



SALTBURN-BY-THE-SEA

Soak up the Victorian charm of this unspoilt coastal resort

Make the most of the early morning freshness with a four-mile loop walking from Saltburn's seafront up onto **Huntcliff**, following the **Cleveland Way National Trail**. The cliff sides teem with seabirds such as kittiwakes, fulmars, and cormorants.

Along the way keep an eye open for the **three sculptures** designed in steel to reflect the historic importance of the local metal-working industries. The large metal fish represents the fishing heritage; the unusual marker post denotes earth, air, sky and water; while the metal ring has 10 charms that each symbolize a piece of local folklore or culture.

For a less energetic morning, take a short ride on the **Saltburn Miniature Railway** that trundles from the beach-side Cat Nab station for half-a-mile to Forest Halt. Relax over a mid-morning coffee at the **Valley Gardens Tea Rooms** before strolling through the delightful **Italian Gardens**, a mix of formal colourful flower borders and woodland glades dissected by Skelton Beck which leads you back towards town.

If horse riding across a beach has always been on your 'to-do' list, then there is also the opportunity to do just that by booking a beach ride with **Saltburn Riding School**.

Head for the Lower Promenade where you can sit on the balcony at the **Seaview Restaurant** and enjoy some of the best fish and chips served in the region while looking out at the stunning coastal scenery.

Enjoy a relaxing wander with a promenade along Britain's most northerly surviving **pier**. If you're visiting from May onwards, you'll probably find some of the pier's railings festooned with woollen characters created by knitting's answer to Banksy. Each year the mysterious group of yarn bombers take a different theme for their woolly creations.

Stroll along the miles of golden sand to dip your toes in the sea before making the climb up to **Saltburn town centre**.



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Saltburn prides itself on its **independent shops** so head for the ‘Jewel Streets’ and tucked away corners of the town to discover gifts and other retail finds. If you’re visiting the town on the second Saturday of the month, you’ll also come across the **farmers’ market** which is ideal for stocking up on some great locally-produced treats.

Why not indulge in a bit of cake heaven at **The Sitting Room**, a lovely café that transforms itself into a cocktail bar in the evening. Alternatively make a beeline for **Chocolinis** where you can relax while tucking into homemade ice cream or a chocolate treat. If the lure of the seafront is too strong, then **Camfields café** should fit the bill. They offer blankets if the weather is a little chilly!

For a different experience, try **surfing**. Saltburn is one of the top places to surf in the UK with gentle, safe conditions that are suitable for novices as well as gnarlier waves for more advanced surfers.

With afternoon giving way to evening, it’s an ideal time to sit and watch the sunset so try a sundowner in a spot overlooking the sea such as the **Spa Hotel**, **Vista Mar** or **The Ship Inn**, before heading back into town for an evening meal. Tasty meals are served among 1940s décor at the quirky **Yorkshire Pie and Mash Shop** or try the popular **Signals Bistro**.

Each of the places mentioned above were recommended by locals. Before setting out on a long journey, please remember to check opening times and details.

Picture credits: Amanda Brown, RJB Photographic, Colin Carter, Mike Nicholas, Katie Lunn

Find out more: www.Northyorkmoors.org.uk



A perfect day in Staithes

Explore cobbled streets hugging steep slopes leading down to the harbour

Morning

For a great introduction to Staithes, start with the Captain Cook & Staithes Heritage Centre. The centre houses an amazing collection of memorabilia over two floors and recreates a 1745 street scene including the grocer's shop in Staithes where the great explorer, Captain Cook first started working while beginning to hone his maritime skills.

Continue with your own exploration, wandering the streets to find the eight, three-dimensional murals which are part of the Staithes Illusion Trail. The narrow streets and snickets have evocative sounding names such as Gun Gutter and Barbers Yard. All the murals were painted by world-renowned trompe l'oeil artist and Staithes resident, Paul Czainski.

Continuing the maritime theme walk over the bridge and see if you can spot one of the traditional local fishing boats, a coble, moored in Staithes Beck. Imagine what life here was like when Staithes was regarded as one of the largest fishing ports on the north east coast of England, with around 300 men fishing from coble boats that launched from, and landed on the beach.

Near the harbour you'll see the RNLI Lifeboat Station which is manned by volunteers from the village – they'd really appreciate a donation. View the short film telling the moving story of the RNLI in Staithes and Runswick. If you're there on Sunday morning in winter or Monday evening in summer, then you might also catch sight of a lifeboat practice session.

As you walk back from the lifeboat station you might think the village seems familiar – especially if you have young children who are fans of CBeebies' Old Jack's Boat starring Bernard Cribbins. It's filmed in Staithes. See if you can spot the many locations used in the series.

With lunch beckoning and the lure of the small sandy beach perhaps proving strong you might want to buy provisions for a picnic. Enjoy a taste of locally caught fish, lobster or crab in The Endeavour Kitchen, or one of the local pubs such as the Cod and Lobster pub which has outside seating as close to the harbour wall as you can get.

Walk off your lunch by venturing a little way out of Staithes to climb up to Cowbar Nab to look back down on the huddle of cottages. The cliff side of the Nab is an important seabird colony. If you visit in spring you're likely to be treated to the sights and sounds of a multitude of nesting birds including herring gulls, fulmars, kittiwakes and razorbills.

From Cowbar keep walking, following the long distance Cleveland Way National Trail at least as far as Boulby Cliff which, at 203 metres high, is the highest cliff on the east coast of England.

Retrace your steps for more fine views of Staithes and the coastline before making a beeline for an afternoon tea stop. Why not try Dotty's Tearoom where you can also eye up potential purchases of vintage gifts and homeware in the adjoining shop.

From here, it might be time to take a look in one of the galleries. If you're visiting in September then join in with the popular and quirky Staithes Festival of Arts & Heritage when houses are transformed into pop-up galleries and musicians play in the streets.

You can buy a locally-made souvenir from the Staithes Arts and Crafts Centre or sit and enjoy the tranquil garden at St. Peter's Centre where you can admire the mermaid and fish carvings created by local chainsaw sculptor Steve Iredale.

A day isn't really long enough... It's worth staying a little longer in Staithes, perhaps picking up a new skill. You could join local fisherman Sean on his fishing boat, All My Sons (book in advance) and venture out into the sea for a spot of mackerel fishing. Try your hand at painting by booking onto one of the weekends held at Staithes Art School, or join one of the Printing from Nature courses held by Stef Mitchell. For those who are itching to learn a new craft head to Cleveland Corner and join one of the regular knitting and felting workshops.

A perfect day in Robin Hood's Bay and Boggle Hole

Quaint cottages, narrow alleyways bursting with maritime and local folklore

Morning

On your way into to Robin Hood's Bay pay a visit to Old St Stephen's, a church dating back to 1822 with commanding views across the coastline. The church's interior remains virtually unaltered since it was built. Look out for the memorials to shipwrecks and maidens' garlands.

Then stroll outside and wander through the tiny passages imagining those times when houses were said to be connected by cupboards or tunnels in the cellars. In fact, legend has it that a smuggled bale of silk could pass from the bottom of the village to the top without leaving the houses.

For a great rundown on the village's smuggling history and the richness of the local life venture into the Robin Hood's Bay Museum, housed in what used to be the Coroner's Room and Mortuary.

Afternoon

Wander down to the Old Coastguard Station which is now home to the National Trust's Visitor Centre and find out more about the rich marine life in the bay. Around 170 million years ago Robin Hood's Bay would have been a deep sea bed and today you can still find evidence of the creatures that would have existed back then, including dinosaurs.

Pick up a Tracker Pack from the Coastguard Station and go on a fossil hunt on the beach once the tide goes out. The pack also contains information for carrying out a rockpool recce

and a route map for a two kilometre walk along the bay and cliff path to the delightfully secluded cove of Boggle Hole.

Boggle Hole, so-called as it was said to be a hiding place for hobgoblins, is also an amazing place for rockpooling and fossil hunting. Hidden Horizons can take you on a guided hunt that may well turn up some dinosaur prints as well.

Exploring over, head to the beautifully refurbished pirate-themed YHA nestled in Boggle Hole where you can sit on the terrace in the Quarterdeck Café and enjoy a drink looking out over the fabulous sea view.

Evening

Why not have a drink at The Bay Hotel which has a wonderful position right on the sea front or retreat to the aptly-named Smugglers Bistro for an evening meal before a final night cap at Ye Dolphin pub.

Perfect Days – Fylingdales Moor, Ravenscar and Hayburn Wyke

“Variety is the spice of life”, they say and with that in mind this day out packs in a real mixture of things to see and do.

Morning

Start with a walk across Fylingdales Moor, a beautiful conservation area that is managed by the Hawk and Owl Trust and is a haven for wildlife as well as brimming with historical remains.

To help, download a four-mile circular route from the North York Moors National Park’s website for a superb walk across Fylindales’ Howdale Moor and Brow Moor taking in Stoupe Brow.

On a clear day you’ll be treated to great views across sweeping moorland and the dramatic coastline at Ravenscar. As you follow the route, look out for several prehistoric burial mounds and wild birds of prey.

Then drive down to Ravenscar, a hamlet which is built on spectacular cliffs and has a fascinating history attached. Often described as ‘the town that never was’ Ravenscar was earmarked for development in Victorian times to become a tourist resort that would rival Scarborough and Whitby.

Streets were constructed but the development came to an abrupt halt when the developer went bankrupt. Today, you can still see parts of the unfinished village and imagine Ravenscar as a hotbed of industry as you explore the remains of the old alum works.

As you walk along you might also spot the colony of seals at the bottom of the cliff particularly in June and July when common seals come ashore to pup, while in November

it's the turn of the grey seals. Please remember to watch from a distance without disturbing the seals.

Ravenscar is a great spot for a picnic so sit and enjoy the views before driving (or walking or cycling!) further down the coast to Hayburn Wyke and Cloughton.

Afternoon

While the morning was all about great views from high spots, this afternoon delves into a fantastic woodland valley that uncovers some real coastal gems.

Start off from Hayburn Wyke and follow the trail through the wooded nature reserve to come to a secluded rocky cove where a waterfall tumbles to the beach. Join a National Trust guided ranger walk to find out more about the wildlife and landscape.

Wandering back, pop into the 18th century Hayburn Wyke Inn where you can sit in the tranquil gardens with a drink in-hand.

Pick up the Cinder Track for a short stroll to a Victorian station house that is now a tea room set in a half-acre of gardens.

Then either retrace your steps or press onto the village of Cloughton and head down to the beach, returning to Hayburn Wyke via the coastal path.

Alternatively, for those looking for more adventure, book onto one of the Wild Woodsmen courses at Tangle Wood in Hayburn Wyke.

Pick from a variety of experiences, whether you want to go on a coastal foraging walkabout, learn bushcraft or even take up the four-day Tribal Challenge, spending three nights living in the wood and getting in touch with your inner Bear Grylls!

A perfect day - Fylingdales Moor, Ravenscar and Hayburn Wyke

A packed with a real variety of different landscapes and things to do

Morning

Start with a walk across Fylingdales Moor, a beautiful conservation moor managed by the Hawk and Owl Trust. It's a haven for wildlife as well as being brimful with historical remains dating back to the Bronze Age.

On a clear day you'll be treated to great views across sweeping moorland and the dramatic coastline at Ravenscar. As you follow the route, look out for several prehistoric burial mounds and wild birds of prey.

From here take a short drive down to Ravenscar, an intriguing hamlet built on spectacular cliffs. Often described as the 'town that never was', Ravenscar was earmarked

for development in Victorian times to become a tourist resort that would rival Scarborough and Whitby. Streets were constructed but the development came to an abrupt halt when the developer went bankrupt.

There's a small Visitor Centre (open weekends in Summer) where you can find out more. To the south of Ravenscar you can also explore the remains of a World War II radar station by walking along the Cleveland Way National Trail or the former railway line which is now known as the Cinder Track. You can hire bikes on this largely traffic-free route.

As you walk along you might also spot the colony of seals at the bottom of the cliff particularly in June and July when Common Seals come ashore to pup. In November it's the turn of the Grey Seals.

Afternoon

While the morning was all about great views from high spots, this afternoon delves into a fantastic woodland valley that uncovers some real coastal gems. Our destination is Hayburn Wyke on the coast - follow the trail through the wooded nature reserve to come to a secluded rocky cove where a waterfall tumbles to the beach. Wandering back, pop into the 18th century Hayburn Wyke Inn where you can sit in the tranquil gardens with a drink in-hand.

From here, either re-trace your steps or press onto the village of Cloughton (where you'll find the Coast Gallery & Tea Room) and head down to the beach, returning to Hayburn Wyke via the coastal path.

A perfect day in Whitby

You can easily spend at least a day exploring the nooks and crannies of the bustling harbour town of Whitby.

Morning

Have a scamper through Whitby's cobbled lanes where there are plenty of interesting independent shops, art galleries and eating places to discover, and hidden corners with quirky names such as Arguments Yard.

You'll see plenty of jewellery shops devoted to the local minor gemstone Whitby Jet but you could also aim for the Whitby Jet Heritage Centre where you can learn more about its fascinating history.

From here head round the corner to Tate Hill where the Russian ship 'Demeter' ran aground, an event that inspired author Bram Stoker so much that he included the shipwreck in his novel Dracula.

You can continue re-living the vampire story by walking up the 199 Steps to St Marys Church and imagine how the Demeter's only survivor, a mysterious black dog or Barghest, leapt

ashore and ran up the steps. Once at the top, don't miss a visit to the iconic landmark, Whitby Abbey.

With the hunger pangs kicking in, head to the Whitby Deli and face the tricky challenge of choosing from the delicious array of items for a picnic, or choose from one of the excellent fish and chip shops.

Afternoon

Walk off your lunch with a wander around the working harbour. You might like to stop and watch people fishing off the jetty or perhaps take a trip on a boat out to sea. Whale watching trips leave regularly from Whitby harbour. If you're lucky you may spot minke, northern and humpbacks whales as well as seals, dolphins and porpoises.

Landlubbers might prefer to find out more about the town's heritage and fishing traditions by heading to the Whitby Museum or to the Captain Cook Museum.

A perfect day in Sandsend

A nostalgic, relaxing day enjoying the feel of sand beneath your feet

After the bustle of Whitby, Sandsend is a complete contrast. With around three miles of sandy beach, it's a great spot to just sit and look out to sea, enjoying the swish of the waves and looking for the perfect shaped pebble to take home.

Take a walk to the cliffs and paddle in rock pools or stretch your legs, perhaps walking along the coast to Whitby – you can see the distinctive outline of the Abbey from Sandsend beach.

Sandsend has a surprising number of great places to eat for such a small village. Try tasty seafood dishes at the Hart Inn or Sandside Café, or maybe afternoon tea at the Wits End Café with its walled garden.

If you're visiting on a Wednesday, Saturday or Sunday (closed in May), head for the entrance to the Mulgrave Estate where you can pick up a permissive path that leads into the woods and up to the ruins of Mulgrave Castle.

The Bridge Cottage Bistro at the entrance to the Mulgrave Estate has a lovely garden to eat in, as well as a Scandinavian-style indoor area. For something even smarter, Estbek House offers fine dining in a beautiful setting. Both restaurants have a passion for using locally-sourced ingredients and serve excellent fish dishes.

At the top of the bank on the road up towards Staithes is the village of Lythe where you can arrange to see the remarkable collection of Anglo-Scandinavian carved stones at St Oswald's Church. There are fine views from the church from Sandsend across to Whitby.

The Cleveland Way footpath rises steeply from the foot of Lythe Bank and follows the track of the old Whitby-Saltburn-Middlesbrough railway.

A perfect day in Port Mulgrave and Runswick Bay

Cake and the coast – what a perfect combination!

Morning

Start your day in the tiny and quiet Port Mulgrave, once used during the ironstone mining industry, and now being gradually reclaimed by nature apart from a few fishermen's huts. The only traces of the mining industry that remain are the old jetty and tunnel entrance.

At the top of the cliff you'll find the Ship Inn, no longer a pub but a lovely tea room complete with great cake! Nearby in Hinderwell is the Runcible Spoon, another quirky café much loved by locals.

From here, head a short way down the coast until you come to Runswick Bay where the road dips suddenly to reveal a hidden huddle of picture postcard cottages and a beautiful sweeping bay.

Weave your way along the tiny paths and see the white-painted thatched cottage, which is perched right by the sea. This former coastguard's house is probably the village's most photographed house!

Walk along the beach and catch sight of Hob Holes, small caves where hobgoblins were reputed to live. This included one who was supposed to cure whooping cough, so mothers took their ailing children there and called out a rhyme, asking for a cure.

Some of the houses seem very precarious, being perched on narrow terraces overlooking the sea. In the spring storms of 1682, virtually the whole village of Runswick sank towards the sea, but all the residents escaped as they were attending a funeral out of the village at the time.

There are several places to eat or enjoy a drink with a great view: the Runswick Bay café down by the beach, the Runswick Bay Hotel, or Royal Hotel. The Cliffemount Hotel offers panoramic views and a 2AA rosette restaurant.