

Walking YOUR WAY THROUGH HISTORY



Our five-day sample itineraries have been developed using newly commissioned market research around the perfect short-break holiday for the target customer, 'Explorers' aged 45 years+ from near Europe, who like to experience the culture and heritage of a new English destination, full of little surprises, at a more relaxed pace. They include experiences taking in the beautiful surroundings of the North York Moors National Park and its stunning coast, along with free time to visit the area's 'must-sees' and engage with the local culture.

All products highlighted in the itineraries in **BOLD** are bookable in advance, all others are either payable at the attraction/venue or free of charge.



North York Moors
National Park



GREAT
BRITAIN

Walking here is all about fresh air, big skies, and a chance to get close to the local wildlife. It's a great way to explore the North York Moors National Park along with experiencing some of the areas must-sees. On your way you'll discover atmospheric coastal towns & villages, hidden historic churches, majestic castles, and abbey ruins. Take time out to visit local artists' studios and unique galleries, enjoy the English tradition of afternoon tea and delicious fish and chips.

WELCOME TO THE NORTH YORK MOORS – WHERE PEACE AND BEAUTY AWAITS YOU.

DAY ONE: Robin's Hood Bay

Arrive by car ferry from either Rotterdam to Hull or from Amsterdam to Newcastle, both are around a 1 hour and 45-minute drive (100km) to your first accommodation in the North York Moors National Park, **Baytown Holiday Cottages**, located in Robin Hood's Bay on the North York Moors coast.

Pop into the Robin Hood's Bay Museum – a small, local village museum packed full of artefacts and stories.

INSIDER'S TIP: Visit a fisherman's church from 1822 overlooking the bay
Old St Stephen's Church is well worth a visit to see its interior, which hasn't changed since it was built in 1822. Look out for occasional concerts held through the year.

Enjoy a relaxing dinner in one of the great restaurants or pubs.



DAY TWO: Cleveland Way - Robin's Hood Bay to Whitby

Leave the car at home today and enjoy a bite size section of the Cleveland Way National Trail, on foot and then return by public transport. Follow the trail from Robin Hood's Bay north to Whitby, a 11.2km walk on the clifftop coastal path taking in the views and local wildlife along the way.

Arrive at the atmospheric coastal town of Whitby, overlooked by the famous clifftop ruins of **Whitby Abbey**, with its cobbled Georgian streets clustering around a vibrant harbour and sandy beach; providing inspiration for Bram Stoker's Gothic novel Dracula. After visiting the magnificent ruins of **Whitby Abbey**, where a state-of-the-art exhibition tells the tale of 3,000 years of history, descend the famous 199 steps to the old town. Visit the **Captain Cook Memorial Museum** to learn how all of Cook's famous vessels were built here.

Whitby is a great place for a spot of shopping; from jewellery made from local black Jet to handmade chocolates and smoked kippers. Don't leave Whitby without trying some of the best fish and chips for miles around, perfect with a delicious Yorkshire ale, brewed in the shadows of Whitby Abbey.

INSIDER'S TIP: Take a boat trip
Take a 25-minute boat trip into Whitby bay with **Whitby Coastal Cruises** and see this atmospheric town from the sea.

After exploring Whitby, head home by public transport on the regular bus service to your cottage in Robin Hood's Bay.

DAY THREE: Staithes village and circular walk via Port Mulgrave

Enjoy a day exploring the atmospheric fishing village and coastal setting of Staithes, with its traditional Coble boats in the picturesque harbour – a 35-minute drive (32km) from Robin Hood's Bay. Start with a spectacular sea view walk along the North York Moors coastline, on a 6.4km circular walk from Staithes to Port Mulgrave. On your return take time out to visit local artists' studios and unique galleries. Look out for local sculptor, Emma Stothard's striking blue lobster and then follow the Staithes Illusion Trail, all painted by renowned trompe l'oeil artist and Staithes resident, Paul Czainski. Finish your day with tea and scones in the vintage café, Dotty about Vintage - sit outside with a blanket as you watch the world go by before you head home to Robin Hood's Bay.

INSIDER'S TIP: Go starry eyed
On your drive home, stop off at **Kettleness** and walk to the cliff top where you'll be rewarded with a superb dark sky vantage point where, on a clear night, you can spy up to 2,000 stars at any one time.





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DAY FOUR: Helmsley & Rievaulx Abbey

Say goodbye to the coast and take a scenic one-hour drive (60km) through the North York Moors National Park to the picturesque quintessential English market town of Helmsley. Check into your second accommodation in the North York Moors, **The Feathers**, a small coaching inn hotel.

Visit the striking ruins of the 900-year old **Helmsley Castle** and discover how the castle evolved over the centuries, from a mighty medieval fortress to a romantic Victorian ruin.

Then onto **Helmsley Walled Garden**, North York Moors' own 'secret English garden', where you can wander through 5 acres of traditional walled gardens, offering a tranquil oasis amidst an intoxicating mix of scents and colour. Relax over lunch at the Vinehouse Café beneath Victorian vines laden with grapes, setting you up for the scenic

11.2km circular walk from Helmsley onto the ruins of **Rievaulx Abbey** – great for big sky views!

Take time to explore **Rievaulx Abbey** - the impressive ruins of one of England's most powerful Cistercian monasteries, reflecting nearly 1,000 years of spiritual, commercial, and romantic history.

INSIDER'S TIP: See medieval artefacts. Stop by the Abbey's museum to get up close to previously unseen artefacts including medieval stone carvings, chess pieces and gold coins.

Return to your hotel in Helmsley and relax over dinner served in the restaurant. If time allows, head over to the Helmsley Brewing Company's cosy bar to sample Striding the Riding, the official beer of the Cleveland Way National Trail.

DAY FIVE: Must-sees

Today is your own to take in one or two of the area's heritage 'must-sees', all within easy distance by car, before you return home. Our recommendations include:

Hutton-le-Hole - one of the most picturesque villages in the North York Moors. The village is home to the marvellous outdoor **Ryedale Folk Museum** where you can learn all about the local history. See local artisans at work, buy some gifts to take home and then enjoy a pint of local beer at the pub on the green.

Castle Howard is one of Britain's finest historic houses, situated in the nearby Howardian Hills Area of Outstanding

Natural Beauty. Built over 300 years ago by Sir John Vanbrugh, discover awe-inspiring architecture, interiors, and world-renowned collections. The grounds here are breath-taking; you'll find statues, lakes, temples, and fountains along with an 18th century walled garden. Pop into the estate shop to take home a memento of your holiday.

Return by car ferry from either Hull to Rotterdam or from Newcastle to Amsterdam, both are around a 1 hour and 30-minute drive from the North York Moors.

To find out even more about the local culture of the places you visit why not arrange a local guide - a list of guides can be found in the Supplier Listing.

Other accommodation options are available. Day passes to the heritage attractions can be included.

Times and dates are subject to change, please check with suppliers.

