

## **Yorkshire Coast, Forest and Moors**

## Natural History Be-spoke Tour Rutland Natural History Society Mid-July 2020



Atlantic Puffin © Steve Race

1330 onwards	Arrival at the hotel. Our YCN guide will meet you after your check in. A get to know your guide session, this will be followed by a talk about the itinerary discuss any changes and opportunities due to weather, bird sightings etc. with Coffee and biscuits.
1430 - 1730	Afternoon trip into the Great Yorkshire Forest or Top Hill Low NR in search of flowers and scarce butterflies
1830	Evening meal approximately 18.30pm. Followed by Moth trapping session in the grounds of the hotel or nearby in the Great Yorks Forest
Day Two	
0900-1730	Full day birdwatching tour with two YCN expert guides; see destinations below for places we can visit and potential species. Sites will be chosen based on weather, birds present the day before and clients preferences.
2000-2230	1230: Approximate lunch break time each day; a packed lunch and drink will be provided. There will also be opportunities for café and toilet stops during the day as required. Evening meal approximately 6.30pm
	After our meal there will be an opportunity to attend a YCN Nightjar Safari in the Great Yorkshire Forest.
	The moth trap will be set prior to the Nightjar Safari in the grounds of the hotel.
Day Three	
0900-1730	Full day flowers and butterflies tour with two YCN expert guides; see destinations below for places we can visit and potential species. Sites will be chosen based on weather, species present the day before and clients preferences.
2000-2230	Evening lecture by YCN and roundup of the tour, species list photo review and species identification discussion. This is a great opportunity to review what we have seen and share memories.

**Day Four** 

0800-1300

Early breakfast followed by half day birding tour searching for raptors in the Great Yorkshire Forest. Mid-morning is often the best time in our area for raptor watching.

1400

Arrive back at hotel journeys home.

**Destinations can include:** 

Flamborough Bird Observatory

Scarborough Castle and Harbour

**Filey Bird Observatory** 

**North York Moors** 

The Great Yorkshire Forests

Using minibus transport the group will be taken to a range of locations within the East and North Ridings of Yorkshire. From wild seascapes of Scarborough, Flamborough and Filey, the fantastic Great Yorkshire Forest to the heather moorland of the North York Moors NP, there are many beautiful sights at this time of year.

At Bempton RSPB and Flamborough Cliffs YWT reserves we will be viewing the packed ledges and terraces of the dramatic, 400-foot high cliffs where **Gannets**, **Guillemots**, **Razorbills**, **Puffins**, **Fulmars**, **Kittiwakes** and **Shags** go to and fro in their hundreds of thousands. We also have some other wonderful local breeding birds such as **Corn Bunting** and **Peregrine Falcon**.

Flowers in the Great Yorkshire Forest and Heather Moorland include wonderful displays of Orchids; Common Spotted Orchid, Pyramidal Orchid, scarce species such as Butterfly Orchid, Fragrant Orchid and rare species such as Narrow-leaved Marsh Orchid. Butterflies and day flying moths in the area in mid-July include Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary, Dark Green Fritillary, Large Heath, Small Argent and Sable etc.

The North Yorkshire Forests are one of the top five places in England to see forest birds. Common species including **Kestrel**, **Nuthatch**, **Marsh Tit**, **Common Buzzard and Sparrowhawk** should be seen and potentially, scarcer birds such as **Northern Goshawk**, **European Honey Buzzard**, **Common Crossbill**, **Marsh and Willow Tit** and **Turtle Dove** are often seen and will be a top priority for our YCN guides.

With up to the minute news our timetable may change. The unpredictability of east coast birding and natural history is all part of the fun! The precise locations will depend upon weather conditions and the local and up-to-the-minute knowledge of our leaders and our many wildlife contacts in the area.





Northern Goshawk in North Yorkshire © Richard Baines

Two guides from **Richard Baines**, **Margaret Boyd**, **Steve Race** or **Mark Pearson** (see our web site yorkshirecoastnature.co.uk for profiles) will be leading this tour.

YCN expert local guides will work hard to ensure memorable experiences. We will ensure you have an opportunity to learn a great deal on the tour from **identification tips** to **field craft and photography advice**.

During each day your guide will talk through the best identification features for each species and impart knowledge on habitat and life-cycle. We are committed to giving each client the best possible learning experience on the day. If there is any species you would particularly like to see, please let us know.

## **Please Bring**

Warm, waterproof clothing, stout footwear and, if you have them, binoculars. We do have a limited number of high-quality Leica binoculars for hire at £10.00/day; please let us know if you need a pair. A telescope will be available on the tour for closer views of the birds.

## **Please Note**

The tour may include some walking on rough ground. If you have a medical condition, physical or sensory impairment or learning difficulty which is relevant to the event, please let us know. Every effort will be made to conduct the tour; however, in exceptional circumstances such as severe weather, Yorkshire Coast Nature reserves the right to cancel the tour at short notice. In the event of cancellation by YCN, a full refund of the tour costs will be made. If you have any queries prior to the tour please call Richard on 07747753260.



Heath Spotted orchid North Yorkshire © Richard Baines



Small Pearl-bordered Fritillary in North Yorkshire © Dan Lombard



North York Moors National Park panorama © Richard Baines