

Walking COUNTRY



England offers idyllic walking; diverse landscapes, high quality way-marked routes and to walk in England is to walk into history. Landscapes are rich in heritage, buildings and nature and have been inspiring artists, writers and makers for centuries. Many walks pass through interesting villages and towns, often well-served by a range of accommodation. And of course, there can be no better reward after all that fresh air and exercise, than enjoying a well-earned pint and a meal in a traditional English inn.

The **North York Moors** offers all the essentials of England and it is easily accessible from Europe by ferry or train, located just a short drive from the historic English city of York

Take in the spectacular scenery of the **North York Moors National Park** and uncover centuries of history marked on the landscape; great ruined abbeys rise out of tranquil valleys, ancient monks' trods criss-cross the moorlands and stone crosses and boundary stones litter the way-sides. The walking here is all about big skies and a chance to get close to the wildlife local to the area. Let your feet take you on a journey of discovery; breath-taking colourful heather moorland, the Jurassic coastline and sandy beaches, lush rolling dales, wide open star-filled skies and charming market towns and villages.

Your guests will experience a Yorkshire welcome in a local inn, B&B or self-catering accommodation; enjoy wonderful local food and drink and relax in one of many friendly, cosy pubs.



North York Moors
National Park



Types of walking on offer

The diversity of walking on offer means that we can cater for the distance hiker, avid day walker, a gentle amble into history or mindful meander on beaches, through meadow or woodland. Easy access walks are also available. These are usually short, on the level and suitable for wheelchairs and scooters making accessibility holidays a real option in the North York Moors.

Distance hiking – long distance walkers are richly catered for with a selection of trails and longer routes.

Take up the challenge of the national park's flagship walk, the 175km [Cleveland Way National Trail](#), running from the market town of Helmsley, in the heart of the North York Moors, all the way out to the coast before following the clifftop coastline. Walkers are rewarded by spectacular views at every turn, from traditional fishing villages to sheltered coves, and sightings of cormorants, gannets and other seabirds. The national trails are well maintained and signed, using the acorn symbol along the route.

Thousands of people walk the iconic Coast to Coast (Cumbria to the North York Moors) every year. The 308km walking route runs from one coast of England to the other. It was devised by British fell walker and writer Alfred Wainwright, most famous for his Lake District guides. The trail starts on the Irish Sea and passes through three national parks, the Lake District, the Yorkshire Dales and the North York Moors finishing at the lovely old fishing village of Robin Hood's Bay on the North Sea. Why not add extra days in the North York Moors and savour the reward of reaching the goal.

Other long distance hikes in the North York Moors include:

- *Esk Valley Walk* – 60km
- *Tabular Hills Walk* – 77km
- *St Hilda's Way* – 69km



For more details on [long distance walks](#) in the North York Moors.

Day walks – for a programme of day walks, there are a number of highly recommended [shorter circular routes](#) along stretches of the Cleveland Way. Or this collection of [six classic walks](#) ranging from 5-11km offer access to some of the finest countryside. Often a number of day walks can be taken from or close by a single accommodation base. We are happy to offer suggestions for building your own itinerary or day walks.

Gentle walks into history - our sample 5-day itinerary 'Walking your way through history' offers an active way of experiencing the heritage of the North York Moors; with suggestions for 'must sees' and hidden gems along the way.

If you'd prefer to offer your clients guided walks there are also a number of local and national operators who not only take care of all the route planning and way-guiding but they will also give the insider view on wildlife, fascinating history, myths, legends and folklore or foraging.



Walking for wellbeing – walking and mindfulness go hand-in-hand and offer a perfect tonic for a safe but nourishing emergence from lock-down. There are a number of providers that offer socially distanced walks for wellbeing, whether it's mindfulness, forest bathing or Nordic walking. Details can be provided.

Resources

If you plan your own walking itineraries and contract directly, you will find a number of walking specialists and luggage carriers in the North York Moors Supplier Directory. For route planning the daily updated [Rights of Way mapping tool](#) may also be helpful. If you prefer to work with a ground handler, there are a number of options for local and national companies able to respond, Details can be provided.

©VBI

Walking Friendly



A network of businesses have signed up to the North York Moors' walking friendly initiative, making it easy for you to find suppliers that will welcome your walking clients and be useful for new product development. **Accommodation** providers offer facilities such as boot cleaning kit, storage and drying facilities. They also have maps and walking books available to borrow and can point out great local routes and insider tips. **Food and drink** is an essential part of the walking experience and knowing that your clients, and their muddy boots, will be welcome is reassuring. The businesses that are walking friendly are identified in the North York Moors Supplier Directory.