



History and HERITAGE

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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 areas '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.

Uncover centuries of England's history and heritage surrounded by the spectacular scenery of the North York Moors National Park. Take a tour of England's finest historic houses and gardens, Castle Howard. Discover friendly local towns and villages, hidden historic churches, majestic castles and abbey ruins. Visit local artists' studios and enjoy some of the best food and drink in perfect idyllic settings.

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

DAY ONE: Meet the locals

Arrive in comfort by car ferry, from either Rotterdam to Hull (P&O), or from Amsterdam to Newcastle (DFDS), both operate a daily service. Your onward drive is around 1 ½ hours (89 km) to your accommodation in the North York Moors National Park – The Feathers, small Coaching Inn group, located in the heart of the market town of Helmsley.

Take time to get to know this market town + place to eat, pub/cafe



North York Moors
National Park



GREAT
BRITAIN

DAY TWO: Castle Howard

After a relaxing breakfast, take the scenic journey by car through the Howardian Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty to **Castle Howard**, one of England's finest historic houses and gardens.

INSIDER'S TIP: Take a historic guided tour. Enjoy a tour of the 18th century house, where the knowledgeable guides can lead you through the inspiring building highlighting the world-renowned collections of furniture, paintings, bronze, and china.

Take your time over lunch in the Boathouse Café, overlooking the Great Lake.

The grounds here are breath-taking - the gardens have been designed on a monumental scale with over 1,000 acres to explore. You'll find statues, lakes, temples and fountains along with an 18th century walled garden. Before you head off, pop into the estate shop to take home a memento of your holiday.

DAY THREE: Helmsley Walled Garden & Rievaulx Abbey

Helmsley Castle: Helmsley is a picturesque quintessential English market town on the banks of the River Rye, sheltered beneath the striking ruins of the 900-year old [Helmsley Castle](#). Discover how the castle evolved over the centuries, from a mighty medieval fortress to a luxurious Tudor mansion, to a Civil War stronghold and a romantic Victorian ruin.

Helmsley Walled Garden: Well worth a visit is the five-acre [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, before you take the scenic short walk from Helmsley onto the ruins of Rievaulx Abbey, along the signed Cleveland Way National Trail.

Rievaulx Abbey - explore the impressive ruins of one of England's most powerful Cistercian monasteries, reflecting nearly 1,000 years of spiritual, commercial, and romantic history, since its founding in 1130.

Have dinner at one of Helmsley's eateries or drive out to one of several lovely country pubs for dinner, such as the award winning Hare Inn at Scawton.

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



DAY FOUR: Hutton-le-Hole and Rosedale

One of the most picturesque villages in the North York Moors. A clear moorland stream tumbles through the centre of the village green. The village is home to the marvellous outdoor **Ryedale Folk Museum** where you can learn all about the local history.

Meander around the village; watch local artisans at work at Hutton-le-Hole Craft Workshops, enjoy handmade chocolates from the [Chocolate Factory](#).

INSIDER'S TIP: *Uncover English history St Mary's Church - a few miles away from Hutton-le-Hole lies Lastingham's St Mary's Church, famous for its atmospheric eleventh-century crypt.*

Then onto the village of Rosedale Abbey, for lunch at a pub or café (Graze on the Green or Abbey Tearooms are both part of the North York Moors Capital of

Cakes campaign) followed by a scenic walk around the village, or take one of the several tracks to get a long view of this secluded valley nestling in the high moorland.

Call in to see glass blowing at Gillies Jones. Four hundred years ago, a group of Huguenot craftsmen practised the secret and illegal art of glass-making in Rosedale. Internationally renowned glass-makers [Stephen Gillies and Kate Jones](#) continue the tradition today. Visit their Rosedale Abbey workshop and gallery in the old forge and take home a unique piece of glass, inspired by the landscapes of the North York Moors.



DAY FIVE: NORTH YORK MOORS 'MUST-SEES'

Today is your own to take in one or two of the area's 'must-sees', all within easy distance by car, before you return home. Stock up on picnic treats in one of Helmsley's enticing delis, bakeries or take away cafes.

Our recommendations include:

Sutton Bank: Take a picnic 'on top of the world' as you take in the big-skies and open panoramas from Sutton Bank looking over to Hood Hill or Gormire Lake, one of only two natural lakes in the North York Moors National Park, described as one of "England's Finest" views. Hire a bike from [Sutton Bank Bikes](#) or take a walk on one of several well-signed routes.

Ampleforth Abbey - join the Community of Benedictine monks for Mass and the Divine office, or a behind the scenes tour of the Abbey's orchards and Cider Mill to see how Ampleforth Abbey's famous cider and cider brandy is made.

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 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