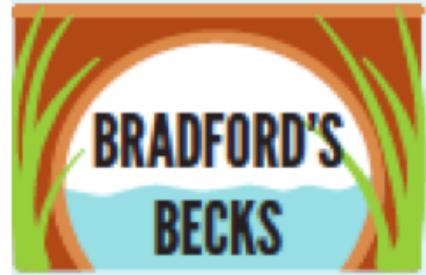


Help us to get our directions right!

Below are the instructions for one of the walks which we plan to include in our booklet of walks around Bradford's Becks. You can help us by following the instructions and letting us know of any errors or any improvements that can be made. We haven't yet done any mapping, but the walk can be found on OS Explorer 288 (Bradford & Huddersfield). However, we hope that the directions are good enough not to need to check the map.



Please send any comments to rose@walkout.demon.co.uk Thank you.

Towards the source of the Beck

Given the large number of streams which eventually make up Bradford Beck, it can be difficult to identify the actual source. However, as the most western of the Bradford Beck tributaries, this title could go to Pitty Beck. This short walk takes you to the furthest point of Pitty Beck which can be reached by public footpath, although you only get only a fleeting glimpse of the beck as it runs under a small footbridge.

Length: 4km

Terrain Two short climbs and one boggy area, otherwise easy going

Starting point By the footpath sign to Egypt in Long Lane, off Allerton Road. GR100342

Parking There is space for two cars to park opposite the track at the beginning of the walk

Bus There are no bus routes near the start of this walk

1. Go along the track signposted to Egypt. After about 175 metres look out for a stile beside a metal gate on the left. Go over this stile and follow the wall on the right to the bottom of the field. This field is quite tussocky, so watch your step. At the end, go over the stile into a lane, cross straight over and take the path opposite. Where the fence on your right comes to a corner, turn right and follow the path. When you meet a path coming down from the right, continue forward until you reach a footbridge and stile over Pitty Beck on your left. Cross over the stile.

2. You now have the challenge of crossing an area which is usually wet and boggy all year round. The right of way goes half right to climb towards some trees. Go to the right of a large holly bush and continue up. At the top turn right and then take either path on the left across the field to reach a farmhouse. Go through the metal gate beside the farmhouse, go right and then left to follow a path with the wall on your left. Keep following this path, which becomes increasingly narrow and stony, ignoring a path going downhill to the right. When you reach the back of some houses look for a small wooden gate next to a telegraph pole. Go through this and turn left to take a narrow walled path which brings you out onto a road. This is the hamlet of Egypt
Egypt is one of a number of Hamlets in this area with biblical names – you can also find Jericho, Jerusalem and World's End. These reflect the Puritan influence in the Thornton area.

3. Turn left along the road and after 175 metres, take the footpath signposted on the right. At the end go over the stile and follow the wall on your left. Go through three more stiles and eventually come down into a gravelled yard at Upper Stream Head Farm. Go through a gate in the wall on the right, follow the stone path and go to the left of the grass island to go through a gate next to the building. Go through the gap between the wall and fence ahead. Keep forward for a short distance and where the path forks, take the path on the right to go gently downhill. You can catch sight of Pitty Beck on the right. Go through the gap in the wall and keep going in the same direction towards a walled path between houses ahead. At the beginning of the walled path is a footbridge, and this marks the most westerly point you can see Pitty Beck.

4. You now need to return to Egypt. It is possible to continue up the path and walk back by road, but the quickest way is to retrace your steps. When you reach the road, turn left and walk down the hill to Egypt. Go past the footpath you arrived by and take the footpath at the end of the houses, signposted Long Lane. At the top go over the stile and go left and then right to join a broad path. Below you on the right you can see a well-trodden path beside the Beck which goes all the way back to the footbridge you crossed earlier; however, this is not a right of way, so our route follows the higher level. Follow the path forward until you reach a stile in the corner of a wall. Follow the track down beside a farmhouse to go over another stile and then walk forward to meet the farm track, which will take you back to the beginning of the walk.