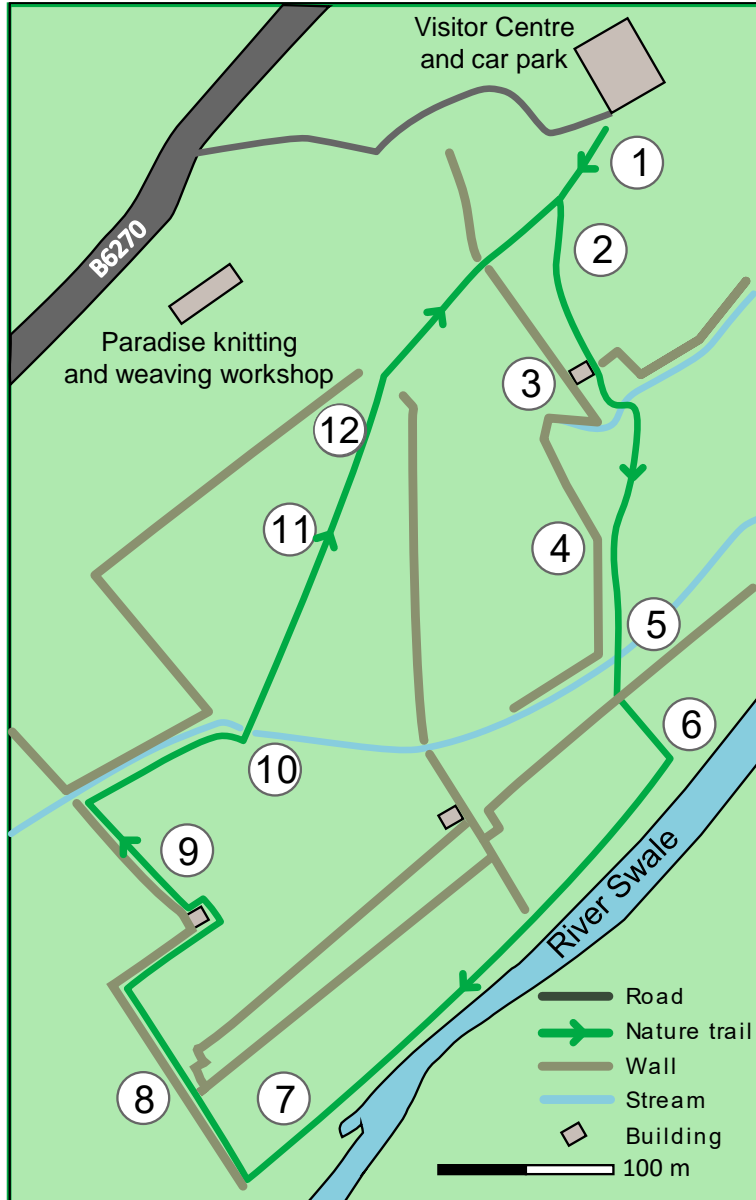


# Green nature trail

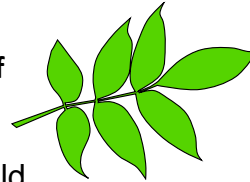


**Welcome to Hazel Brow Farm. Follow our nature trail to find out more about the wildlife, plants and history of the farm. The trail takes about an hour walking at a relaxed pace. There are four activity boxes to find on this trail.**

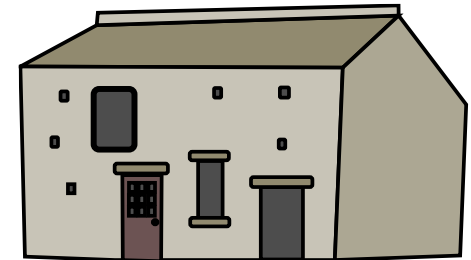
① Follow sign that says 'private footpath to river' across the meadow.

② There are three trees in a row. The third tree is an ash tree. Its wood is good for making bows and arrows. Run your hands over the bark. How does it feel? Can you find the hidden box? Take a sheet of paper and crayon and make a rubbing of the bark. Please put the box back where you found it.

Ash leaf



③ Walk over to Old Margaret's barn. It is a cow'us. Swaledale is famous for these small barns. Two or more cows would live in this barn over the winter months. Hay was stored in the loft to feed the cows. The farmer would feed, water, and muck out the cows twice a day. Many stand empty along the valley.



Old Margaret's barn

④ Go through the gate, cross the ditch and head to the drystone wall to the right hand side of the field. Can you see any colours on the wall? These coloured patches are lichens. They grow very slowly on rocks and trees. Take the cards out of the box and hold them up against the lichens to match the colours. Write the names of the colours here: . Don't forget to put the cards back in the box.

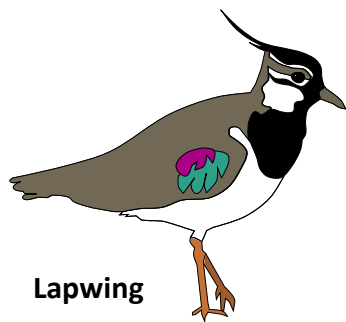
5 You will soon come to a little bridge over a stream. Look down into the water. Can you see any fish today? Stand still and wait for a minute or two and watch for movement. How many fish did you see?

6 Cross the field to reach the river. Turn right and walk along the wall. The wall protects the fields from flooding. Listen to the sound of the river. How does it sound today? Peaceful, joyful or angry? Write what you think here:

7 Where the path meets the woods, look on the ground and see if you can find a cone. Take it to the box where you will find some clues on how to identify it.

8 With your back to the river and the drystone wall to your left, go carefully down the slope and through the gate.

9 Keeping the wall on your left, continue past the barn and around the edge of the field to another bridge over the stream. Can you see or hear any birds today? In the spring lapwings make strange noises. Some people think it sounds like 'pee-wit'. What can you hear? Swaledale is a safe haven for lapwings, curlews and oystercatchers. They are much less common elsewhere in the UK. They make their nests on the ground so it is important to keep dogs on a lead during the nesting season and to stay on the paths.



Lapwing



Swaledale

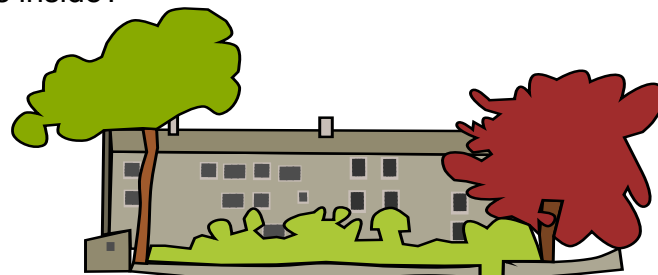


Herdwick

10

Cross the stream and walk diagonally across the field towards the Visitor Centre. Are there any sheep today? The most common kind of sheep in the area are Swaledale sheep. Males and females have curved horns and black faces. There are also Herdwick sheep on this farm. Only the males have horns and they are often grey in colour. Both breeds are very hardy and live outside all year round.

11 On your left, there is a large building called Paradise. It was a house and a knitting and weaving workshop. Do you know anyone who can knit? At one time everyone in Swaledale knew how to knit. Families were paid to knit socks from sheep's wool. Look for another box in the corner of the field. What is inside?



Paradise knitting and weaving workshop

12 Make your way to the remains of a hawthorn hedge. In spring the spiky hawthorn has lots of white flowers. Hawthorn bushes were thought to be the home of fairies and it was unlucky to cut one down. Go through the gate and return to Hazel Brow Farm Visitor Centre.