



WALK REPORT

EAST MARTON CANAL WALK

EAST MARTON, YORKSHIRE DALES, NORTH YORKSHIRE



DATE: 11 May 2026 (Monday)



TIME: Approximately 6:30 PM



WEATHER CONDITIONS: Sunny, becoming dusk towards the end of the walk



HABITAT TYPES: Canal-side habitat, hedgerows, open grassland, waterside vegetation

ROUTE SUMMARY

Starting near the now-closed Cross Keys pub in East Marton, the walk followed the canal towpath for approximately two and a half miles before returning along the same route. The route remained flat throughout and followed peaceful canal-side scenery through open countryside.



WALK DURATION: Approximately 2 hours



DISTANCE: Approximately 5 miles



DIFFICULTY: Very easy and flat throughout

BIRDS IDENTIFIED (16 SPECIES)

1		Garden Warbler <i>Sylvia borin</i>	Heard singing within canal-side scrub and hedgerows.
2		Canada Goose <i>Branta canadensis</i>	Observed on and alongside the canal.
3		European Greenfinch <i>Chloris chloris</i>	Seen feeding along hedgerows.
4		Willow Warbler <i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i>	Frequently heard throughout the walk.
5		Common Wood-Pigeon <i>Columba palumbus</i>	Common along wooded sections.
6		Common Redstart <i>Phoenicurus phoenicurus</i>	Notable sighting near wooded canal edge.
7		Stock Dove <i>Columba oenas</i>	Seen in open countryside adjacent to canal.
8		House Sparrow <i>Passer domesticus</i>	Observed near nearby buildings and bridges.
9		Eurasian Siskin <i>Spinus spinus</i>	Heard and briefly observed in trees.
10		Eurasian Blue Tit <i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i>	Active within hedgerows and woodland edges.
11		Great Tit <i>Parus major</i>	Common throughout wooded sections.
12		European Robin <i>Erithacus rubecula</i>	Frequently observed along the towpath.
13		Song Thrush <i>Turdus philomelos</i>	Heard singing during quieter dusk sections.
14		European Goldfinch <i>Carduelis carduelis</i>	Seen flying over open grassland.
15		Eurasian Blackbird <i>Turdus merula</i>	Common throughout the route.
16		Common Chaffinch <i>Fringilla coelebs</i>	Observed feeding along canal-side vegetation.



East Marton Canal, Yorkshire Dales



UPLOADED PHOTOS

Yes



MERLIN BIRD ID SCREENSHOTS INCLUDED

Yes



NOTABLE SIGHTINGS

Particularly notable species included Common Redstart, Garden Warbler, and Eurasian Siskin.



GENERAL WALK NOTES

This was a relaxed evening canal-side walk through the Yorkshire Dales landscape, with calm water, hedgerows, and open fields providing excellent habitat for both waterside and farmland bird species.

The sunny conditions and quieter dusk period later in the walk created ideal opportunities for bird activity and listening conditions along the canal corridor. Woodland edge habitat along the towpath produced a varied selection of warblers and finches, while the open canal itself supported species such as Canada Goose.

The flat canal-side route made for a comfortable and scenic walk with uninterrupted countryside views throughout.

CHECKLIST SUMMARY

Total Species Identified: 16

Most Notable Species:
Common Redstart, Garden Warbler, and Eurasian Siskin

Merlin Bird ID Records:
Included in report documentation

Website:
feathertrailuk.co.uk

