



Wylam Railway History Trail

A gorgeous circular walk around Wylam in Northumberland. Be inspired by its locomotive past. Pub en route and packed full of history.

Distance 4.5 kilometers / 2.8 miles

Duration 1 hour and 45 minutes



Refreshments



Public transport



History



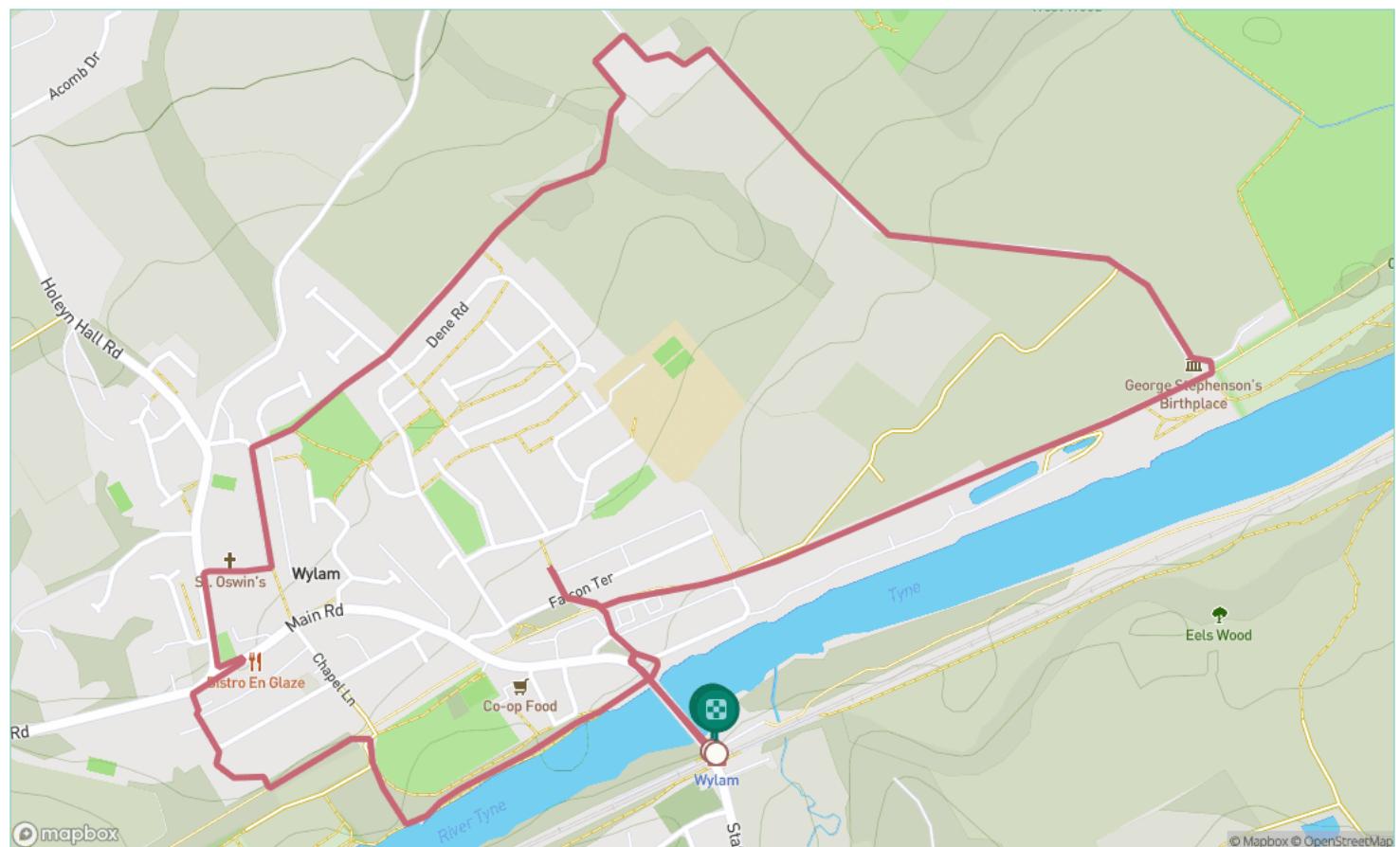
Hilly & steep

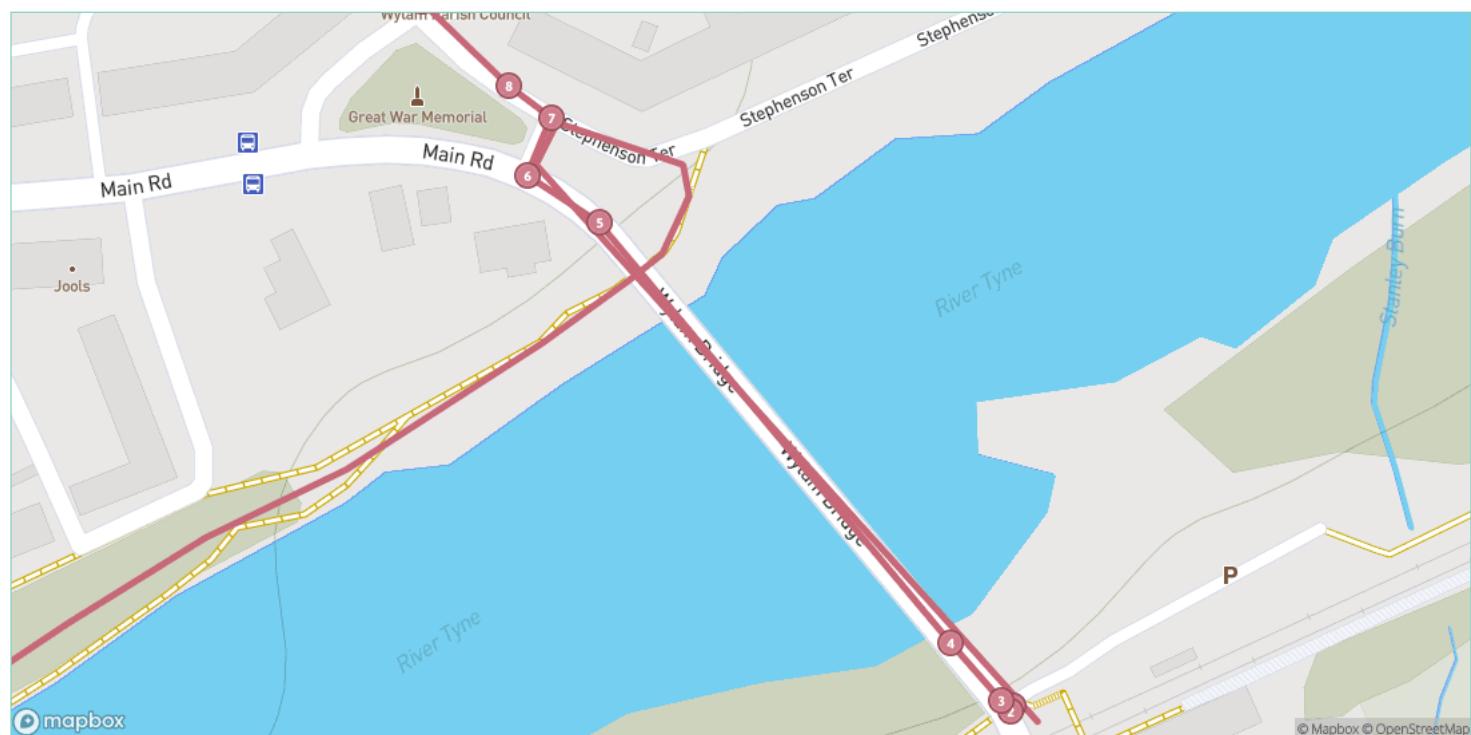


Dog friendly



Child friendly





Step 1: This walk starts at Wylam station. Served by Northern trains on the Tyne Valley line between Newcastle and Carlisle.

Step 2: The nearest free car park is can be found at the Old Wylam Station Car Park (NE41 8LA). Start the walk at Step 9 if you park there. Please note that this walk may be muddy in wet or wintry weather.

Step 3: Exit the station and turn right to cross over Wylam Bridge.

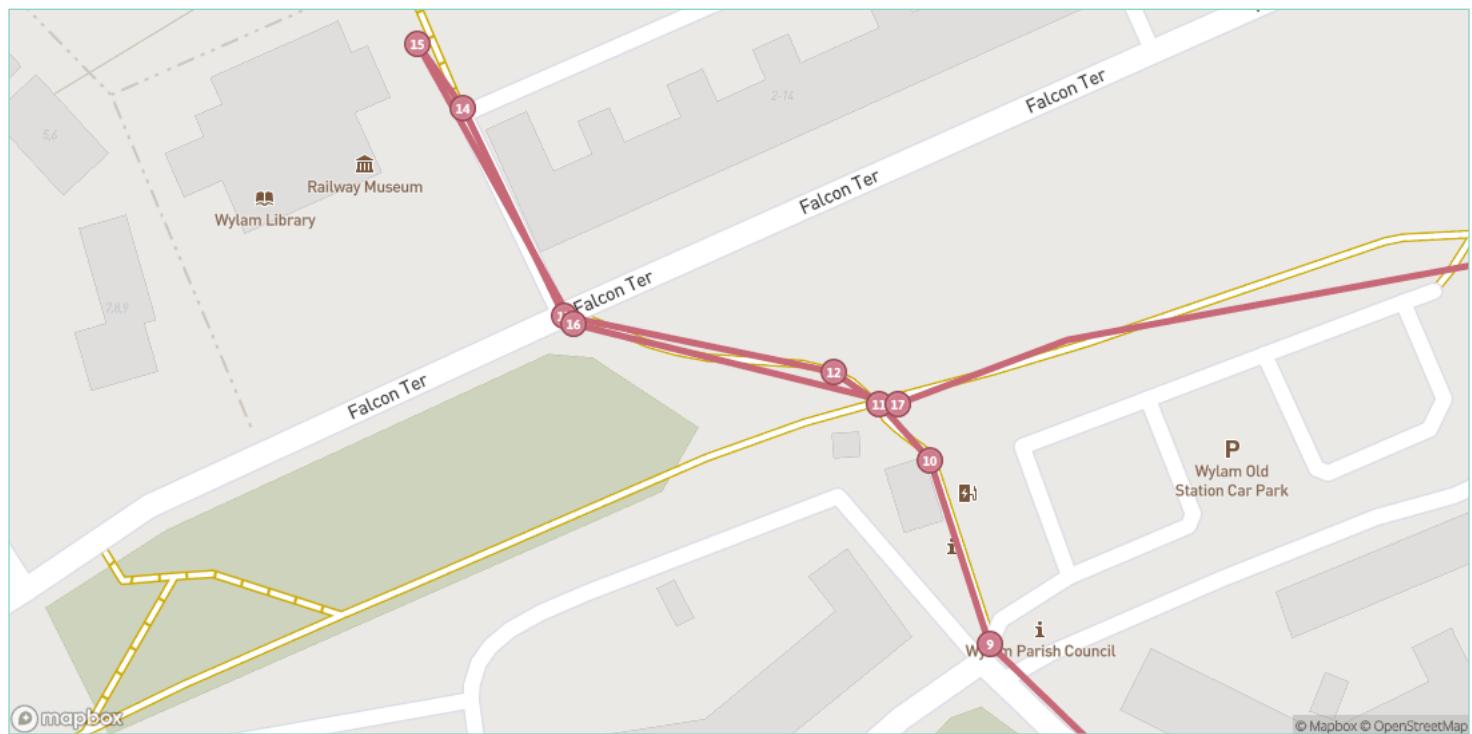
Step 4: Enjoy the gorgeous views over the River Tyne as you go.

Step 5: On the other side of the bridge. Get ready to turn right.

Step 6: Turn right here as we make our way towards the museum.

Step 7: Turn left to walk past the war memorial, along Stephenson's Terrace, named after George Stephenson, the 'father of the railways'.

Step 8: Keep right and walk towards the car park coming up on your right.



Step 9: Follow the footpath ahead, to the left of the car park.

Step 10: Keep going ahead until you reach the cross paths, just beyond the car park.

Step 11: To your left is the library and museum which is open Tues and Thurs 10:30-12:30 & 1:30-4:30 and alternative weeks each Saturday.

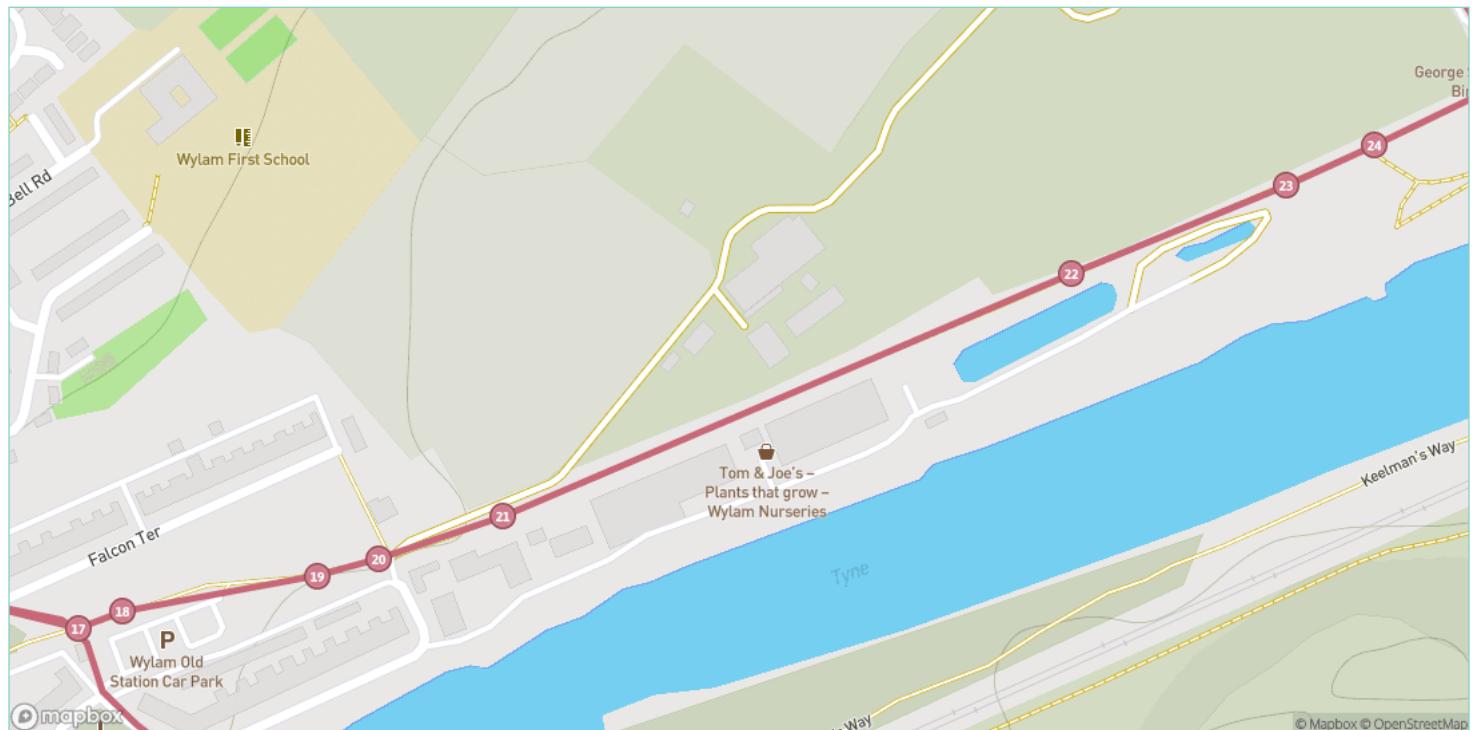
Step 12: If it's open, turn left to continue with us to the museum otherwise turn right and skip to Step 17 to continue on the rest of the walk.

Step 13: Continue uphill to make your way towards the library and museum.

Step 14: There is a step up and keep going.

Step 15: At the top you'll find the railway museum and library which also has toilets onsite.

Step 16: When you're ready, continue back downhill and turn left at the path from earlier.



Step 17: You're now walking along the Wylam Waggonway. Look left for remnants of the old railway platform.

Step 18: The Wylam Waggonway was built around 1748 for John Blackett, the owner of Wylam Colliery. Continue ahead.

Step 19: Wylam Colliery closed in 1868 and the waggonway became disused. Continue ahead along the path.

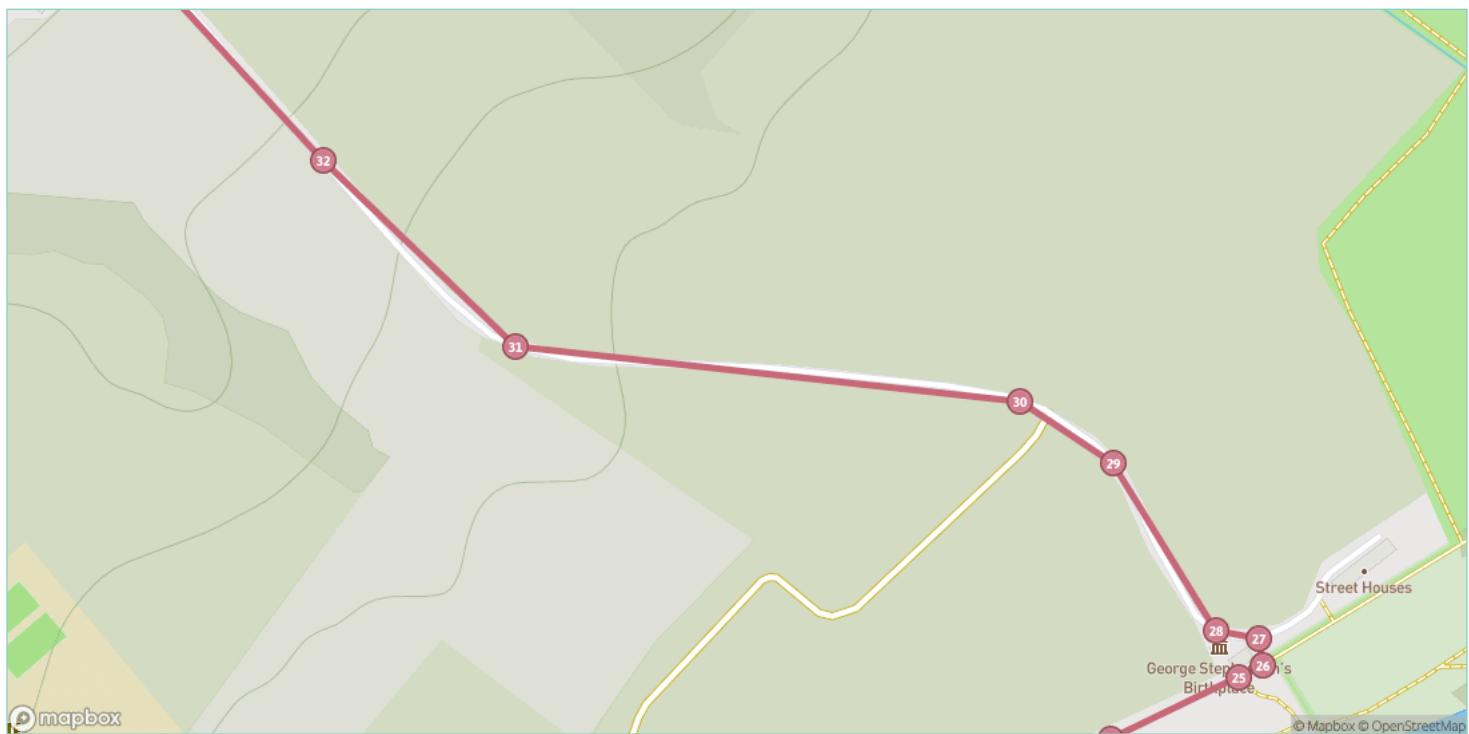
Step 20: Mind the wooden bollards as you continue straight.

Step 21: After the colliery closed, around 1875, the Scotswood to North Wylam railway line, a branch of the Newcastle to Carlisle Railway...

Step 22: ...opened and part of it followed this route. Don't miss the views on your left as you go.

Step 23: In 1966, the railway line closed and in 1972, the tracks were removed and this Waggonway was turned into a public bridleway we enjoy today.

Step 24: Don't miss this bench with the railway theme on your left as you walk. Keep your eyes peeled for a white cottage coming up next.



Step 25: This is George Stephenson's Birthplace, managed by the National Trust. Take a look at the commemorative plaque. Turn left after the cottage.

Step 26: Head through the kissing gate and keep bearing left.

Step 27: Continue behind the cottage.

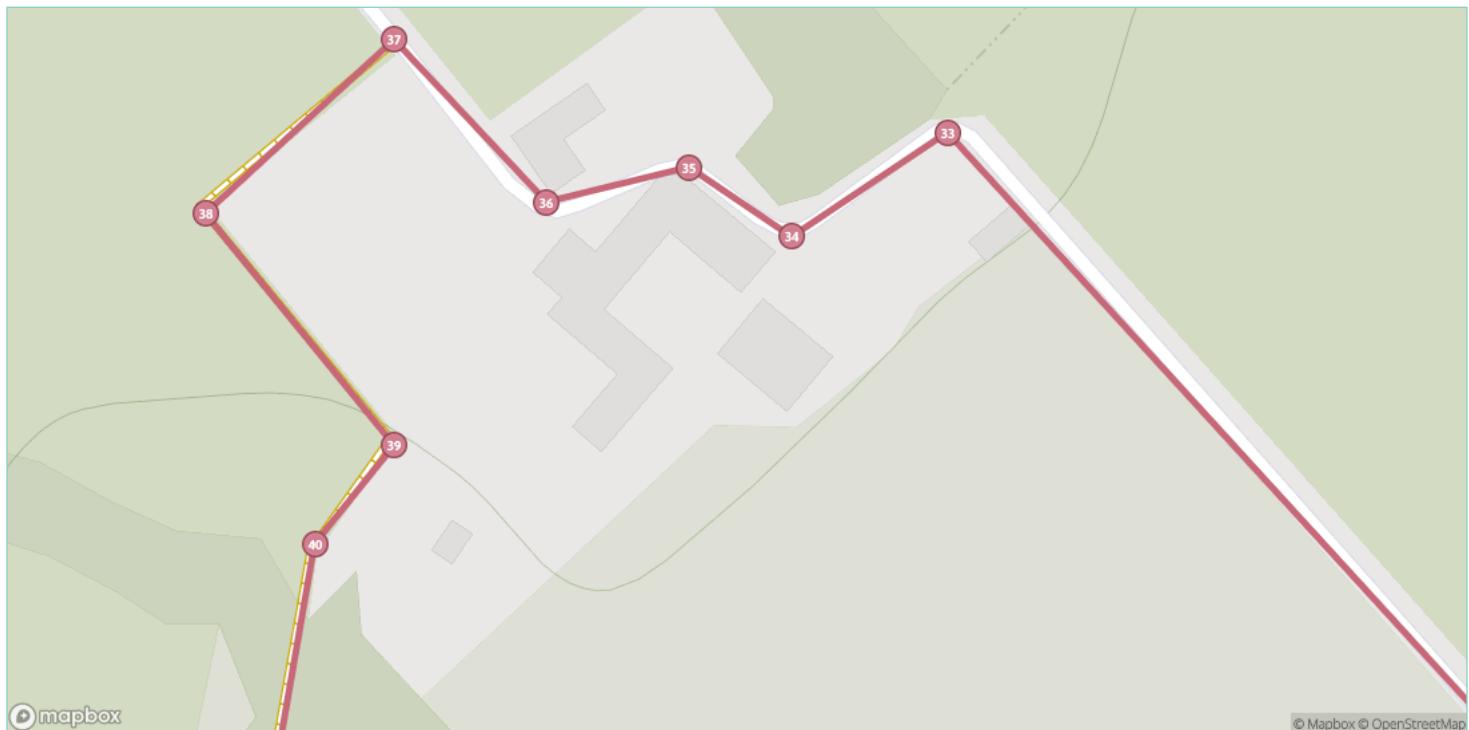
Step 28: Head up the track.

Step 29: Enjoy the sweeping views of Northumberland as you go.

Step 30: Follow the path.

Step 31: Continue as the path becomes gravel and inclines.

Step 32: What good things in nature can you spot today?



Step 33: At the end of the track, turn left.

Step 34: Walk past the farm buildings

Step 35: Please be mindful of moving vehicles as you go.

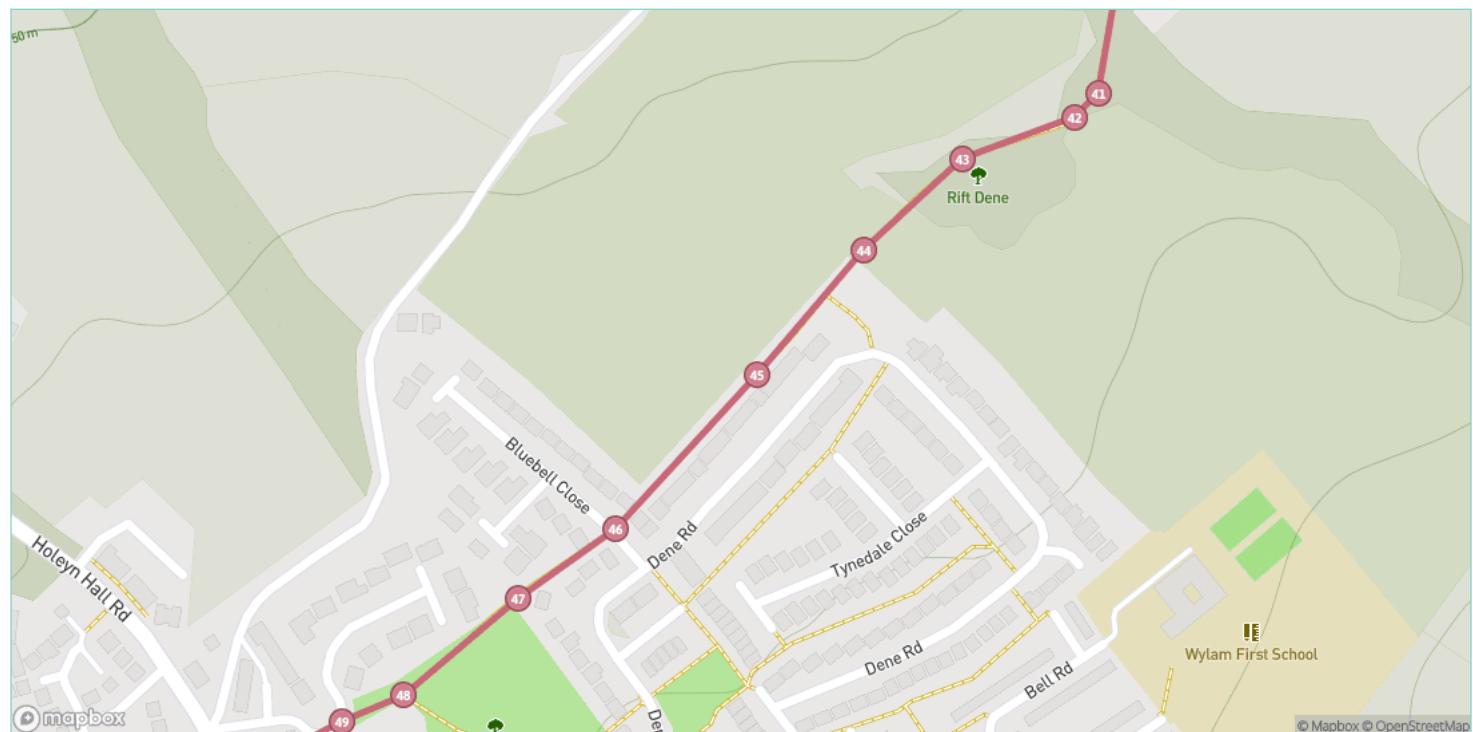
Step 36: Keep following the road but look out for a small public footpath on your left hand side.

Step 37: Turn left to cross over the wooden planks over the ditch and continue along the footpath lined with hedges.

Step 38: Follow the path left.

Step 39: Continue as it bends right.

Step 40: The path soon opens up into a small woodland. Continue down the wooden steps which may be slippy in wet or wintry weather.



Step 41: At the end of the steps, cross over the ditch via the small wooden bridge.

Step 42: Exit the woodland through the wooden gate and continue ahead.

Step 43: Walk past the gnarly tree.

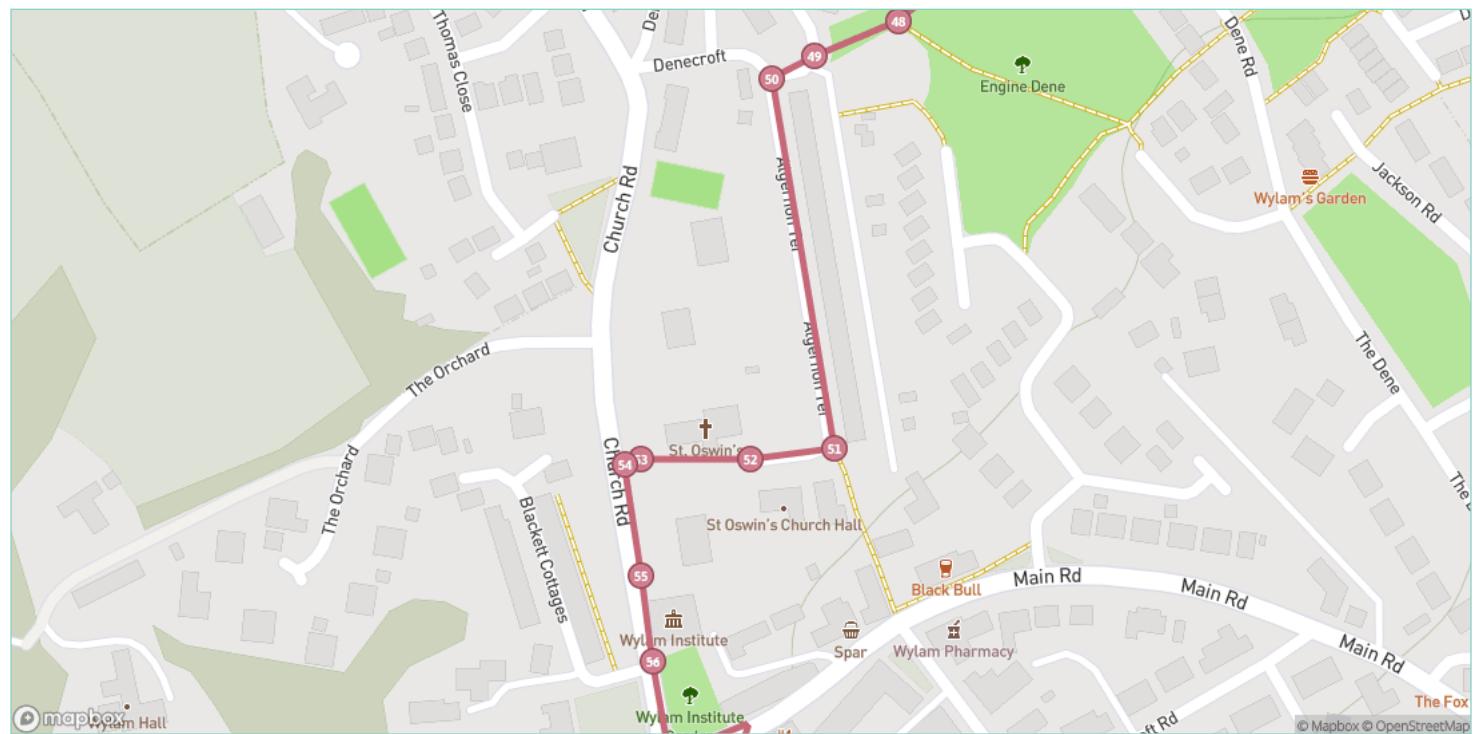
Step 44: Head through the wooden gate and continue straight, walking past some houses.

Step 45: Can you spot the old pill box on your right hand side as you go?

Step 46: Continue until the road. Cross over and continue straight through to the next alleyway.

Step 47: The path will soon open up into a small park known as Engine Dene.

Step 48: Follow the path ahead, walking past the fallen tree.



Step 49: Continue to the end and get ready to take the second left.

Step 50: Turn left onto Algernon Terrace.

Step 51: Turn right at the end to enter the churchyard.

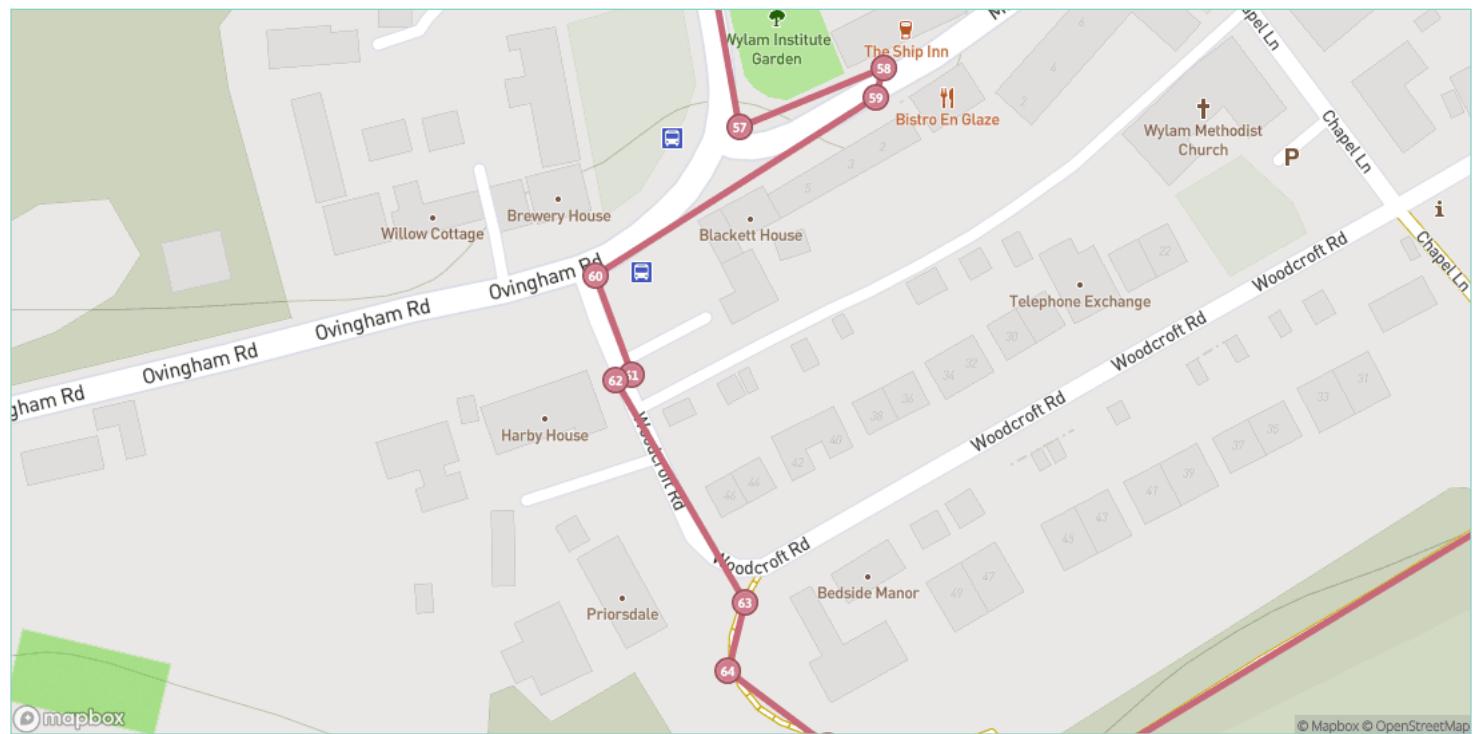
Step 52: St Oswin's church is just here. Continue past the church.

Step 53: Enjoy the church gardens before you exit at the other side.

Step 54: Turn left on Church Road.

Step 55: Continue to the end. Don't miss the cute Dove House as you go.

Step 56: On your left is the Wylam Institute.



Step 57: At the junction with Main Road turn left for a short detour to the pub.

Step 58: Up ahead is The Ship Inn. A perfect spot for refreshments. Now, cross over the road and turn right to continue.

Step 59: Continue as Main Road turns into Ovingham Road.

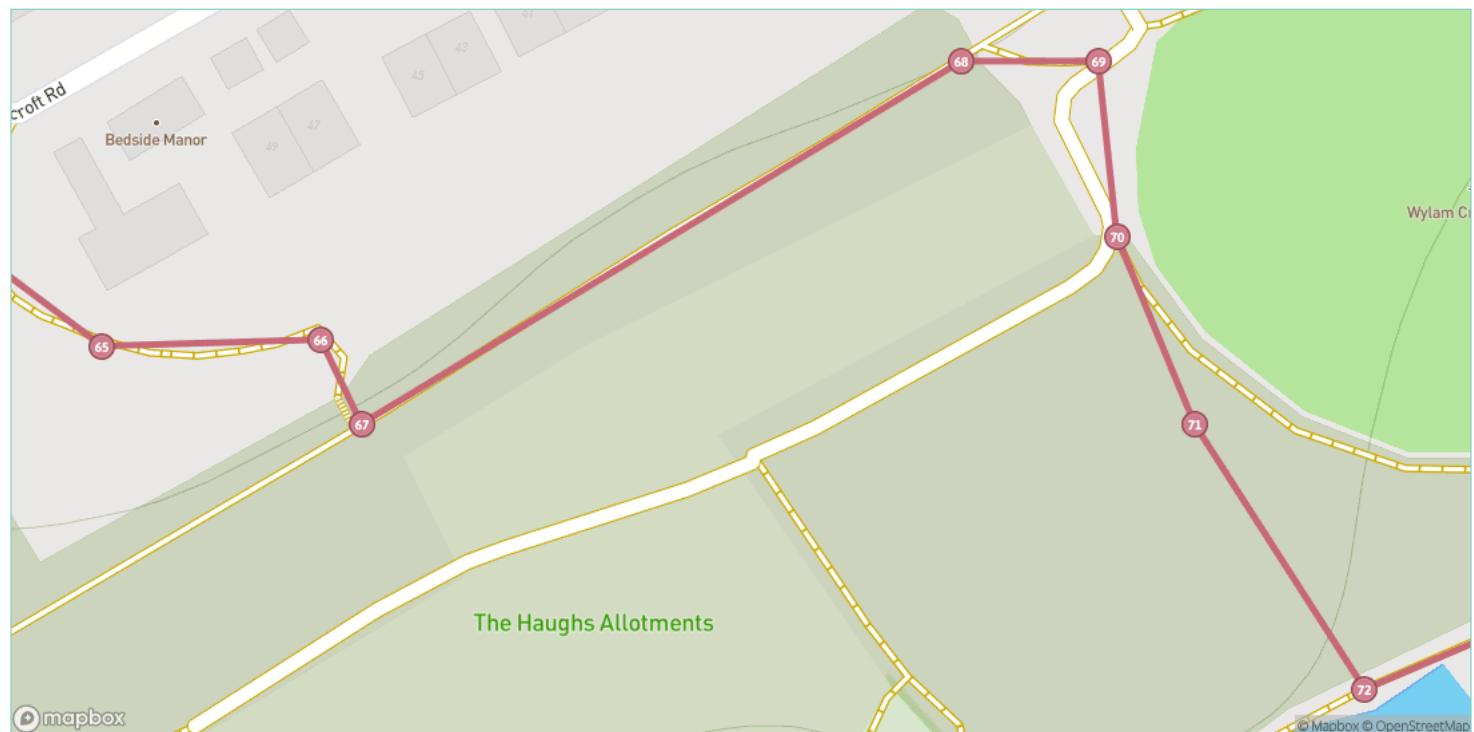
Step 60: Turn left onto Woodcroft Road.

Step 61: The old school house is here on your left and on your right...

Step 62: You'll see a plaque for William Hedley, a locomotive pioneer on the other side of the road.

Step 63: Continue to the bottom of the road and look for a small footpath heading off towards the right.

Step 64: Follow the footpath which leads to the Waggonway from earlier.



Step 65: Keep going and look out for some steps coming up.

Step 66: Take the steps down and turn left at the bottom.

Step 67: Continue ahead.

Step 68: Before the footbridge; take the uphill path on the right hand side.

Step 69: Follow the tarmac path. We're headed towards the River Tyne.

Step 70: Look for a little path on your right. Follow it.

Step 71: There are lots of well-trodden paths through the woodland, continue towards the rivers edge. If the river is high, avoid the waterside.

Step 72: At the bottom, you'll discover a small sandy beach.



Step 73: Continue left. Keep to the middle path - not shown on the map - and not along the river's edge.

Step 74: Wind your way past the vegetation.

Step 75: Follow the well-trodden path.

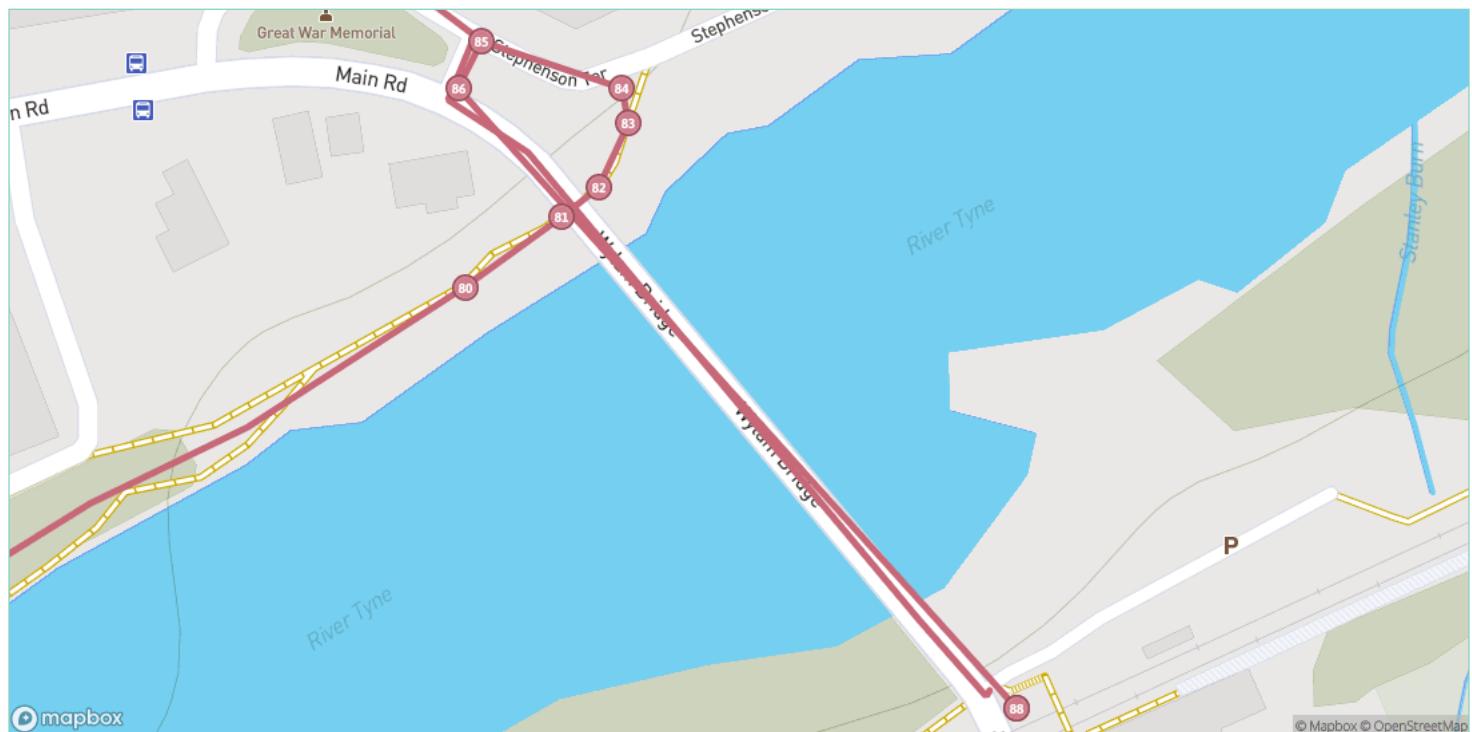
Step 76: Enjoy the glimpses of the river as you continue ahead.

Step 77: Soon the path winds its way back to the top path.

Step 78: Keep walking towards the bridge in the distance.

Step 79: Continue straight.

Step 80: Wylam Bridge is just up ahead. Continue under the bridge.



Step 81: You can see the weir here.

Step 82: Look out for the steps up which takes you to Stephenson's Terrace from earlier. This is the last stretch of the walk now.

Step 83: There's more great views at the top.

Step 84: Turn left at the top and make your way towards the bridge if you're headed back to the station.

Step 85: Follow the road around to the left to make your way towards the bridge.

Step 86: Cross over the bridge.

Step 87: And you're back at the start! Check out the signal box if you missed it earlier. We hope you enjoyed this walk as much as we did.

Step 88: We have lots more walks in Northumberland. Check the app for more ideas or why not tap the 3 dots below to share this walk with friends.