19 NORTH YORKSHIRE WHITBY & HAWSKER

Distance: 8¼ miles/13.25km > Time: 4 hours > Grade: Moderate





CHOSEN BY... PHOEBE TAPLIN The dramatic ruined

abbey on the cliffs at Whitby is close to the start of this circular walk, which follows the coast path before turning inland. The return leg partly uses the Cinder Track, a popular route on a disused railway, and crosses the River Esk on the Larpool viaduct.

Start

From Whitby bus and train stations, walk around harbour, keeping water on your R. Cross swing bridge and turn L into Sandgate. Turn R up Market Place and L along Church Street. Follow cobbled Church Lane R to foot of 199 Steps and climb to St Mary's church.

∽½ mile/0.8km

Z Exit churchyard to abbey car park. Follow drive with abbey wall on R and turn L to path, Cleveland Way. Follow coast path for 3 miles with sea on L. Path passes through edge of caravan park; keep to clifftop path here. A mile later, skirt around lighthouse and continue, crossing steep valley.

7 3½ miles/5.5km

Turn R inland on path signed Hawsker. Climb stile and go uphill. At top, go diagonally R and through gate. Turn L on track, through fields to old brick railway bridge. Just before bridge, turn L through gate signed Cinder Track (for pub/bus stop, keep straight). Go down steps and R to track.

PLAN YOUR WALK

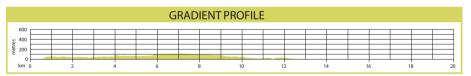


ROUTE

Start/parking Whitby bus and train station/car park nearby, grid ref NZ898108, postcode YO21 1YN Is it for me? Generally good surfaces. One steep sided valley on coast path and steps. Cows in field near Hawsker. Plenty of climbs and an awkward stretch of roadside Stiles 1

PLANNING

Nearest town Whitby Refreshments Lots of choice in Whitby. Seasonal café at Trailways, Windmill Inn at Stainsacre Public toilets Near Whitby station and Market Place Public transport Trains and buses to Whitby from Middlesborough, York and Scarborough. Bus X93 Whitby-Scarborough stops at Hawsker, making it easy to shorten walk Maps OS Explorer OL27: Landranger 94



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OS Explorer map OL27 Buy maps at: ordnancesurvey.co.uk/shop



4³/₄ miles/6.7km Cross main road and continue along Cinder Track, past Trailways. Keep on under old railway bridge. You can follow track to point 7. Directions 5 and 6 describe more adventurous route.

5½ miles/9km

At bridge after row of houses on L (near Windmill Inn), turn L down steps and follow Stainsacre Lane. After bus stop, turn R onto footpath past playground, then R and L around edge of field. Keep straight between fences and down steep grassy path. Turn L at bottom into woods and follow track downhill. Turn L over footbridge. Follow arrow to path with gully on L and turn sharp R uphill. Follow path curving L and keep L uphill.

C 6 miles/9.7km

At top of hill, turn R down surfaced track. Follow lane for $\frac{1}{4}$ mile. At junction past Manor Cottage, fork R past green/ cream buildings and turn L on path at end of paved forecourt. Follow it past Waterfall Cottage and through woods by stream. At two footbridges, only cross one, and continue with stream on L. Follow path away from water to road near Squirrel's Acres. Turn carefully R uphill.

7 7 miles/11.25km

Before bridge, turn L up steps to re-join Cinder Track and turn L on it. Cross viaduct over river and continue on tarmac track. By bench under tree, turn R on footpath, Esk Valley salmon waymark. Follow path past school. Turn L at end into car park. Before main road fork R on tarmac path. Follow it R. Stay on higher fenced path.

7³/4 miles/12.5km

OFollow path under main road downhill. Keep straight on road. Fork R to track by railway and cross at level crossing. Follow river to town.



OCOCOCO

WALKED

TIME TAKEN