

Rosedale Railway & Kilns

An epic journey along the former Rosedale Railway to see the impressive ruins of a once thriving ironstone industry

Getting here

Moorbus serves
Rosedale – moorbus.org

Length

9 miles (14.5km)

Time

4 hours

Start/finish

Blakey Junction,
YO62 7LQ
SE 683 989

Map

Ordnance Survey OL26

Refreshments

Lion Inn &
Dale Head Farm

Toilets

Hutton le Hole (6½ miles)
& Castleton (6 miles)



North York Moors
National Park



David Ross Foundation
Broadening Horizons

Suitability



Level, even stone and cinder surface, with gentle inclines.

The industrial remains are fragile – please stay on paths, and keep off stones and walls for your own safety.



Route suitable for all-terrain wheelchairs and Trampers.



There is currently no agreement in place for cyclists to use the section of route between Blakey and the head of the valley (River Seven), which lies on private land.



Please keep dogs on short leads at all times to protect ground-nesting birds, wildlife and sheep.

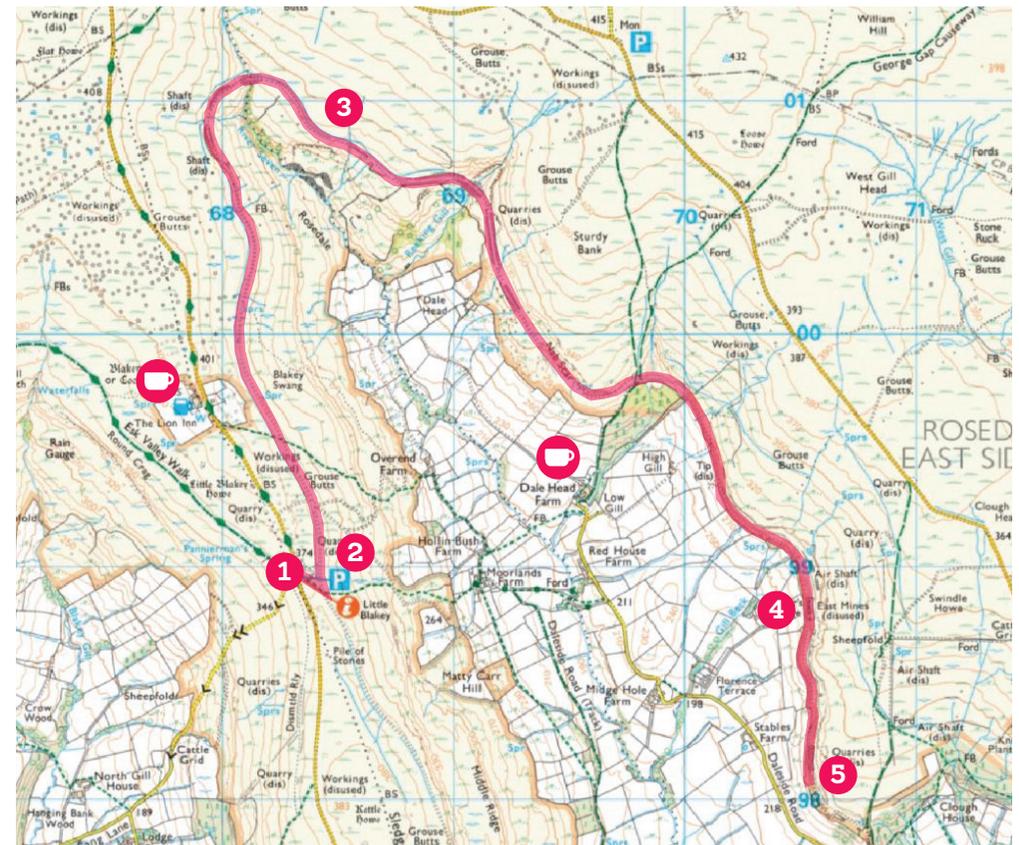
1 Park at Blakey Junction car park, or arrive by Moorbus, which stops here.

2 Take the short path down to the railway and turn left, taking in the view to your destination.

3 Follow the track around the valley, over embankments and through cuttings.

4 Marvel at the gigantic piers of Iron Kilns.

5 Arrive at the arches of Stone Kilns, take a break on the bench and then retrace your route to Blakey Junction.

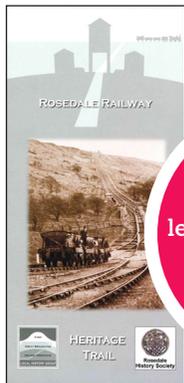


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Rosedale Railway & Kilns

The Rosedale Railway was a remarkable feat of Victorian engineering – built to transport the valley’s valuable ironstone reserves out to the wider world. First opened in 1861, it carried over 10 million tonnes of stone from Rosedale before its closure in 1929. The tracks were taken up and salvaged and the trackbed left for nature to soften. Since then it has become a popular recreational route, best enjoyed on a clear day to enjoy superb views across the landscape and encounter striking reminders of the industrial past.

Information panels at Blakey Junction, Stone and Iron Kilns tell you more of the story.



Buy the Heritage Trail leaflet for £1 from local outlets to find out more



2 Water tower

Steam engines needed topping up with water. This water tower once had a metal tank on top.

3 Flooded cuttings

Around the head of the valley the railway has been reclaimed by nature and in places the cuttings have been flooded and provide a valuable wildlife habitat. Here the path has been diverted around and over these habitats.

4 Reeking Gill

The railway crossed many becks and ravines on high embankments and Reeking Gill is one of the biggest. The embankments are made of spoil from the cuttings and slag waste brought in on the railway.

5 Stone quarry

Beside the railway is a loading bay that served a stone quarry above. As well as ironstone, Rosedale provided sandstone for building.

1 Blakey Junction

At Blakey the railway left Rosedale and travelled across moorland to Ingleby Incline, where loaded wagons were lowered down the steep incline on a steel cable. Notice the shape of a deep cutting below the car park and the bridge parapet on the other side of the road.

7 Black Houses

The remains of a pair of railway workers' cottages, weatherproofed with tar, hence the name.

6 Two-level railway

The railway splits into two levels - the upper level brought stone from the mines and coal from the railway to feed the kilns; the lower level took processed ironstone from the kilns out to Blakey and on to Ingleby.

8 High Baring cottages and workshops

The remains of miners' cottages and workshops stand silhouetted on the hillside – workers and their families lived directly alongside the mines and railway.

10 Stone Kilns

The iconic sixteen arches of the Stone Kilns can be seen for miles around.

9 Iron Kilns

The gigantic piers of the Iron Kilns hint at the scale of the structure that once stood here.