



**YHA Helmsley** [Book your stay now](#)

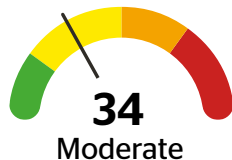
# Rievaulx Abbey

## Countryside walk

**Distance:** 8.4 miles (13.5km)

**Ascent:** 287m (942ft)

**Time:** Allow 3h 30m to 5h 45m



**Map:** OS Explorer 1:25k (OL26) North York Moor – Western Area

**Start/Finish:** OS Locate SE 615 840 **what3words** ///rebounder.nimply.single

A lovely walk along the Cleveland Way to Rievaulx Abbey and back. From the hostel turn left onto Carlton Lane, left onto Canons Garth Lane, right onto Church Street and left onto Cleveland Way. Pass Blackdale Howl Wood, along Whinny Bank and to the road (Ingdale Howl) at Abbot Hag Wood. Turn left, then before the river turn right towards Rievaulx Abbey. Pass the Abbey car park, continue to the houses and take the footpath on the left signposted to Bow Bridge. Cross the River Rye at Bow Bridge, follow the track ahead, then turn left onto a footpath through Ashberry Wood and continue to the Road at Ashberry Farm. Turn left onto the road, cross the Rievaulx Bridge and retrace the route back to the hostel.

## Hazards

Take care on road sections without pavements. May be livestock on the route. Exposed tree roots in places.

## Accessibility

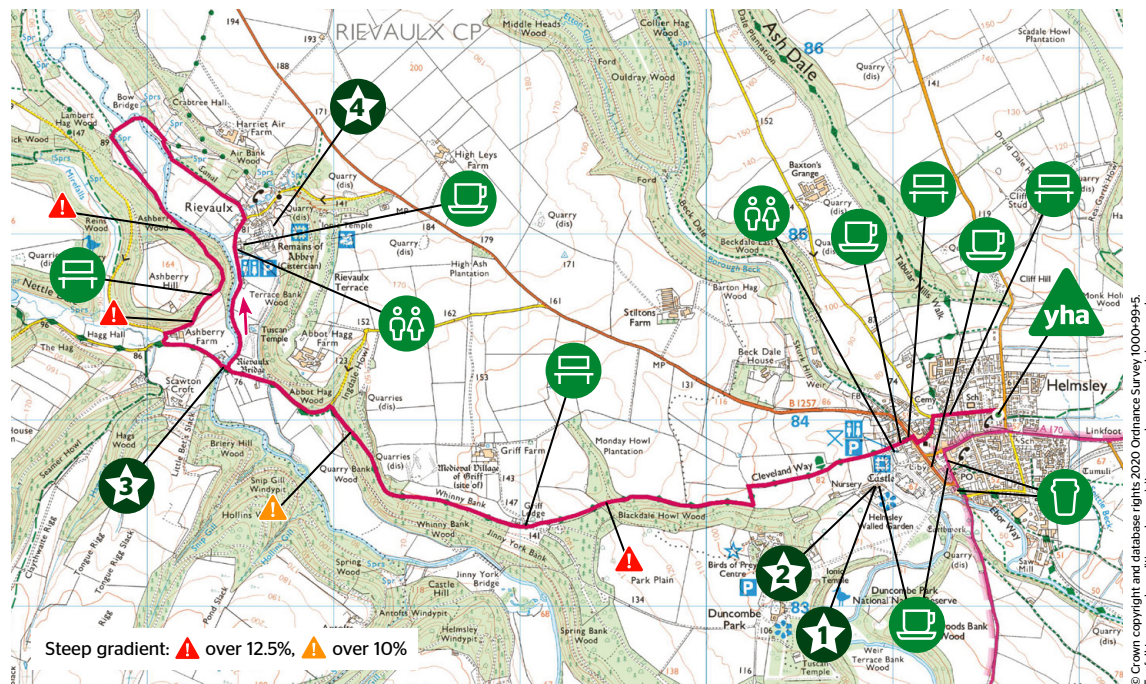
There are stiles and steps on the route and paths and gates less than one metre wide. Large stretches of rough, uneven ground. May be muddy in places after rain. Steep steps in Blackdale Howl wood. To the Abbey and back only is 6.8 miles (11km) with 222m (728ft) of ascent.

## Navigation

Roads and well signposted obvious paths and tracks, some well-trodden grass paths.

This route has been created by YHA to provide inspiration and to aid planning and preparation of your walk. It doesn't replace the need for an OS Map or the OS Maps App to navigate your walk safely. Digital maps are a guide and do not always reflect the conditions on the ground, ensure you are aware of your immediate surroundings.

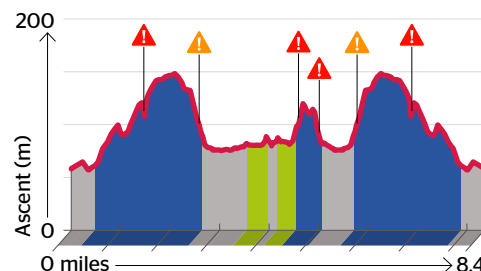
Scan or click to view this route on the OS Maps App – also a route profile and GPX



## Terrain

A mixture of tarmac roads, good paths, some grass and some uneven and rocky paths. Good path along the Cleveland Way.

● Paved ● Unpaved (uneven) ● Grass



**Points of interest** (see map)

- 1 Helmsley Castle, 2 Helmsley Walled Garden, 3 Rievaulx Bridge, 4 Rievaulx Abbey.



**Facilities** (see map)

Pubs, cafés, shops and toilets in Helmsley. Café and toilet at the Rievaulx Abbey visitor centre.



**Seats on route** (see map)



**Not wheelchair accessible**



**Not a touch free route**



**Not pushchair accessible**



**Not stile free**

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Thank you for choosing to walk from our hostel.  
We hope you have a great time.

Walking in the national landscapes of England and Wales is part of YHA's heritage. With hostels on National Trails, in National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, YHA plays a unique role in the nation's walking community.

To make it easy for everyone to enjoy walking from YHA hostels, we have curated three walks – an easy, moderate, and more challenging option. They have all been graded – the higher the grade, the more challenging the route.

### Before you go:

- Check the local weather forecast ([metoffice.gov.uk](http://metoffice.gov.uk)).
- Check the tide times for coastal routes ([tidetimes.org.uk](http://tidetimes.org.uk)).
- Get the right clothing, footwear and kit for the route and weather.
- Ensure you have enough time to complete the route before dark.
- Download the OS Locate and what3words apps to your phone.
- Contact 999 by SMS text (must pre register by texting 'register' to 999) ([relayuk.bt.com/emercysms](http://relayuk.bt.com/emercysms)).
- For further information on how to stay safe visit [adventuresmart.uk](http://adventuresmart.uk)

**In case of emergency** call 999 (or text 999 if pre-registered) and use OS Locate or what3words to provide a detailed description of your location.

**For more walks or information on route grading and timings go to [yha.org.uk/walks](http://yha.org.uk/walks)**

If you encounter problems with this route contact [walking@yha.org.uk](mailto:walking@yha.org.uk)



Scan or click to shop  
for OS maps online  
[osmaps.com/yha](http://osmaps.com/yha)

Share your walks



## Countryside Code

### Respect everyone

- Be considerate to those living in, working in and enjoying the countryside.
- Leave gates and property as you find them.
- Do not block access to gateways or driveways when parking.
- Be nice, say hello, share the space.
- Follow local signs and keep to marked paths unless wider access is available.

### Hazards

- Take extra care and stay alert where a right of way crosses a railway line.
- When walking on a road without a pavement keep to the right-hand side, so that you can see oncoming traffic. Keep close to the side of the road, and walk in single file if necessary. It may be safer to cross the road well before a sharp right-hand bend so that oncoming traffic has a better chance of seeing you. Cross back after the bend.
- Give wild animals, livestock and horses plenty of space.

### Protect the environment

- Take your litter home – leave no trace of your visit.
- Do not light fires and only have BBQs where signs say you can.
- Always keep dogs under control and in sight.
- Dog poo – bag it and bin it – any public waste bin will do.
- Care for nature – do not cause damage or disturbance.

### Enjoy the outdoors

- Check your route and local conditions.
- Plan your adventure – know what to expect and what you can do.
- Enjoy your visit, have fun, make a memory.

## What to wear

- Comfortable clothing suitable for the conditions.
- Use several layers, so you can add and remove clothing to regulate your temperature.
- Extra warm clothes in case it gets colder.
- Hat, gloves and scarf.
- Sun hat, sun cream and sunglasses.
- Waterproof jacket and trousers.
- Cushioning comfy socks.
- Comfortable well fitting trainers, walking shoes or boots.

## Kit

- Map and compass.
- Water, lunch and snacks.
- Charged mobile phone and portable charger.
- First aid kit.
- Torch and spare batteries.
- Rucksack, with waterproof cover or a dry bag or plastic bag inside.
- Medicines or toiletries you would usually use.

## You might also want to take

- Picnic blanket.
- Waterproof baseball cap, if you wear glasses.
- Walking poles.
- Tissues and hand sanitiser.