

Hiking the Yorkshire Dales Way

THROUGH STONE-BUILT VILLAGES TO THE LAKE DISTRICT



TRIP DATES

2024

May 20-30, 2024

July 22-August 1, 2024

2025

May 19-29, 2025

July 21-31, 2025



Wilderness Travel

ITINERARY	3
TRIP COST, PAYMENT & INSURANCE	8
TRIP LEADERS	9
ACCOMMODATIONS	10
ARRIVAL & DEPARTURE	12
TRIP DETAILS	14



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One of England's celebrated "Great Walks," the Dales Way extends some 80 miles over the watershed of England from the wonderfully preserved town of Ilkley in West Yorkshire to Bowness-on-Windermere in the gorgeous Lake District. On this new WT Expedition with veteran Trip Leader Richard Bell, a native of Yorkshire, we'll hike the entire route, a delightful and moderate ramble that brings us through the heart of the magnificent Yorkshire Dales and into Lake District National Park. These beloved realms, the inspiration for so many of the Romantic poets, brim with verdant fells, remote moorlands, burbling rivers, and idyllic peaceful valleys dotted with exquisite stone-built villages—this is some of the loveliest scenery in England! All along our journey, we'll enjoy lunches in traditional pubs and sample the best of Yorkshire fare—the emerging culinary scene goes far beyond Yorkshire Pudding and crisply battered fish and chips. Expect to eat and drink well, including sampling the flavorful, handmade Wensleydale cheeses and Yorkshire's many ales—Yorkshire is home to the most breweries in England! Our comfortable hotels are in the lively market town of Skipton, Hawes in Wensleydale, and Cumbria's picturesque Kendal, with a grand flourish at a luxury spa hotel on the shores of renowned Lake Windermere, the largest natural lake in England.



Wilderness Travel

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Itinerary

DAY 1

ARRIVE IN SKIPTON, NORTH YORKSHIRE

We meet with the group and Trip Leaders in the mid-afternoon at Herriots Hotel in historic Skipton, a bustling market town in North Yorkshire and our base for the first three days of our journey. We'll head out for a short stroll along the towpath of the canal past gaily painted narrow boats to Skipton Castle. Built in 1090, it is one of the most complete and best preserved castles in England, and even withstood a three-year siege during the Civil War from 1643-1645. In the evening, we gather for a trip briefing and Welcome Dinner. Overnight at Herriots Hotel, located opposite Skipton Station and overlooking the Leeds and Liverpool Canal. Originally built to serve the railway that opened in 1876, the hotel offers a warm welcome from the friendly staff...D

DAY 2

ILKLEY TO BARDEN BRIDGE

Skipton is the gateway to the Yorkshire Dales, a peaceful realm of valleys, meadows, and stone-built villages. Our hike on the Dales Way starts at Ilkley Old Bridge, and brings us along riverside paths by the River Wharfe through scenic lower Wharfedale. The river, wide and languorous here, is home to a variety of wildlife and birds including dippers, kingfishers, wagtails, and many species of waterfowl. Our trail takes us right past the beautifully situated 15th century St. Peter's Church at Addingham, then on past Bolton Bridge where the atmospheric ruins of the 12th century Augustinian Bolton Priory, set on a bend of the river, slowly come into view. We explore the ruined Priory, then cross the river by the sturdy bridge. Lunch is at the Victorian Cavendish Pavilion, located right on the banks of the river. After lunch we continue our riverside walk through Strid Woods, passing by the treacherous rapids formed as the river is squeezed through this narrow valley, and the 19th century sandstone Barden Aqueduct, where waters from high moorland reservoirs and rivers including the Wharfe are funneled away to serve the cities of West Yorkshire. Our hike ends at Barden Bridge and it's just a short shuttle back to our hotel in Skipton. Tonight you have the opportunity to eat out on your own in Skipton, where there are numerous restaurants and pubs, including a renowned fish and chip restaurant. Your Trip Leaders will be happy to make recommendations of dining options. Overnight in Skipton...B

Hiking Details: 9.5 miles, 5 hours

DAY 3

BARDEN BRIDGE TO GRASSINGTON

From Barden Bridge, we continue our journey along the Dales Way to the lovely village of Burnsall. This stretch is classic Yorkshire Dales terrain—the walking is serene and carefree, flat and easy, and the scenery is enchanting. Our riverside trail passes the limestone escarpment of Loup Scar, crosses a small suspension foot bridge, and continues into Grassington in the same gentle way. In this charming village, we'll stop for lunch at either a small tea room or traditional pub. After lunch we divert from the Dales Way to explore the geological phenomenon of Malham Cove. This majestic 260-foot-high limestone amphitheater was formed by a waterfall of glacial meltwater from the



TRIP DETAILS AT-A-GLANCE

Length:	11 days
Arrive:	Skipton, England
Depart:	Bowness-on-Windermere, England
Lodging:	10 nights comfortable hotels
Meals:	All except 3 lunches and 2 dinners (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
Activity:	Cultural Adventures, Hiking / Trekking
Trip Level:	1 2 ③ 4 5 6 9 hiking days on easy to moderate trails, average of 9 miles a day, van support (for luggage or if you wish to skip a day's hike)

HIGHLIGHTS

- Hike one of England's loveliest long-distance trails, from the rolling hills of the Yorkshire Dales to the exquisite Lake District
- Stroll riverside paths, sample fine cheeses, visit lively market towns and an ancient castle
- Overnight in historic hotels, with three nights in one hotel and four nights in another (less packing and unpacking!)

Itinerary (cont'd)



tarn above it more than 12,000 years ago at the end of the last ice age. A short transfer brings us to the trailhead, where the water from the remaining tarn disappears within the limestone into the complex cave system below. We walk to the unusual limestone pavement at the top of the cove where the scene of Harry and Hermione camping out on their journey in Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows was filmed. We take a level path that brings us to spectacular and sweeping views of the amphitheatre. After walking along a paved path, we descend by steps to the base of the amphitheatre where the water from Malham Beck appears. It's a remarkable place. From Malham we return to our hotel in Skipton. Tonight we enjoy

dinner at a charming Bistro just a short stroll from our hotel. Overnight in Skipton...BD

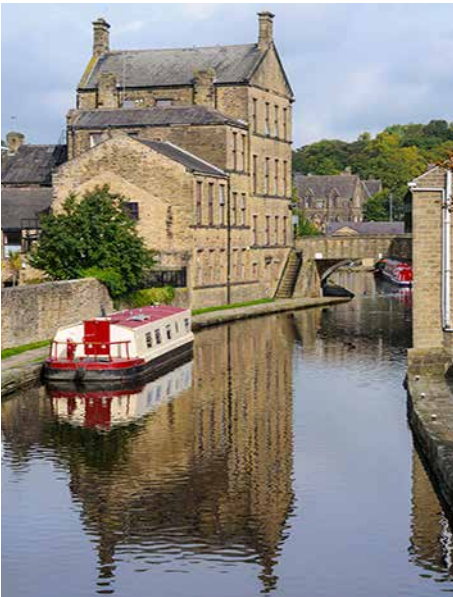
Hiking Details: 8 miles, 3.5 hours, 400 feet descent

DAY 4

GRASSINGTON TO BUCKDEN / HAWES

Our walk today gives us a different perspective of this historic landscape and sweeping panoramic views of the valley below. From Grassington, we follow a gently rising trail that passes old lead mine workings, lime kilns, and other evidence of these long vanished industries. This was also a place of ancient settlement, as shown by field systems, burial cairns, stone hut circles, and monastic drovers' byways. We make our way across this classic karst limestone country, eventually descending into the former lead mining village of Kettlewell. Here we visit the church of St. Mary, entering through the lovely 1921 lychgate, a gateway covered by a roof. The church has a set of stunning modern stained glass windows commemorating local men fallen in the battles of the two World Wars. We will enjoy lunch at one of the traditional inns in the village and then continue our walk alongside the now narrowing river to Buckden, where we are met and transferred to the Stone House Hotel, our country house hotel for the next three nights, which is set on an acre of green English gardens...BLD

Hiking Details: 10 miles, 5 hours, 400 feet ascent, 225 feet descent



DAY 5

BUCKDEN TO OUTERSHAW

We take a delightful walk from Buckden along the River Wharfe, winding our way up towards the higher fells. We'll pass through Hubberholme and visit the rustic and remote chapel of St. Michael and All Angels. The playwright J. B. Priestley is buried here; Hubberholme was his favorite place. Following the winding and tumbling river, we pass the remote hamlets of Yockenthwaite,

Deepdale, Beckermonds, and finally Langstrothdale, we arrive at the tiny hamlet of Outershaw. Our coach will meet us here and transfer us to nearby Hawes for lunch. You have a free lunch today, and can choose from many cafes and pubs. After lunch we'll have the opportunity to explore Hawes, the highest market town in England, with its shops and quaint cobbled streets. We'll visit the Dales Countryside Museum, which tells the fascinating story of the Yorkshire Dales and the people who have lived and worked there and shaped the landscape for thousands of years. Dinner and overnight at the Stone House Hotel in Hawes...BD

Hiking details: 5.5 miles, 3 hours, 400 feet ascent

DAY 6

OUTERSHAW TO GEARSTONES

We begin today's hike with a steady ascent to a remote moorland, following Outershaw Beck to Cam Houses, one of the wildest and remotest farms in the Yorkshire Dales. On the way we'll stop at the isolated Swarthgill Nature Centre and learn about the unique flora and fauna that live here. Above Cam houses we reach the old Roman "Cam High Road," where we are rewarded with superb views of the three highest peaks in the Yorkshire Dales: Ingleborough (2,372 feet), Whernside (2,415 feet), and Pen-y-Ghent (2,227 feet) that encircle the valley of the River Ribble. We will also be able to admire the spectacular 24 arches of the Ribbleshead Railway Viaduct. This is the highest point of the Dales way at 1,700 feet. We descend to Far Gearstones on the gentle and well-maintained Roman road, where we will meet our transport and return to Hawes for lunch. After lunch we visit the Wensleydale Creamery, where many varieties of Wensleydale cheese are made. We'll enjoy a tasting here, of course. Wensleydale cheese is a favorite of claymation duo Wallace and Grommit. Overnight at the Stone House Hotel...BLD

Hiking details: 6 miles, 3.5 hours, 550 feet ascent, 650 feet descent

DAY 7

GEARSTONES TO DENT

The start of today's walk continues over a stretch of open moorland, but soon we approach magical and serene Dentdale. We descend from the open moorland to pass under the Dent Head viaduct and walk on a quiet country lane for a few miles alongside the River Dee. This area is famous for its "black marble" limestone, which was very prized in Victorian times. When polished, its tiny fossils stand out in white, giving it a marble-like appearance. Both the Dent head and Arten Gill viaducts we pass are made of this limestone, and we can see a very impressive floor made from it in Dent Church. The construction of the railway in 1875 allowed export of this popular and unique stone for the first time. Nearby Dent station is the highest rail station in England. We will enjoy a sandwich lunch in this peaceful dale. Strolling past many tumbling falls and the hamlets of Cow Dub, Lea Yeat, Little Town, and Tub Hole, we end our day's adventures in Dent and return to Hawes. Overnight at the Stone House Hotel...BLD

Hiking Details 9.5 miles, 5 hours, 300 feet ascent, 600 feet descent



Itinerary (cont'd)



DAY 8

DENT TO LINCOLN'S INN BRIDGE

Remarkable Dent, with its whitewashed cottages and winding cobbled streets, is one of the loveliest villages in the Dales. We will learn some of the town's history, including its Terrible Knitters (a unique method of knitting), and visit St Andrews Church, with its local black marble floor. Continuing through delightful Dentdale, we are once again following the course of the River Dee by way of riverside paths and country lanes. After a short climb, we are rewarded with one of the most magnificent panoramas on the Dales Way. The rounded summits of the Howgill Fells stretch into the far distance. We will enjoy a picnic lunch at this fabulous viewpoint before a short descent to the River Rawthey, which we follow to the unusual and lovely Quaker meeting house of Brigflatts. Built in 1674, this is the place George Fox identified as his vision of Quakerism. We will visit this ancient and peaceful meeting house before continuing to Lincoln's Inn Bridge spanning the attractive River Lune. Overnight at the Castle Green Hotel in Kendal...BLD

Hiking Details: 8.5 miles, 4.5 hours, 200 feet ascent, 600 feet descent

DAY 9

LINCOLN'S INN BRIDGE TO BURNESIDE

Our hike initially follows the valley of the River Lune. Shortly after setting off, we pass under the Lune Viaduct; this railway is now disused but the unusual viaduct has recently been refurbished and has side spans of Penrith stone and an elegant cast iron central arch. We cross the impossibly narrow but handsome Crook of Lune humpbacked stone bridge, and then leave the Lune Valley under the impressive 11-arched curve of the Low Gill Viaduct. Through fields, farmsteads, and past country houses, our trail winds its way through the countryside, crossing over the M6 motorway at Lambrigg Head by bridge. This busy and important arterial road runs for 232 miles and connects Scotland with

the Midlands of England. Loosely following the course of Lambrigg Beck, we meet and cross the River Mint, continuing across farmland and passing Black Moss Tarn to arrive at Burneside, a hardworking village with a 19th century family-run paper mill. We are close to Kendal here and a short shuttle takes us back to our hotel. This evening you are free to explore Kendal with its many restaurant and pub options. Overnight in Kendal...BL

Hiking Details: 12 miles, 6 hours, 300 feet ascent/descent



DAY 10

BURNESIDE TO BOWNESS-ON-WINDERMERE, LAKE DISTRICT

Our last walking day starts by following the gently meandering River Kent to reach the foothills of the Lakeland Fells as we enter the Lake District National Park. Ascending into this undulating landscape we are greeted with the most

wonderful panoramas, with the Howgill Fells behind us and the high peaks of the Lake District ahead. Our Dales Way hike ends at a magnificent viewpoint, where we can gaze over the rooftops and treetops of Bowness and shimmering Lake Windermere. We descend into the lively town of Bowness and head to our hotel, set on the shores of the lake. In the evening, we gather for a festive Farewell Dinner. Overnight at Storrs Hall...BLD

Hiking Details: 9.5 miles, 5.5 hours, 500 feet ascent, 450 feet descent

DAY 11

DEPART

Our adventure sadly finishes after breakfast this morning, and you can transfer on your own to the Windermere railway station, just three miles and a 10-minute ride by taxi, which can be arranged at the hotel's reception desk. If you wish to continue on your own, you are in a wonderful position to further explore this beautiful Lakeland region at your leisure. National Car Rental offers a free pick up service to their office in Kendal (one-way rentals are also available), if you want to rent a car. We also recommend a visit to Hill Top (just on the other side of the lake), where Beatrix Potter lived and wrote...B



Trip Cost, Payment & Insurance

TRIP COST

Prices are per person, valid through 2024

\$5495 (10-14 members)

\$5995 (4-9 members)

Single supplement: \$1265

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

Due to the volatility of currency markets, we can only offer the most competitive pricing on our trips in Britain by partially tying the trip cost directly to the value of the British Pound. In the late spring of 2023, when we set the rates for our 2024 program, the US Dollar equaled 0.83 British Pounds. While in most years, no price changes are ever necessary, if there were to be a significant change in exchange rates, we may be forced to raise or able to lower our trip cost; if so, your final invoice, sent two weeks before your final payment is due, will reflect the difference. Please note that the calculation will not be a straight proration. While most of the trip cost is paid in Pounds, the remainder of our expenses are paid in US Dollars. The overall effect is to moderate any change; thus, if the Pound were to rise in value, the land price would rise less than might be expected, and if the Pound were to fall, the drop in trip cost would also be less than might be expected.

TRIP COST INCLUDES

- Expert leadership of a Wilderness Travel Trip Leader
- Accommodations in hotels and inns
- All except 3 lunches and 2 dinners as indicated in the Detailed Itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- A glass of wine or beer with dinner
- Land transportation

TRIP COST DOES NOT INCLUDE

International airfare, internal flights or other transportation to meeting point, departure transfers, any meals not specified after each itinerary day, airport departure taxes, 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/toucan/travel-insurance

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-yorkshire-dales-way-hiking-tour/



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

For a man who has traveled to more than 100 countries, been a trip leader for Wilderness Travel for more than 20 years, and has an ever expanding palate to cook exquisite dishes with global infusion (ask him about his infamous slow-cooked lamb with pomegranates), Richard Bell still takes as much pride in each trip he leads as he did when he first started traveling around his hometown in Yorkshire, on the northeast coast of the UK. “My experience of being a guide for over 20 years has allowed me to create trips that I know will appeal to our clients,” he says. “I combine a unique hiking experience with cultural interactions in whatever country I may be in. Anyone who has hiked with me before, will already know that my trips are quirky, individual, interesting, and full of humor and good times.” Now in his 60s, Richard says he has graduated with honors from the University of Life, and is delighted to be able to share his experiences with our travelers. When he is not leading hikes, he tends to his fruit and vegetable garden at his home in Cornwall in southwest England, and of course, loves to cook (seriously, get that slow-cooked lamb recipe).

Accommodations



HERRIOTS HOTEL

Skipton, England

Days 1 to 3 (3 nights)

Built in 1876, Herriots Hotel is set along a beautiful stretch of the Leeds and Liverpool Canal and just a five-minute walk to the center of historic Skipton, gateway to the Yorkshire Dales. The original rooms have a traditional flavor, some with fireplaces, while courtyard and canal-side rooms have a more contemporary design, some with French doors overlooking the canal. There is an on-site bar, a restaurant, and a friendly and efficient staff.



STONE HOUSE HOTEL

Hawes, England

Days 4 to 7 (4 nights)

The Stone House is a small and quaint country house built in 1908 about a mile's walk from the charming market town of Hawes. The hotel retains the atmosphere of an elegant family home and has a tranquil countryside setting, with sheep grazing in the fields around it. There's always a log fire burning in the lounge, and the cuisine and wine selections are excellent.



CASTLE GREEN HOTEL

Kendal, England

Days 8 to 9 (2 nights)

Set in a building that has been a mainstay of the Kendal community since 1847, Castle Green is a cozy lodge at the edge of Lake District National Park. The staff is very hospitable and guest rooms have comfortable beds and overlook 14 acres of vibrant green gardens or wooded forest. If you have a chance, stop by the fireside lounge for coffee, cocktails, and small bites. The hotel also has a spa, swimming pool, fitness center, and free Wi-Fi.



STORRS HALL

Bowness-on-Windermere, England

Day 10 (1 night)

Built in the late 18th century, this stately Georgian mansion was once frequented by the Romantic poets William Wordsworth and Robert Southey. The individually decorated guest rooms overlook the estate's expansive 17 acres, set on the shores of Lake Windermere. If time permits, enjoy a beverage by the fire in the atmospheric Tower Bar, with its dark wood paneling and stained glass windows.

These are our signature accommodations for this trip. Although it is highly unlikely, we may make substitutions when necessary. To see more photos and descriptions, please visit our *Hiking the Yorkshire Dales Way* webpage and click on the "Accommodations" tab.

Arrival & Departure

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

Herriots Hotel

Skipton

Date & Time: Day 1, 3:00 pm

Suggested Arrival Airport

Manchester (MAN) or London Heathrow (LHR)

The trip starts on Day 1 in Skipton, in West Yorkshire. Our hotel is a short walk across the road from Skipton station. You can take a train from anywhere in England to Skipton. From London, trains leave regularly from London Kings Cross and require one change at Leeds. The journey time is 3 hours. We highly recommend purchasing tickets in advance if you choose this route. You can also hire a car transfer, which will meet you at arrivals or a hotel and transfer direct to Herriots in Skipton. Cost is approximately £85 (\$110 approx) for up to four people. Skipton Airport Services: www.skiptonairportservices.co.uk

From Manchester airport, trains leave approximately every 30 minutes right from the airport railway station and require one change at Leeds. Purchasing tickets in advance is not necessary for this route. The journey time is 2 hours. It is possible to make a pre-booked private transfer from Manchester airport (the driver can meet you at arrivals). The cost at the time of writing was approximately \$130. The journey time is 1.25 hours.

DEPARTURE

Storrs Hall

Bowness-on-Windermere

Date: Day 11

Suggested Airport for Departure

Manchester (MAN) or London Heathrow (LHR)

Suggested flight departure time: after 4:00 pm if from Manchester, or after 6:00 pm if from London.

On Day 10, regular trains run from the Windermere railway station, and you can connect with services to all parts of the country. Trains to London require a change at Oxenholme or Lancaster and the journey time is 3.5 hours.

Trains to Manchester airport require a change at Oxenholme and take 2 hours. There is one direct mid-morning train to Manchester airport, but this is a slower service than other options.

Alternatively, you can arrange a private transfer from the last group hotel in Bowness-on-Windermere to the Manchester Airport. You can arrange this on your own by contacting Nigel at Lakeside Travel Services. www.lakesidetravelservices.co.uk. Email: nigel@lakesidetravelservices.co.uk. The cost is approximately \$140. The journey is approximately 1.5 hours by car.

SPECIAL NOTE ON UK TRAIN TICKETS

It is advisable to book intercity trains in advance. Trains in the UK now use a demand system for pricing, like the airlines. The earlier you book the cheaper the ticket. If you turn up on the day to travel, the cost can be prohibitive. There are many rail ticket booking agencies, such as Trainline, Raileasy, and Red Spotted Hanky. The best time to book tickets is approximately 12 weeks before travel. This is when the seat reservation system comes online and advance tickets come up for sale. Advance tickets can be as much as 80% cheaper than standard fares. If you go to www.thetrainline.com you can set up an alert that will advise you by email when the advance tickets come on sale. Just click on Tools and Apps at the top right of the screen and then Ticket Alert. Enter your details and wait for the email. Remember to set up an alert for every journey and then book the ticket as soon as it becomes available. Some rail companies now allow you the option to print the ticket at home, or store the ticket on your mobile phone to show the ticket collector on board, and some require that the ticket be collected from the machines or booking desks before travel. You may well be asked which option you would like.

Please take special note: seat reservations are sometimes automatically applied during the booking process, but watch out for an option that asks you if you want "seat reservations for free" and accept that option when prompted and follow the procedure for choosing your seat.

INTERNATIONAL AIR TRAVEL

You are responsible for making your own arrangements for flights to and from England. Many carriers fly to both Manchester and London.

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.

Trip Details

WHAT THE TRIP IS LIKE

This trip is rated a Level 3 (Moderate) according to our trip grading system. You will need to be comfortable hiking 12 miles a day and being on your feet for 5-6 hours a day. All hikes are optional, but if you choose to participate, 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

- 8-9 miles
- 4-5 hours
- 300-400 feet gain/loss

Challenge Day

Day 9: 12 miles, 6 hours, and 300 feet gain/loss

TERRAIN

Our days include both relaxed riverside walking and some more challenging hikes. While they are lengthy over occasionally uneven terrain, there is no significant elevation change, so they are not strenuous. Trip members can always choose to skip a hike and explore the town. Lightweight walking boots are acceptable, but please note that since many of the trails are riverside walks, the ground can get "squidgy" (muddy or marshy), so it is important that your footwear is waterproof with a good hiking sole. Hiking poles are beneficial on some days.

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

While the weather is typically stable and pleasant during the months that we run this trip, 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 raingear.

ACCOMMODATIONS

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

HIKING DETAILS BY DAY			
DAY	HOURS	MILES	ELEV. GAIN/LOSS
1			
2	5 hours	9.5 miles	minimal
3	3.5 hours	8 miles	0'/-400'
4	5 hours	10 miles	+400'/-225'
5	3 hours	5.5 miles	+400'/-0'
6	3.5 hours	6 miles	+550'/-650'
7	5 hours	9.5 miles	+300'/-600'
8	4.5 hours	8.5 miles	+200'/-600'
9	6 hours	12 miles	+300'/-300'
10	5.5 hours	9.5 miles	+500'/-450'

AVERAGE DAILY MAX/MIN °F												
	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
Skipton	44/35	44/35	48/37	53/40	59/45	64/50	67/54	66/54	62/50	56/46	49/40	45/36
Kendal	44/32	44/32	48/34	53/37	60/41	63/46	67/50	66/49	61/46	55/41	49/36	45/33
RAINFALL - INCHES												
Skipton	6.7	5.0	4.8	3.5	3.5	3.9	4.2	5.1	5.0	6.0	6.5	6.9
Kendal	8.0	6.0	6.5	4.0	3.8	3.9	4.3	5.7	6.1	8.1	8.0	8.4

CUISINE

Lunches will be at local cafes and pubs or picnic-style during one of our hikes. Dinners will be at a local restaurant, pub, or 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.

TOUCAN CLUB

We're proud to have one of the highest rates of repeat travelers in the business! The Wilderness Travel Toucan Club was established to reward our travelers for their loyalty. For details, please visit the Toucan Club page of our website at www.wildernesstravel.com/resources/toucan-club.

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.



WILDERNESS TRAVEL HAS BEEN AWARDED:

World's Best Tour Operators: *Travel + Leisure*, 2022, 11-time winner

Best Travel Specialists in the World: *Conde Nast Traveller*, 2022, 3 years in a row

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.

October 18, 2023 3:00 PM