HORSE RIDING IN THE NORTHERN YORKSHIRE DALES
Swaledale, Arkengarthdale, Lower Wensleydale & Coverdale

NORTHERN YORKSHIRE DALES RIDING ROUTES

These circular rides use existing and well maintained public rights of way which take in some of the most spectacular scenery of the northern Yorkshire Dales including Swaledale, Lower Wensleydale and tributaries. The routes cater for a range of abilities and use mainly bridleways, green lanes and some unclassified county roads. The nature of the countryside in the dales means many of the routes are rugged and hilly. There are limited opportunities to canter but why rush through such fantastic scenery? Local British Horse Society volunteer John Presgrave devised and mapped the routes with the support of Richmondshire and Bedale Bridleway Group, Public Rights of Way team at North Yorkshire County Council & Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority. The bespoke guide maps are specifically designed for horse rider use and provide an easy-to-follow route from a start point which can be reached by horsebox or trailer. Project logos are on occasional way marker and fingerposts. A PDF guide map for each can be downloaded for printout or loaded to most current smartphones via www.northyorks.gov.uk/rides. These routes are also part of the British Horse Society (BHS) National Equestrian Route Network which can be accessed via www.bhs.org.uk. Information on local accommodation and related amenities can also be found by visiting the BHS website, Welcome to Yorkshire and YDNP websites.

NORTHERN YORKSHIRE DALES RIDING CIRCULARS

Applicabilities / Suitabilities / Useful Statistics

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Circular Ride Ref.</th>
<th>Distance (miles) approx.</th>
<th>Applicability</th>
<th>Suitability / degree of difficulty for horse riders</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>R1+2</td>
<td>6° - 21°</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓ ✓ ✓ ✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R3</td>
<td>8 - 11</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓ ✓ ✓ ✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R4</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓ ✓ ✓ ✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R5</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓ ✓ ✓ ✓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>R6</td>
<td>5 - 9</td>
<td>✓</td>
<td>✓ ✓ ✓ ✓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note that by the very nature of the geology of the Northern Yorkshire Dales most of the circular networks will have some degrees of difficulty. It is advisable not to ride alone. * includes Richmond Link. ** Not advisable in adverse weather conditions especially over winter months

The BHS recommends before undertaking any of the above routes, horse & rider should be adequately insured against public liability. The BHS can provide public & personal cover for members. For more information or to join call 02476 840506.

CODE OF RIDING

- Care of the land - please do not stray off the line of the route.
- Courtesy to others - pay heed to walkers, cyclists and car park users.
- Acknowledge courtesy shown by drivers; observe the Highway Code.
- Consider the landowner/farmer - leave gates as you find them, ride slowly past livestock, and observe local and seasonal notices, especially during shooting (Aug - Feb), lambing and bird nesting times.

Following a route
- Descriptions in bespoke guide maps are correct at time of issue, but landmarks or rights of ways may change, and way marking limited esp. in the YDNP.
- Take the relevant OS Explorer 1:25000 (302,304,0L30) and compass.

Packing
- Riders are responsible for finding safe and appropriate parking.
- Start points shown on map do not guarantee suitable parking.

Preparation
- Wear BS standard hard hat, comfortable riding boots and lower leg protection.
- BHS advises riders wear high visibility clothing while riding on roads.
- Carry mobile (limited coverage), money/card, tie up string, head collar and lead rope.
- It is advisable to pack sufficient food and drink and take appropriate clothing.
- Include waterproofs. Transparent A4 map case worn around neck is useful.
- Please be mindful of rapid weather changes especially over high ground.

Feedback
- Report back any route maintenance related problems to NYCC Rights of Way tel: 0845 8727374 or YDNP ranger service tel: 0300 4560030.
R3 Harkerside / Whitaside / Grinton 8-11 miles 2-4 hours
2 circulars both taking in the remote lead mined moors with breath-taking views of Swaledale & pastoral stretches above the river Swale. Some steep, stony sections. Be prepared for weather changes at the higher elevations.

R4 Carlton / Melmerby Moor / West Burton 10 miles 3-4 hours
Circular includes a steep and stony climb out of Walden Beck but affords fantastic vistas along most of its length, including Bishopdale, Coverdale and views across to Great Whernside and over to the North York Moors. Pubs / toilets in Carlton & West Burton. Accommodation at Brough Farm, Middleham, nr. Leyburn (see individual guide map).

R5 Thornton Watlass Circular 9 miles 2-3 hours
A very relaxing ride of few gradients and including green lanes. Quiet road stretches mainly offering wide verges. Especially pleasant by the River Ure and with the bonus of a pub en route in Thornton Watlass.

R6 Langthwaite Circulars 5-9 miles 2-4 hours
2 circulars either side of the impressive but remote Arkengarthdale, both of which scale the lead mined moors using old mining tracks, stony in parts, and pass through the picturesque village of Langthwaite. Pub / refreshments / accommodation at end of both circulars. Circular 2 suitable for most riders. Circular 1 requires focus on terrain and navigation over Windegg Ings.

Please note that the promoted routes depicted are maintained to the best possible standards that the local authorities can afford, and whilst every effort has been made to ensure the routes and structures (i.e gates) are of a good standard at the time of launch, we would be grateful for ongoing feedback to ensure these routes continue to be accessible. Please see overleaf for contact numbers.

Acknowledgements
Routes devised and drawn by John Presgrave
Graphic design by Prontaprint, Darlington
Part funded and added to the National Equestrian Route Network by The British Horse Society
John Presgrave is also the author of Bridleway Rides in the South Pennines published by The South Pennines Packhorse Trails Trust
1998 ISBN 0 9530573 13
Riding Directions (anticlockwise) - continuous yellow line on map

Start point - Marske Beck Bridge
Grid Reference: NZ 103005

1. Proceed east over Marske Beck, L at next T junction, (R1 Richmond Link joins here) keeping L, through G at BW sign, along and through HG at cattle grid, past Clints, through Clints Wood, keeping L at fork (note way marker on L), through HG, uphill and through next HG and onto Orgate Farm.

2. L at Orgate Farm, down steep concrete drive, over stream, uphill through HG, ST and R through G (open).

3. ST along track, through HG, and forking L when Telfit Farm is reached, through HG, up steep and stony track, hairpin L, continuing uphill, through open G, uphill through field keeping wall on R till HG at top (cantering possibilities).

4. Continue uphill, crossing double track (can take short cut L to join circular at here), continuing uphill on grassy track, across Skelton Moor (note Triangulation Point to LHS) until double track from L, and G is reached.

5. Turn L in front of G, meeting and keeping wall on R, gradually descending over trodden but somewhat arduous moorland terrain until double track from L, and G is reached.

6. ST along and down meadow keeping wall on R, through next G, and descend down stony double track, R at road T junction by Foresters Cottage, continuing along road, and L at T junction at end to return to start point (continue along road to follow R1 Richmond Link guide map back to Richmond).
HORSE RIDING IN THE NORTHERN YORKSHIRE DALES
Marske - Mârück - Fremington Edge Circular R2  13 miles, 3-5 hours

Riding Directions: (clockwise)- continuous yellow line on map
Start point:  S Marske Beck
Grid Reference:  NZ103004

1. By Marske Bridge, follow road marked to Leyburn/Richmond, after 1 mile, ignore 1st BW sign R, take next lane R, through G (BW only) and by river on LHS.

2. R at BW sign just prior to Low Oxque Farm, ignoring farmyard on LHS, up past building on RHS, through 3 consecutive BGs, continue uphill following track keeping fence on RHS, through G, then bend L by G on RHS, continuing uphill through G, past disused limekiln on LHS to grassy top.

3. Follow wall on LHS for about ¼ mile, seeking out grassy track forking R, down to bottom track (note BW sign), continue west through series Gs to road.

4. L uphill and down to Marrick, bending R, then L opposite telephone booth, and L again down lane, R at bottom then immediate L down narrow green lane, through G (note BW sign), and R on double track, through Wood House Farm, using double side G at Marrick Priory cattle grid, and onto next road junction.

5. L (note BW sign) along road till next narrow lane on R just prior to main road at Fremington.

6. R up lane, next L, next R, then follow metalled road uphill (steep in parts) until access to White House, forking R (note way sign and WH) continuing up steep stony hill, through G, then very steep in parts, taking left fork just prior to top to lessen gradient (note sign).

7. ST through G at top, along double track (stony in parts) until G and road.

8. R at road (Hurst), R at telephone booth, uphill and L at next BW sign.

9. Down stony track, through 2 cattle grid Gs, and ST where track veers L, crossing very small stream, past way marker ST through open G, up field past old shaft on RHS, (barn on L) to bridle gate at field top.

10. L keeping fence on L, until G on L, then make R up field (note circular water tank on RHS) through open G, and series of sheep pen Gs (all but one are usually open), until end G with BW sign.

11. ST keeping wall on R, gradually descending over trodden but somewhat arduous moorland terrain until G is reached.

12. ST along and down meadow keeping wall on R, through next G, and descend stony double track, R at road by Foresters Cottage, continuing along road and L at T-junction at end to start point. (Continue along road to follow R1 link guide back to Richmond.)

Acknowledgements
The route map and guide has been devised by John Presgrave with the support of the Richmondshire & Bedale Bridleway Group, North Yorkshire County Council Rights of Way team & Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority. Supported by The British Horse Society. Graphic design by Prontaprint Darlington.
www.prontaprint.com/centre/darlington
MARSKE - MARRICK - FREMINGTON EDGE CIRCULAR R2
Approx. 13mls (3-5hrs.) This guide to be used in conjunction with OS Explorer OL30

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These circular routes have been mapped and drawn by John Presgrave