

Whitby Pavilion

Whitby

For Goth Weekends, 60s Music Weekends, Whitby Folk Weekend and the Theatre Shows, Cinema and more, visit Whitby Pavilion, located on Whitby's West Cliff, in the historic port of Whitby, North Yorkshire.



Located on Whitby's highly popular West Cliff, the Whitby Pavilion is a "must visit" and offers excellent entertainment all year round.

There's something for everyone – and all seasons too. Whether you're visiting Whitby for the Annual Folk Weekend, Musicport, the Whitby Regatta Week, Goth Weekends (spring or around Hallowe'en), or if you're coming for the spectacular 60's Music Festival (which is performed in Whitby Pavilion), you'll be amazed by the quality and variety of performances.

In association with the Musicport Festival, Whitby Pavilion are running FREE Summer Sunday Concerts ("Summer Sundays Live".) Great names from World Music perform in The Pavilion Café on Sundays throughout the summer, offering a great afternoon's entertainment, from 12.00 noon – 3.30pm.

For those who love the Swinging 60's – look out for the Annual 60's Festival in June, and the 60's Jukebox Legends (after resounding success, it's back again due to demand – with 50s + 60's music), and much more. Check the website to see what's on (and there's lots!).

Features

- Cinema: showing the latest films. Check website for further information
- Festivals: Goth Weekends, 60's Music Weekends, Musicport Festival and much more
- Theatre Shows: Whitby Amateur Dramatics Society Eater, Summer and Autumn Shows, Touring Theatre and Children's Shows

Facilities

- Book your tickets online or visit the Pavilion Box Office (open daily, 10am – 4pm)
- Pavilion Café – open daily, offering a comprehensive menu to cater for all tastes including paninis, toasted sandwiches, scampi + chips and more

Whitby Abbey (English Heritage)

Whitby

Visit the monastic ruins of Whitby Abbey which dominate the East Cliff headland, with fantastic views overlooking the historic and popular seaside resort of Whitby, North Yorkshire. A real "must visit".



More about Whitby Abbey (English Heritage)

Whitby Abbey is a whole lot more than a spectacular looking cliff top landmark. Generations have been drawn to these well-known ruins for which this famous and world-wide known Abbey is a site of literary inspiration, religious devotion and pilgrimage. It is also known to be one of the most atmospheric visitor attractions along the Yorkshire coastline.

Whilst staying in the West Cliff area overlooking the Abbey ruins, back in 1890, Bram Stoker became totally inspired by the Abbey's Gothic splendour, and it assisted him with creating the world-famous novel "Dracula", with noting the atmospheric backdrop and taking in many features of the town including the Abbey ruins, the Church and tombstones, Whitby's rooftops, and bats occasionally seen flying around, all adding to the atmosphere.

You'll be able to discover the Abbey's long history. The first Abbey was originally founded in 657AD by the Saxon King of Northumbria. Check out the Interactive Visitor Centre with its digital reconstructions and learn about the daily lives of the Monks who once inhabited the later Abbey which was destroyed in 1540 via orders from Henry VIII. You can also listen to the audio tour when wandering around the ancient ruins and take in the stunning views all around.

Visit the English Heritage website to find out about the many action-packed EVENTS throughout the year.

Pannett Park

Whitby

Pannett Park, a haven of peace and tranquillity and located close to the centre of Whitby in North Yorkshire, is well worth a visit, whichever season of the year. Excellent for family and nature walks.



More about Pannett Park

Adjudged the "Best Public Park in Yorkshire" in 2014, Pannett Park is situated just at the edge of Whitby town centre. This beautifully maintained park which has stunning views offers a state of the art children's play area and for those visitors who have horticultural interests, a wide variety of planting schemes. The Park boasts a lily pool and accompanying wild life, woodland area, rose gardens, a wild plant bank, more formal planting and one of the very few floral clocks in the country. There's also a unique Jurassic garden which is complete with a life-size replica of one of the sea creatures of the time. Add in a tree, maths and turtle trails to follow as well as both open and enclosed picnic areas and the whole park offers enormous family appeal.

Leaflets which include Pannet Park's layout and the various trails available to enjoy can be found just inside the entrance to the Museum/Art Gallery. Our younger visitors can enjoy creating leaf rubbings whilst on **the tree trail**. Paper and crayons are available from the staff at the Museum desk.

Features

- Haven of peace and tranquility
- Beautiful gardens and woodlands
- Excellent for wildlife spotting
- Open all year round (dawn to dusk)

Facilities

- Ornamental borders and wild flower embankments
- Children's Play Park
- Spot the nesting boxes all around the Park

Whitby Museum & Pannett Art Gallery

Whitby

Run by the Whitby Literary & Philosophical Society, the museum, library and archives houses many major collections including archaeology, social history, ceramics, Captain James Cook, fossils, paintings, photographs, militaria and toys & dolls.



More about Whitby Museum & Pannett Art Gallery

Pannett Art Gallery

Set in Pannett Park, adjoining Whitby Museum, this Art Gallery was gifted to the townsfolk of Whitby by Alderman Pannett. It houses two permanent collections and changing exhibitions. Admission is free.

The Staithes Group Room displays a permanent exhibition of work by early 20th century impressionist painters, together with arts and crafts, tapestries and fine pieces of furniture by local cabinetmakers. The Weatherill Room holds works by George Weatherill and his three talented children.

Whitby Museum

In 1823 the gentlemen of Whitby founded the Literary and Philosophical Society and established a museum to exhibit some spectacular fossils found in the local alum workings and 'curiosities', brought from foreign lands by the captains of Whitby's sailing ships. Run as independent museum it has preserved its Victorian ambience in the main halls – though the addition of a new wing provides a modern setting for temporary exhibitions, together with a costume gallery and cafe.

Features

- Run by Whitby Literary & Philosophical Society
- Museum, Library and Archives
- Permanent collections plus 2 changing exhibitions

Facilities

- Exhibition of early 20th Century impressionist painters
- Arts, Crafts, Tapestries & fine Furniture
- Archaeology, Social History, Ceramics, Captain Cook
- Fossils, Paintings, Photos, Militaria, Toys

Whitby Coastal Cruises

Whitby

Daily boat trips available with Whitby Coastal Cruises and Whitby Whale Watching - sailing out of Whitby into the Bay and along the spectacular Yorkshire coastline.



More about Whitby Coastal Cruises

Fancy a trip on a boat out along the Bay or further down the coastline? If that's a 'yes', then Whitby Coastal Cruises (the Yellow Boats) can offer you plenty of choices. Available are daily (20/25 minute) trips in to the Bay or longer trips along the amazing Yorkshire coast.

Coastal Cruises: 2 hour trips along the spectacular Yorkshire coastline. An excellent opportunity for photos too. Watch out for the various seabirds and wildlife. Throughout the cruise there will be a full commentary.

Staithe Cruise: This trip also includes one hour ashore to explore this very pretty coastal village.

River Trips: Includes an hour's cruise up the River Esk to the village of Ruswarp, sailing through the Swing Bridge and travelling beneath Larpool Viaduct.

Sunset and Twilight Cruises and Summer Specials are also available.

WHITBY WHALE WATCHING

Discover the Yorkshire Coast's biggest secret by taking a whale watching trip. If you've always wanted to get up close to whales, dolphins and other sea creatures, then this is for you. The trips run from late July through to November.

Check out the website for further information on both the Yellow Boats (Whitby Coastal Cruises) and Whitby Whale Watching.

Features

Daily coastal and river trips in and out of Whitby in the Yellow Boats
Boats available for private charter
Educational Cruises available

Facilities PRIVATE CHARTER: The Esk Belle III is available for private charter.

Esk Valley Railway

Whitby

The Esk Valley Line is a delightful stretch of railway passing through pretty villages on its journey from Whitby to Middlesbrough



More about Esk Valley Railway

The Esk Valley Railway runs between the bustling city of Middlesbrough and the historic seaport of Whitby on a 90 minute journey covering 35 miles, stopping at 16 village stations along the line.

Taking a trip on the Esk Valley Railway is the ideal way to explore the North York Moors National Park, weaving through picturesque countryside and stopping at quaint little villages including Grosmont, where you can hop on a steam train or take a short walk to the engine shed and see maintenance work being carried out on the steam engines, and view the pretty village of Danby which is home to The Moors National Park Centre.

Perfect for cyclists and walkers The Esk Valley Railway links to many of the cycling and walking routes in the area including The Cleveland Way and the Whitby to Danby Cycling Route.

A journey on this spectacular stretch of railway really is a 'must' for all holiday-makers and tourists alike.

Features

- Stunning scenery
- Links up with North Yorkshire Moors Steam Train
- Dogs welcome
- **Facilities**
- Trains operate daily (between April to November)
- Music & Ale Trains (running on all Friday evenings throughout the summer)
- Hallowe'en Story Trains
- Santa Specials

199 Whitby Abbey steps



The 199 Whitby Abbey steps are one challenge visitors to the town cannot resist. They're one of our most famous attractions. But, how much do you know about the history of Whitby steps?

History of the Whitby Abbey steps

The first record of the Whitby Abbey steps comes from 1340, but they're believed to be even older. The steps were originally made from wood. It was not until 1774 that the original wooden steps were replaced with stone from Sneaton.

It is thought the 199 steps were used as a test of Christian faith to those who wished to worship in St Mary's Church. Climbing the steps would prove that you were faithful. Anyone who has climbed them recently knows how testing they can be!

Thank goodness for the “benches”

As you're climbing, we're sure you're grateful for the “benches” placed at intervals as you ascend. While that's certainly what they're used for today, these resting points were created with a different purpose in mind.

Before the churchyard was closed to burials in the 19th century, coffins were regularly carried up the steps by grieving family and friends. Wooden planks were put in place to give the pall-bearers a respectful place to rest the coffin while they caught their breath.

While a horse and carriage could carry the body to the graveyard via Green Lane, many people preferred to be carried up the steps to their final resting place. We can easily imagine what an impressive site that would have made.

Why 199 steps?

Nobody is entirely sure why there are 199 steps up to the church. In fact, there has been lots of debate whether there are in fact 199 at all!

Some records state there are 198 steps, others 200. Local preacher John Wesley counted 191 steps in 1761 and other guides from the 1800s record only 194 steps.

Are they worth the climb?

Of course they are! You get some of the most spectacular views of Whitby from the top of the cliff and as you climb the steps. You can wander around the church yard, visit St Mary's Church and spend time exploring the ruins of our famous Abbey.

If you're not able to take on the climb or fancy a gentler trip up to the top, you can hop on the Whitby tour bus instead.

Captain Cook Memorial Museum



What is it? A handsome harbourside house where the young James Cook lodged as a humble apprentice before becoming the world-famous explorer.

Why go? It's packed with all the information you could ever want on the Yorkshire seafarer, as well as original paintings, maps, letters and ship models. Those not of a nautical persuasion will appreciate the beautifully restored rooms, especially the recreation of a tiny 17th-century kitchen.

Whitby Brewery



What is it? Keep your eyes peeled for this little microbrewery and tap room. It sits right beneath the towering arches of Whitby Abbey. Set in a converted barn, there's a small bar serving five cask beers and a selection of bottles all produced onsite, with knowledgeable and friendly staff pulling the pints.

Why go? It's the perfect spot to refuel after trekking up the 199 steps. Sit on one of the beer barrel stools and sink a pint of Whitby Whaler right next to one of the tanks it was made in.

Falling Foss Tea Garden



What is it? Hidden away in a remote spot in the North York Moors, this magical tea garden is six miles away from Whitby, but well worth seeking out. Set in the grounds of a tiny stone cottage in a woodland glade next to Falling Foss waterfall, it's totally enchanting.

Why go? Tuck into a freshly baked cake at one of the wooden picnic tables, paddle in the nearby stream, take a stroll through Sneaton Forest and try to find The Hermitage, a Hermit's cave carved from stone. This is a snack stop pulled straight from a fairy-tale.

Fortune's Kippers



What is it? If you don't think you're a fan of kippers, you will be by the time you've left Fortune's. This tiny, ramshackle shop is largely unchanged since it was established in 1872 and you'll see old photos on the wall of the six generations of family that have worked here.

Why go? You'll smell its smokehouse long-before you reach it and its charred black walls filled with lines of hanging fish are a sight to behold. They also smoke bacon, if you really can't be swayed to kippers.

Whitby Sands



What is it? A picturesque stretch of caramel sand unfolding from the West Pier for two miles along the coast to the sweet little fishing village of Sandsend.

Why go? Lined by grass-tufted cliffs and multi-coloured beach huts, it's the perfect spot for a windswept walk or an ice-cream lunch. There's plenty of sandcastle potential. Arrive shore-side in style with a trip down the cliff lift.

Whitby Jet Heritage Centre



The Whitby Jet Heritage Centre houses the last remaining example of an authentic Victorian Jet Workshop. We are proud to act as custodians of a unique and historic piece of local history and to offer the chance to view the only remaining example of Whitby Jet's nineteenth century cultural heritage, an original Jet Workshop discovered sealed in an old attic of a derelict property in Burns Yard, Whitby. We strive to develop new ways of presenting Whitby Jet, whilst still incorporating the traditional methods of manufacture and design. As well as producing a hand carved range of contemporary styles we are the only craftspeople to offer many styles that pay homage to the carving styles of the mid-nineteenth century. Please note: Our building is 250 years old so has 3 steps leading down to it. The Victorian Workshop has been kept completely authentic as it was found and is the size of a small attic due to this we do not recommend parties of more than 6 at a time in the workshop. We are always happy to help so when visiting us if you have any questions or would like further information please just ask.

Goathland



This bracing moorland village has attracted visitors since the 19th century, but numbers soared following its appearance (as 'Aidensfield') in the television series 'Heartbeat' and its role in the 'Harry Potter' films. It's fun to arrive on the trains of the North Yorkshire Moors Railway, after which walkers can enjoy lots of local strolls and hikes.

Things to see and do

The North Yorkshire Moors Railway has a heritage station in Goathland, which may be familiar as 'Hogsmeade' station from the early Harry Potter films.

Wade's Causeway, also known as the 'Roman road', runs across nearby Wheeldale Moor. Long considered Roman in date, this is now less certain – it may date from early medieval times or may even have been built by a certain Wade the Giant . . .

Eating and drinking

There are several cafés and a pub in Goathland, and a public bar and restaurant at the Mallyan Spout Hotel. Walk down Rail Trail to the hamlet of Beck Hole and you can visit the riverside Birch Hall Inn. North Yorkshire's smallest and quaintest pub? You decide.