



Walking Holidays in Britain's most Beautiful Landscapes

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Northumberland Coast Path

The Northumberland Coast is best known for its sweeping beaches, imposing castles, rolling dunes, high rocky cliffs and isolated islands. Amidst this striking landscape is the evidence of an area steeped in history, covering 7000 years of human activity. A host of conservation sites, including two National Nature Reserves testify to the great variety of wildlife and habitats also found on the coast.

The 64miles / 103km route follows the coast in most places with an inland detour between Belford and Holy Island. The route is generally level with very few climbs.



Summary

Why do this walk?

- A string of dramatic castles along the coast punctuate your walk.
- The serene beauty of the wide open bays of Northumbrian beaches are reason enough themselves!
- Take an extra day to cross the tidal causeway to Holy Island with Lindisfarne Castle and Priory.
- This is an easy, mainly flat walk on generally good paths - no need to over exert yourself!

Essential Info

Length	5 - 7 nights
Full Route Length	64 miles / 102 km
Shortest Break Length	4 days / 5 nights

Grade



Easy to Moderate

This is a mainly flat coastal walk, and can be completed by people with limited walking experience.

Terrain: Flat walking along the edge of the coastal plateau. A small excursion into the low lying Kyloe hills. Coastal paths, and country lanes, beaches, a couple of sea cliffs, and a golf course or two!

What's it like underfoot? On the whole the paths are well defined and maintained, but at times a bit sandy. Walking in soft sand

on the beach can get tiring – but there's usually a parallel path further inland.

How Much Up & Down? Not very much at all! Most days are pretty flat. The high point of the route, near St Cuthbert's Cave, is only just over 200m.

Signposting: Generally good.

Navigation: Pretty straightforward.

Route

Cresswell - Alnmouth

After spending your first night in Morpeth, a taxi will take you to Cresswell. The route starts in Cresswell village and follows 8 miles of the sandy Druridge bay to the fishing port of Amble. Offshore Coquet Island can be seen, where there are large seabird colonies. The river Coquet is then followed upstream to Warkworth, dominated by Warkworth castle, the ancient seat of the Percy family. On leaving Warkworth, the route quickly returns to the beach and onwards to Alnmouth. The Aln Estuary provides an important habitat for migratory birds and other wildlife. Alnmouth was once Northumberland's major port, today's hotels and guesthouses were once vast silos storing wheat.

Alnmouth - Seahouses

Continuing north, the path passes through Boulmer,

one of the only true remaining Northumberland fishing villages, having changed very little in over 100 years. It's then on to Craster, another fishing village dating back to the 17th century, famous for the kippers produced in the village smokehouse. Just beyond Craster, the route reaches the imposing ruins of Dunstanburgh Castle, originally built in the 14th Century by Thomas Earl of Lancaster. Puffins and guillemots nest on the cliffs below. The rest of this section is characterised by the two long sandy beaches of Embleton and Beadnell Bays, a haven for birdwatchers and beach goers! Low Newton is home to sea and shore birds, whilst the nearby pool with its bird hide is a good place to see wildfowl, especially in winter. Beyond Beadnell the route continues along the coast to Seahouses, once an important fishing port and now a centre for the local tourist industry. Boats can be taken from the harbour to the Farne Islands, a cluster of small islands lying just offshore.

Seahouses - Fenwick

From Seahouses harbour head towards the village centre to then pick up the coastal path towards Bamburgh. Founded in 547 by King Ida, Bamburgh was once the capital of ancient kingdom of Northumbria. Perched on a basalt outcrop, Bamburgh Castle now dominates the village. Just after Bamburgh you will reach the vast sands of Budle Bay, a National Nature Reserve and an



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important habitat for waterfowl. Holy Island and Lindisfarne Castle can be seen across the water. The quiet village of Belford sits below the Kylee Hills on the fringe of the fertile Northumberland coastal plain. A change of scenery follows as our route heads inland, woodland and farmland replacing seascapes. The route briefly visits the hills and passes close to the dramatic sandstone overhang of St. Cuthbert's Cave. Near to Fenwick you will pass through Kylee Old Wood, which in the 19th Century was owned by the Leyland family of nearby Haggerston Castle.

Fenwick - Holy Island (Optional day)

Originally known as Lindisfarne, Holy Island is only accessible at low tide,* either by the causeway (approximately 3 mile walk) or by the Pilgrims' Way across the sands (not recommended). As well as its many historic attractions, Holy Island is situated at the heart of the Lindisfarne National Nature Reserve. If you wish to take this option, please select a rest day at Fenwick. (The Castle is closed on Monday's). *check tide times.

Fenwick - Berwick-upon-Tweed

The final stage starts near the causeway to Holy Island, it then heads north through some of the remotest areas of the coast. Cliff top paths and more beaches lead to historic Berwick-upon-Tweed, the capital of the Borders, with its magnificent town walls, spectacular riverside

and three bridges, the oldest of which was built in 1624. Take time to explore this lovely old town and in particular the Victorian ramparts.

Additional Days

Seahouses

Seahouses is known as the Gateway to the Farnes and is well worth a rest day. Famous for its outstanding natural beauty, superb attractions and bustling harbour. Boat trips can be taken to the Farne Islands where you can experience an abundance of wildlife, including Puffins and seals.

Fenwick

Choose a rest day at Fenwick to allow an extra day to visit Holy Island. Holy Island is only accessible at low tide, either by the causeway (approximately 3 mile walk) or by the Pilgrims' Way across the sands. Also known as Lindisfarne, the island has many historic attractions and is situated at the heart of the Lindisfarne National Nature Reserve. Please note that Lindisfarne Castle is closed on Monday's.

Getting There and Away

Detailed instructions on getting to your first night's accommodation by car, or on foot from the nearest train or bus station, will also be included in the holiday pack on individual accommodation maps. To view train times please visit www.qjump.co.uk where you can also purchase tickets in advance. For information on bus timetables please

visit www.traveline.info

Getting There:

By Air: The nearest airport to Morpeth is Newcastle (NCL). Travel by train or taxi to Morpeth (16 miles).

By Public Transport: Travel by train to Newcastle, and then by train or taxi to Morpeth (16 miles).

By Road: Morpeth is on the A1, 16 miles from Newcastle.

Returning from Berwick upon Tweed:

By Public Transport: There is a railway station in Berwick upon Tweed. Trains to London take approximately 4 hours.

By Road: From Berwick upon Tweed you can take the A1 north or south. To travel west take the A698.

How our holidays work

We specialise in self guided walks because we think it's the best way to really experience local landscapes, cultures & history. You walk under your own steam, at your own pace, safe in the knowledge that we have organised everything, and help is only a phone call away. We book all your accommodation, move your luggage between overnight stops, provide you with maps and guidebooks, and all the details you need for a successful holiday. You just turn up and walk!



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Inbuilt flexibility

Our holidays are designed to be flexible and can therefore be tailored to suit your requirements. If you're looking for something different, or extra, from the holidays described here, give us a ring and we'll do our best to please!

You can start on any day you like. We can arrange extra nights at any of the overnight stops, allowing for rest days or giving you more time to explore the locality. Or you can book part of a walk if you don't have the time to complete the entire distance.

How to Book

Once you have decided which holiday you wish to book, please fill in the form at the back of this brochure and either post or fax it to us. We will get in touch with you shortly afterwards to confirm your holiday details.

Alternatively you can book on our website – www.mickledore.co.uk, or telephone us in office hours.

Accommodation

Good accommodation and friendly hosts are an essential part of any holiday. We make a special effort to find the hidden gems, as well as keeping a close eye on the quality of the more mainstream accommodation. As well as visiting the accommodation ourselves, we ask all our customers to complete a short evaluation

on each night's accommodation, which then gives us an insight in to the day-to-day operation, and lets us spot any potential issues before they become a problem. We have three former Keswick guest house owners on the staff – so we know the industry well.

The Northumberland Coast Path includes a great variety of accommodation, including small country hotels, guest houses, bed and breakfasts, farm house accommodation, and Victorian town houses. In selecting the accommodation we look for helpful, friendly hosts with good quality, characterful accommodation close to the trail.

Single Rooms

We are happy to book single rooms on this walk at a supplement, but can't normally book more than 2 single rooms for any 1 group.

What We Provide

All Holidays

Accommodation Overnight Bed and Breakfast accommodation in selected hotels, farmhouses, village inns, guest houses and family B&Bs. Full English or Continental breakfast.

Guidebook A guidebook with route information, maps, photos and background information.

Information of Services Along the Route

A comprehensive Service Info sheet, including services such as cash points, banks, post offices, village shops, inns, cafes and taxis.

Maps 2 waterproof 1:50000 OS maps covering the whole route.

Personal Itinerary A personal itinerary setting out each overnight stop, including large scale maps of each accommodation, to ensure you find it easily.

Emergency Telephone Support If you get in to difficulties during your holiday, we are always available to help, even out of office hours.

15% discount at Cotswold Outdoors We will issue you with a 15% Discount Card valid at all Cotswold Outdoor stores, and online, for the whole year on confirmation of your booking.

Options

Luggage Transport We will transfer your luggage between each overnight stop – leave your luggage at the accommodation when you set off in the morning, it will be moved on to your next B&B. You only need to carry a small day sack with the clothes and provisions you require during the day's walk. We ask you to limit your luggage to one bag per person, up to 18kg.

Packed Lunches Provided for each day's walking and recommended on this holiday as there will not always be a handy shop or cafe on the route.

Off Road Parking If you are travelling by car we can usually arrange off road parking for the duration of your trip. (There may be a small charge for this).

Arrangement of return transport We can also



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arrange your transfer back to your car, (or advise you when public transport is a better option!)

What's not Included

Evening Meals Your evening meal isn't included in the package, but we include full details and recommendations for each evening meal in your itinerary. You will normally be within walking distance of a pub and/or restaurant, or where there is good food available at the accommodation, we'll book that for you. Allow about £20.00 per night.

Transport to the Start & Away from the Finish Taxi or Bus transport if you need to miss a stage (but we'll help you organise it if you need help)

Travel Insurance Even if you are based in the UK travel insurance is worth having.

Prices

Detailed prices for all our holidays are available on the website www.mickledore.co.uk.

About Mickledore

Mickledore Travel is based in Keswick at the heart of the English Lake District. We are one of the leading specialists in self guided walking and cycling holidays in the UK, and provide a friendly, professional and flexible service.

matters to us that you have a good holiday. We are still a small business, with a lot of local knowledge, and personal enthusiasm for the outdoors. If you've got any queries, we're always happy to help, so don't hesitate to pick up the phone or drop us an email, or call in and see us if you're in Keswick.

We specialise in UK holidays, and by concentrating on what we consider the best routes, we get to know the trails, accommodation, and local area intimately.

- All your accommodation has been carefully selected and is regularly monitored.
- We listen to you and tailor each holiday to meet your requirements.
- We have an excellent level of customer service.
- We have 15 years experience, and very high levels of customer satisfaction.
- Peace of mind – help is only ever a telephone call away.
- We are all outdoor enthusiasts – we know what makes a good holiday, and we want you to have one!
- 15% discount card for all your outdoor equipment purchases from Cotswold Outdoors.
- 100% financial protection – in the very unlikely event of Mickledore's financial failure, you receive a full refund.

Book With Confidence Financial Protection

Your payments are fully protected against our financial failure. We are members of the Association of Independent Tour Operators (AITO), and have arranged bonding through ABTA. This means that in the unlikely event of our financial failure, any monies you have paid to us will be refunded. This bonding is fully compliant with the Package Travel Regulations and provides 100% financial protection.

AITO Quality Statement



Mickledore Travel is a member of the Association of Independent Tour Operators. The Association represents Britain's leading independent tour operators. It promotes high levels of professionalism and a shared concern for quality and personal service. The Association encourages the highest standards in all aspects of tour operating. Mickledore Travel abides by AITO's Code of Conduct and adheres to the Quality Charter which can be viewed at www.aito.com. Visit the website to find out more about the Association or call 020 8744 9280.

We are walkers and cyclists ourselves, so it really



Mickledore - Walking Holidays to Remember





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Client Feedback

We're proud of our reputation for quality holiday son the Northumberland Coast. There are plenty of customer reviews on our Website but here are a couple of comments to give you a flavour:

My wife and I have now walked a few national trails, using different organisations. Your administration and brochure have been the best. It was excellent to receive our holiday details many weeks in advance. Well done.

Brian Best, Norwich UK

Another splendid walk and of course the weather was an added bonus. Many thanks for your friendly and highly professional service.

Would you use Mickledore again? *Of course we would!!*

Brian Hick, East Sussex UK

Our Itineraries

[Turn over for our Booking form →](#)

The Northumberland Coast Path - Morpeth to Berwick-Upon-Tweed 64 miles / 102 km

	Cresswell to Berwick in 4 days Walking Code: NC5			Cresswell to Berwick in 5 days Walking Code: NC6			Cresswell to Berwick in 6 days Walking Code: NC7		
		Miles	Km		Miles	Km		Miles	Km
Day 1	Travel to Morpeth for your first night's accommodation			Travel to Morpeth for your first night's accommodation			Travel to Morpeth for your first night's accommodation		
Day 2	Transfer to Cresswell then Walk to Alnmouth	16	26	Transfer to Cresswell then Walk to Warkworth	11	18	Transfer to Cresswell then Walk to Warkworth	11	18
Day 3	Alnmouth to Seahouses	18	29	Warkworth to Embleton	15	24	Warkworth to Craster	12	19
Day 4	Seahouses to Fenwick	17	27	Embleton to Bamburgh	13	21	Craster to Seahouses	13	21
Day 5	Fenwick to Berwick-Upon-Tweed	13	21	Bamburgh to Fenwick	14	23	Seahouses to Belford	9	14
Day 6	Depart from Berwick-Upon-Tweed after breakfast			Fenwick to Berwick-Upon-Tweed	13	21	Belford to Fenwick	8	13
Day 7				Depart from Berwick-Upon-Tweed after breakfast			Fenwick to Berwick-Upon-Tweed	13	21
Day 8							Depart from Berwick-Upon-Tweed after breakfast		



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Booking Form

Contact Details

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Mobile / Alternative Tel: _____

Email: _____ Emergency Contact No: _____

Your Holiday

Holiday Name: _____ Holiday Code: _____ *(Hadrian's Wall: Add an "R" if starting in the West)*

Date of First Night: _____ Date of Last Night: _____

Party Members

Title	First Name	Last Name	Date of Birth

Options	Rooms Required:	Rest Days (give date & location)
Luggage Transport <input type="text"/>	No. Double Rooms <input type="text"/>	
Packed Lunches <input type="text"/>	No. Twin rooms <input type="text"/>	
Off Street Parking (there is normally a charge for this) <input type="text"/>	No. Single Rooms <input type="text"/>	
Transfer required (additional charge) <input type="text"/>	No. Triple Rooms (Double & Single) <input type="text"/>	

Comments (special diets, other requirements, etc): _____

Payment

Holiday cost per person <input type="text"/>	I enclose a cheque for the deposit value (GBP only, made payable to Mickledore Travel) <input type="checkbox"/>
Rest Days <input type="text"/>	I would like to pay by card (we will contact you to arrange this). <input type="checkbox"/>
Total cost per person <input type="text"/>	I would like to pay by bank transfer (we will contact you to arrange this). <input type="checkbox"/>
Number in group <input type="text"/>	
Total group cost <input type="text"/>	I confirm that the above details are correct and that I have read the terms and conditions available on the website. Signed _____ Date _____ Name _____
Deposit (20% of Total Cost) <input type="text"/>	
Single and solo supplements will be added where applicable.	

How did you hear about Mickledore Travel: _____