Upper Wharfedale Venturer – Frequently Asked Questions

General Questions

Can I use my bus pass?

Yes – bus passes are accepted at all times of day

Why don't you go up Littondale?

We have investigated the possibility of running up Littondale, although it doesn't really work as a detour as we can only just work with a 35 minute run from Buckden to Grassington and still make the connections.

In the meantime the Venturer will stop on request at the lay-by at Littondale Lane End.

What about fares?

Fares have not increased since April 2022, and comparison with rural services in North Yorkshire suggests that the new fare structure still represents very good value, particularly with the fare cap scheme in place.

Will you accept the Dales Rambler Train/bus ticket?

No – unfortunately we are not able to accept this ticket on the Venturer.

Will you allow dogs to travel on the Venturer?

We will allow dogs to travel on the Venturer as long as they are well-behaved. There is no fare for dogs, but we do appreciate a small donation. Dogs aged over 65 may of course travel free.

Can you take passengers using wheelchairs?

We are not able to carry passengers using wheelchairs at present. Although the bus is equipped to carry a wheelchair, our drivers are not trained to use the wheelchair lift. We hope to introduce this capability during Autumn 2023. Please call for details

Where can I get a timetable?

There are timetables on the bus, at bus stops, local businesses (pubs, shops etc) as well as on the Venturer website at www.upperwharfedale.com

Is the "One pound - one way" ticket still available for under 19s?

Yes – but it is not a through ticket and will only work as far as Grassington. To continue to Skipton, people will need to buy another ticket from Keighley Bus Company.

Can we hire the bus for community activities?

The bus is in use 6 days a week and therefore not normally available for hire.

Why are you still asking for volunteers – haven't you got enough?

We have now trained more than almost 20 drivers – however the bigger the pool of drivers, the less demand there is on individuals. Furthermore this is a community scheme and relies on the support and participation of the community.

Will you only stop at bus stops or can I hail the bus?

The bus will stop on request if the driver believes it is safe to do so - i.e. on straight sections of road, which are sufficiently wide and with good visibility

What happens if the bus is full?

We will try to make alternative arrangements

Is it possible to reserve seats?

No – this is a local bus service and as such operates on a first come first served basis

Is it true that the costs of the service are fully-funded by NYCC?

No – the bus is provided by NYCC together with a fixed subsidy which is substantially less than the cost of running the service. The shortfall has to be made up by fare revenue, sponsorship, advertising and donations.