and bus stop, turn right. **30** Just before a parking layby on the right, turn left up steps. **31** Cross the path that circles the hillfort and climb to the Victoria Tower. **32** Continue to the car park and, beyond the entrance, take the path across the middle of the hillfort enclosure. **33** At the far end, pass through a gap in the embankment, then turn right by a litter bin on the obvious surfaced path. **34** Shortly, take a narrow unsurfaced path off to the left that descends to a wall and turn right. **35** Follow the wall downhill, then continue alongside a fence. **36** When the path drops down through bracken to another path, turn sharp left to a gate and continue along the sunken way beyond. **37** Exit into a field and follow the left-hand wall to a track. **38** Take a few steps to the left then turn right over a stile into the field beyond. Follow the left-hand edge of two fields down to a country lane. **39** Turn left for a short distance then turn right through a hand-gate by a litter bin. **40** Walk down to a projecting hedge then bear half-right across the next field to the far corner. **41** A metal hand-gate leads into woodland; descend the uneven path and cross the Lumb Dike. **42** Climb up from the stream via rough steps and continue straight on at a waymark post indicating a path to the right. **43** Exit the wood via a stile into fields. **44** Follow the right-hand edge of the field into another area of woodland. **45** Follow the path uphill, across a stream and through a brackeny open area. **46** Back in the woodland, bear right with a stream valley on your left and cross another bridge. **47** The path continues uphill through the trees to a couple of stiles into fields. **48** Walk up the side of the field to a wooden kissing gate then left past a bench with views back to Castle Hill and beyond. **49** Follow the fenced path as it bends right and leads up to Farnley Tyas. **50** Turn right then right again at the Golden Cock. **51** By the church, keep right and pass the primary school as you leave the village. **52** 300 metres from the junction, just before a house on the left, cross and go through a squeeze-stile onto a footpath. **53** Follow the right-hand field edge past house and farm and descend to a stream valley. **54** Bear right at a waymark post and descend to a slab bridge over the stream. **55** Follow the enclosed path beyond, along the top of the wood. **56** The path continues in similar vein along the edge of the wooded valley for about ¼ mile, then bears right downhill into the wood. **57** After 220m, cross a track and continue on the narrow path downhill opposite. **58** When you emerge into an open area, bear left past a telegraph pole and pick up a narrow path between gardens out to the road opposite the former Methodist Chapel. **59** Turn right and walk down the pavement for 100m. **60** Turn right into Woodroyd Avenue and immediately left into Cop Royd. **61** At the end of the private road, take the footpath left of the curving driveway ahead of you. **62** Bear left under a railway bridge into Station Road. **63** Pass the station (on your right) and walk down the station approach road. **64** Turn left opposite Honley High School and walk down Station Road to the A616 (¼ mile). **65** Cross into the continuation of Station Road to the traffic lights on the A6024. **66** Turn left to return to the Jacob's Well.