

Grassington is a village and [civil parish](#) in the [Craven](#) district of

[North Yorkshire](#)

,  
[England](#)

. The village is situated in [Wharfedale](#) around 9 miles (14 km) from

[Bolton Abbey](#)

and is surrounded by

[limestone](#)

scenery. Nearby villages include

[Linton](#)

,  
[Threshfield](#)

,  
[Hebden](#)

,  
[Conistone](#)

and

[Kilnsey](#)



The entrance to an inclined shaft at [Yarnbury Lead Mine](#) to the north of Grassington.

Although often described by local people as a village, Grassington was granted a [Royal](#)

[Charter](#)

for a

market and fair in 1282 giving it

[market town](#)

status. The market was held regularly until about 1860. A change in land use from the early 17th century, when

[lead](#)

mining began to assume more importance, brought some prosperity, but Grassington's heyday arrived during the late 18th and early 19th centuries. The opening of the

[Yorkshire Dales Railway](#)

to Threshfield in 1901 brought new visitors, many of whom settled, some finding work in Skipton or in the developing limestone quarries.

Today Grassington is the main residential and tourist centre in Upper Wharfedale. Centred around its small cobbled square is a selection of shops offering food, clothing and gifts, alongside small cafes, restaurants and hotels.

Grassington Festival [\[1\]](#) is a two-week long annual event encompassing music, performance, and visual arts, held in a variety of venues around the village. In 2008 it included acts by

[Jo Brand](#)

,  
[Dara O'Briain](#)

,  
[Clare Teal](#)

and

[Toyah Wilcox](#)

A [Yorkshire Dales National Park](#) information centre is on Hebden Road.

Three miles north of Grassington at [Kilnsey](#) is the dramatic, glacially carved overhang of Kilnsey Crag.

Grass Woods, a large area of ancient woodland including the Iron-Age fort, Fort Gregory (also known as Gregory's Fort), is situated just over one mile north-west of Grassington. [\[ 1 \]](#) [\[ 2 \]](#)

## Electricity generation

In [1909](#) , Grassington received its first electricity from a hydroelectric plant at [Linton Falls](#) , which continued to operate until

[1948](#)

. Today, there are plans to revive the plant through an

[English Heritage](#)

project, using two

[Archimedean screw](#)

turbines to produce 510,000

[kilowatt](#)

hours per year.

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