



Yorkshire

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Best Places to Eat

- ➔ Pipe and Glass Inn (p528)
- ➔ Norse (p493)
- ➔ Hare Inn (p500)
- ➔ Crafthouse (p517)
- ➔ Cochon Aveugle (p488)

Best Places to Sleep

- ➔ Millgate House (p513)
- ➔ Windmill (p495)
- ➔ West Park (p492)
- ➔ Art Hostel (p516)

Why Go?

With a population as big as Scotland's and an area half the size of Belgium, Yorkshire is almost a country in itself. It has its own flag, its own dialect and its own celebration, Yorkshire Day (1 August). While local folk are proud to be English, they're even prouder to be natives of 'God's Own County'.

What makes Yorkshire so special? First, there's the landscape – with its brooding moors and green dales rolling down to a dramatic coastline, Yorkshire has some of Britain's finest scenery. Second, there's the sheer breadth of history – every facet of the British experience is represented here, from Roman times to the 21st century.

But Yorkshire's greatest appeal lies in its people. Industrious and opinionated, they have a wry wit and shrewd friendliness. Stay here for a while and you'll come away believing, like the locals, that God is indeed a Yorkshirewoman.

When to Go

- ➔ The weeklong Jorvik Festival in February sees York taken over by a Viking invasion.
- ➔ Spring brings drifts of yellow daffodils to brighten the roadsides in the Dales and North York Moors; the Three Peaks Race takes place in Horton-in-Ribblesdale.
- ➔ Agriculture is celebrated at the Great Yorkshire Show in Harrogate in July. At the same time of year Yorkshire's coastal sea cliffs become a frenzy of nesting seabirds.
- ➔ September is the ideal time for hiking in the Yorkshire Dales; the Walking Festival in Richmond also takes place in this month. York goes all gourmet with its annual 10-day food festival, while Harrogate gets green-fingered during its Autumn Flower Show.

Yorkshire Highlights

1 York (p480)

Exploring the medieval streets of the city and its awe-inspiring cathedral.

2 Yorkshire Dales National Park (p506)

Getting off the beaten track and exploring the lesser-known corners.

3 Fountains Abbey

(p498) Wandering among the atmospheric medieval ruins.

4 Scarborough

(p494) Being beside the seaside, and enjoying this town's traditional bucket-and-spade atmosphere.

5 North Yorkshire Moors Railway

(p501) Riding on one of England's most scenic train lines.

6 Whitby (p502)

Sitting on the pier and tucking into the world's best fish and chips.

7 Castle Howard

(p490) Reliving the story of *Brideshead Revisited* amid the aristocratic splendour.

8 Malham Cove

(p509) Pulling on your hiking boots and tackling the steep paths around this scenic cove.

9 National Coal Mining Museum for England (p521)

Discovering mining's dark side.

10 National Media Museum (p519)

Enjoying the high-tech, hands-on exhibits.

