



DEW
The tense stand-off
of summer's end,
the touchy fuse-wire
of parched grass,
tapers of bulrush and reed,
any tree
a primed mortar of tinder,
one spark enough to trigger
a march on the moor
by ranks of flame.

lifting its thimble of drink
to the lips of a leaf,
to the stoat's tongue,
trimming a length
of barbed-wire fence
with liquid gems, here
where bog-cotton
flags its surrender
or carries its torch
for the rain.

Then dawn when

STANZA STONES ULTRA

*Take the 50 mile journey
through the South
Pennines and visit the
famous Stanza Stones*



The background image shows a tall, stone obelisk-like monument on a grassy hill. The monument is made of dark stone and has a square base with a small opening. The hill is covered in dry, yellowish-brown grass and scattered dark rocks. The sky is filled with white and grey clouds, with some blue visible. The overall scene is a rugged, natural landscape.

The Route

The Stanza Stones Ultra is a 50 mile/81 km linear route from Marsden to Ilkley, in Yorkshire with over 6600 feet/2020 mtrs of ascent.

You will journey through the delightful South Pennines over its wild moors and market towns. The route has 3 indoor checkpoints for essential refuelling.

Participants have 24 hours to complete the route so is available for walkers as well as runners. Cut off times however, are in place at each indoor checkpoint.

THE HISTORY

The Stanza Stones are the brain child of Poet Laureate, Simon Armitage. Born and raised in Marsden, West Yorkshire, Simon set out to create 6 poems about the theme of water and its different forms that influences life in the area. Snow, Rain, Mist, Dew, Puddle and Beck are poems carved into rocks and placed along the route. Simon was commissioned by the Ilkley Literature Festival in 2010 to write a set of site-specific poems and Pip Hall carved the poems into the stones. Each stone's location was selected with the help of local expert, Tom Lonsdale.

RAIN

THE STONES

- The Snow Stone, Pule Hill, SE031108
- The Rain Stone, Cow's Mouth Quarry; SD964191
- The Mist Stone, Nab Hill; SE033 327
- The Dew Stone, Rivoek Edge; SE074449
- The Puddle Stone, Rombolds Moor; SE111451
- The Beck Stone, Ilkley Moor; SE125468





REGISTRATION

You can choose to register at either Ikley or Marsden. Friday evening is your first chance to register and collect your number and tracker. This will be at Ben Rhydding School in Ilkley. The second opportunity is on Saturday morning at the start, at Marsden Cricket Club.

Participants who register on Friday can purchase a coach ticket in advance to take them to the start on Saturday morning. The coach will leave at 6.30am. At registration you will have an opportunity to leave a dropbag for the finish so that you can grab a hot shower and change into fresh clothing.

Please note that there are no travel arrangements at the finish to get back to Marsden.



CHECKPOINTS AND FOOD

There are three indoor checkpoints serving hot and cold food and drinks to keep you going along the way.

The indoor checkpoints are:
Mytholmroyd Community Centre
Haworth Village Hall
Bingley Little House

(All locations for the checkpoints are located in the relevant route sections.)

Once you have finished, you can look forward to a bowl of delicious home-made chilli (vegan option available).



OPEN TRACKING

We are delighted to be using the UK's number one leading live GPS tracking company, Open Tracking.

You will be given a tracker at registration. Don't forget to tell your friends and family that they will be able to keep an eye on your progress along the route.

The link is:

<https://live.opentracking.co.uk/stanza23/>

STANZA STONES

50 MILE ULTRA



CrAggRunner
GET OUT THERE

STANZA STONES

50 MILE ULTRA

LEG 1
MYTHOLMROYD

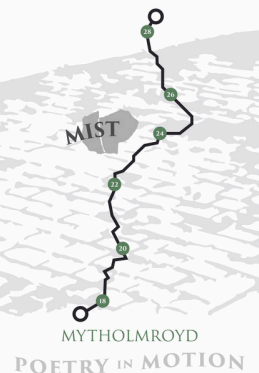


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STANZA STONES

50 MILE ULTRA

LEG 2
HAWORTH



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STANZA STONES

50 MILE ULTRA

LEG 3
BINGLEY

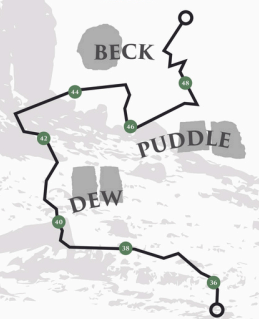


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STANZA STONES

50 MILE ULTRA

LEG 4
ILKLEY



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GET OUT THERE

The following pages will explain the whole route, broken down into 4 legs.

Leg 1 is from Marsden to Mytholmroyd

Leg 2 is from Mytholmroyd to Haworth

Leg 3 is from Haworth to Bingley

Leg 4 is from Bingley to Ilkley

STANZA STONES

50 MILE ULTRA

LEG 1

MYTHOLMROYD



SNOW

MARSDEN

POETRY IN MOTION

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Leg One

Marsden - Mytholmroyd
17 miles/27 km 2194ft/669mtrs
Cut off time - 4pm

The first leg between Marsden and Mytholmroyd takes in 17 miles of the route visiting two Stanza Stones, Snow and Rain. Snow is the first stone after the climb to the top of Pule Hill (SE 031 108). Joining the Pennine Way, you will follow north, passing iconic points such as Stoodley Pike, Blackstone Edge and the Pennine Way Bridge. The second Stanza Stone, Rain, is visited (SD 964 191). Once you reach Stoodley Pike, you will head down towards Mytholmroyd to the Community Centre (SE 011 259) for a well earned break.

STANZA STONES

50 MILE ULTRA

LEG 2

HAWORTH



MYTHOLMROYD

POETRY IN MOTION

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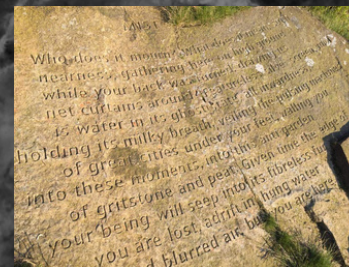
Leg Two

Mytholmroyd - Haworth
11 miles/18 km 1827/556mtrs
Cut off time - 8pm

Leaving the comforts of the checkpoint in Mytholmroyd, you are faced with a steep climb back out of the valley before topping out onto Midgley Moor. Crossing wild moorlands, you head towards Nab Hill and the third Stanza Stone, MIST (SE 033 327). Here you will hopefully soak up the splendored views out towards Haworth, your next checkpoint.

Getting there, you will drop down to Oxenhope and cross the Keighley and Worth Valley railway line, made famous by the film *The Railway Children*. You may be lucky and spot a steam train heading along the valley.

When the train track is crossed its uphill towards Haworth, entering the famous Bronte Sisters village via the Church grave yard and heading down the famous cobbled street before turning off towards the village hall, next to Central Park (SE 033 371).

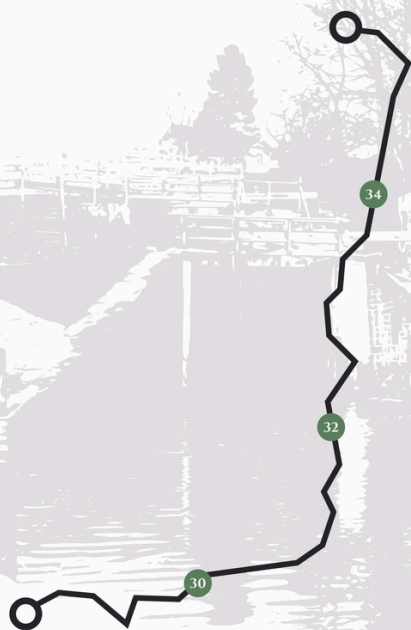


STANZA STONES

50 MILE ULTRA

LEG 3

BINGLEY



HAWORTH

POETRY IN MOTION

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GET OUT THERE



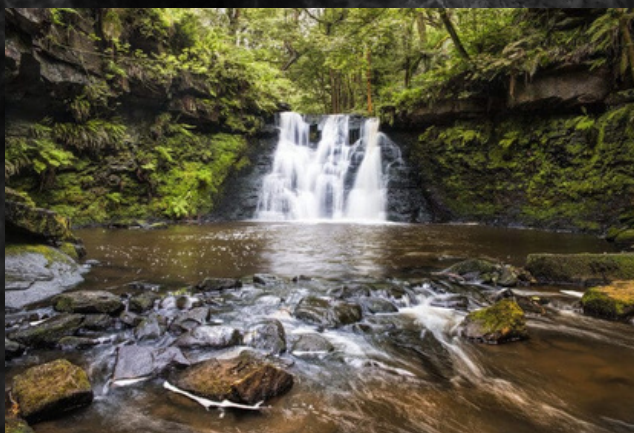
Leg Three

Haworth - Bingley

7 miles/11 km 731 feet/222mtrs

Cut off time - midnight

The third leg from Haworth to Bingley is the shortest leg of the journey. There are no Stanza Stones to visit on this leg, but you will see plenty of stunning open moors and woods as you journey over Black Moor and pass the waterfalls at Goilstock Woods whilst trying to find St Davids Folly in Ruin Bank Woods. Finally you will head through Mrytle Park in Bingley to the checkpoint at Little House. (SE 106 391).



STANZA STONES

50 MILE ULTRA

LEG 4

ILKLEY

BECK

PUDDLE

DEW

BINGLEY

POETRY IN MOTION

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GET OUT THERE

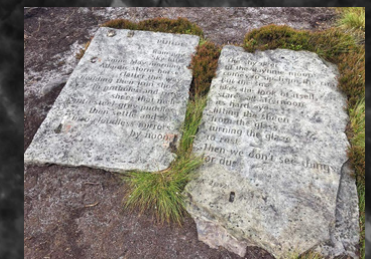


Leg Four

Bingley - Ilkley

16 miles/26 km 2050 feet/625mtrs

Course closes at 9am Sunday morning



The final leg is the biggy. Although not the longest, you already have 35 miles in your legs and there is no respite for 15 miles to the finish. So eat well at the Bingley Checkpoint, take on water and if need be, rest for a bit, as the final leg takes you over the last moors before Ilkley..

Be ready for a treat, though, as there are some great views from the moor, especially if you time it right for the sunset or even sunrise.

The first part gets your legs warmed up along the Leeds and Liverpool canal, passing the famous Five Rise locks, the steepest flight of locks in the UK. Leaving the canal, you climb onto the moor to visit your fourth stone, DEW, the most iconic Stanza Stone. You then head to the northern edge of the moor to pass the locally famous Swastika stone, thought to have been carved by Celtic Lingones, a tribe native to Europe in the Roman age. Puddle is the penultimate Stanza Stone before you make a short trip to the Twelve Apostles Stone Circle before you turn north to head to the finish.

Before you leave the moor, the last Stanza Stone, BECK, is visited before a short distance to the finish line at the Ben Rhydding Primary School Annex building.

Tips on finding the Stones



Snow Stone SE 03157 10767

This stone is well hidden far into a deep quarry which will be below you on the left. You need to go in as far as you can to where a jumble of rocks almost fall against it.



Dew Stone SE 07381 44954

As the path curves towards the wall, you will see the Dew Stone straight ahead taking pride of place in the wall.



Rain Stone SD 96333 19258

Remember to cross the tiny stone bridge at 96431911 otherwise you will find yourself on the wrong side of the conduit.



Puddle Stone SE 11163 45186

Take the slabbed path that heads due east towards the trig point. After about 200m you will come to a jumble of large rocks on your right. The Puddle Stones are laying flat in the ground.



Mist Stone SE 03469 32750

Cross Cold Edge Rd then access the moor at the finger post. Follow the contour path until you come to a Stanza Stones marker. Follow for a short distance to the large cairn. The Stone is just below the lip of the slope to the left of the cairn.



Beck Stone SE 12550 46815

After where the main paths cross, continue NW, keeping the stream to your left. Continue, keeping left until you find the Stanza Stones marker post. Head SW for a short distance down to the stream and there is the Beck Stone. Hit the bridge and you've gone too far!

Key Locations - MARSDEN

The adventure starts here!

WHAT TO EXPECT HERE

Marsden Cricket Club is the Saturday morning registration point. The venue will open up from 7am ready for the 9am start.



SATURDAY MORNING

Excitement and anticipation

Registration

Kit check

Hot drinks and toast

Race number and tracker

Bag drop for the finish

Food bag drops for special diets

How to get to the clubhouse

Trains and Buses run from Huddersfield town Centre, see www.wymetro.com for more details.

If driving, the address for Sat Nav is
Hemplow, Mount Road
Marsden, Huddersfield
Yorkshire HD7 6NN

Key Locations - ILKLEY

Feel that sense of achievement!

WHAT TO EXPECT HERE

You can register at the school on Friday night 7-10pm if you prefer, then catch the coach at 6.30am Saturday morning to the start.

FRIDAY NIGHT

- Excitement and anticipation
- Registration
- Kit check
- Hot drinks and toast
- Race number and tracker
- Bag Drop option

SATURDAY

- The satisfaction of finishing
- Quality finisher's t-shirt
- A hot meal and drinks
- Changing rooms



How to get to the school

It's a 20 min walk from Ilkley town centre. Buses and a train run from the town centre, see www.discoverilkley.co.uk for details. NOTE THAT REGISTRATION/FINISH IS IN THE ANNEX BUILDING ACROSSTHE ROAD FROM THE SCHOOL.

If driving, the address for Sat Nav is
Ben Rhydding Primary School
Bolling Rd, Ben Rhydding, Ilkley LS29 8QH

EVENT NAVIGATION

The route is **not flagged on the ground in any way** and participants must use map reading skills (aided by their GPS device if necessary) to follow the route when required.

The organisers (and friends, family, members of the public and landowners) will be tracking participants' GPS trackers in real time. We expect participants to stay within 200m of our advised route at all times. In practical terms, for the majority of the time this is very easy as our route generally follows the only path or track on the ground: it is the only logical way. At other times, where there is no visible path on the ground, you will have flexibility to range within 200m of the route so that you should feel little pressure to follow our route precisely at all times and can enjoy the journey to the full.

We would only time-penalise or disqualify a participant for not following the route if we believe that they have gained an unfair advantage, and/or endangered themselves or others, and/or clearly passed through private property. Remember that the GPS track of each participant will be public and we will retrospectively review the route of all participants.

Participants are reminded that they are ultimately responsible for judging the safety of the route. In exceptional circumstances (due to bad weather) participants may need to deviate from the route, making their best judgement of the safest way. In these circumstances we would not penalise a participant.

ALL GPX FILES and MAP PDFs ARE AVAILABLE ON OUR WEBPAGE

<https://cragrunner.com/stanza-stones-50-mile-ultra/>

Food and drink

We have a fantastic reputation for providing quality food and drinks from the start to the end of our events.

Vegetarian and vegan food will be freely available throughout the event, and will be clearly labelled. However, if you have special dietary needs (e.g. coeliac) we can arrange for your bagged food to be delivered to checkpoints.

Before the event

Toast, tea and coffee will be available before the event starts on Saturday morning.



During the event

All checkpoints will be well stocked with: Hot and cold drinks - tea, coffee, squash and water

Sweet and savoury foods - egg sandwiches, hummus wraps, cakes, biscuits, sweets, traybakes, nuts, crisps.

SPECIALS BOARD

Hot soup and butties
Pizza or pasta at Haworth
Pizza or pasta at Bingley

Also look out for a nip of whisky - the famous Cragrunner treat!

After the event

You will be rewarded for all your hard work with a delicious bowl of hot homemade chilli and flat bread. A selection of desserts will also be available along with bottomless tea, coffee and soft drinks.



FAQs

What time is Friday night registration at Ikley?

You can register in the school annex building from 7-10pm.

What time is Saturday morning registration at Marsden?

You can register at Marsden Cricket Club between 7 and 8.30am.

What time is the coach on Saturday morning from Ikley to Marsden?

The coach will be leaving from outside the school at 6.30am.

Can I still book the coach if I didn't do it when I entered?

Yes, you just need to go to SiEntries and edit your Stanza Stone entry by adding the coach option.

I'm a vegan, do I need to bring my own food?

No, there will be plenty of vegan options at the checkpoints and at the end of the race.

I'm a coeliac, do I need to bring my own food?

Although there will very likely be some gluten-free options, if you have any special dietary needs we can arrange for your own foods to be dropped at the checkpoints.

Are gps devices allowed?

Yes gps devices are allowed. However, all participants should also carry a map and compass and know how to use them.

cont/.....

FAQs

Where can I find the gpx files?

Up to date gpx files are available on our website at:
<https://cragrunner.com/stanza-stones-50-mile-ultra/>

Is there a detailed route description?

There isn't, just the rough guidelines provided above in this document. However detailed maps and gpx files are available on the website.

What maps are acceptable for kit-check?

You must carry a paper map which must be at a scale of at least 1:50,000. The easiest and cheapest option is to print out our PDFs of each leg from the Stanza Stones webpage. If you wish to use OS maps, you will need 3 Explorer maps (288, 297 and OL21) or 4 Landranger maps (103, 104, 109 and 110).

What if I need to drop out of the race?

If possible, please try and drop out at a checkpoint. However, wherever you are we will do our best to arrange transport to bring you to the finish.

Is a buff a hat?

Yes, we will accept a buff as a hat. However, see the kit page earlier in this document.

Can I have assistance or a crew during the race?

Within reason yes! It's okay if someone gives you a jellybaby, but not a ride in their car.

cont/.....

FAQs

What are the key timings and cut-offs?

Start - Marsden - 9am
CP2 - Mytholmroyd - 4pm
CP3 - Haworth - 8pm
CP4 - Bingley - midnight
Finish - Ilkley - 9am

Is there a bag drop so I can access warm, dry clothes at the end?

If you are registering on Friday night, you can leave a drop bag at the Ilkley venue (please state if you are dropping a food bag as well so we know to transport it). If you are catching the coach on Saturday but need to register at Marsden, you can leave your drop bag before catching the coach in Ilkley. Registration at Marsden will take all drop bags back to Ilkley on Saturday morning. Please make sure all your bags are labelled clearly (there will be labels available at the Marsden start).

What is the race cancellation policy?

- Up to 31st March - Full refund (less booking fee)
- Up to 30th April - 50% refund
- After 1st May - No Refund (Please see the Insurance option on SiEntries if you wish to take it out)
- Sorry, no deferrals