

Try a Trail easy access walks

Sutton Bank

Sutton Bank offers superb walks. Go south towards the Kilburn White Horse and enjoy extensive views west to the Pennines and south towards York. Walk north to overlook Lake Gormire and view the dramatic Whitestone Cliff. Either way the views are superb!

The walks are easy, mainly level with maximum gradients of 1: 8. They are likely to be suitable for people with impaired mobility or with a pushchair, wheelchair or mobility scooter.

These walks have no steps or stiles. Conditions will vary depending on the weather.



Cleveland Way
NATIONAL TRAIL 



Distance

The walk to the White Horse is 1½ miles/2½ km each way. The northern walk to overlook Lake Gormire is ¾ mile/1 km.

Path details

The route to the White Horse is compacted limestone and is virtually level all the way. There is one short incline just before reaching the horse. The northern walk is level compacted limestone and is wheelchair accessible at least to point 10 above Lake Gormire. Beyond this point the path is narrower, slightly undulating and the last section past point 12 is compacted earth and grass.

Start

Both walks start at the National Park Information Centre. The car park is Pay & Display.

Route

Both walks start from the Visitor Centre car park. For the walk south, follow the stone path towards the Bank and cross the road with care. The walk follows the escarpment edge.

If you choose the northerly walk, head for the escarpment and turn right. The path remains flat and smooth as far as the views over Gormire Lake.

Nearest facilities

Accessible toilets and refreshment facilities are available at the Visitor Centre.

How to get there

From Thirsk - take the A170 road towards Scarborough. The Visitor Centre is at the top of Sutton Bank on the left, about 7 miles beyond Thirsk. From Helmsley - take the A170 towards Thirsk. The Visitor Centre is about 7 miles beyond Helmsley on the right.

Points of interest

From Sutton Bank you get superb views over the Vale of York - even as far as the Yorkshire Dales on a clear day. You may also see gliders which take off near the path. You can follow the walk south nearly as far as the White Horse of Kilburn. This was cut out of the turf in 1857 by a local schoolmaster, John Hodgson and his pupils. The rock here is actually limestone - so the surface has to be treated to make it white! The White Horse is best viewed from a distance. The walk north is flat and surfaced as far as the views over Gormire Lake. This lake is one of only three natural lakes in Yorkshire.

The North York Moors National Park Visitor Centre at Sutton Bank has easy access. There is a short flat trail around the site as well as an exhibition, information desk, countryside bookshop, tearoom and accessible toilet.



Sutton Bank

Walk to the White Horse

1 P WC R

National Park Centre
Follow the path towards the edge of Sutton Bank

2

Cross the main road with great care

3 S VP

Follow the path along the edge of the escarpment

4 S

5 VP

6  S

Return by the same route



Walk to overlook Lake Gormire

1 P WC R

National Park Centre
Follow the path towards the edge of Sutton Bank

7

Cross the road with great care

8

Follow the path along the edge of the escarpment

9 S VP

A minor path branches left here to go down to Lake Gormire

10 

The path rises slightly for about 50 metres

11  

Slope 20m 1:8 down followed by a 30 m rise of 1:8

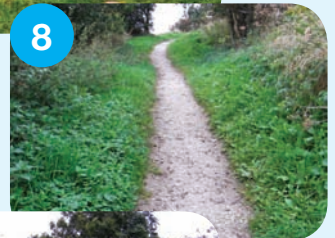
12

A level although slightly rutted section continues along the cliff edge

13 VP

Where the Cleveland Way turns sharp right, there are extensive views northwards.
















This is the end of this walk. Return by the same route.



Sutton Bank



KEY

-  Tarmac road or path
-  Compact hard surface, occasional stones or gravel
-  Compact earth/short grass
-  Worn grass
-  Ruts, stones or long grass
-  Rough surface
-  Continuation of National Trail
-  Gate
-  Parking
-  Seat
-  Information Panel
-  View Point
-  Toilets
-  Refreshments
-  Photo Location

All route photographs are taken in the direction of travel, unless otherwise stated.

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