

3-6 Saltburn by the Sea to Sandsend

49 53

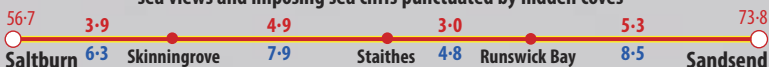
Distance 17.1 miles 27.5 km

Terrain mostly grass and field paths which can be muddy; some pavement, beach and shore

Grade undulating route, with many steep gradients; highest point reached at Rock (over 200 m/650 ft)

Food and drink Saltburn, Skinningrove, Staithes, Runswick, Sandsend (wide range)

Summary a strenuous day along the coast with many points of historic interest; bracing sea views and imposing sea cliffs punctuated by hidden coves



Saltburn is an amazing place. Its thriving arts scene seems out of all proportion to its modest population (6000) with events such as art exhibitions, film and jazz nights, vintage fairs and beer and folk festivals. Old Saltburn was a tiny fishing village and smugglers' haven, transformed in 1861 into a Victorian seaside resort with handsome architecture including the railway viaduct, seaside pier and a magnificent cliff lift. Henry Pease – railway owner, philanthropist and Member of Parliament – was the founder of modern Saltburn. While celebrating its Victorian past, the town has reinvented itself for the 21st century with a lively leisure scene including health and wellbeing, restaurants and superb surfing.

Britain's oldest surviving water-balanced cliff lift





West over Saltburn

- Cross Skelton Beck and go past the beached boats and tractors nearby. Take the path up steps behind the Ship Inn, signed to Skinningrove 3½ miles. At the top, look behind you for great views over Saltburn, and Roseberry Topping briefly returns to view.
- Route finding is easy along the clifftop path. The entire coastline from Saltburn to Scalby Ness is recognised as the North Yorkshire and Cleveland Heritage coast. The Way goes through Hunt Cliff Nature Reserve, and in a little over 1 mile passes the site of a Roman signal station, with an information board.
- Soon the path is in close company with the railway line around the edge of Warsett Hill, and passes the Guibal Fanhouse and information board after 2 miles. The jetty at Skinningrove and the steelworks above the town can be seen ahead.
- From Cattersty Cliff, follow the path down steps to the sands below. The Way reaches Skinningrove over low dunes and through a gap in the old jetty. Go past cottages (Marine Terrace) and over the Kilton Beck Bridge.
- Leave the road at the sign and climb steep steps to resume the clifftop. Look west for the view shown on page 4.
- After about a mile, follow CW signs to turn inland beside a field to a farm track. Pass to the right of a stable building and go through a gate.



Guibal Fanhouse



179

B1268

A173

A174

Skelton

Skelton Green

North Skelton

Lingdale

Saltburn by the Sea

Cliff lift



Warsett Hill
166

Brotton

Carlin How

Mining Museum

Skinningrove



Loftus

Liverton

B1366

Rockhole Hill
213

Rock Cliff

Easington

Boulby

Roxby

Staithes

Heritage Centre



Borrowby

Scaling Dam Reservoir

Roxby High Moor

Hinderwell

Port Mulgrave



B1206

Runswick Bay

Ellerby

Runswick Bay



49

Runswick Bay



Skinningrove Bay with jetty

- The path regains the cliff edge where you walk above extensive alum workings. The Way reaches its highest coastal point near Rockhole Hill (213 m/700 ft), identified by the trig point and mast nearby. Rock Cliff is the highest cliff anywhere on England's east coast.
- The Way overlooks the huge alum quarry workings for more than 1½ miles, returning to the cliff edge approaching cottages at Boulby. Go along the road past the row of cottages and keep straight on. At a bend in the road, with the grey chimneys of Boulby potash mine in view, continue straight ahead (east) onto a grassy path.
- Cross the field paths for half a mile to join the old coast road (Cowbar Lane) part of which has been claimed by cliff erosion, with a fence to protect the Way from the edge. Rejoin the lane into Staithes.
- Follow Cowbar Bank past cottages and turn right across Staithes Beck by footbridge. Follow the High Street past the Royal George and bear left at the slipway to pass the Cod and Lobster.
- Turn right up Church Street, looking on your right for a plaque recording Cook's apprenticeship in Staithes. Notice also Dog Loup – at only 18 inches (50 cm) wide, it's said to be the narrowest street in England.

Boats moored at Staithes



- At the top of Church Street continue ahead on a path signed to Port Mulgrave. Bear left at a fingerpost and on reaching Greenacres Farm turn left across a field to reach the coast. Enjoy a great view over Staithes harbour and village, then turn right along the clifftop.
- Follow the coastline for 1.9 km as it climbs, then levels out and becomes a tarmac road into Port Mulgrave. Where it bends inland, keep left along the clifftop path for 2 km to Runswick Bay.
- Negotiate two small ravines along the clifftop path, then reach the road through the Runswick Bay Hotel car park. At the road, turn left to pass the Cliffemount Hotel, where a path winds down to the lower part of Runswick bank. (Alternatively you can cross over at the Runswick Bay Hotel and walk straight down the steep bank on the road.)
- At a turning circle, keep on down towards the shore. In stormy weather, the next section may not be passable at high tide: if need be, wait for the sea to retreat a bit. Otherwise, continue across the sand for 500 m past the painted timber buildings of the sailing club, where a green Cleveland Way sign points up the next gully.
- Go past the base of cliffs (with caves known locally as hob-holes) to find the narrow gully entrance. A handrail offers some help along the slippery shale. Go forward for 20 m, cross the stream and climb steeply up the long flight of steps.

Staithes





The Way crossing a ravine near Runswick

- Resume the grassy clifftop path after the steep climb, soon passing an old railway embankment on your right.
- A further $\frac{3}{4}$ mile along the cliffs, turn left in front of the farm at Kettleness: don't miss the sign on the telegraph pole. Sandsend is now just over 3 miles ahead.
- After the farm road a fingerpost sends you left to rejoin the cliff path, and the Way sweeps around two fields to meet the dismantled rail track. Walk a few metres to the right of the path to see the old tunnel entrance in the cutting.
- Go along the field edge cliff path for another mile, ignoring a right turn signed Lythe. Very soon the Way bends to the right side field boundary, away from the edge, and directly towards a gap in the fence, into woodland. Climb carefully down the steep steps into the workings of the former Sandsend alum quarries.
- Look back to see the other end of the rail tunnel. The Way joins the railway trackbed for the remaining mile to Sandsend.

Runswick Bay



