

SUMMER 2025: SUGGESTED ITINERARY

FILM & LITERATURE TRAIL

West Yorkshire has long been a backdrop for powerful storytelling, both on the page and on screen. From the wild moors that inspired the Brontë sisters to the film locations featured in Sally Wainwright's epic *Gentleman Jack* and BAFTA-winning *Happy Valley*, this two-night itinerary lets you walk in the footsteps of literary legends and television icons.



Day 1 Arrival and Relaxation

Arrive: Check in at Holdsworth House Hotel from 3.00PM

Afternoon: Book afternoon tea at the hotel and enjoy delicious treats as you browse the Wall of Fame near reception and read about filming that has taken place here: *Last Tango in Halifax* starring Anne Reid and Sir Derek Jacobi; Channel 4's *Ackley Bridge*; Jamie Oliver's *Jamie's Great Britain*.

Evening: Enjoy dinner in the restaurant from the seasonal a la carte menu.

Day 2 As Seen On TV

Morning: Start your day like a true Yorkshire legend with a full cooked breakfast at Holdsworth House.

A Day on Location: Fans of the period drama *Gentleman Jack*, starring Suranne Jones and Sophie Rundle, should set off by car to **Shibden Hall**. Shibden was the film location for many of the scenes (both indoors and out) for the hit BBC show, and was the real Anne Lister's home. Several scenes from the Bronte-inspired TV show *To Walk Invisible* were also filmed here (as well as filming on the moors above Haworth).

Stay local and visit Halifax. *A Gentleman in Moscow* starring Ewan McGregor was filmed around the town, whilst *Marvel Superheroes Secret Invasion* used **Halifax Piece Hall** for scenes starring Hollywood legend Samuel L. Jackson.

If you have time, the pretty town of **Hebden Bridge** (around 25 minutes' drive from Holdsworth House) is a pleasant visit. Here you can explore locations from the gritty, award-winning TV show, *Happy Valley*. Near Hebden Bridge is the woodland and riverside hike of the **National Trust's Hardcastle Crag**—a filming location for *Peaky Blinders* and a fantastic place for a long dog walk.

Lunch: Ask Holdsworth House to make up a picnic or cream tea to take with you or eat at The Stubbing Wharf in Hebden Bridge, a filming location from *Happy Valley*.

Evening: Return to Holdsworth House for dinner. Choose from the a la carte menu or book ahead for the fabulous eight-course Tasting Menu.

HOLDSWORTH HOUSE
HOTEL & RESTAURANT

Day 3**Literary Heroines and Heroes**

Morning: Enjoy a full cooked breakfast or continental buffet selection at Holdsworth House Hotel before checking out of your room. We are happy to store any bags should you wish to leave them in our safe possession for the day. Or stay for another night at our [Best Available Rate](#).

A Day Lost in Stories: Read the hotel's [history book](#) to discover the connection between former Holdsworth House resident Miss Elizabeth Wadsworth and Dorothy Wordsworth (sister of William). We also recommended visiting these nearby spots:

Visit [Halifax Central Library](#), home to the famous Anne Lister Diaries. Here you can see original pages from Halifax's trailblazing landowner and diarist whose life was immortalised in the BBC's *Gentleman Jack*.

Just 20 minutes away by car, explore Mytholmroyd, birthplace of [Ted Hughes](#), one of the 20th century's most powerful poets, whose work was deeply shaped by the Yorkshire landscape. Near Mytholmroyd is the village of Heptonstall, where Ted Hughes' wife and American poet and novelist [Sylvia Plath](#) is buried in the churchyard of [St Thomas the Apostle Church](#).

If you've read the 2018 Walter Scott Prize-winning historical fiction book **The Gallows Pole** by Benjamin Myers, then you can follow a fantastic (but challenging and cross country) [walking route](#) around Calderdale that takes in the magnificent scenery of Cragg Vale, which is featured so descriptively in Myers' book.

Alternatively, round off your visit to West Yorkshire with a stop at Haworth and the [Brontë Parsonage Museum](#) (20 minutes from Holdsworth House). The Brontë sisters' former home is now a wonderful museum and where they wrote many of their timeless novels. See their personal artefacts, writings and drawings and discover how their work continues to influence film, television and literature around the world.

GOOD TO KNOW...

Other TV-related summer 2025 events taking place include:

- **Bankfield Museum Fashion Gallery:** See a host of costumes from the world of TV and film costume drama. Be sure to see the iconic screen costumes including: *Pride and Prejudice* (1995)—including Mr Darcy's infamous 'wet shirt' worn by Colin Firth; *Emma* (2020); *The King's Speech* (2010); *Downton Abbey* (Season 1, 2010); *Gentleman Jack* (2019-22) and many others.
- **Regency Summer Ball Saturday 2nd August 2025.** £65pp at Bankfield Museum: Music provided by The Pemberley Players. Experience is not required as all dances will be called. Includes a cold buffet including vegetarian and vegan options. Cash bar. Dress Code: Regency period is preferred!

NEED TO KNOW...

Bronte Parsonage:

Open Wednesday to Monday 10.00AM-5.00PM; Tuesday closed.

Standard entry £12.50 per person. Tickets are valid for a whole year, so come back again to enjoy the changing exhibitions, installations and specified events!

Location: Church Street, Haworth, Keighley, West Yorkshire, BD22 8DR. [Parking in public car parks.](#)

Halifax Central Library:

Mondays & Thursdays: 10.00AM-6.30PM

Tuesdays, Wednesdays & Fridays: 10.00AM-5.30PM

Saturday: 10.00AM-4.00PM

Sunday: CLOSED

Location: Square Road, Halifax, West Yorkshire, HX1 1QG

Entry is free. Park in nearby public car parks (charges apply)

Halifax Piece Hall:

Monday to Thursday 9.30AM-11.00PM

Friday to Saturday 9.30AM-midnight

Sunday 9.30AM-11.00PM

Entry is free. Park in nearby public car parks (charges apply)

Blackledge, Halifax HX1 1RE

Shibden Hall:

Open Saturday and Sunday 11:00AM-5:00PM; Monday-Friday 10:00AM-5:00PM. £10 adult entry. You can book direct or you can **book entry tickets online with Holdsworth House** with your accommodation. Car parking charges apply at Shibden Park. There's a fantastic playground for children, a miniature railway and boating lake—plenty to do for all the family. Location: Shibden Hall, Lister's Road, Halifax, HX3 6XG

Bankfield Museum:

Open Tuesday to Saturday, 10.00AM-4.00PM

Free entry

Location: Akroyd Park, Boothtown Road, Halifax, HX3 6HG