

7 Night North York Moors Walking with Sightseeing Holiday

Trip style: Walking with sightseeing

Destination: 📍 North York Moors

Trip code: WBY07-WOD01

Grades: 1, 2

Carbon Footprint: 🌱 155kg CO2



HOLIDAY OVERVIEW

These holidays offer a perfect mix of short, guided walks (4-5 miles), combined with time spent sightseeing. Visit a selection of standout highlights in the North York Moors with hassle-free coach travel and the help of an HF Holidays Leader.

WHAT YOU'LL LOVE

- Discovering the enchanting Rievaulx Abbey
- Walking the clifftop coastal path Robin Hood's Bay
- Riding the North York Moors Railway through breathtaking scenery
- Visiting the home of Captain Cook
- Spending time in historic Whitby
- Exploring some of the best sections of the Cleveland Way

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- Train from Grosmont to Pickering
- Comfortable en-suite accommodation in our country house
- Cream tea on arrival day
- Cooked or continental breakfast every morning
- Daily packed lunches
- Three-course evening meals, plus tea & coffee
- Guided walks and sightseeing visits with an experienced HF Holidays Leader
- All transport to and from walks and sites of interest
- Easy-to-follow routes, maps, and information in our Discovery Point if you want to explore independently

Please note - Entrance fees are not included. See More Info tab for details.

TRIP SUITABILITY

This trip is graded Activity Level 2. Walks are on mostly good footpaths, tracks & lanes; there are occasional short ascents and descents on steps or paved ground

ITINERARY

Day 1: Arrival Day

Check-in at the hotel is available from 16:00. If you are a member you can arrive at the house from 14:00. Enjoy a complimentary cream tea at 16:30 and meet other guests.

Day 2: Skinningrove and Staithes

Distance: 4.5 miles (7.5km) Ascent: 500 feet (160m) In summary: We begin our day at Hummersea Farm, passing through the farm we make our way along a stunning coastal section of the Cleveland Way. The walk gives us the opportunity to walk past Boulby cliff and potash mine. We then descend to staithes with time to explore and visit the Staithes heritage centre.

Day 3: The North York Moors Railway - Goathland to Grosmont and Pickering

Distance: 4 miles (6.5km) Ascent: 150 feet (40m) Descent: 550 feet (160m) In summary: We start in the village of Goathland, an ancient settlement on the North York Moors, famous for the steam railway and the TV series Heartbeat. We follow a parallel route to the steam railway, passing the village of Beckhole and on to Grosmont. The train then takes us from Grosmont and on to Pickering, with plenty of time there to explore.

Day 4: Free Day - North York Moors

Discover more about Larpool Hall and the local area for ideas on how to make the most of your free day.

Day 5: Ravenscar, Robin Hood's Bay and Whitby

Distance: walk one - 3½ miles (6km); walk two - 1½ miles (2.5km) Ascent: walk one - 400 feet (120m); walk two - 250 feet (80m) In summary: Today features two short walks. From the dramatically located clifftop village of Ravenscar, we follow the coastline and the Cleveland Way national trail, past historical alum works, and to the ancient smugglers haunt of Boggle Hole - the perfect place for some fossil hunting. We continue to another well known ancient smugglers' haunt - the characterful seaside village of Robin Hood's Bay. A short journey then takes us back to Whitby, with the afternoon to discover its charms including the famous 199 steps into Whitby old town, the whalebone arch, the many shops and tea shops of the town, or maybe take a boat trip out from the harbour. A short walk then takes us back to Larpool Hall.

Day 6: Rievaulx Abbey to Helmsley

Distance: 4 miles (6km) Ascent: 350 feet (100m) In summary: We begin our day with a visit to the impressive ruins of Rievaulx Abbey - once one of the wealthiest abbeys in England. Its peace and tranquillity stays with us for a beautiful walk following the Cleveland Way to the pretty market town of Helmsley. There's plenty of time to explore here. Join us on a town trail or discover Helmsley's history independently with visits to its castle, walled garden, Duncombe Park or maybe the Bird of Prey Centre.

Day 7: Captain Cook's Great Ayton and views of Yorkshire's mini-Matterhorn

Distance: 5 miles (8km) Ascent: 850 feet (260m) In summary: A short visit to Guisborough Forest Visitor Centre to learn more about the area, before we begin our walk through Hutton Lowcross Woods, around Roseberry Topping, and down to Captain Cook's home of Great Ayton. If you've extra energy, there's the option to stride out further and take in the top of Roseberry Topping - Yorkshire's mini-Matterhorn! There's time this afternoon to explore Great Ayton and learn more about its famous son - Captain Cook.

Day 8: Departure Day

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast before making your way home.

Larpool Hall

Given that the Yorkshire coast never loses its capacity to enchant, it's easy to see the appeal of this Grade II-listed house overlooking the Esk Valley and the North Sea. The setting is perfect; in the former fishing town of Whitby that's best known for its fish and chips, quaint harbour, and Dracula connections (Irish author Bram Stoker drew his inspiration for his Gothic novel when holidaying here in 1890). You'll have all the sightseeing greats within walking or driving distance, including the 13th century Whitby Abbey, the wonderful Whitby Sands, and the 199 Steps leading up to the old St. Mary's Church (it's customary to count them as you climb). Not only are the North York Moors right on your doorstep, but the walk along Cleveland Way to Robin Hood's Bay is rather special, too.

A warm welcome

We want you to feel comfortable from the moment you arrive. You'll find a welcome pack in your room with guest registration forms, menus, order forms for dinners and picnic lunches, the Wi-Fi password, and the front door code. Our houses are locked at night, so we recommend noting the Duty Manager's number on arrival in case of an emergency (or getting locked out).

Evening entertainment

While evening entertainment varies from house to house, HF Holidays Inter-House Quiz night held after dinner on Wednesdays is a weekly staple. Your HF Holidays leader may be around for tips on guided and self-guided walking routes as well as visit-worthy local attractions.

Walks talks

Our HF Holidays walk leaders host guided walking information briefings before dinner on guided walking holiday arrival days. This is followed by a group Walks Talk for information on the following day's guided walks (held before dinner every evening). Self-guided walking guests are, of course, welcome.

The walking day

Prior to setting off on guided walks, your HF Holidays Leader will run you through a short safety briefing. There's also an up-to-date weather forecast on display at the house to ensure you have appropriate clothing and footwear. If you choose to do your own walks or are on a self-guided walking holiday, we ask that you please complete an Independent Walker Card each day. These can be found near the Discovery Point in the house.

Walking safety - SHARED WITH ALL

Walks may be changed for safety reasons and are subject to a maximum and minimum number of guests. Leaders always consider the safety of the group as a whole, and may need to alter or curtail the walk if the conditions dictate. Your leader may refuse to accept a guest where clothing, equipment or behaviour is unsuitable. In the event of a problem all leaders carry a mobile phone, first aid kit, group shelter, spare maps and a compass. Please note: If you choose to leave the group your leader is no longer responsible for you. If you have a particular health condition or disability please put this on your guest registration form. This information will be confidential to your leaders and the house manager, but leaders do need to take account of any issues when planning walks. Please carry a copy of these trip notes with you, or note down the contact phone number for your accommodation (details in the travel section) should you need them in case of emergency.

Packing list - UK Guided Walking

The UK has a famously unpredictable climate so it's best to be prepared for weather that's sunny one minute and raining the next. To make it easier, here's a list of items you should consider packing. Essentials Suitable footwear such as waterproof walking boots that provide ankle support and good grip Waterproof and windproof jacket Comfortable clothing (jeans & waterproof capes are not suitable) Mid-layer(s) to keep you warm. Fleeces make a good choice Waterproof overtrousers Gloves and a warm hat Rucksack with waterproof liner Flask for hot drinks Water bottle (at least 1 litre capacity) Sunscreen UV sunglasses For holidays operating October through to the end of March, please also bring the following on your walks: spare warm clothing spare high energy food head torch and spare batteries please note for the October to March season your waterproof jacket needs to offer a high level of waterproofing and wind resistance, and a hood. Look for a waterproof jacket with sealed/taped seams and a minimum HH (hydrostatic head - this is the rating given on waterproof jackets) of 10,000mm+ Recommended Several base layers (long-sleeve or short-sleeve) Cushioned walking socks to avoid blisters First aid kit, including plasters and insect repellent Sit mat Waterproof pouch for valuables Rubbish bag (remember to always leave no trace) Wallet/purse Camera Walking poles
