

easygoingroute 2.7km (1.7 miles) famous landmark, gentle rises

Sutton Bank & the White Horse

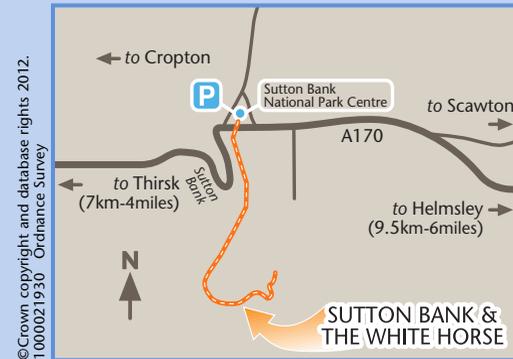
LIMESTONE HORSE OF THE NORTH!

The White Horse of Kilburn, the most northerly turf-cut figure in Britain, is one of the most famous landmarks in North Yorkshire. The Horse is huge – 96 metres (314 feet) long and 70 metres (228 feet) high. In fact, 24 people could sit on the patch of grass which forms the beast's eye! The Horse dates back to 1857 when under the direction of John Hodgson 31 local men cleared scrub and cut turf to expose the underlying rock.

Unlike the chalk figures found in the south of England, the Kilburn Horse is cut in limestone – a dull grey coloured rock. To make it more visible 600 buckets of limewash were lugged up the steep hillside to whiten the limestone. Today the Horse is regularly 'groomed' by the Kilburn White Horse Association.

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LOCATION MAP



HOW TO GET THERE

The trail begins at the Sutton Bank National Park Centre. You'll find the Centre on the A170 at the top of the very steep Sutton Bank – 9km (5.5 miles) east of Thirsk and 12km (7.5 miles) west of Helmsley. There is pay and display parking available at the Centre – including space specifically reserved for disabled drivers.

VIEWS TO REMEMBER

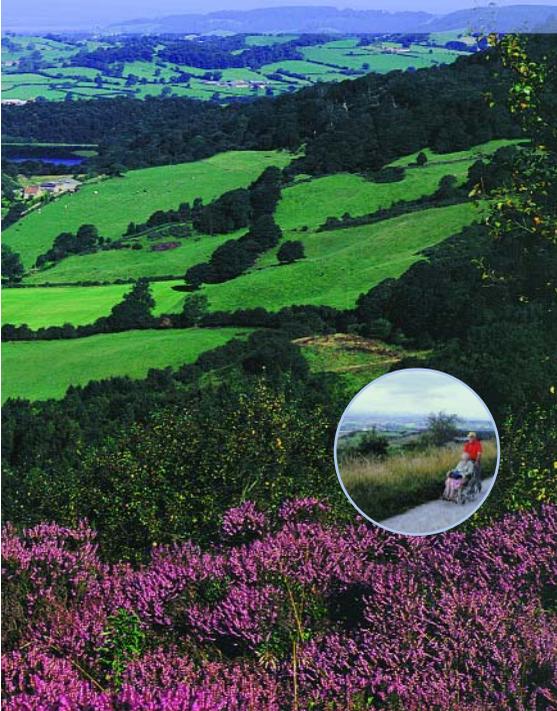
Just imagine – soaring and gliding way above the North York Moors, the curves and features of the landscape laid out before you!

Members of the Yorkshire Gliding Club have flocked to Sutton Bank since 1933 to take advantage of the air rising up and over the escarpment edge which you are travelling along. In fact, the shape of the land is so suitable here that the Club altitude record stands at over 10,000 metres (33,000 feet)!

famous landmark, gentle rises

easygoingroute 2.7km (1.7 miles)

North York Moors
National Park



Sutton Bank & the White Horse

0 300m

- P** Parking
- S** Seating
- Accessible route
- Viewpoint

Grid reference:
SE 516 831

This old favourite takes you to the top of the most northerly white horse in England. The path is directly above the White Horse so you can't see much of it from here but the route gives you ample opportunity to savour one of the finest views in England.

NEAREST FACILITIES

RADAR accessible toilets are available at the National Park Centre.



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ROUTE DESCRIPTION

Linear route of 2.7km (there and back). From the Sutton Bank Centre cross the car park and the main road (take CARE!) Take the path along the scarp edge all the way to the White Horse. Beyond the Horse the route continues to a lay by with space for three cars (additional parking may be available across the road) – you could arrange to be picked up here.

PATH DETAILS

The path has a hard, compacted surface. The route rises gently in places with a gradient of no more than 1 in 12. Along some stretches the path follows an unfenced cliff edge – care needed.

Please remember that it is never safe to venture onto the field. Gliders approach the field from any direction and are of course silent, so you will have no warning to get out of the way!