

England Coast to Coast

ON FOOT ACROSS ENGLAND'S LEGENDARY LANDSCAPES



TRIP DATES

2024

June 18-29, 2024 *

July 2-13, 2024 *

July 16-27, 2024 Added Departure

July 30-August 10, 2024 *

September 1-12, 2024

2025

May 13-24, 2025

June 3-14, 2025 Added Departure

June 17-28, 2025

July 1-12, 2025 *

September 2-13, 2025 *

September 9-20, 2025

September 23-October 4, 2025 Added Departure

*Please note: date change since catalog publication



Wilderness Travel

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England Coast to Coast

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The coast-to-coast ramble from the Irish Sea to the North Sea is one of the great hikes of the world. We've perfected this classic walk, hiking the most spectacular stretches across England's literary landscapes and through three renowned national parks. We do the hike from west to east, putting the prevailing wind at our backs as we traverse the romantic Lake District, the limestone uplands of the Yorkshire Dales, and the heather-clad moorland of the North York Moors. Journey's end is Robin Hood's Bay on the North Sea, where we dip our boots in the water, the traditional celebration of completing the hike. En route, we visit delightful villages and ancient castles, stay at welcoming inns, and savor a pint or two at friendly rural pubs.



Wilderness Travel

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Itinerary

DAY 1

MANCHESTER / RAVENGLASS TO CALDERBRIDGE

Arrive in Manchester, England, where our Trip Leader meets the group for the transfer to Ravenglass in Lake District National Park. After lunch, we dip our boots in the Irish Sea, the customary start for the renowned coast-to-coast hike, collect a pebble to carry with us on the journey, then begin our hike. The hike today is a long, gentle ascent onto Muncaster Fell, passing the ruins of a Roman bathhouse and Muncaster Castle. Along the way, we encounter the craggy outcrops of rock so typical of the Lake District before descending into lovely Miterdale. There are stunning views of the Isle of Man on today's hike. In the evening we gather for our Welcome Dinner. Overnight at Sella Park Country House Hotel in Calder Bridge, set at the foot of the Western Lake District fells...LD

Hiking Details: 6.5 miles, 3.75 hours, ascent of 1,277 feet/descent of 1,181 feet

DAY 2

LAKE DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK: ESKDALE TO WASDALE HEAD

Some of our most challenging days lie in the Lake District stretch, but the sheer grandeur of the scenery is uplifting, and the thought of a cozy inn and hearty dinner at day's end eases our weariness. The mountain scenery we see in this region is magnificent, with colorful fellsides swooping up from sapphire lakes surrounded by a great amphitheater of emerald-green mountains. An intricate latticework of granite walls stretches into the distance and a scattering of white farmhouses completes this picture of rural tranquility. Today's hike leads us through lovely Eskdale to Boot, where we may be able to visit a working medieval corn mill. After lunch in a local pub, we make an easy ascent to Burnmoor Tarn, where we enjoy stunning views of England's highest peaks. Our hike ends at the pretty hamlet of Wasdale Head, where we return by minibuss to our hotel. This evening, we have a special treat—a private dinner in a historic castle! Muncaster Castle, in the town of Ravenglass, dates back to the 13th century and is reputed to be haunted! It has been in the Pennington family since the beginning, and our dinner may even be hosted by a family member. Overnight at Sella Park Country House Hotel...BLD

Hiking Details: 9 miles, 5.25 hours, ascent of 377 feet/descent of 319 feet (morning), ascent of 1,008 feet/descent of 963 feet (afternoon)

DAY 3

LAKE DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK: WASDALE HEAD TO BORROWDALE

We head from our hotel to Wasdale Head, where we start the first long, serious ascent of the trip as we climb to the 1,637-foot-high Styhead Pass. After a picnic lunch, we descend past Styhead Tarn (a tarn is a small mountain lake) into the beautiful valley of Borrowdale. Overnight at hotel in Keswick, with dinner on your own...BL

Hiking Details: 7 miles, 5.5 hours, ascent/descent of 2,536 feet (can be shortened to 5 miles with slightly less ascent)

DAY 4

LAKE DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK: GRASMERE TO ULLSWATER

In the little Lakeland village of Grasmere, we visit famous Dove Cottage, once



TRIP DETAILS AT-A-GLANCE

Length:	12 days
Arrive:	Manchester, England
Depart:	Manchester, England
Lodging:	11 nights inns, hotels, and B&Bs
Meals:	All meals included except 2 lunches and 2 dinners (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
Activity:	Cultural Adventures, Hiking / Trekking
Trip Level:	1 2 3 4 5 6 11 hiking days on moderate to steep trails, 6-8 hours a day, van support (for luggage or if you wish to skip a day's hike)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Savor the emerald landscapes of the Lake District, the limestone country of the Yorkshire Dales, and the rolling moors of North York
- Visit Wordsworth's Dove Cottage and historic Richmond, with its Norman castle on the River Swale
- Enjoy a private dinner in an ancient castle
- Overnights in village inns, historic hotels, and a Georgian country house we have for our exclusive use!
- Trip Leaders who bring local heritage and culture to life along the trail



“Superb. Your Trip Leaders are why we travel with you. They are knowledgeable, fun, ultra-experienced, deeply committed, and concerned about guests’ enjoyment.”

Jan W., Tampa, FL

the home of William Wordsworth and his sister Dorothy. On today’s walk we enjoy one of the Lake District’s classic hikes—a steep 1,600-foot jaunt over Grisedale Hause (“hause” is a pass or a col). Once a pony track for Victorian ladies and gentlemen, this fine grassy trail zigzags up to a high pass and then descends into a long verdant valley flanked by ancient stone walls. (There are alternative routes to end the hike, dependent upon weather conditions.) Along the descent we are rewarded with striking views down the entire length of Grisedale beneath the towering cliffs of St. Sunday Crag. We enjoy our picnic lunch at Grisedale Tarn. We descend into Grisedale Valley toward Ullswater, the second largest and most beautiful of all English lakes, often compared to Lake Lucerne in Switzerland. This glacial-formed ribbon lake is only 3/4 mile wide but nine miles long, and our hotel sits right on its shores. Overnight at hotel in Ullswater...BLD

Hiking Details: 6.6 miles, 4 hours, ascent of 2,207 feet/descent of 2,054 feet

Amid today’s scenery, the poems of William Wordsworth come vividly to life:

Where peace to Grasmere’s lonely island leads,
To willowy hedge-rows, and to emerald meads;
Leads to her bridge, rude church, and cottaged grounds,
Her rocky sheepwalks, and her woodland bounds;
Where, undisturbed by winds, Winander sleeps;
’Mid clustering isles, and holly-sprinkled steepes;
Where twilight glens endear my Esthwaite’s shore,
And memory of departed pleasures, more.

DAY 5

LAKE DISTRICT NATIONAL PARK: ULLSWATER TO KIRKBY STEPHEN

A long climb of five miles brings us over the last of the high fells, the wild and solitary eastern heights, following a 2,500-foot mountain ridge where we hike the ancient Roman road, the highest engineered by the Romans in England. This is a milestone in our journey—the last vantage point to have a final look back at the fells of Lakeland, now arrayed on the western horizon. We bid farewell to this romantic countryside and set our sights toward Limestone Country, made famous by All Creatures Great and Small, James Herriot’s memoirs as a country vet. A sharp descent brings us to the shores of Haweswater. For two nights, we stay at Appleby Manor, a wonderful country house hotel...BLD

Hiking Details: 8 miles, 6 hours, ascent of 2,847 feet/descent of 2,484 feet

DAY 6

YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK: SMARDALE GILL TO NINE RIGGS SUMMIT

In the attractive valley of Smardale Gill, we cross an ancient bridge to climb gently to Smardale Fell, with its extensive views over the Eden Valley. Our hike then takes us across the watershed of England by way of Nine Standards Rigg, a summit dominated by large stone cairns. From the summit, the coast-to-coast trail views are spectacular, with the Lake District behind us and the Yorkshire

Dales ahead. Overnight at Appleby Manor...BD

Hiking Details: 11 miles, 6.5 hours, ascent of 1,203 feet/descent of 1,462 feet (morning), ascent of 1,090 feet/descent of 555 feet (afternoon)

DAY 7

YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK: KELD TO REETH

This is a delightful day as we hike along the banks of the River Swale amid meadows, stone barns, and pretty villages, and enjoy lunch in a quaint English tea room. From the village of Reeth, we transfer to our hotel near the small, historic town of Richmond, our base for the next two nights...BLD

Hiking Details: 12 miles, 5.75 hours, ascent of 712 feet/descent of 1,009 feet (morning), ascent of 538 feet/descent of 636 feet (afternoon)

DAY 8

YORKSHIRE DALES NATIONAL PARK: REETH TO MARSKE

Our hike begins at Reeth and brings us along the River Swale through enchanting meadows and wooded Yorkshire valleys. Along the way, we come upon Marrick Priory, established in the 12th century for Benedictine nuns. The hiking is easy today, with no major ups or downs, as we pass through beautiful rolling countryside and charming villages, ending our hike at the snugly sequestered hamlet of Marske. We return to Richmond for lunch, with free time to explore this historical town. Poised majestically above the River Swale, Richmond's narrow cobblestone alleys and quaint buildings huddle in the shelter of a massive Norman castle. Later in the afternoon we visit the ruins of 12th century Easby Abbey, as well as the 13th century church of St. Agatha, still a working church and housing some famous and well preserved 13th century wall paintings. Overnight at hotel...B

Hiking Details: 5.6 miles, 3 hours, ascent/descent of approximately 940 feet

DAY 9

NORTH YORK MOORS NATIONAL PARK: OSMOTHERLY TO GREAT BROUGHTON

An hour's drive across the Vale of York brings us to the moorside town of Osmotherly. From here we climb steeply onto the North York Moors National Park, following a sequence of ups and downs on invigorating switchbacks. The views are bewitching—beneath huge billowy clouds, the purplish heather-strewn heaths gradually fade into a patchwork of golds and greens in a far-off distant valley. This dramatic play of light and color can give you the feeling that you are hiking through an 18th century landscape painting. We have a picnic lunch and overnight at the Gisborough Hall Hotel in the market town of Guisborough (yes, spelled slightly differently!)...BLD

Hiking Details: 10 miles, 5.75 hours, ascent of 2,740 feet (can be shortened to 7.5 miles and 1,845 feet ascent)/descent of 2,460 feet

DAY 10

NORTH YORK MOORS NATIONAL PARK

A short drive takes us to the start of the day's walk on White Moor above Rosedale. Our trail will pass by "The Blue Man-i'-th'-Moss," a 6.6-foot-tall



"I would be hard-pressed to pick a favorite day because they were all pleasurable and unique. It was a superb trip!"

Carol T., Kingston, PA





“Can’t say enough about the trip or the Trip Leaders. Absolutely wonderful. They made the trip enlightening and fun.”

Karen N., Carlsborg, WA

menhir (standing stone), believed to have been standing since pre-Roman times. (Note: The trail across White Moor can be boggy; waterproof footwear is recommended.) We continue across the moors to the modern Wheeldale Road, which is adjacent to its Roman counterpart. The surviving one-mile stretch of the Wheeldale Roman Road is a delightful place for our picnic lunch. After lunch we cross the stepping stones in Wheeldale Beck before climbing Hunt House Crag onto Howl Moor. Soon we enter the forest where the trails are well maintained and there is welcome shade on hot summer days. We drop steeply to leave the forest and cross the North York Moors heritage railway (if we are lucky we may see a steam hauled train). A short climb then brings us to the “Hole of Horcum,” a natural hollow feature that is 400 feet deep and about three-fourths mile across. The Hole was created by a process called spring-sapping, where water welling up from the hillside gradually undermined the slopes above, eating the rocks away grain by grain. In this way, over thousands of years, a once narrow valley widened and deepened into an enormous cauldron (the process continues today). Though that is the scientific explanation, local legend has it that the “Devil’s Punchbowl”-type feature, the amphitheatre, was formed when Wade the Giant scooped up a handful of earth to throw at his wife during an argument! A few hundred yards further will re-unite us with our bus and transport to our next hotel in Pickering. Overnight at the Forest and Vale Hotel...BLD

Hiking Details: 9.5 miles

DAY 11

ACROSS THE CLIFFTOPS TO ROBIN HOOD'S BAY

A bus ride brings us to the trailhead and we start hiking close to the coast, heading in a northerly direction following the clifftops. If the tide is out, we may have opportunities to spot seals and many different species of sea birds. We’ll stop for lunch at the Raven Hall Hotel, once the home of King George III’s physician. From the hotel grounds we’ll have fine views of the end of our journey at Robin Hood’s Bay. After lunch we continue on the clifftops, and if the tide is low, we will access the beach at Stoupe Beck and pass Boggle Hole and an old smuggler’s haunt, and finally arrive at the quaint village of Robin Hood’s Bay, where we dip our boots into the North Sea and enjoy photo opportunities at the official trail end plaque, followed by a welcome drink in the Bay Hotel. We return to our hotel in Pickering and gather this evening for our festive Farewell Dinner. Overnight at the Forest and Vale Hotel...BLD each day

Hiking Details: 9 miles

DAY 12

DEPART

This morning we transfer to York, an ancient city dwarfed by the mighty York Minster, a glorious towering Gothic cathedral with perhaps the finest stained glass windows in Europe. This charming city has many fine shops, pubs, and restaurants nestled along winding cobbled lanes. We will drop trip members at the York train station or at a hotel in York (for those staying on) and continue to Manchester Airport for departing flights...B

Trip Cost, Payment & Insurance

TRIP COST

Prices are per person, valid through 2024

\$6895 (10-14 members)

\$7395 (5-9 members)

Single supplement: \$995

2025 Trip Cost: Please call for details

To offer the lowest possible cost, our trips are priced according to the number of participants on the trip. All costs are per person, based on double occupancy. If you wish to have a single room, you must pay the single supplement fee. Please note that Wilderness Travel staff, or guests of Wilderness Travel such as travel writers, photographers, or leaders-in-training, are not included in the tier pricing count.

CURRENCY EXCHANGE RATE

Because the prices published for our program are set so far in advance of the trip dates, we are occasionally faced with exceptional cost increases and/or currency fluctuations that affect the actual cost of running the trip. In most years, no price changes are necessary. However, we do reserve the right to raise or lower the trip price if there is a significant change in costs or exchange rates. If this is the case, your final invoice will reflect the difference in trip cost.

TRIP COST INCLUDES

- Expert leadership of a Wilderness Travel Trip Leader
- Accommodations in “bed & breakfast” guesthouses, hotels, and inns
- All meals included except 2 lunches and 1 dinner as indicated in the Detailed Itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- A glass of wine or beer with dinner
- Land transportation, airport transfers as indicated

TRIP COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

International airfare, internal flights, any meals not specified after each itinerary day, airport departure taxes, transfers other than those provided for group flights, optional tipping or gratuities to leaders or staff, additional hotel nights that may be necessitated by airline schedule changes or other factors, travel insurance, and other expenses of a personal nature (alcoholic beverages, laundry, telephone calls).

PAYMENT SCHEDULE

At time of reservation: \$600

90 days prior to departure: Balance

CANCELLATION AND TRANSFER FEE SCHEDULE

Up to 91 days prior to departure: No charge!

61-90 days prior to departure: 25% of trip cost

46-60 days prior to departure: 50% of trip cost

45 days or less: 100% of trip cost

TRAVEL INSURANCE

We highly recommend you purchase travel insurance. You can take advantage of a comprehensive Travel Protection Plan designed for Wilderness Travel by Travelex, or purchase other insurance on your own. See our website for details: www.wildernesstravel.com/insurance



Accommodations



SELLA PARK COUNTRY HOUSE HOTEL

Calder Bridge, England

Days 1 to 2 (2 nights)

Set in a peaceful location, with gardens leading down to the River Calder, this traditional Cumbrian country house dates back to the 16th century. The property offers a cozy ambiance, with just 16 bedrooms. The dining room serves typical (and delicious) Cumbrian cuisine.



HOTELS IN KESWICK

Keswick, England

Day 3 (1 night)

In Keswick, we stay at one of the following properties:

HOTEL SKIDDAW

Set in the picturesque market town of Keswick, the Skiddaw Hotel has a great location on the main square, with its own restaurant and plenty of pubs within walking distance. Rooms are spacious and clean and the staff is welcoming.

INN ON THE SQUARE

This comfortable, 34-room family-owned hotel is ideally located in the center of town, close to restaurants and shops. The well appointed guest rooms are clean, cozy, and inviting, and the staff is friendly and helpful. The hotel also has an award-winning restaurant.



MACDONALD LEEMING HOUSE

Ullswater, England

Day 4 (1 night)

This elegant Georgian mansion, built more than 200 years ago, sits on 22 acres of lovely gardens that lead to the shores of Ullswater Lake. Guest rooms feature traditional décor with old world charm and the onsite restaurant offers contemporary, yet classic British cuisine.



APPLEBY MANOR

Appleby-in-Westmorland, England

Days 5 to 6 (2 nights)

This welcoming country house hotel has all the requisites for a relaxing stay: warm open log fires, comfortable bedrooms, a fine restaurant, and views overlooking the green fells of the Lake District. It's noted for its spa offering rejuvenating treatments. If you have a little time, take a break in the hydrotherapy pool, sauna, or steam room.



EASBY HALL

Easby, England

Days 7 to 8 (2 nights)

You'll feel like a guest in a friend's comfortable home at this lovingly restored Georgian country house—and we have it all to ourselves! It's a tranquil retreat overlooking the ruins of Easby Abbey, and offers three distinctly different gardens in which to stroll. And don't skip the bountiful breakfast—it's outstanding.



GISBOROUGH HALL

Guisborough, England

Day 9 (1 night)

Set on the edge of the North York Moors, this Victorian country house hotel is a wonderful retreat with spacious, well-appointed rooms and a most friendly staff. And don't miss the full English breakfast!



FOREST & VALE HOTEL

Pickering, England

Days 10 to 11 (2 nights)

In the ancient market town of Pickering, this well-run hotel has top-notch service and a grand dining room. The location puts us in easy walking distance to the town's shops, restaurants, and the delightful North York Moors Railway.

Trip Leaders

Wilderness Travel Trip Leaders have a passion and a joy for creating an unforgettable journey. We are extremely proud of them and the incredible travel experiences they make possible. For more information, including client comments about them and which specific trips they will be leading, please visit our webpage and click on “Trip Leaders” www.wildernesstravel.com/trip/england-coast-coast-hiking-walking-tour/



SANTIAGO BEJARANO

Santiago Bejarano trained in Environmental Sciences in his native Ecuador and began his guiding career by bringing visitors to the jungle and highlands of Ecuador and the storied Galapagos Islands, where he worked as a naturalist. He later moved to Britain, which has been his home now for many years, and divides his time between Ecuador and Europe. Santiago guides for us on the high trails of the Alps of France, Italy, Spain, and Switzerland and into the epic fjords of Norway. “Guiding gives me the chance to be a link between cultures and to share my passion for nature. It also allows me to spend a lot of time in a place I really love—out in nature itself.” He is fluent in English, Spanish, and German.



KAREN BELL

Karen Bell, born in the northwest of England, is a specialist of all things English and a lover of the country and its varied landscapes. The wife of veteran Trip Leader Richard Bell, she is a medical scientist, world traveler, and keen naturalist who has an uncanny ability to identify just about every plant and flower we’ll see along our hiking trails. Karen is a delightful traveling companion who brings enthusiasm and good energy to every trip.



RICHARD BELL

Richard Bell was born and brought up in Yorkshire, on the northeast coast of the UK, and has been an avid traveler all his life. Richard has been a guide now for almost 20 years and leads exclusively for Wilderness Travel in Europe. His passion for the outdoors is as great as it ever was, and he is always eager to share his wealth of experience and enthusiasm for the culture, stunning scenery, varied cuisine, and natural history of these fascinating areas. He makes his home in Cornwall in southwest England, and when not leading trips, tends to his fruit and vegetable garden, loves to cook, and, with his wife, often travels back to the same places where he leads trips to explore even further.



TONY DEWES

Tony Dewes was born and brought up in Yorkshire, England, and spent more than 20 years as a college and university lecturer before becoming an outdoor instructor. He has traveled extensively in Asia, Europe, and Central and Southern America, and been a guide since 2002. "I love taking people to wild and remote places, and creating those special memories for people to treasure." When not leading trips, Tony loves to cook, particularly cuisine from the Indian subcontinent, and play his ukulele. He lives in Cumbria, where he has dedicated many years of service to his local mountain rescue team and has been awarded both the Queens Diamond Jubilee Medal and the Queens Award for Voluntary Service for his work in training mountain rescue personnel.



STANISLAV SIMICIC

Stanislav Simicic, of Croatia, is a graduate of a culinary academy in Osijek. A fine chef, he was awarded a second-place ranking among all young Croatian chefs in a competition in 1997. Stanislav later worked as a chef at a restaurant in Poreč for three years, then began to manage several yachts that ply the Adriatic. He has been working with us as a chef and Trip Leader since 2007, bringing a thorough knowledge of Croatian history and culture to the trip, along with wonderful cuisine. Stanislav is fluent in English and German. When not guiding, he spends time exploring Croatia's many beautiful places with his wife, son, and friends.

Arrival & Departure

Upon confirming your trip reservation, we will send you a Welcome Packet that includes a list of documents (passport, visas, etc.) required for your trip. Please feel free to call if you would like this information before making your air arrangements.

ARRIVAL & MEETING PLACE

Manchester, England

Suggested Airport: Manchester Airport (MAN)

Suggested Date & Time: Anytime prior to Day 1

Meeting Place: The Trip Leader will meet trip members at 8:30 am on Day 1 in the lobby of the Radisson Blu Hotel Manchester Airport at Manchester Airport. At the airport arrivals area, there are courtesy phones next to the information desk that you can use to call for a free shuttle to an airport hotel, including the Radisson Blu Hotel Manchester Airport. If you are staying elsewhere in Manchester, please take the train or a taxi to the Radisson Blu Hotel Manchester Airport to meet your Trip Leader.

It is **very important** that you meet the Trip Leader at 8:30 am to be included in our group van transfer to the first hotel. If you miss the group transfer, you are responsible for transferring to the next city on your own. There are several trains each day departing from Manchester Airport, followed by a 90-minute taxi ride to the hotel.

Alternatively, there are trains that run from Manchester to Ulverston intermittently starting at 11:00 am, with the last train at approximately 7:00 pm. It is a 20-mile taxi ride from Ulverston to the first group hotel.

DEPARTURE

Pickering, England

Suggested Airport: Manchester Airport (MAN)

Suggested Date & Time: Day 12, after 2:30 pm

A complimentary transfer will be provided from the Forest & Vale Hotel to both the York train station and Manchester on Day 12. You should arrive in York at about 10:00 am. If you are planning on extending your stay in York, or want to take a train to London (about 2 hours), you will be dropped off at this time. We will then continue on to Manchester and should arrive at the Manchester Airport by 1:00 pm. From York, there is frequent train service to

either Manchester Airport or central London. York to London is a popular route so obtaining a reservation and ticket in advance is strongly suggested. Your Trip Leader can help you purchase a ticket while on your trip.

Please consult Rail Europe at www.raileurope.com or the British rail websites at www.thetrainline.com or www.britrail.com for the most current information on fares and train schedules.

INTERNATIONAL AIR TRAVEL

You are responsible for making your own arrangements for flights to and from England.

There are many online consolidators for booking travel, but for more personal help arranging air transport, you can contact Exito Travel at 1-800-655-4053 in the US or 1-800-670-2605 in Canada. They are very adept at putting flight itineraries together, to even the most far-flung places. More information can be found on Exito's website at www.exitotravel.com.

Depending on your routing, it is necessary to depart from the US one or possibly two days prior to Day 1 of the trip itinerary. The name on your airline ticket must match the name on your passport exactly, and your passport must be valid for at least six months after your date of return to the US.

Please do not purchase your tickets until you are confirmed on the trip. Once your tickets have been purchased, please send us a copy of your airline schedule. It is your responsibility to ensure your flight times coordinate with the arrival and departure logistics for this trip.

RECOMMENDED HOTELS

Manchester

Radisson Blu Hotel Manchester Airport:
www.radissonhotels.com/en-us/hotels/radisson-blu-manchester-airport

York

Feversham Lodge: www.fevershamlodge.york-hotels.net/en
The Grand York: www.the-grand-york.co.uk

London

Park Plaza Waterloo: www.parkplazalondonwaterloo.com
London Hilton Paddington: www.hilton.co.uk/paddington

Trip Details

WHAT THE TRIP IS LIKE

This trip is rated a Level 4+ (Moderate to Strenuous) according to our trip grading system. You will need to be comfortable hiking 10 miles a day and being on your feet for 5-6 hours a day. You will also need to be able to keep up with the moderate but steady pace of the group as there are no alternative hiking options available. Trail conditions, weather, and the group's level of fitness can affect hiking times and pacing.

Average Hiking Day

- 6-8 miles
- 4-6 hours
- 1,000-1,500 feet gain/loss

Challenge Day

Day 6: 8.5 miles, 6 hours, 2,450 feet gain, and 2,050 feet loss

Day 10: 10 miles, 6 hours, 2,250 feet gain, and 1,950 feet loss

TERRAIN

The terrain can be rugged, with steep climbs over uneven ground, boggy terrain, open fells, and craggy rocks. We hike the Coast to Coast from west to east, so that the prevailing wind and weather is at our backs. This can make a great difference in the changeable English climate! It does mean, however, that we start the trip with the hardest and highest section, the Lake District, where there are many steep ups and downs. Due to the steepness of some descents and the rocky surface in some sections of the path, the trip should not be attempted by anyone who has serious balance or joint problems.

We have designed this itinerary with our veteran Trip Leaders, who have selected the best stretches of the Coast to Coast hike. We do not hike every inch of the trail from one coast to the other—this is not a purist trip following

every mile. The itinerary is flexible and adjusted by the Trip Leader's knowledge and by weather conditions. A day of rain may make one route more desirable than another, for both safety and comfort.

Your feet should be fully prepared for the hikes, accustomed to long days in sturdy, well-broken-in hiking boots with ankle support. A good pair of hiking boots are your most important piece of equipment. Your boots should be waterproofed. Hiking poles are highly recommended—they are particularly useful on steep descents.

A Note on Boots: British hiking etiquette requires patrons to remove their boots before entering hotels, guesthouses, pubs, etc. In the interest of both comfort and etiquette, you'll want another pair of comfortable shoes to change into at the end of the hiking day.

GETTING IN SHAPE

We strongly urge you to train for your trip, as your enjoyment will be highly dependent on your level of fitness. The best training for a hike is to hike, especially over hills or rough terrain. Next best are running, swimming, bicycling, or other cardiovascular exercises. Stair-climbing machines are excellent preparation for hiking uphill. Your feet should also be well prepared—make sure your hiking boots are sturdy, comfortable, and thoroughly broken-in.

WEATHER

Even in the summer, England is famous for its changeable weather. It is necessary to pack in preparation for cold rain, persistent fog, mist, and beautiful, sunny weather. The rule here is to be prepared for any eventuality by creating a layering system that takes you from shorts to warm rain gear.

ACCOMMODATIONS

Our accommodations are in small, comfortable hotels that have been selected for their local history and charm.

Average Daily Max/Min °F												
	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Manchester	43/34	43/34	48/36	52/39	59/45	64/50	67/53	67/53	62/50	56/45	48/38	44/35
Keswick	44/36	45/36	49/38	53/39	60/44	53/49	67/53	67/53	62/49	55/44	49/40	43/35
Rainfall - Inches												
Manchester	2.7	2.0	2.4	2.0	2.4	2.6	2.6	3.1	2.9	3.0	3.1	3.1
Keswick	3.7	4.1	2.8	2.5	2.4	2.8	2.3	3.0	2.9	4.3	3.7	4.0

Since they are often in historic buildings, the rooms are not always of uniform or international size. Our leaders do their best to assign rooms in a fair way so that all participants experience an equal advantage throughout the trip as a whole. Additionally, many are architecturally protected, so elevators are not permitted and you will have to carry your luggage up the stairs to your room. Single rooms can be requested but are not always available, due to the limited space in the hotels. If you prefer a single room, please make your request as early as possible.

CUISINE

Lunches will be either at local cafes and pubs or picnic-style during one of our hikes. Dinners will be at a local restaurant or at the hotel. Please note that in Europe, the dinner hour is considerably later than what it is in the US. We do our best to secure early reservations for our groups, but most often the evening meal will be at 7:30 pm.

TRANSPORTATION

Our van will transport the group's luggage, so you only need to carry a daypack for items you need for the day (rain gear, sweater, camera, water bottle, etc.). Trip members are always free to skip a day's hike and travel to the next destination in the support vehicle (or remain at the hotel if we are not transferring that day).

CHOOSING THE RIGHT TRIP

Adventure travel often involves exotic destinations, unusual levels of physical exertion, or activities you may not have participated in previously. We work hard to help you choose the right trip for you, paying attention to your individual interests, abilities, and needs. If you have questions about the level of comfort or any of the activities described in this itinerary, please call Wilderness Travel at 1-800-368-2794 and ask for the Europe Manager or email us at europe@wildernesstravel.com.

REFERENCES

We'd be happy to put you in touch with a past client that has traveled with us on this or a similar trip.

VISIT OUR WEBSITE

At www.wildernesstravel.com, you can book your trip online or find out about added departures, last-minute deals, and one-time Limited Edition adventures that aren't listed in our catalog. You can also access our complete library of detailed itineraries filled with enticing photos and videos, read bios of our Trip Leaders, find descriptions of trip accommodations, and check real-time availability of any trips that interest you.

Toucan Club Rewards & Discounts

We are very proud to have one of the highest rates of repeat travelers in the business, and have established the Wilderness Travel Toucan Club to reward you for your loyalty. For more information, please visit the Toucan Club page of our website at www.wildernesstravel.com/toucan.

Here's how it works:

YOUR FIRST TRIP

As a first-time traveler, you receive a lightweight Wilderness Travel T-shirt and set of durable WT Luggage Tags. On subsequent trips, we're happy to send you a new WT T-shirt and set of Luggage Tags by request.

YOUR SECOND TRIP

A top quality Wilderness Travel insulated stainless steel water bottle by CamelBak and a cozy Wilderness Travel fleece vest by Patagonia (\$130 value).

YOUR THIRD TRIP

A versatile Wilderness Travel R-1 pullover by Patagonia (\$140 value).

YOUR FOURTH TRIP

Discounts on the cost of your trip begin! You receive a 4% discount on the tour cost.

FIVE AND MORE TRIPS

You receive a 5% discount on the base trip cost. On your sixth trip, you receive a 6% discount, and so on up to your 10th trip. The maximum discount is 10%, with a ceiling of \$500.

Note: Due to special pricing considerations, Toucan Club discounts do not apply to our Private Journeys or Special Events. However, your participation on these trips does count toward your Toucan discount on future departures of Wilderness Travel's regular adventures.

TERMS & CONDITIONS

Toucan Club travel discounts cannot be used in conjunction with any other discount, unless otherwise specified. Discounts are deducted from the base trip cost and shown on the final invoice. The base trip cost is the main land/tier cost and does not include single supplement fees, extensions, internal airfare, or other additional charges. Bonus gifts (T-shirts, luggage tags, vests, water bottles, and pullovers) will be mailed approximately three weeks prior to trip departure. Terms and conditions of Toucan Club bonuses are subject to change or cancellation at the discretion of Wilderness Travel, Inc.



MEN'S T-SHIRT



WOMEN'S T-SHIRT



PATAGONIA SYNCHILLA FLEECE VEST
PLUS INSULATED CAMELBAK WATER BOTTLE



PATAGONIA R1 PULLOVER



WILDERNESS TRAVEL HAS BEEN AWARDED:

Best Travel Specialists in the World: *Conde Nast Traveler*, 2024, 4-time winner

World's Best Tour Operators: *Travel + Leisure*, 11-time winner

Best Wildlife, Hiking & Walking Trips: *AFAR Magazine*, 3 years in a row

Best Adventure Travel Companies: *USA Today*

Trip of the Year: *Outside Magazine*, 9-time winner

50 Tours of a Lifetime: *National Geographic Traveler*, 9 years in a row

Best Adventure Travel Companies: *National Geographic Adventure*, 3-time winner

Please be advised that California has established a Travel Consumer Restitution Fund under the California Seller of Travel Law that took effect January 1, 1996. This fund is designed to protect consumers from unscrupulous practices by discount airfare ticket sellers or air charter operators. Unfortunately, this law does not cover non-California residents and, even in the case of California residents, it does not cover any foreign travel where the foreign "providers of transportation or travel services" are not in compliance with the Sellers of Travel Law (compliance being defined as registered as a Seller of Travel in California and a participant in the Travel Consumer Restitution Fund). Thus none of Wilderness Travel's tours qualify and we are required by law to advise each client that they are not covered by the California Travel Consumer Restitution Fund. California law requires sellers of travel to maintain a trust account or bond. This business has a trust account. California Seller of Travel #100769640

While as accurate as possible at the time of printing, this itinerary should be considered an approximate indication of the schedule and scope of activities and trip routing, rather than an inflexible schedule of events; it is subject to change due to circumstances beyond our control. This trip is subject to the Limitation of Liability and all the terms and conditions as detailed in the General Information section of the Wilderness Travel Catalog.

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