

A woman in a light-colored jacket and a brown bag is standing on a grassy moor, holding a camera up to her eye. She is looking out over a vast, rolling landscape of green fields and valleys under a blue sky with scattered white clouds. The foreground is dominated by tall, golden-brown grasses.

Coast and Moors

This four-day itinerary has been developed to provide the perfect experience for customers looking to explore North Yorkshire before travelling North to either Northumberland and/or Scotland. It is packed with ideas and locations that take in the North York Moors and the Yorkshire Coast, while also allowing free time to explore, and giving suggestions for added extras that allow visitors to make the most of their time.

Locations in bold are bookable online, those in bold italics are not bookable online but have a charge to enter, and those in italics are free of charge.

Day One

Whether arriving by ferry or flying, North Yorkshire is easy to reach. Arrive by ferry into Hull with P&O or into Newcastle with DFDS. If you prefer to fly, you can choose from Leeds Bradford Airport, Teesside International Airport, or Newcastle International Airport. York, which has many connections to the wider North Yorkshire area, can also be easily reached by train direct from London King's Cross or Manchester.

Once you have settled into your accommodation, travel to Thirsk to explore this picturesque market town. Thirsk boasts a medieval cobbled square lined with independent cafés and shops, and is home to the **World of James Herriot**, the former home and veterinary practice of renowned vet and author Alf Wight, whose stories were brought to life in the beloved *All Creatures Great and Small* TV series and books.

Continue your exploration and spend the afternoon at the *Sutton Bank National Park Centre* (open daily). Here you can enjoy a bite to eat at the café, browse the shop and visitor centre, and stretch your legs on a walk past the iconic Kilburn White Horse and admire the "finest view in England" (as described by James Herriot himself).





Day Two

A 25 minute drive will take you to Helmsley, a popular market town with a market square and a range of shops, pubs and cafés. **Helmsley Walled Garden** is a floral haven, famous for its vibrant blooms and elegant arches. It featured in the 2020 adaptation of *The Secret Garden* and lies beneath the imposing ruins of **Helmsley Castle**, where 900 years of history await. Spend your evening at one of the town's pubs and restaurants where you're guaranteed a warm welcome and delicious food.

IF THERE'S TIME

If your itinerary allows, why not add an extra day and explore the nearby town of Malton? Here you'll find a range of cafés and pubs serving locally sourced produce. Browse the pretty market place, filled with independent shops offering unique gifts, homewares, food, and antiques.

A 20 minute drive or 30 minute bus journey from Malton via the number 81 bus through the beautiful Howardian Hills brings you to **Castle Howard**, one of England's finest stately homes, which served as a key filming location for *Bridgerton* and has also starred in old classics like *Brideshead Revisited* and *Bridgerton*.

Day Three

Make your way to Pickering, an attractive town with antique shops, a weekly market and 13th century **Pickering Castle**, which offers spectacular views of the surrounding countryside.

Pickering's 1930s themed station is the starting point for your journey on the **North Yorkshire Moors Railway**, a steam-operated heritage railway line that winds its way through the stunning North York Moors National Park to Whitby.



When you reach Whitby, climb the 199 steps to **Whitby Abbey**, inspiration for Bram Stoker's *Dracula*, for panoramic views of the town below, or visit the **Captain Cook Museum** to find out about the maritime explorer's history. Explore the cobbled streets below, packed with quirky shops and independent cafés. Enjoy the seaside air along the Pier, take in the view from the iconic whalebone arch overlooking the harbour and when hunger strikes, take your pick from a range of seafood restaurants. End your day by checking into the beautiful **Saltmoore**, just up the coast from Whitby, where contemporary luxury meets the calm of the Yorkshire coast.

Did you know...

Goathland station doubled as Hogsmeade in *Harry Potter and The Philosopher's Stone*, where the Hogwarts Express steamed in.

Day Four

Begin your final day with a slow, indulgent morning at **Saltmoore**. Take time to enjoy the hotel's facilities, from relaxing spa experiences and tranquil lounge spaces to an unhurried breakfast showcasing local produce. Whether you choose to unwind in the wellness areas or simply enjoy the coastal surroundings, **Saltmoore** offers the perfect setting to pause and recharge before continuing your journey.

After checking out, make your way to the nearby village of Sandsend for time on the beach. With its wide stretch of sand backed by dramatic cliffs and sea views, it's an ideal spot for a gentle coastal walk or to simply enjoy the fresh air and open space. From here, continue north along the coast, leaving North Yorkshire behind as your journey leads onwards to Northumberland, carrying with you a lasting sense of relaxation.