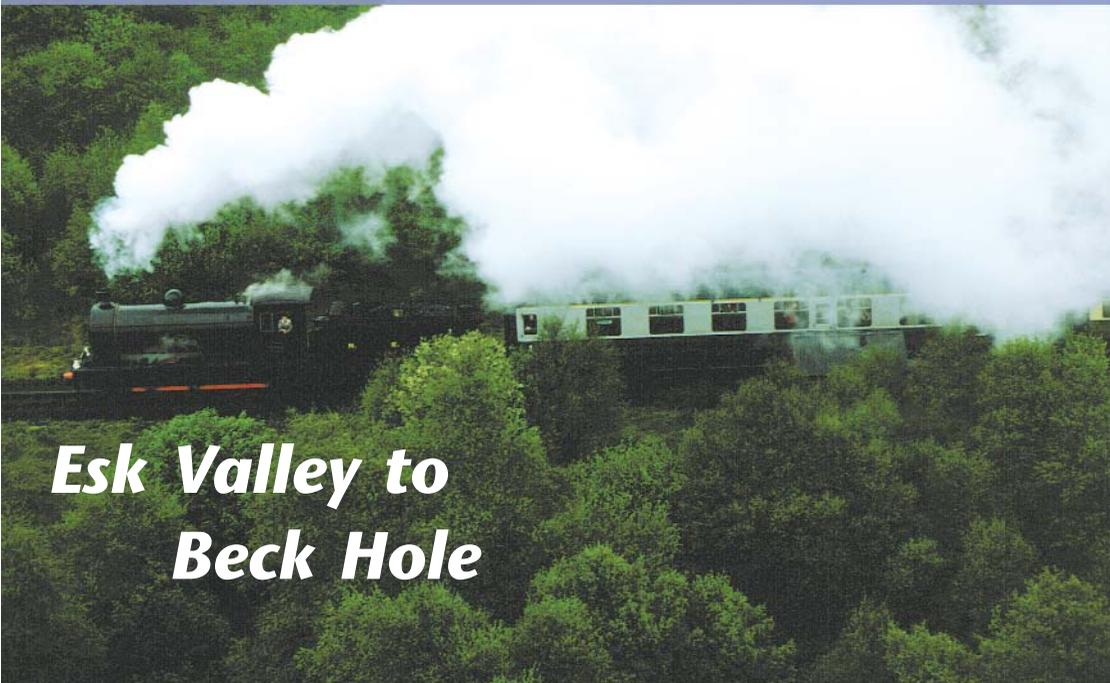


easygoingroute 5km (3 miles) bluebell woods, steam trains, fairly level



Esk Valley to Beck Hole

DON'T SPARE THE HORSES!

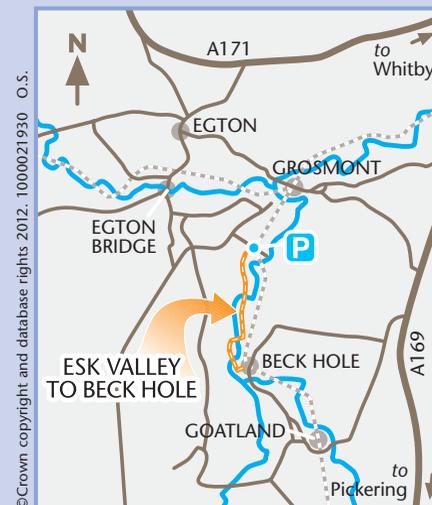
In May 1836 the new Whitby to Pickering line opened and George Stephenson basked in his latest glory! In the beginning carriages were pulled by horses and it took 2½ hours get from the seaside to Pickering! As you complete the route you'll be following in the wake of an army of wheelbarrows and picks wielded by the navvies who toiled to make Stephenson's dream a reality.

FULL STEAM AHEAD

Nine years after the first carriage set off from Whitby the line was bought by the 'Railway King' – a gentleman by the name of George Hudson. In a mere two years he transformed the remote line. On the 1st July 1847 the first steam loco puffed and chugged its way to Pickering. The line thrived for almost a century transporting everything from the 'bucket and spade brigade' to lime, timber and groceries.

© North York Moors National Park Authority,
The Old Vicarage,
Bondgate, Helmsley,
York YO62 5BP.
Tel: 01439 772700.
www.northyorkmoors.org.uk

LOCATION MAP

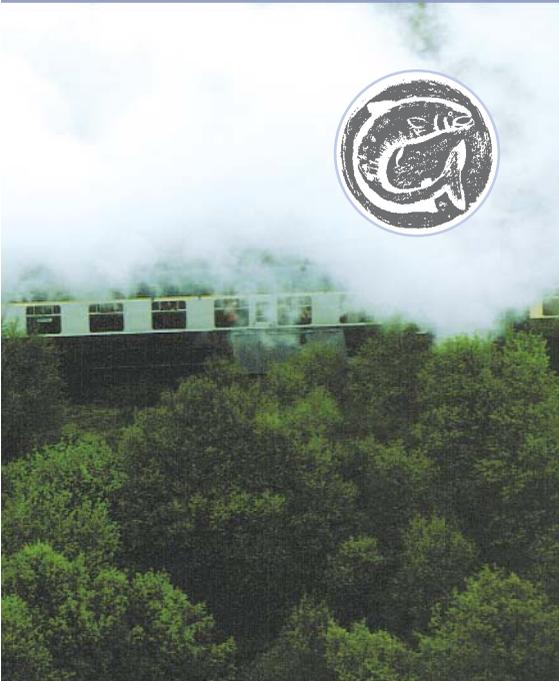


HOW TO GET THERE

From Egton follow the road to Egton Bridge. Continue through the village following signs to Goathland. Turn left at the top of the hill again signed to Goathland. Ignore the first left turn to Esk Valley. Instead bear right and continue ahead. In about a km turn left at the crossroads, signed to Esk Valley. After 1.5km (0.9 miles) turn right to follow the steep descent into Esk Valley.

From Goathland follow the road to Egton Bridge. After 6km (3.7 miles) turn right at the crossroads, signed to Esk Valley. After 1.5km (0.9 miles) turn right to follow the steep descent into Esk Valley.

At the bottom of the hill there is parking for a limited number of cars on the paved area opposite the end of the terrace.

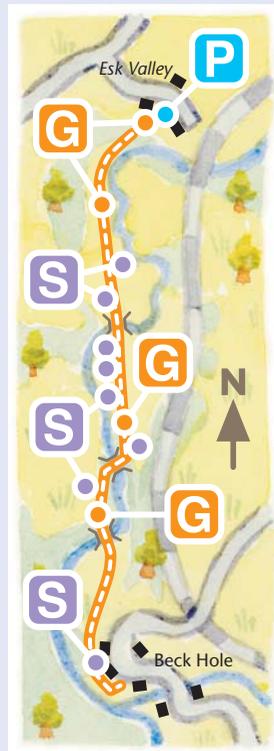


Esk Valley to Beck Hole

0 500m

- P** Parking
- G** Gate
- S** Seating
- Accessible route

Grid reference:
NZ 822 043



©Crown copyright and database rights 2012. 1000021930 Ordnance Survey

This is a fantastic outing, along a section of disused railway line, in the company of the tumbling Murk Esk. Take a journey through bluebell woods and fields as well as catching a glimpse of steam trains on the North Yorkshire Moors Railway.

NEAREST FACILITIES

There are accessible toilets at Grosmont Station and RADAR accessible toilets at Goathland (8km-5miles) and Grosmont (7.5km-4.5miles) – route which avoids ford.

PATH DETAILS

The path has a compact, hard surface and is fairly level.

ROUTE DESCRIPTION

From the parking area go through the gate and follow the old railway line, signed to Goathland and Beck Hole. The trail takes you through woods and alongside the Murk Esk. You'll cross the tributary twice before reaching the end, at the

MINES GALORE!

As you explore this peaceful part of the National Park you might be surprised to know that once it was the centre of a thriving mining industry. There are clues everywhere. The terrace of cottages in Esk Valley was built in the 1860s for workers from the ironstone mines to the north of the hamlet. Watch out for Whinstone Cottages – a reminder of a nearby road stone quarrying operation. Look in the fields around the site of the old Beck Hole Station – the humps and bumps are all that is left of the ironstone drift mines and roaring blast furnaces of the 1860s.

A linear route of 5km (there and back).

hamlet of Beck Hole. There are numerous seats along the route. The path from the old railway line into Beck hole is a slight uphill gradient with a gravel and grass surface which is uneven.

Look out for the iron and slate seat overlooking the river. Depicting scenes from the old railway on one side and wildlife on the other, the seat was created by the people of Esk Valley and local sculptor, Vivien Mousdell, to commemorate the Millennium.