

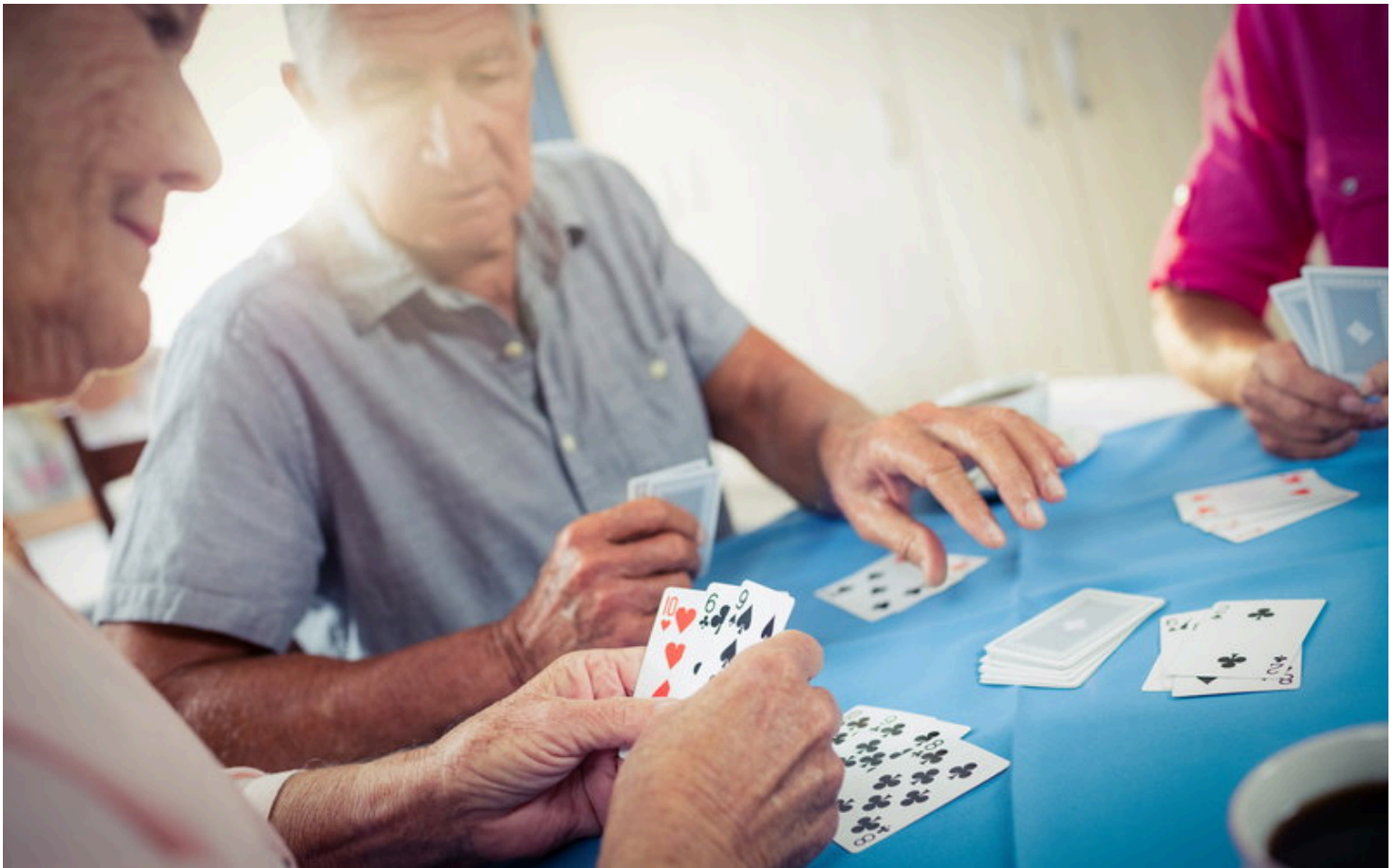
# Bridge & Walking Holiday in the North York Moors

**Trip style:**

**Destination:** 📍 North York Moors

**Trip code:** WBY04-BRW05

**Grades:** 1, 2



## HOLIDAY OVERVIEW

Stay in the comfort of our characterful country houses and exercise both mind and body with this classic combination. You'll have a choice of two guided walks a day (one short and one longer) followed by a bridge competition each evening.

## WHAT YOU'LL LOVE

- Guided walking with experienced HF Holidays Leaders
- Playing bridge in a relaxed and friendly environment
- Meeting like-minded people
- Being surrounded by the stunning landscape of North York Moors
- Evening bridge competitions
- Staying in the comfort of our country house

## WHAT'S INCLUDED

- All bridge-related materials
- 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
- Choice of two different-grade daily walks
- Easy-to-follow routes, maps, and information in our Discovery Point if you want to explore independently

## TRIP SUITABILITY

This holiday is suitable for regular players of Duplicate Bridge at club level.

## 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.

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### Day 2-4: Bridge & Walking

Enjoy a daily choice of two walks each day, with a free day on all 7-night holidays. You can choose either an easier route of around 4-6 miles or a harder route of around 6-8 miles to explore the local area. Your optional walks will take you out to explore the countryside surrounding your HF country house, and sometimes further afield. The walking options are outlined below. We'll return to the house in time to relax before your evening Bridge competition starts at 5pm. Walks information: Day 2- Coasts and Clifftops Option 1 - Pannett Park and Whitby Distance: 4 miles (6.5km) Ascent: 200 feet (60m) In summary: A pleasant walk taking us from Larpool house to Pannett park and then on to Whitby town Highlight: Exploring Whitby Option 2 - Robin Hood, Little John and the Cleveland Way Distance: 7 miles (11.5km) Ascent: 1,000 feet (300m) In summary: We begin following the cinder track and then farmland, passing a site commemorating a visit to Whitby by famous outlaws, then take a fabulous cliff top walk along part of the Cleveland Way back to Whitby. Highlight: The ruins of Whitby Abbey stand prominently on the headland above the harbour. Discover how this dramatic setting inspired Bram Stoker's gothic novel Dracula. Day 3- Along the Esk Valley Option 1 - Aislaby to Whitby Distance: 5 miles (8km) Ascent: 660 feet (200m) In summary: The River Esk flows through the North York Moors to the sea at Whitby, carving a tranquil green valley through the high moorland. We'll follow the valley from Aislaby to Larpool Hall via Ruswarp. Highlight: Beautiful views along the Esk Valley. Option 2 - Grosmont to Whitby Distance: 7 miles (11.5km) Ascent: 950 feet (300m) In summary: The River Esk flows through the North York Moors to the sea at Whitby, carving a tranquil green valley through the high moorland. We'll follow the valley from Grosmont to Larpool Hall. Highlight: Our walk ends by crossing the Larpool viaduct; a 13 arch brick structure built in 1884 to carry the now closed Whitby to Scarborough railway over the River Esk. Day 4- Along the Smugglers Coast Option 1 - Hinderwell to Staithes Distance: 2.75 miles (4.5km) Ascent: 460 feet (140m) In summary: Starting from Hinderwell we follow the coast into Staithes. Highlight: Exploring the village of Staithes, which was once one of the largest fishing ports in the North East Option 2 - Skinningrove to Staithes Distance: 6 miles (10km) Total ascent: 970 feet (300m) In summary: Starting from Skinningrove we follow the coast into Staithes. Highlight: Exploring the village of Staithes, which was once one of the largest fishing ports in the North East

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### Day 5: Departure Day

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast before making your way home.

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## 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.

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## **Packing list - Bridge & Walking**

Bridge All your Bridge stationery and equipment will be supplied. You may, however, like to bring a notebook and pen to make your own notes. EBU Members - don't forget to bring your EBU membership number to earn Master Points on this holiday. Walking To enjoy your walking comfortably and safely, it is essential that your footwear, clothing and equipment are suitable for the conditions likely to be encountered. Britain is famous for its changeable weather, so our advice is to come prepared for all eventualities. Bring a rucksack, a thermos flask for a hot drink, a water bottle (at least 1 litre) and spare high-energy food such as a chocolate bar, a small torch (in spring, autumn and winter) and first aid kit – your leader's first aid kit doesn't contain any medication or blister kits (such as Compeed). Many guests find walking poles useful, particularly for descents. Insect repellent, sun hat, sunglasses and protection cream and a camera are all optional extras you may choose to bring.

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