



27 NORTH YORKSHIRE ROSEBERRY TOPPING

▶ Distance: 6 miles/9.7km ▶ Time: 3½ hours ▶ Grade: Moderate



YORKSHIRE'S MATTERHORN



CHOSEN BY...
PAUL KIRKWOOD

It's known as Yorkshire's Matterhorn. I call it the toddlers' first mountain, ideal for little legs with big ambitions. But, whatever its name, Roseberry Topping (it sounds like something you'd put on your dessert) – provides an irresistible allure for motorists bound for the coast on the A172.

The ease of access, brevity of ascent and its volcanic profile all combine to make

this one of the most popular walks in northern England, as evidenced by the graffiti etched into every rock and scrawled onto the trig point. Outside of winter, this is a route for families, trainers and dogs. Descend east to the moors beyond, though, the crowds soon disperse and you can have the area largely to yourself. The route includes two lesser-known highlights. One is a Second World War installation called a starfish decoy. Taking its name from

the initials SF for 'special fire', it was the control bunker for tanks that were filled with liquid, ignited then quenched. The process created steam to give the impression of a burning city to approaching German bombers, hoping to encourage them to drop bombs on the moors rather than Teesside.

The other novelty is Hanging Stone. It's worth the minor diversion to create your own *Lion King* moment with views stretching to the sea at Redcar. ➔

PHOTO: TOM BAILEY

A wintry Roseberry Topping.



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► OS Explorer map OL26 ► Buy maps at: ordnancesurvey.co.uk/shop



1 Start
From car park walk up gravel track. Go through gate then turn R and immediately fork L. Turn L at next fork at bridleyway sign. Leave wood via kissing gate and follow broad grassy path past stone shelter on R. Pass through second kissing gate and follow paved path to summit.

2 1 mile/0.6km
With view of Teesside at your back, head down eastern flank on steep, windy path with wall on R. Go through bridlegate and fork R onto stony track. At National Trust sign for Newton Moor strike out L across heather, initially to R of lone fir tree and pond aiming 200 yards to R of rocky

outcrop. (A path is indicated on map but indiscernable). As you approach outcrop head towards standing stone to R which comes into view. Maintain easterly direction, descending to sandy track. You should meet it close to Starfish decoy (barely marked on OS map: NZ 602124).

3 2.9 miles/4.7km
At track turn L. At end go through bridlegate and turn L onto bridleyway. Just before National Trust sign for Newton Moor turn R down sandy track in plantation. As track bears sharp L turn R down narrow footpath to Hanging Stone.

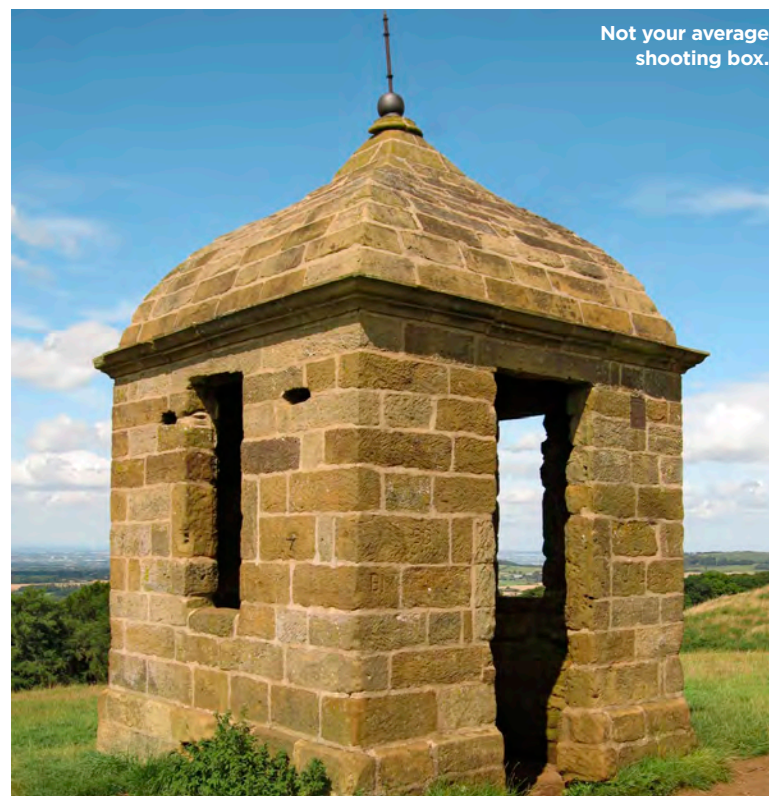
4 4.1 miles/6.6km
Retrace steps to track, turn

DON'T MISS...



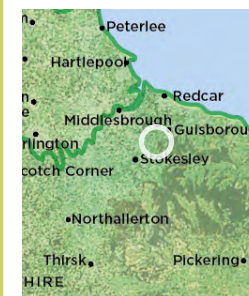
The late 18th-century shooting box found on the approach to Roseberry Topping.

R and immediately R again down winding path. At track turn R and at next junction turn sharp L. Fork and bear L on stony track. Pass through two bridlegates. Straight after the second gate turn R onto minor path. Continue ahead as path joins bridleyway coming from L and contours around base of Topping. Pass through bridlegate then R onto track you started on. **CW**



Not your average shooting box.

PLAN YOUR WALK



ROUTE

Start/parking Newton under Roseberry car park, postcode TS9 6QS, grid ref NZ570128. £4.80/day. Contactless pay available

Is it for me? Includes off-piste stretch (1.2km) across heather requiring good navigation skills
Stiles: None

PLANNING

Nearest town Guisborough
Refreshments The Kings Head Inn, Newton under Roseberry (inncollectiongroup.com/kings-head-inn)

Public toilets At car park
Public transport Bus 18 Saltburn-Stokesley, Mon-Fri (coathamcoaches.co.uk)
Map OS Explorer OL26; Landranger 93



PHOTO: PAUL KIRKWOOD

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A mini-Matterhorn with commanding views.



PHOTO: PAUL KIRKWOOD

GRADIENT PROFILE



DATE WALKED
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

TIME TAKEN
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

YOUR RATING
○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

VIEW THE WALK ON OS MAPS ONLINE:

walk1000miles.co.uk/cwroutes

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