

Heptonstall & Hebden Bridge

Fri 21st November 2025

Meeting Time

Knowle Green Village Hall: 9.00am

Heptonstall: 10.00am

What to Expect

Heptonstall

Hilltop village, cobbled streets, ruined church & old gravestones.

Hebden Bridge

Small town, cobbled streets, old mills & chimneys, canal & locks, railway station.

Locations

Heptonstall

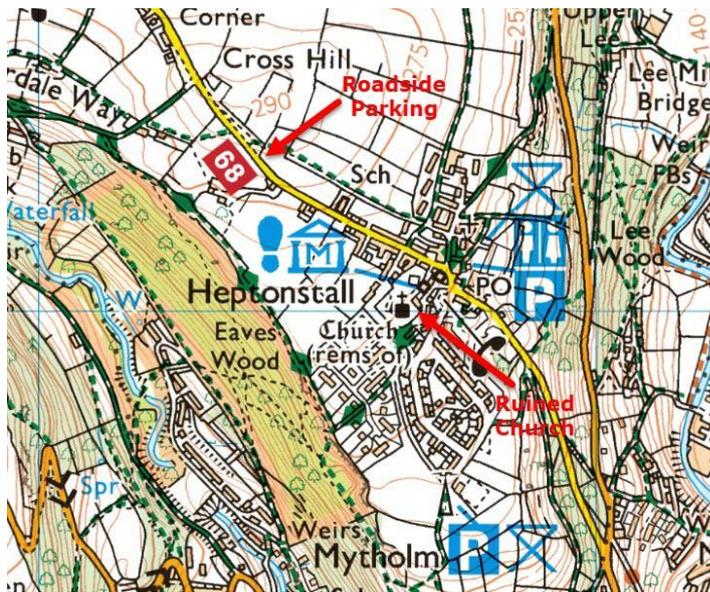
Parking: Free roadside parking at Smithwells Lane.

Google Maps: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/VmSwo2SdcnKFmRvn6>

Meet: Ruined church

Distance: 0.25 mile from parking to church

Best approach to Heptonstall is via Blackshaw Head not Hebden Bridge.



The main feature in Heptonstall is the ruined church, adjacent to the current parish church. The gravestones are closely packed and irregular, almost on top of each other. The old church has no roof, but prominent gable ends and arches. There are surrounding cobbled alleys and cosy cottages.

Expect to stay at Heptonstall around 2 hours.

Refreshments: Towngate Tea Room, 34 Towngate, Heptonstall

Toilets: There are no public toilets in Heptonstall

Hebden Bridge

Parking: Various locations around town and near station. Often busy.

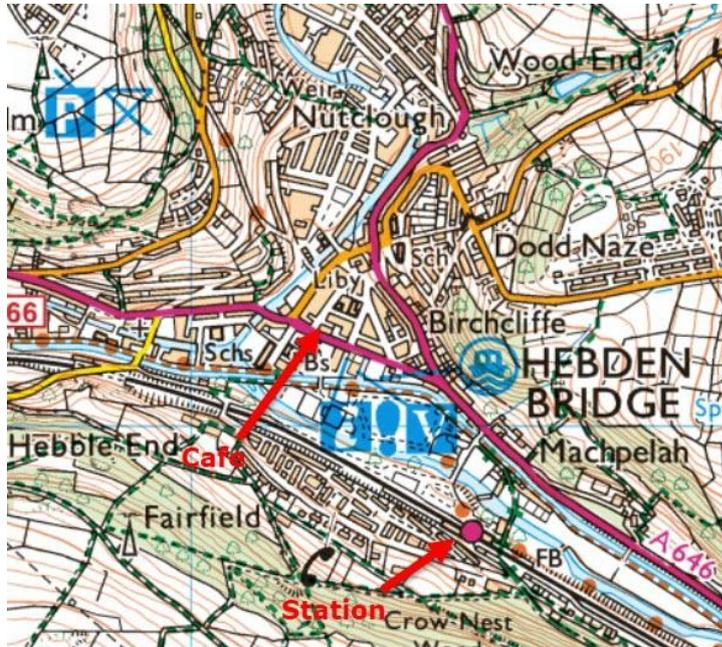
Parking Fee: Cash, card or phone payments available.

Meet: MAMIL Café Bar, 2 Crown St, Hebden Bridge HX7 8EH.

Google Maps: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/N7wRRGzibXQGo1rt9>

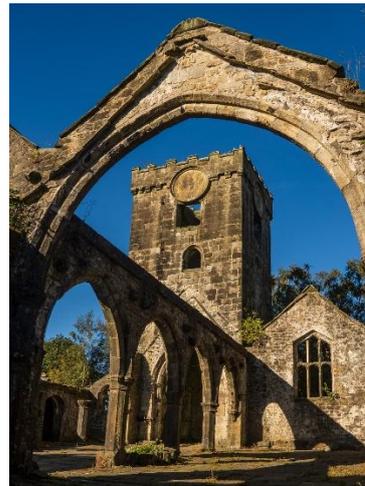
Distance: 0.4 mile from café to railway station

Café is in town centre. Canal is between café & railway station.



The town centre offers street photography with cobbled lanes and old mill chimneys. The Rochdale Canal has many canal boats with a background of locks and old buildings. The railway station has maintained all the old railway signs to give it an old-world charm.

Heptonstall



Unusually, Heptonstall has two churches with one graveyard. The original church, built around 1250 fell into disrepair and was replaced in 1854. The ruins of St. Thomas a' Becket are still maintained and open to the public.

The gravestones are compact, uneven and mostly on the ground, not upright. On a day without any direct sunlight, there is opportunity here for some interesting images, perhaps in black and white.

Hebden Bridge



Further Opportunities

A local Hebden Bridge photographer, Will Lake, has kindly sent the following information. This has not been visited by RVPS.

For Will's local photos visit <https://www.will-lake-photo.co.uk/>

The obvious/favourite locations around Heptonstall are from the crags overlooking the Calder Valley towards Todmorden. Worth noting that the woods below this point are beautiful - loads of gnarly old trees.

What3Words - audit.grinning.resonated

Check the views over Hebden Bridge from up Heptonstall Rd. You get a good sense of the town's iconic topography and architecture from here.

What3Words - stones.cheers.zaps

In good morning light I also like the view of Hebden Bridge from New Road up Household.

What3Words - deflated.supplier.bonus

There are also great shots to be had from the road between Pecket Well and Old Town - Akroyd Lane.

As always, weather/light dependent.

Other Locations Nearby

Gibson Mill & Hardcastle Crags – Hebden Dale

Lumb Hole Waterfall – Crimsworth Dene

Bridestones Moor

Many interesting rock formations around the summit. This is a fell walk, although only 0.5 miles from road parking to summit.

