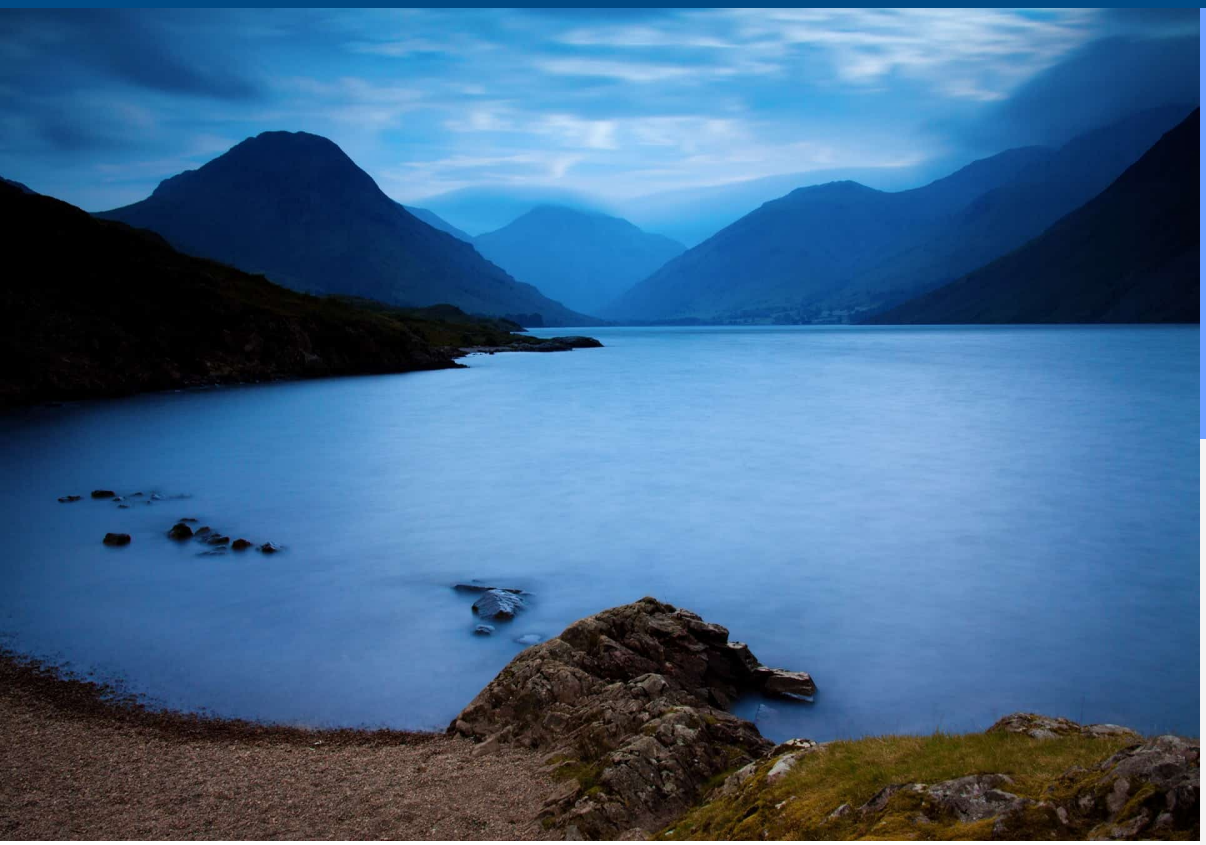
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Prices valid until
30th December 2024

27 days
Duration

England
Destination

Level 3 - Moderate to Challenging
Activity

Small Group Tour along the Wainwright Walking trail

Jun 01 2024 to Jun 27 2024



Wainwright Walking Trail | Small Group Hike for Seniors

The Wainwright Walking Trail small group program for the active senior has been especially designed for those with the stamina to follow the Wainwright walking trail. This is the best of all England walking tours, the historic coast to coast walk covers some 300 kilometres of often rugged terrain. Your guided trip begins and ends in seaside villages, from St Bees on the west coast of England to Robin Hood's Bay on the

east coast. This small group tour walking tour for mature and senior travellers along Wainwright Walking trail also allows, however, for those men or women whether joining as a couple or a solo traveller interested in walking some of the trail, but are unsure of their ability to cover the whole distance, to walk as much or as little as suits their individual interests and ability.







Although we begin our adventure in Carlisle and finish in York, the majority of our time will be spent crossing the country from the west coast to the east coast along a path devised by Alfred Wainwright, early 20th century English fell-walker, guide book writer, illustrator and cartographer.

The landscapes along this trail are spectacular and includes numerous ascents and descents with views across lakes, valleys, moors, rolling hills, the quaint villages, the occasional country house as well as mountain peaks and passes. Your walking experience starts and finishes in beautiful coastal landscapes as we walk from west to east, with the wind typically at our backs. On our walk, which deviates a little from Wainwright's original trail and takes us through three national parks, the Lake District National Park, the Yorkshire Dales National Park, the North York Moors National Park and the Cleveland way.

England walking tours are numerous this though is quintessentially English walk dominated by the three national parks. English history is ever present and makes for a truly fascinating and memorable walk as the local guide shares their knowledge of local flora and fauna, the ancient forests that blanket the rolling hills adjacent to rivers and disused historic sites or a local country house and their stories with the group. As this walking tour for seniors walks over a 27 day period from coast to coast we average between 8 to 14kms/day of walking.

This is not a designated national walking path and the actual route taken may vary with individuals' interests and ability. Finding your way without a local guide can be difficult at times, so our walking tour for seniors includes the services of a local guide.

This program uses four main centres along the path. We stay for up to six nights in each of these centres before moving with all our luggage on

to our next destination. Our coach will transport us with our luggage for the day each morning to the point we left off walking in the previous afternoon, and collect us at the end of the day's walk. Those preferring to opt out of that day's walk and rest their feet will be able to explore the local area on their own, or possibly join other non-walkers on an alternative activity such as country house visits of a stroll though the historic Georgian towns or the country lanes that lead into quaint villages such as Reeth, giving you the opportunity to discover hidden gems as you stroll through this part of Northern England. A number of rest days will be built into the program, even for those who intend to walk the whole distance.







This is a guided trip and includes the services of a local guide with expert knowledge of the trail, as well as that of the Odyssey Program Leader. As the weather can be variable, we will rely on the knowledge and planning skills of the local guide for decisions about the desirability of walking on some days. Consequently the exact program and distances walked in each district may vary according to local conditions and the guide's assessment of individual ability.

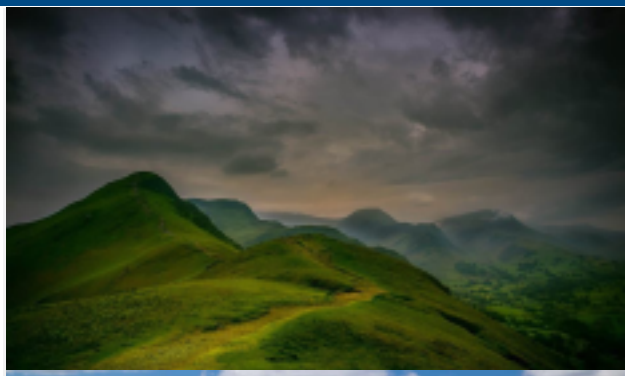
The local guide's decision on the day's itinerary will be final. The activity level is level 3, moderate to challenging. This link takes you to the activity level guide for Odyssey walking tours for seniors including our England walking tours.

This article published by Odyssey Traveller about the Wainwright Walking trail, which is considered by many commentators as one of the best walking tours in England, may also assist you in preparing yourself for this walk.

Highlights of the Wainwright Walking Trail Tour

- Walk through stunning scenery in three of England's National Parks.
- Take time out to visit Castle Barnard and the Bowes Museum

- Travel by Victorian steam gondola across Coniston Waters to visit Brantwood, home of John Ruskin.
- Paddle in both the Irish Sea and the North Sea.
- Enjoy the service of a knowledgeable local guide.
- Stay each night in comfortable accommodation.







Articles published by Odyssey Traveller for Walking and Hiking tours for seniors

To help you prepare for any walking program, whether with Odyssey or another company, this list of articles is intended to help you prepare for your holiday.

- articles on Selecting walking shoes for women
- article on footwear and walking shoes
- article on what to pack when travelling.
- article on maintaining muscle fitness in senior and mature age travellers
- article on selecting socks for walking
- article detailing six great short walks in Britain
- article on preparing for a walking holiday
- article on Pilgrim walks in Europe
- article on walking in the Lake District
- article on being an older traveller

Articles about Great Britain published by Odyssey Traveller

The following is a list of articles published by Odyssey Traveller for mature aged and senior travellers to maximise their knowledge and enjoyment of Great Britain when visiting;

- Roman roads in Britain
- Understanding British Churches
- Medieval British life
- Icons of British villages
- Studying Gargoyles and grotesques
- New discoveries about Britain's stone circles
- Victorian Country life
- Britain's neolithic past
- Lumps and bumps, how to read the British landscape
- The Lake district poets
- English village history
- Britain's National trust

See all the articles published on Britain by Odyssey Traveller. We also have more information about England you could research.







External articles to assist you on your walk in Britain

- National trust; Britain's best walks with Julia Bradbury
- National Parks of Britain.
- Ten books about Walking in Britain from the Guardian
- UNESCO World Heritage sites of Britain

Walk with Odyssey Traveller

The Wainwright Walking Trail is only one of many walking tours offered by Odyssey Traveller. These active tours are designed for the mature

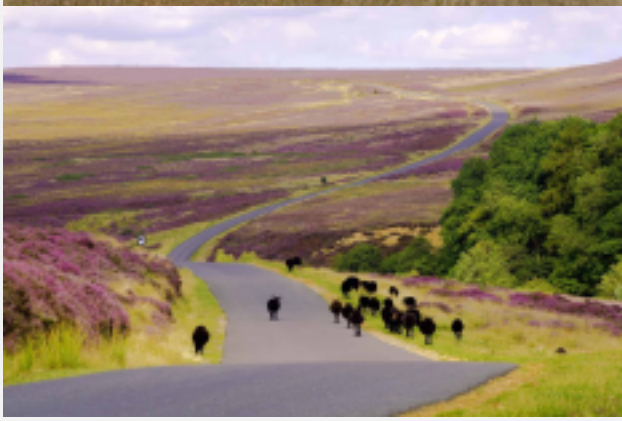
traveller to enjoy in a small group holiday and learning environment.

For more details, click the ‘Top 5’ or ‘Itinerary’ buttons above! If you’re keen to experience this tour, please call or send an email. Or, to book, simply fill in the form on the right hand side of this page.

Tour Notes

- Group size is limited to a maximum of 12 walkers and their non walking partners.





Highlights

1. Walk from St Bees on the west coast of England to Robin Hood's Bay on the east coast.
2. Spend 5 days exploring and walking through the Lake District.
3. Explore and learn about the Georgian towns in the North of England such as Reeth.
4. Walk through James Heriot country, Yorkshire Dales national Park
5. Finish the tour exploring York, settled by the Romans and the Vikings and part of the industrial revolution.

Itinerary

Day 1

Locations: Carlisle

Overview:

Arrive in Carlisle by your own arrangements and make your way to the hotel where we will spend the night.

In the late afternoon meet with you program leader for a briefing session before a welcome dinner in a local restaurant.

Accommodation:

Carlisle TBA

Day 2

Locations: Carlisle - St Bees

Overview:

After breakfast in our hotel we take a guided walking tour of Carlisle, visiting the cathedral and the excellent castle museum.
In the afternoon we travel by coach south to St Bees are, where we spend 3 nights.
Dinner this evening will be at our hotel.

Accommodation:

St Bees TBA





Day 3

Locations: St Bees

Overview:

This morning we drive to St Bees Head, where there will be time for a quick paddle in the Irish Sea before our walk begins from the coast. Today's walk takes us as far as Cleator Moor, a distance of some 13.5 kilometres. The coach will collect the walkers in the afternoon.
As an alternative to walking, after paddling at the beach and waving off our walkers, those who prefer will drive to Ravenglass and take the steam train journey to the hill-top village of Boot before returning to our hotel.

Accommodation:

St Bees TBA





Day 4

Locations: St Bees

Overview:

Those people walking the trail will begin their day after breakfast, with a transfer to Cleator Moor to resume their walk, which will take them to Ennerdale Bridge (walking distance approx 9km)
In the afternoon our coach, having collected the walkers, will take us to the village of Cockermouth with the possibility of a visit to the NT house where William Wordsworth grew up.

Accommodation:

St Bees TBA

Day 5

Locations: Grasmere

Overview:

Today we walk from Ennerdale Bridge to Gatesgarth, with a walking distance of approximately 14.5km.
In the afternoon we transfer to Grasmere or Ambleside where we stay for the next six nights. There may be time to explore the village on your own this afternoon before a group dinner.

Accommodation:

Grasmere or Ambleside, TBA

Day 6

Locations: Grasmere

Overview:

The walk today is relatively short so the whole group might choose to take the coach back to Gatesgarth on Buttermere for the walk to Borrowdale, with a walking distance of around 7km.
Alternatively, non-walkers will find plenty to amuse themselves in the area near the hotel.
On our way back to the hotel from Borrowdale we will find time to visit and experience the beautifully situated Neolithic stone circle at

Castlerigg and Wordsworth's Dove Cottage museum.

Accommodation:

Grasmere or Ambleside, TBA.

Day 7

Locations: Grasmere

Overview:

Today's walk takes us from Borrowdale to Grasmere. Walking distance 14km.
Those who decide not to take the walk may like to visit Blackwell, the stunning Arts and Crafts house on Windermere.

Accommodation:

Grasmere or Ambleside, TBA.

Day 8

Locations: Grasmere - Lake District

Overview:

Today we leave the trail and have a rest day in the Lake District. We go with our coach to Coniston Waters and the catch the NT Victorian steam launch across to Brantwood, the home where influential Victorian critic and writer, John Ruskin stayed. The house is set in beautiful gardens which we will have time to explore.
In the afternoon we will rejoin the coach and return to our hotel via Hill Top, the Beatrix Potter house and museum.

Accommodation:

Grasmere or Ambleside, TBA.

Day 9

Locations: Grasmere

Overview:

This morning the walkers set out to walk from Grasmere to Glenridding/Patterdale. Walking distance is approximately 13 km.

Non-walkers have the opportunity to take the coach to visit the NT Sizergh Castle.
In the afternoon we all return to our accommodation in Grasmere/Ambleside.

Accommodation:

Grasmere or Ambleside, TBA.

Day 10

Locations: Grasmere

Overview:

This morning the walkers return to Patterdale for their walk to Pooley Bridge via Ullswater. Walking distance 14.4 km.
Non walkers have a free day to enjoy the area on their own.
Dinner this evening is at our hotel or a local restaurant.

Accommodation:

Grasmere or Ambleside, TBA.

Day 11

Locations: Kirkby Stephen

Overview:

This morning we travel east by coach to Kirkby Stephen.
Walkers will return to Pooley Bridge, where they left off the previous day, and walk to Bampton Grange, a distance of around 10 km.
The whole group will transfer to Kirkby Stephen where we will spend the next four nights. Dinner tonight in a local restaurant.
Kirkby Stephen is on the famous Settle to Carlisle railway which runs over the Yorkshire Dales through some magnificent scenery. This historic line was constructed in the 1870s but was due to be closed during the 1980s. A concerted effort by local authorities and railway enthusiasts saved the line and it still runs as part of the national rail network.

Accommodation:

Kirkby Stephen, TBA

Day 12

Locations: Kirkby Stephen

Overview:

Today we walk from Bampton Grange to Orton, covering a distance of approximately 18km.
Non walkers have a day to explore Kirkby Stephens.

Accommodation:

Kirkby Stephen, TBA

Day 13

Locations: Kirkby Stephen

Overview:

Today is a rest day (from walking) with the opportunity to explore the local area by coach and train.
In the morning we will catch the train from Kirkby Stephen to Settle where we will be met by our coach and then drive to view the extraordinary Ribblehead Viaduct from below and to explore the charming little village of Dent.

Accommodation:

Kirkby Stephen, TBA

Day 14

Locations: Kirkby Stephen

Overview:

Today's hike takes us from Kirkby Stephen to the village of Keld.
Distance walked 21 kilometres.
Non-walkers might like to do a day's touring with the coach visiting the Nine Standards Rigg, the village of Askrigg (where much of the TV series All Creatures Great and Small was shot) and Castle Bolton. On the return journey our coach would collect the walkers from Keld.

Accommodation:

Kirkby Stephen TBA

Day 15

Locations: Richmond

Overview:

This morning the coach takes the walkers back to Keld. From there they continue to the village of Reeth, which is situated on a plateau above the River Swale and is surrounded by a great panorama of hills and moors that make up these landscapes. The scenery is beautiful! Walking distance 18 kilometres.
In the afternoon, the group transfers to the town of Richmond where we spend the next five nights. In the evening we enjoy dinner at the hotel or a local restaurant.

Accommodation:

Richmond TBA

Day 16

Locations: Richmond

Overview:

This morning the coach transfers our walkers back to Reeth for their journey into Richmond, walking around 18km.
Non walkers will have time to explore Richmond at their leisure. They might like to explore the buildings of the castle, check out the waterfalls from the shore of the River Swale and walk to Easby Abbey.

Accommodation:

Richmond TBA

Day 17

Locations: Richmond

Overview:

Today provides another day of rest from walking, giving the feet time to recover. After breakfast we transfer by coach to the town of Barnard Castle where we have time to wander around and explore the town before continuing to the Bowes Museum.

The Bowes Museum was purpose built in the 19th century by wealthy business man John Bowes and his French wife, Josephine. The magnificent French-chateau style building houses an amazing collection including art works by Van Dyke, El Greco, Goya and Canaletto.

Accommodation:

Richmond TBA

Day 19

Locations: Richmond

Overview:

This morning the walkers rejoin the walking path to cover the distance between Richmond and Whitwell, covering a distance of approximately 15 km.
Non-walkers can take a drive to Middleham Castle, the childhood home of Richard III and the place where his only son, Edward, was born and died.
Dinner tonight will be in a local restaurant.

Accommodation:

Richmond TBA

Day 20

Locations: Richmond

Overview:

Today's walk is a relatively long one covering some 23km between Whitwell and Osmotherly.

Accommodation:

Richmond TBA

Day 21

Locations: Grosmont

Overview:

Today's walk takes us from Osmotherly to Clay Bank, a walk of around 18km.
Later in the day we depart for Grosmont area where we stay for the next five nights.
Dinner tonight will be at our hotel.

Accommodation:

Grosmont/Egton Bridge area,TBA

Day 22

Locations: Grosmont

Overview:

Our coach will take us to Clay Bank where we start our walk to Commondale, covering a distance of over 17km inside the National Park.

Accommodation:

Grosmont/Egton Bridge area,TBA

Day 23

Locations: Grosmont

Overview:

Although our destination is almost in sight, we take another rest day. We take the coach into Whitby where we have time to wander about the National trust's amazing Abbey and visit the Captain Cook Museum. We also take the time to wander around the picturesque harbour or follow the coast a short way beyond the buildings of the Abbey to view the amazing coastal scenery.

Accommodation:

Grosmont/Egton Bridge area,TBA

Day 24

Locations: Grosmont

Overview:

Today we walk from Commondale to Egton Bridge, approx 20km. While some walk, others spend the day taking the coach to Durham to visit the city and cathedral.

Accommodation:

Grosmont/Egton Bridge area,TBA

Day 25

Locations: Grosmont

Overview:

Our walk today takes us from Egton Bridge to Robin Hood's Bay, with a total distance of around 20m.
Non-walkers might like to visit Goathland and then join the walkers at Robin Hood's Bay for reflection at a local inn overlooking the coast.

Accommodation:

Grosmont/Egton Bridge area,TBA

Day 26

Locations: York

Overview:

With our walks over, we transfer to York via Pickering and the beautiful landscapes and buildings of Castle Howard.
In the evening we have our farewell dinner at a local restaurant.

Accommodation:

York, TBA

Day 27

Locations: York

Overview:

Our small group tour along Wainwright walking trail concludes this morning after breakfast in York.

Inclusions / Exclusions

What's included in our Tour

- 26 nights of accommodation in England, Wales, and Scotland.
- 26 breakfasts and 10 dinners.
- Touring by comfortable and modern mini-coach.
- All entry fees and services of local guides.
- Services of Tour Leader for the duration of tour.
- Detailed preparatory information.

What's not included in our Tour

- Comprehensive travel insurance.
- Return international airfare and departure taxes.
- Airport transfers.
- Items of a personal nature, such as telephone calls and laundry.

Level 3 - Moderate to Challenging

Participants must be in excellent health, extremely mobile and live an active lifestyle. Program activities may include up to 6 hours of continuous strenuous, moderate to fast paced activity per day over varied terrain.

Please do not hesitate to contact us with any requests for further information about this tour or any others offered by Odyssey Travel.