



NORTH YORK MOORS EXPEDITION AREA

Area covers North York Moors and Cleveland Hills

Useful information from the Expedition Network

Welcome!

For more information, please contact the Expedition Area Co-ordinator.

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Introduction

Our team of voluntary members will be pleased to offer their expertise, knowledge of our area and general guidance whenever required to all users of the North York Moors for the Expedition section of the DofE.

If there are any points you wish to raise or any information you feel requires clarification, please do not hesitate to get in touch with the Expedition Co-ordinator.

Network membership

Our team of 60 voluntary members have expertise, knowledge of our area and provide general guidance whenever required to all users of the North York Moors for the Expedition section.

Further information on the National Park Service may be obtained from: North York Moors National Park, Information Service, The Old Vicarage, Bondgate, Helmsley, North Yorkshire YO6 5BP, www.moors.uk.net Tel: 01439 770 657

In order to meet the conditions required for the Gold expedition, it may be necessary to use the whole expanse of the moors from west to east, from wild country to the sea. In this area it may be impossible to avoid some of the lines of the Cleveland Way, but this should only be used where it is unavoidable. Using the higher land and linking with less exacting areas will still require an accurate approach to navigation using all existing footpaths and rights of way.

The character of the moors allows great scope for the variation of countryside and one can move from enjoyable areas of dales, valleys and woodland to an area of wild desolation, remote and barren in a short period of time.

Camp sites too will determine the route of the expedition although groups may wish to negotiate their own contacts with local farmers in more exposed and lonely areas. One cannot be indiscriminate in camping and groups are expected to respect the fact that all land belongs to someone and arrangements should be made.

Similarly, while Silver expeditions can quite happily enjoy the less taxing areas of coastline, forest and moorland, a more exacting expedition will inevitably find itself using some of the higher, remoter land for part of the route.

The Network does not undertake to assess Bronze expeditions but there are many areas suitable for this type of expedition on the Moors.

Applying to the Network

- All expeditions which take place inside the Expedition Area must be notified to the Expedition Co-ordinator, whether the expedition is for assessment or notification.
- Notification is made on the official Green Form. All instructions are given on the form and, if followed correctly, it will enable the Expedition Co-ordinator to deal expeditiously with the planned expedition.
- For notice of self-assessed expeditions and practice expeditions only one copy of the Green Form, plus one copy of the route outline need be submitted. FOUR weeks' notice must be given.
- For all requests for assessment by the Network, two copies of the Green Form, along with two copies of the route outline must be sent. Six weeks' notice must be given. The appointed Assessor requires route cards at least two weeks before the start of the expedition.
- A stamped, self-addressed envelope should be sent with all applications.
- Route outlines can be submitted using either photocopied sections of OS Maps or printed from Memory-Map or similar software packages. These methods are preferred to actual 'route tracings'.
- Vouchers for network assessors need to be bought from the DofE Essentials shop accessed through eDofE.

Access

Although the land within the National Park remains under private ownership, there is open access over moorland in the North York Moors. At some times open access to the moorland may be restricted. You can check any restrictions by visiting the open access website at www.openaccess.gov.uk then clicking on 'managing access' followed by 'access land maps'. In enclosed agricultural areas it is important to use only those footpaths and bridleways which are public rights of way and clearly marked on the O.S. Map. The Network relies a great deal upon the good offices of local farmers both for access to their land and for the provision of camp sites in both popular and remote areas and it is important that all visitors respect the Countryside Code at all times.

The Royal Air Force has an Early Warning Station at Fylingdales and this area should be avoided. The area is very clearly marked and the Station is easily seen from a distance, in clear weather. The way of identification is by a single 'pyramidal' structure, which is quite clearly seen. The station lies mainly around Snod Hill (GR 865976) and is approximately two miles from West to East and one and a half miles from North to South, touching Lilla Howe, High Woof Howe, Worm Sike Rigg and Snod Hill.

Extra care should be taken during April, May and June to avoid disturbing nesting grouse. Shooting takes place during the period 12th August and 10th December and parties coming on to the moor during this period are advised to note the guidance given by the National Park Ranger Service.

To the south and east of the moors there is considerable forest land and it is likely, during the season, that a party may be confronted with an area which has been closed because of tree felling during that week. It may well be that an alternative route will have to be taken, possibly adding time to the day's journeying.

Camping

Generally speaking, camping is not allowed on open moorland or unenclosed land. The majority of farmers are happy to permit overnight camping but it is essential that prior arrangements are made. It is not the policy of the Network to issue a list of camp sites, but if groups give an outline of the area of the Moors likely to be used on their expeditions, the Expedition Co-ordinator will be pleased to recommend suitable camp sites in the area.

Youth hostels

Accommodation on expeditions should be camping only. However in exceptional circumstances, with the approval of the Operating Authority and the Expedition Co-ordinator, groups may be permitted to use Youth hostels. In addition, they form an ideal base for training and for accommodation prior to and at the completion of the qualifying expedition.

Youth hostels on or close to the North York Moors are as follows:

- Boggle Hole 0870 770 5704 bogglehole@yha.org.uk
- Helmsley 0870 770 5860 helmsley@yha.org.uk
- Lockton 0870 770 5938 lockton@yha.org.uk
- Osmotherley 0870 770 5982 osmotherley@yha.org.uk
- Scarborough 0870 770 6022 scarborough@yha.org.uk
- Whitby 0870 770 6088 whitby@yha.org.uk

Dangerous areas

Many parts of the moors have been used as a gunnery and bombing range. It is understood that all parts have been visually cleared by now, but there is no certainty that the area is completely free of dangerous objects. Groups should be warned of this and informed that any metal object seen should NOT be touched and if it has the appearance of a shell or bomb, its position should be marked and the police notified.

The moors, particularly Fylingdale Moor, is the home of the adder, the only poisonous snake in Britain, recognised by a black zig-zag line down its back. If any member of the group is bitten by an adder, he/she should be put at rest and reassured and appropriate first aid techniques applied. Telephone 999 for an ambulance. Rescue will be arranged and the patient will be taken to hospital for treatment.

Ideas for aims

- Historical: Of historical interest within and around The National Park are Helmsley Castle, Pickering Castle, Scarborough Castle, Whitby Abbey, Byland Abbey, Rievaulx Abbey, Rievaulx Temples, Guisborough Priory, Mount Grace Priory and the Roman Road at Wheeldale.
- Geographical studies (e.g.: the effects of glaciation)
- Geological studies (e.g.: the influence of alum, jet, coal, potash)
- Studies of wildlife
- Studies of flora and fauna
- Dereliction of the moors
- Industrial archaeology (particularly around Rosedale)
- Communications on the moors: The North York Moors Steam Railway also passes through the Network's area and the workshops at Grosmont (GR 827051) and the centre at Goathland (GR 838014) are of great interest to the railway enthusiast.
- Industry and landscape in present day
- The effect on tourism
- Survey of pathway erosion
- Forestry
- Drainage patterns

Two basic reference books are:

- National Park Guide No 4 'North York Moors National Park' HMSO.
- Forestry Commission Guide 'North Yorkshire Forests' HMSO.

The above publications can be ordered from: The Education Officer, The Moors Centre, Danby, Whitby, North Yorkshire, YO21 2NB.

Useful links

The Duke of Edinburgh's Award is a Registered Charity No: 1072490, and in Scotland No: SC038254, and a Royal Charter Corporation No: RC000806

- **North Yorkshire Moors National Park Authority** - covering all aspects of the North York Moors and linked to other National Parks - 'working together to sustain the landscape and life of the North York Moors for both present and future generations to enjoy'.
www.moors.uk.net
- **Coast 2 Coast Walk** - The brainchild of Alfred Wainwright, the well-known writer and hill-walker, the Coast to Coast Walk crosses three National Parks, undoubtedly some of England's finest scenery. Starting beside the Irish Sea, you have wonderful walking through the mountains of the Lake District, across the Pennines and down Swaledale. The North York Moors await you and beyond them the east coast. www.coast2coast.co.uk
- **The Cleveland Way** - the official site of this magnificent 110 mile walk on the North York Moors and North Yorkshire Coast - a must for anyone contemplating walking the trail with information on transport and accommodation as well as the walk itself.
www.nationaltrail.co.uk/clevelandway
- **Yorkshirenet** - the internet gateway to the Yorkshire Moors, Wolds and Coast.
www.yorkshirenet.co.uk
- **North Yorkshire Moors Railway** - The North Yorkshire Moors Railway provides some 18 Miles of preserved steam railway running through the spectacular scenery of the North Yorkshire Moors. The line is owned by the North York Moors Historical Railway Trust who have run the line as a living museum since 1974. www.nymr.co.uk
- **The North Yorkshire Moors Association** - the charity aims 'to protect and enhance the characteristic beauty of the North Yorkshire Moors for present and future generations' and offers membership to those 'with a love of the North York Moors and Coast'. www.north-yorkshire-moors.org.uk
- **The North York Moors** - information about the North York Moors and Yorkshire Coast.
www.north-york-moors.com
- **The North York Moors CAM** - photographs and information on the North York Moors
<http://homepage.ntlworld.com/don.burluroux/index.htm>
- **North York Moors National Park, Yorkshire** - what to see and do in the North York Moors
www.britainexpress.com/countryside/North_York_Moors.htm
- **North York Moors View Map** - photographs of the North York Moors www.yorkmoors.com

DofE resources

The current DofE expedition kit list can be downloaded from: www.DofE.org/go/expeditionkit

A range of expedition downloads, such as the Green Form and spare expedition safety cards, can be downloaded from: www.DofE.org/go/downloads

Further information of the Expedition section can be found at: www.DofE.org/expedition

Vouchers for network assessors need to be bought from the DofE Essentials shop accessed through eDofE.