



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



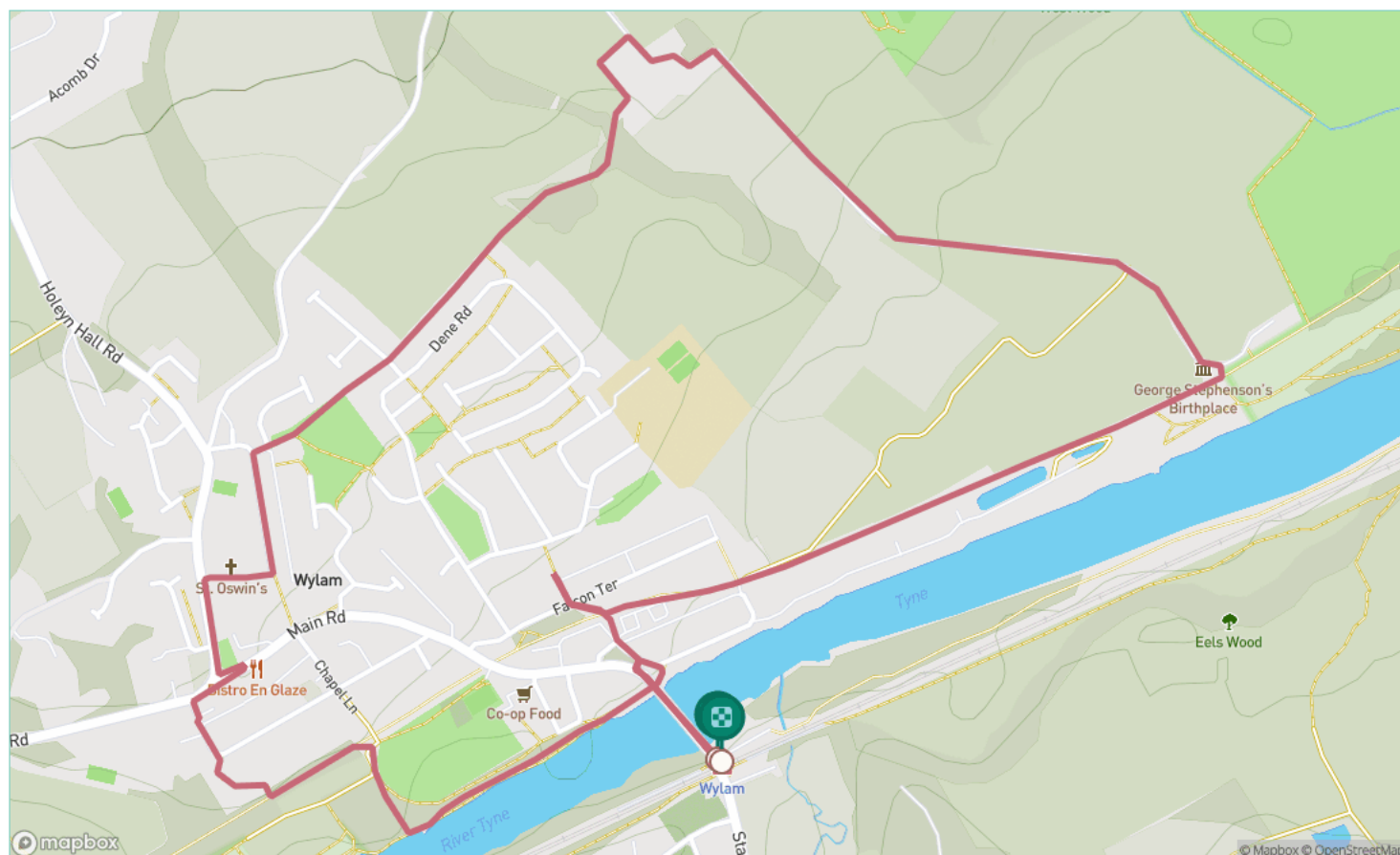
Hilly & steep



Dog friendly



Child friendly



Disclaimer: Directions are provided as guidance only. Weather, construction, closures or other factors may affect routes. Please take care when crossing roads and avoid private land. Always follow local signage and use common sense. Created by Go Jauntly Ltd © 2025. Last Updated: 12 December 2025.



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 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.

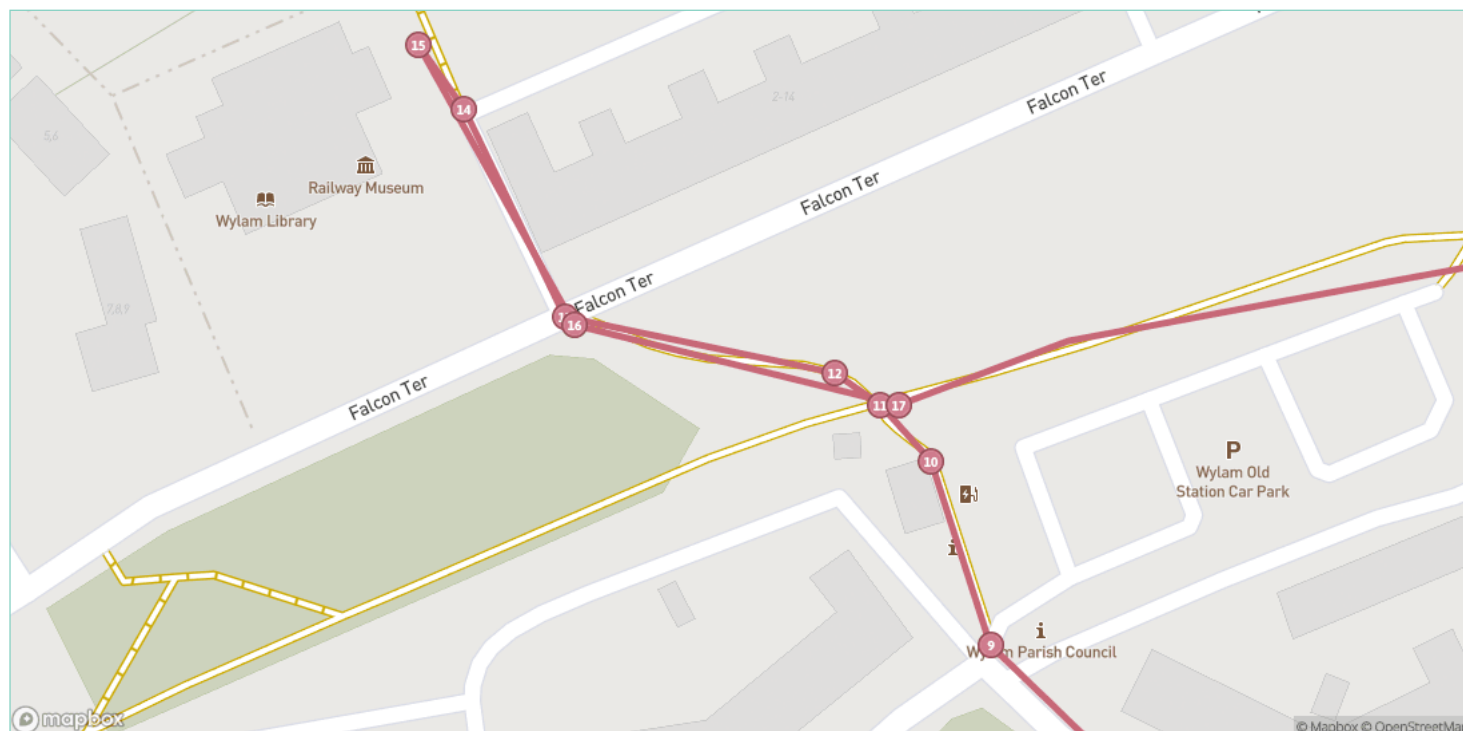
Step 4: Enjoy the gorgeous views over the River Tyne as you go.

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.

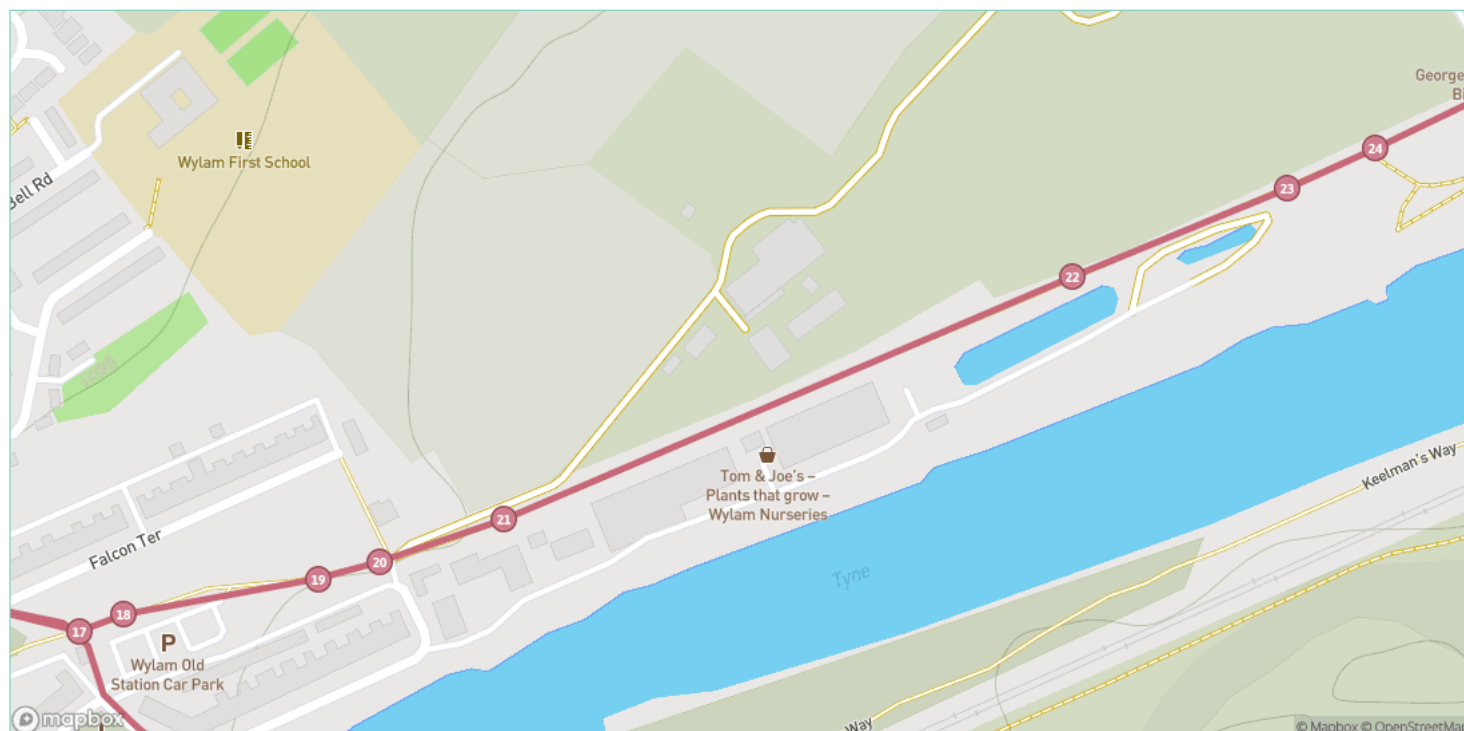
Step 12: If it's open, turn left to continue with us to the museum otherwise turn right and skip to Step 17 to continue on the rest of the walk.

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.

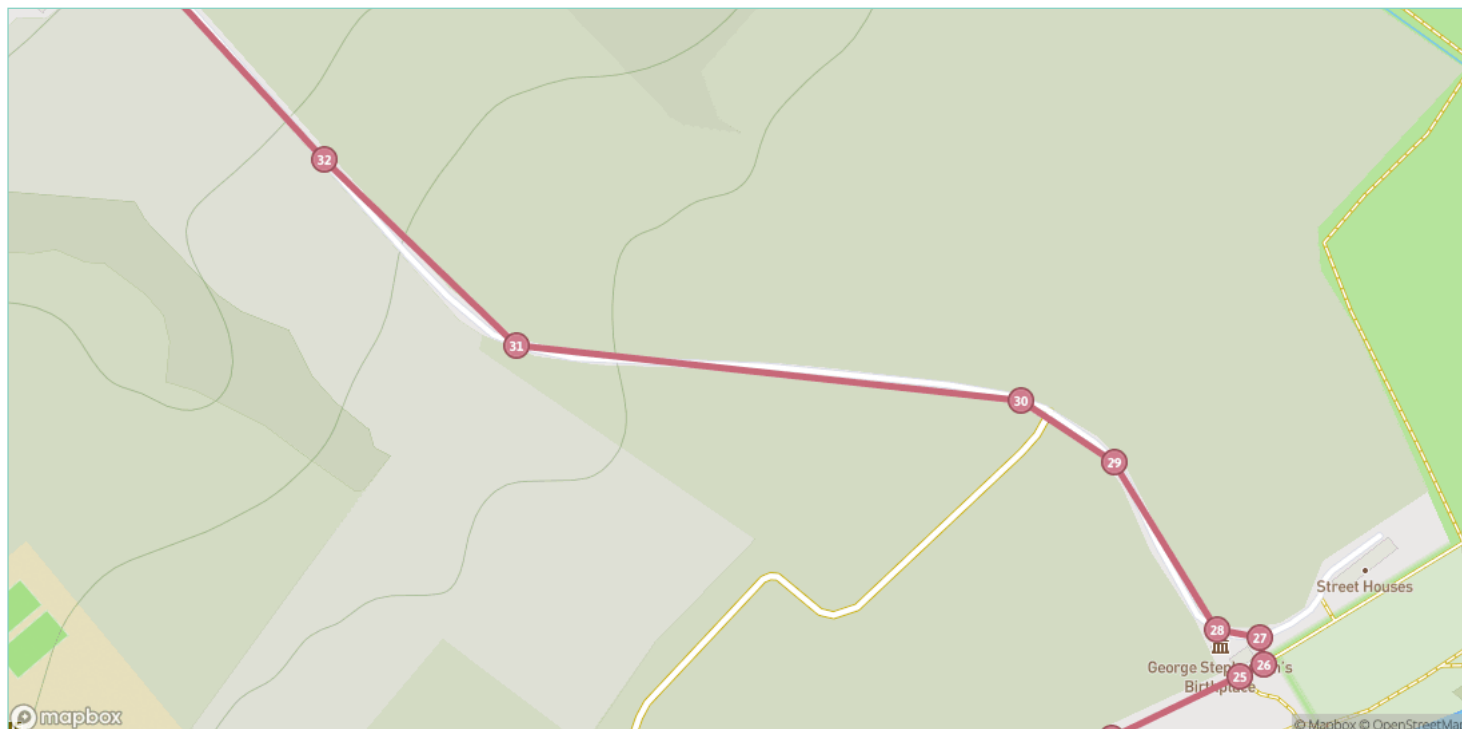
Step 20: Mind the wooden bollards as you continue straight.

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.

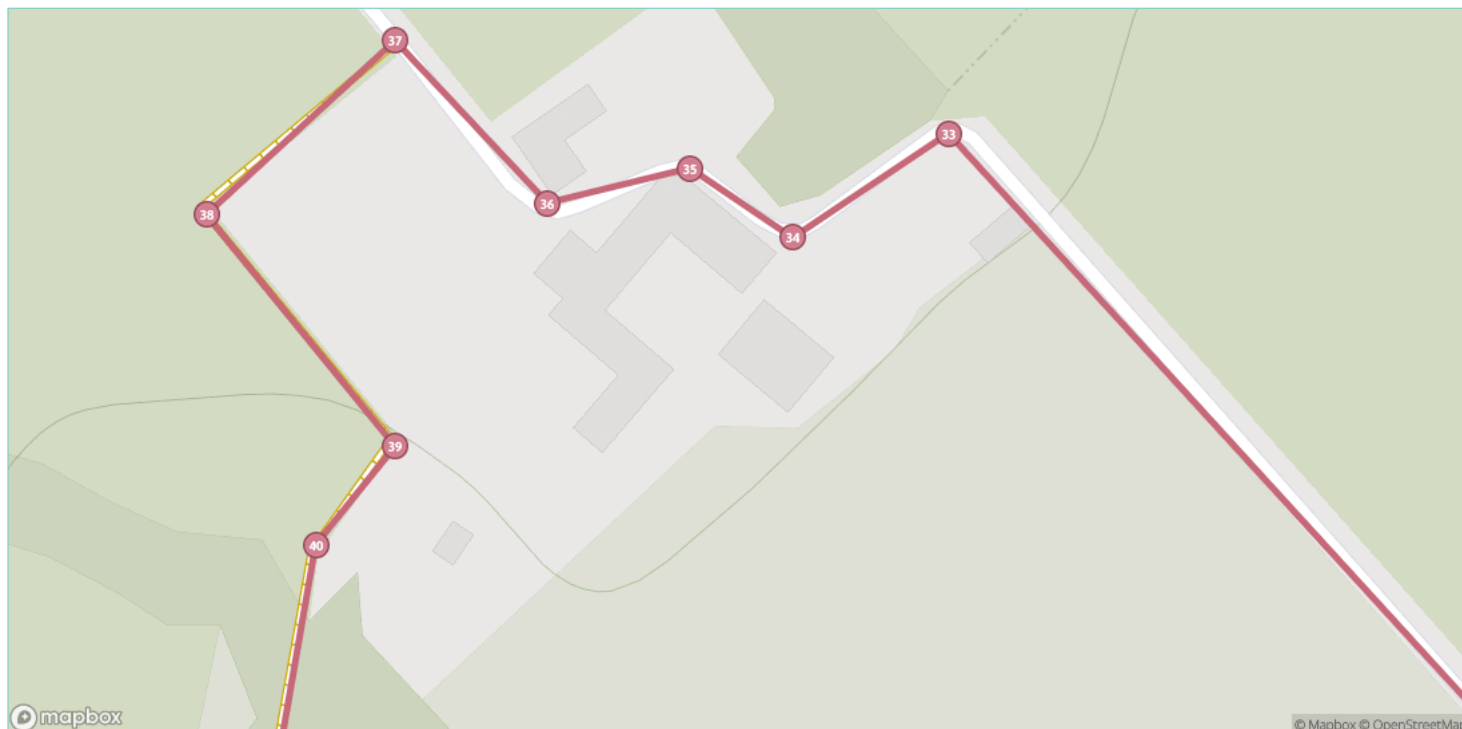
Step 28: Head up the track.

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.

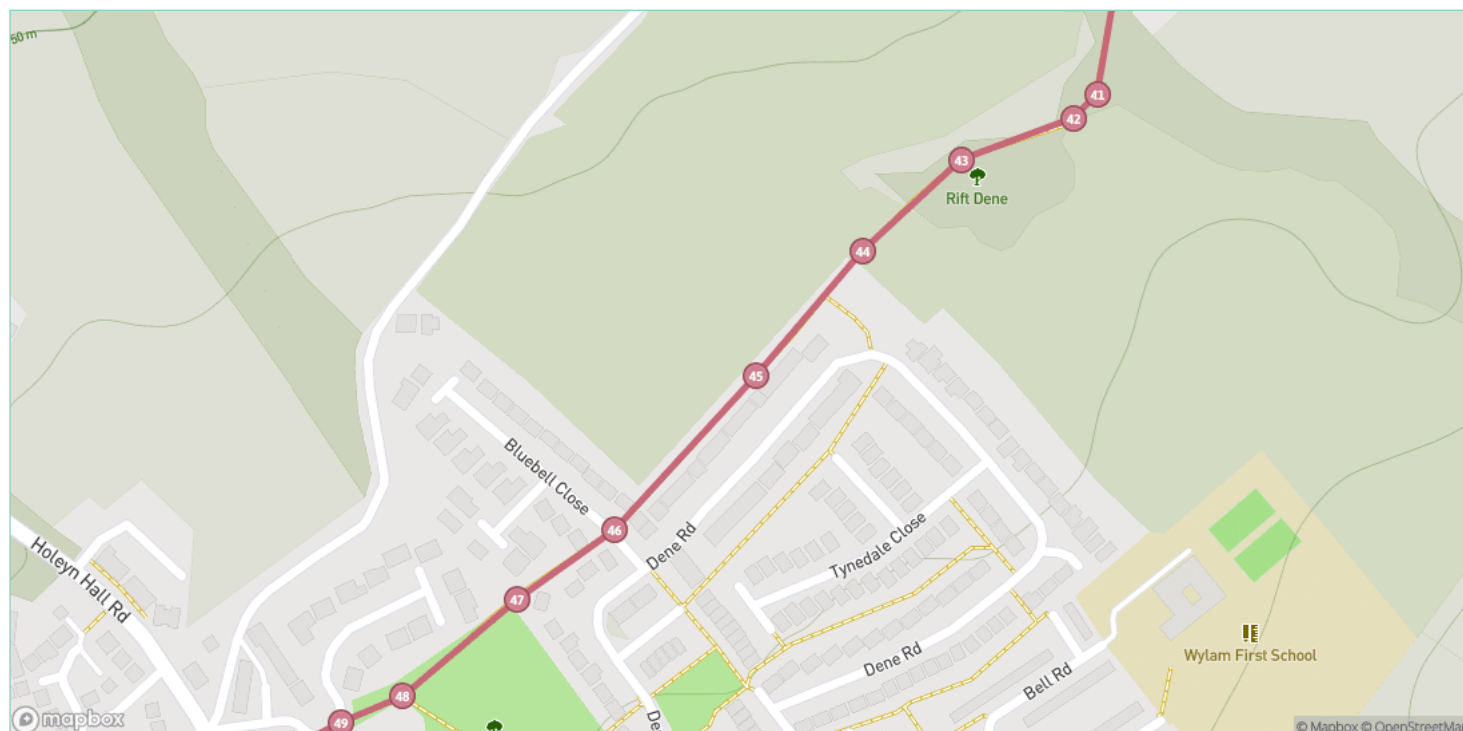
Step 36: Keep following the road but look out for a small public footpath on your left hand side.

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 slippery 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.

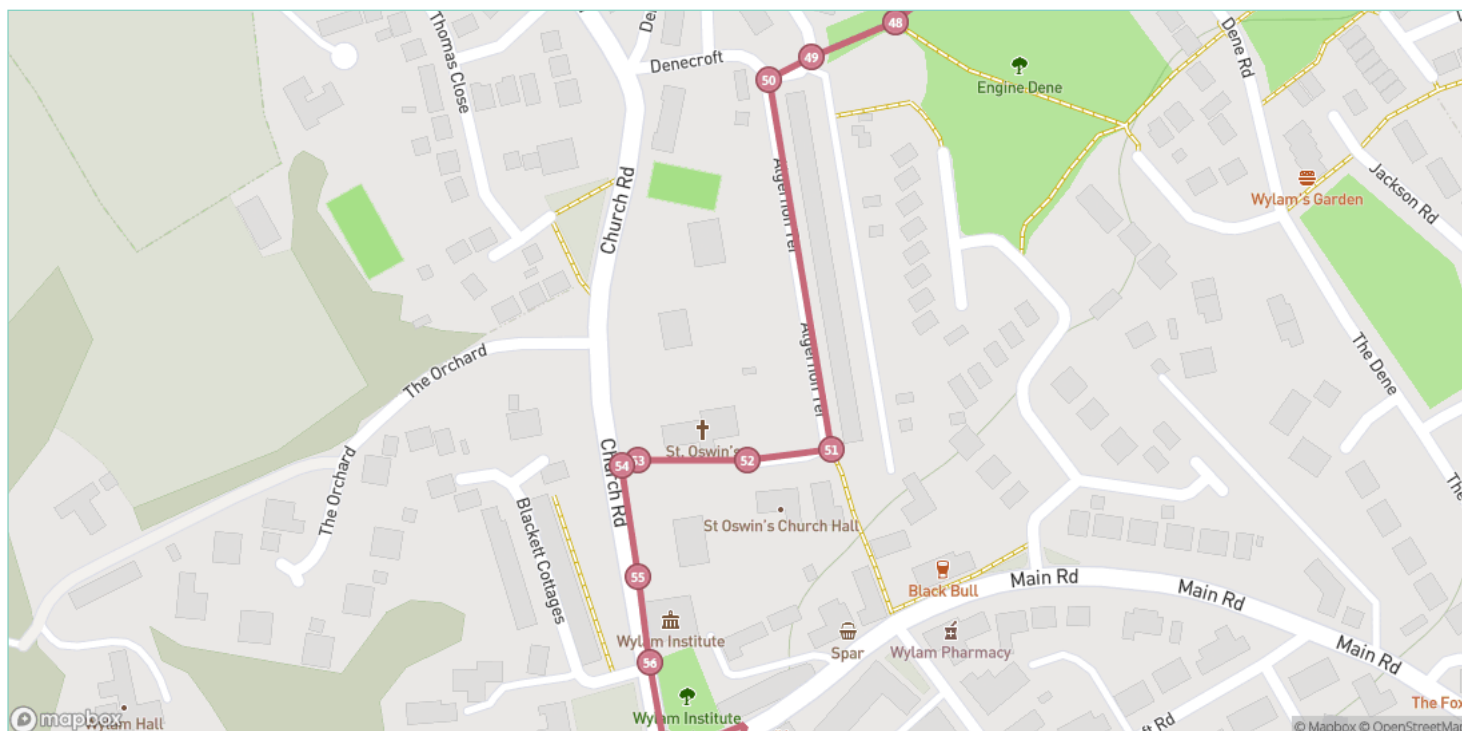
Step 44: Head through the wooden gate and continue straight, walking past some houses.

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.

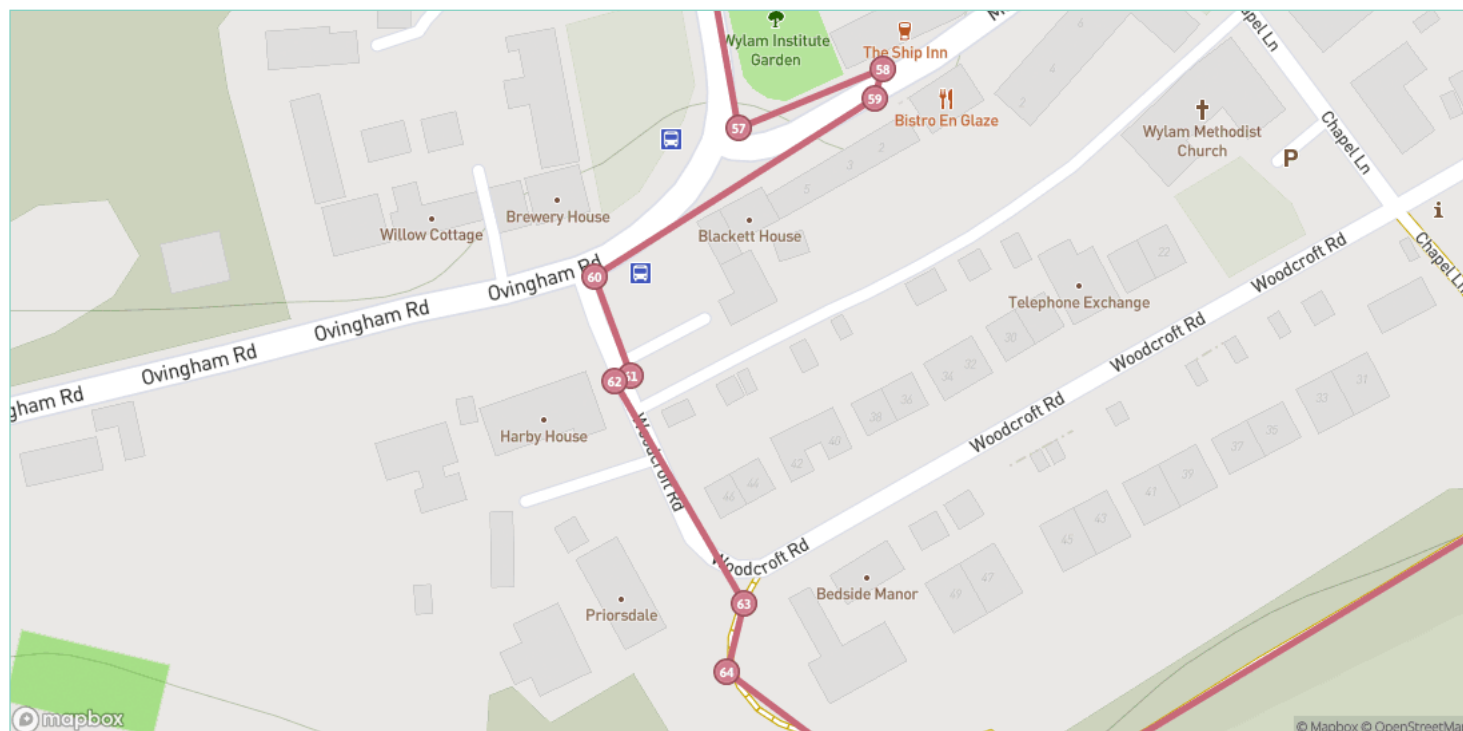
Step 52: St Oswin's church is just here. Continue past the church.

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

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

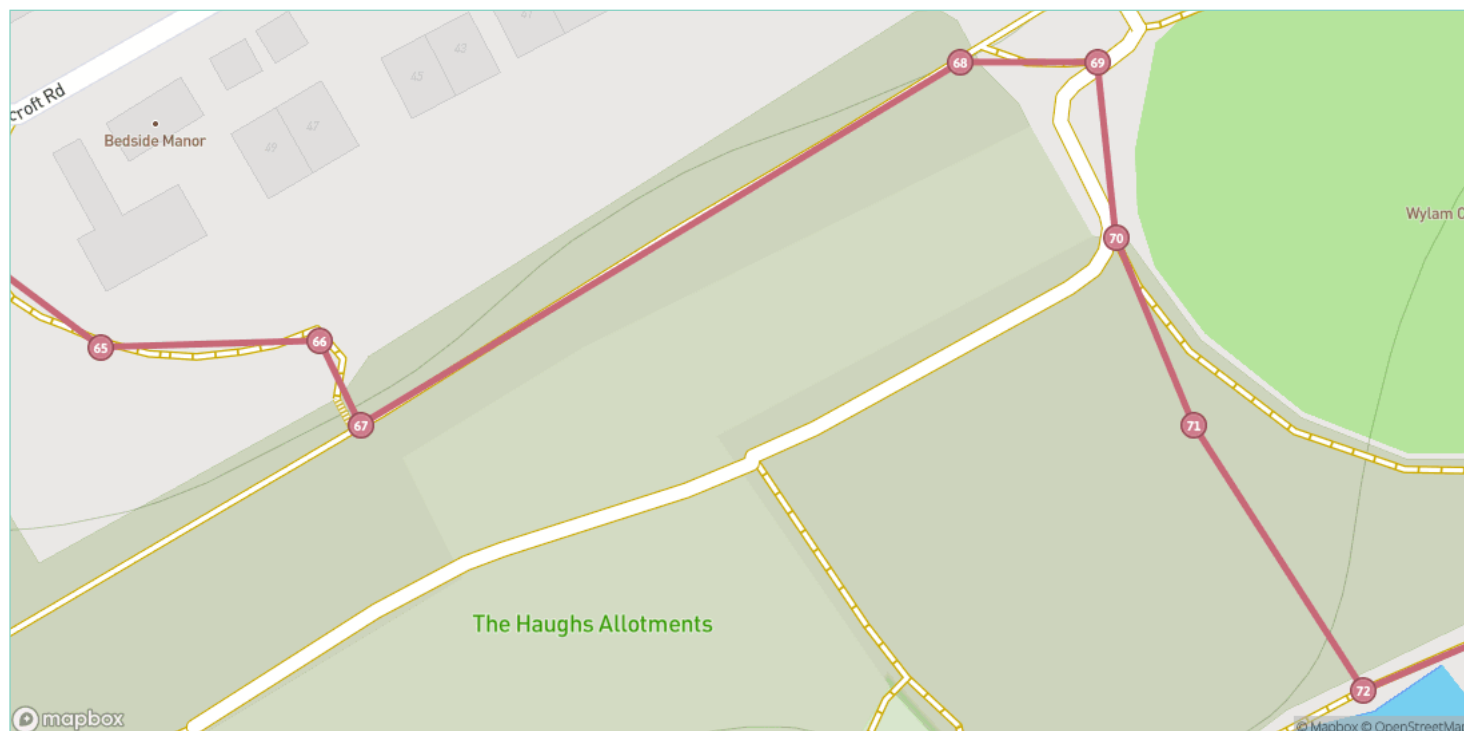
Step 59: Continue as Main Road turns into Ovingham Road.

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 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.

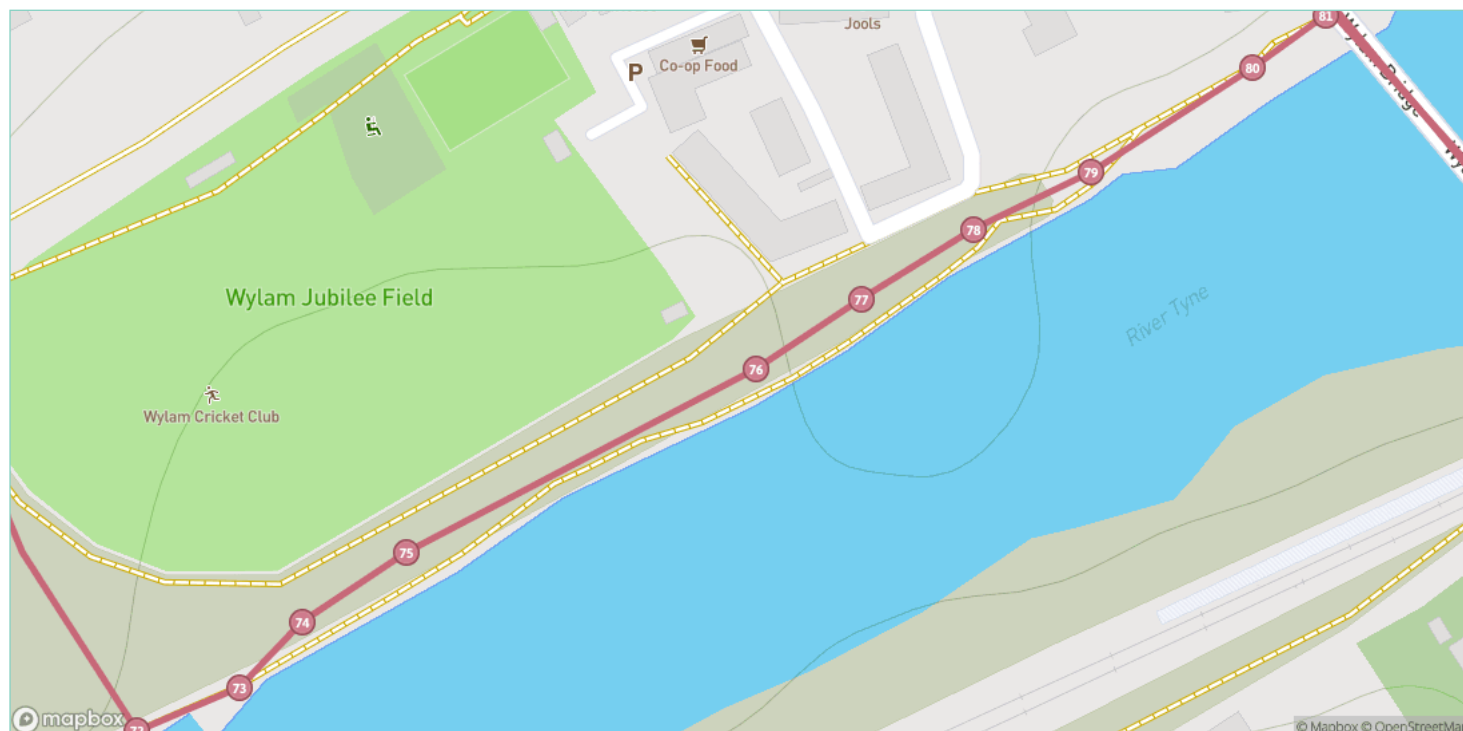
Step 68: Before the footbridge; take the uphill path on the right hand side.

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 rivers edge.

Step 74: Wind your way past the vegetation.

Step 75: Follow the well-trodden path.

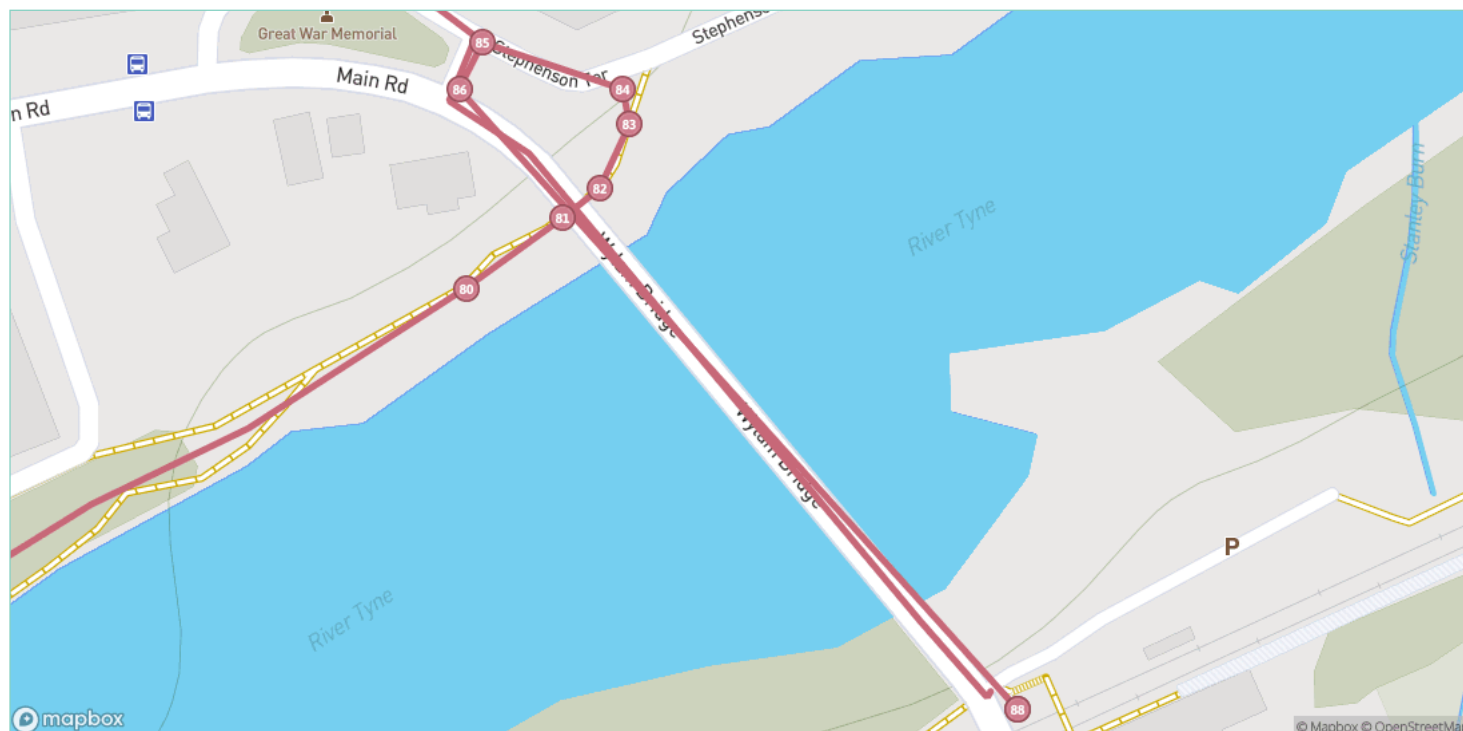
Step 76: Enjoy the glimpses of the river as you continue ahead.

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.