



The Sutton Bank Trail takes in some breathtaking views

Points of interest

Sutton Bank National Park Centre

At Sutton Bank National Park Centre there are staff to advise you about the walk, as well as a café and accessible toilets. It is also a cycle centre with bike hire, and our route uses part of the 'Cliff' cycle route.

Yorkshire Gliding Club

The gliders are a wonderful sight and you may well see them close up on your walk as you pass alongside the airfield. Visitors are welcome at the Club House for refreshments.

White Horse of Kilburn

The walk passes close to the top of the White Horse of Kilburn, cut from the turf in 1857 by local schoolmaster John Hodgson and his pupils. It has to be painted white, because the limestone here is grey in colour unlike the white chalk-cut figures of the south of England.

Gormire Lake

Mysterious Gormire Lake attracts legends, the best known being of the local knight who borrowed a white horse from the Abbot of Rievaulx. The knight plunged off the cliff and into Lake Gormire and, as he fell, looked back to the cliff, where he saw the Abbot had turned into the Devil!

James Herriot

This is the area covered by the famous vet James Herriots' practice. He described the view here as the "finest in England" and you can savour it from the specially built viewing platform shortly before the end of the walk.

Try a Trail

SUTTON BANK

Try a Trail

access circular

SUTTON BANK

How to get to Sutton Bank

From Thirsk (7 miles).
Take the A170 road towards Scarborough. The Visitor Centre is at the top of Sutton Bank on the left.

From Helmsley (7 miles).
Take the A170 towards Thirsk and the Visitor Centre is on your right.

For Sat Nav use postcode **YO7 2EH**

Facilities

There are accessible toilets and refreshment facilities at Sutton Bank. There is also a café (not accessible but outside seating) and toilet (suitable for those who can weight bear) at the Yorkshire Gliding Club.

The Disabled Ramblers rating for this walk is Category 2. Find more details on ratings at www.disabledramblers.co.uk



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Helmsley, York YO62 5BP
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www.northyorkmoors.org.uk
www.nationaltrail.co.uk



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Enjoy a great day of walking starting from the iconic Sutton Bank escarpment.

This 5¼ mile / 8.5km walk uses the Cleveland Way National Trail along the Sutton Bank escarpment, which means you can enjoy outstanding views across the Vale of Mowbray to the distant Yorkshire Dales. It also takes in some of the Sutton Bank 'Cliff' cycle route, which winds through the woods and across the fields.

Much of the walk is level, but there are some ups and downs, with maximum gradients of 1:8 for short distances (up to 50 metres) and 1:13 for longer distances (up to 150 metres). Please be aware that after wet weather some surfaces can be rough or muddy.

There are no steps or stiles and so the walk is likely to be suitable for people with a wheelchair, mobility scooter, hand cycle mountain bikes or mountain trikes. For a shorter, easier walk just use the Cleveland Way sections north or south of Sutton Bank.

- From Sutton Bank car park, follow the Cleveland Way towards the White Horse. Be careful crossing the A170 – fast traffic. Surface: smooth aggregate



- There's a bit of a drop at the bend before the White Horse of about 1:8 for 20 metres.
- At the White Horse, fork off to the left. This climbs a little as you head to the road about 1:20 for 40 metres. Surface: smooth aggregate.
- Turn left at the road and follow this for a mile (1.6km) You pass close to the Yorkshire Gliding Club, where there is a café. Surface: tarmac.

- Short cut option** Turn left onto the Cleveland Way to return to Sutton Bank. There is a slope for a few metres at the start (about 1:6). Surface: mixture of short grass and earth path.
- The main route heads across the A170 (watch out for traffic) and along the track, which can be muddy after wet weather. Surface: aggregate.

- Join the 'Cliff' cycle route, by taking the second turn on the left. The path winds its way up and through the woods, an undulating, steady rise of about 1:13 for 150 metres of it. Surface: aggregate.
- Go through the gate. Then turn right along the road for nearly half a mile (700 metres). Surface: tarmac.



- Leave the road on the left side on the 'Cliff' cycle route and follow it back to the escarpment. Some parts here can get muddy/slippy after rain. Surface: aggregate, then aggregate/soil mix.
- Once through the gate bear left on the 'Cliff' cycle route to the escarpment. Surface: aggregate soil mix then short grass.
- Go through the gate and turn left along the cliff edge escarpment towards Sutton Bank, eventually rejoining the Cleveland Way. There is a drop and rise to look out for, which is about 1:8 for 50 metres. Surface: smooth aggregate.
- Stop at the viewing platform to enjoy the 'finest view in England' before returning to Sutton Bank National Park Centre.

