



Yorkshire

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Best Places to Eat

- » J Baker's Bistro Moderne (p493)
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- » Star Inn (p506)
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Best Places to Stay

- » Millgate House (p519)
- » Devonshire Fell (p515)
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- » Middlethorpe Hall (p491)

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 all the way to the 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 20th 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

In February the week-long Jorvik Festival sees York taken over by a Viking invasion.

In July the Great Yorkshire Show happens in Harrogate, and at the same time of year Yorkshire's coastal sea cliffs become a frenzy of nesting seabirds.

The ideal time for hiking in the Yorkshire Dales is September, and the Walking Festival in Richmond also takes place in this month.

Yorkshire Highlights

- 1 Exploring the medieval streets of **York** (p484) and its awe-inspiring cathedral
- 2 Pulling on your hiking boots and striding out across the moors of the **Yorkshire Dales** (p512)
- 3 Wandering among the atmospheric medieval ruins of **Fountains Abbey** (p502)
- 4 Being beside the seaside at **Scarborough** (p499) with its traditional bucket-and-spade atmosphere
- 5 Riding on the **North Yorkshire Moors Railway** (p507), one of England's most scenic train lines
- 6 Discovering mining's dark side at the **National Coal Mining Museum for England** (p527)
- 7 Enjoying the high-tech, hands-on exhibits at **Bradford's National Media Museum** (p526)

