

Next step Navigation in the Southern Yorkshire Dales

Trip style: Small group holidays

Destination:  Yorkshire Dales

Trip code: MDL03-NVN01

Carbon Footprint:  53kg CO2



HOLIDAY OVERVIEW

Looking to build on your navigation skills? Our Next Step Navigation holiday is designed for those with some experience who want to take things further. Following the Silver-level syllabus of the National Navigation Award Scheme (NNAS), you'll learn how to navigate off-path using advanced map skills and compass techniques. Ideal for those who've completed the Bronze Award or already have a solid navigation foundation.

WHAT YOU'LL LOVE

- Having the chance to complete the NNAS Silver Navigator Award
- Building on your navigation skills through practical indoor and outdoor exercises
- Learning how to accurately use a compass
- The expertise of a knowledgeable and experienced tutor
- Staying at Newfield Hall, our country house near the village of Malham
- A more personalised experience thanks to small group sizes (maximum 8 people to 1 leader)

WHAT'S INCLUDED

- 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
- Registration with the NNAS

TRIP SUITABILITY

While these aren't walking holidays as such, it's essential that you have a level of fitness that will allow you to enjoy your experience to the fullest. Please prepare to be on your feet and outdoors for most of the day (usually 6-7hrs). You will cover anything up to 5 miles over the course of a day.

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 in 2026. Enjoy a complimentary cream tea at 16:30 and meet other guests. After tea meet your leader and have a course introduction.

Day 2-3: Navigation Days

Our days will be spent working through a range of practical indoor and outdoor exercises that will help us cover the Silver Navigator Award Syllabus. Utilise the skills and techniques of the Bronze Award in the context of Silver Award navigation strategies. Relate small hills, small valleys, prominent re-entrants and prominent spurs to their corresponding map contours. Use prominent hills, ridges, spurs and valleys as a means of navigation in good visibility. Use landforms and point features to orientate the map and as collecting and catching features. Use a compass to: Accurately follow a bearing; aim off; check the direction of handrails and other linear features. Deviate briefly from a compass bearing to avoid obstacles or difficult terrain and accurately regain the original line. Use back bearings to check route following accuracy. Measure distance on the ground in varied, open terrain using timing and pacing and make practical allowances for any discrepancies. Simplify legs using coarse navigation, attack points and fine navigation. Recognise dangerous or difficult terrain on map and ground. Plan and implement navigational strategies based on the above skills. Maintain route finding accuracy in poor visibility or darkness. Recognise a navigation error within a few minutes and apply appropriate relocation techniques. Understand how personal fitness and nature of terrain affect route choice both at the planning stage and on the ground. Understand the potential consequences of fatigue and physical discomfort in demanding terrain and/or extreme weather conditions. Select appropriate clothing, equipment and first aid items for walking in open country in all weather conditions. Demonstrate an understanding of the Countryside Code, current access legislation and the environmental impact of walkers on the countryside. Understand the responsibilities of walkers towards other countryside interests such as farming, forestry and conservation. Understand how outdoor activities impact on the environment and how that impact can be minimised and sustainable use promoted. You will be outside for parts of the course and there will be some standing around outside so please bring warm clothing with you. You can expect to walk between 4 to 6 miles each day. The course includes map work exercises and walk planning in the evenings. Maps will be provided for use during the course, but you will need to bring a compass we recommend a compass which has a baseplate, 360-degree protractor, map measuring features, plus scales of 1:25k and 1:50k an example compass is the Silva Expedition 4.

Day 4: Departure Day

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast before making your way home.

Newfield Hall

Looking every inch the baronial mansion, Newfield Hall sits in two acres of grounds near the village of Malham at the southern base of Yorkshire Dales National Park. Given it was this very landscape which inspired Wordsworth to write a sonnet and Charles Kingsley to pen *The Water Babies*, the countryside views are as gorgeous as you'd imagine. You'll also have plenty of sightseeing greats within easy travelling distance, most notably Malham Tarn, Janet's Foss, Gordale Scar, Malham Cove, and The Dry Valley of the Watlowes. And then, of course, there's Yorkshire's famous trio of summits: Pen-y-ghent, Wharfedale, and Ingleborough, collectively known as the three peaks. Stay at Newfield Hall and experience the exceptional service of a VisitEngland ROSE award winner. Find out more about the latest accolade awarded to our country house in the Southern Yorkshire Dales by reading our latest blog.

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.