



18 NORTH YORKSHIRE ROSEBERRY TOPPING

▶ Distance: 6½ miles/10.5km ▶ Time: 3½ hours ▶ Grade: Moderate

SEE
FEATURE
ON PAGE 41

The distinctive profile
of Roseberry Topping.

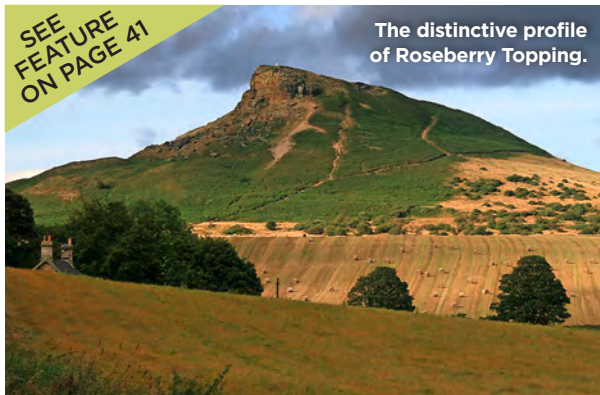


PHOTO: DENNIS KELSALL

PLAN YOUR WALK



ROUTE

Start/parking Car Park at top of High Street grid ref NZ562106

Is it for me? Field, moor and woodland paths, some lanes

Stiles Several

PLANNING

Nearest town Great Ayton

Refreshments The Royal Oak, Great Ayton

Public toilets Great Ayton

Public transport Buses and trains to Great Ayton

Maps OS Explorer OL26; Landranger 93



CHOSEN BY...

DENNIS KELSALL

As a lad, James Cook lived in the shadow of Roseberry Topping at Aireyholm Farm, where his father was foreman, and he would undoubtedly have scamped up and down the hill countless times. Although only 320m high, it presents a curious and inviting profile, sometimes likened to the Matterhorn. Until the early 20th century, it rose in a neat cone, but extensive mining for ironstone and alum caused its western face to slump, leaving the iconic craggy edge seen today. With a satisfying walk to the top revealing panoramic views, it deserves inclusion in anyone's list of 'favourite hills.'

1 Start

Exiting car park, follow main street R past junction. After 100m, leave through kissing gate on R. Pass through trees and walk on at edge of fields, crossing drive and continuing below Cleveland Lodge to shortly meet railway. Cross and follow track opposite. Keep ahead over drive, rising gently at edge of final field towards a wooded hillside.

2 1 mile/1.6km

Entering trees, walk up to broad path. Cross R and follow slanting path up across slope. Emerging into another field at top, go L to stile. Climb away by R boundary, continuing in next field toward cottage. Swing L before it to the reach

the second of two gates.

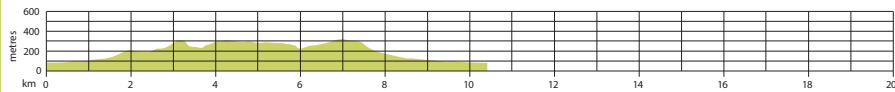
The way now lies clear towards Roseberry Topping. Approaching upper slopes, you can mitigate the steepness of the final ascent along a path that winds up the eastern flank.

3 1¼ miles/2.8km

Leave summit along clear

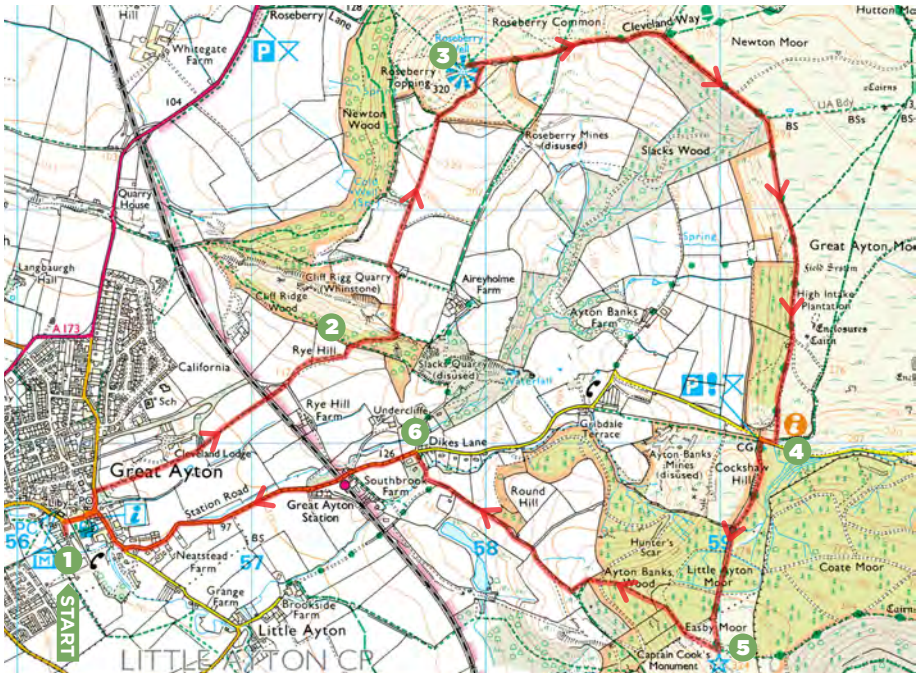


GRADIENT PROFILE



18 NORTH YORKSHIRE ROSEBERRY TOPPING

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



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path heading east, which soon zigzags down to Roseberry Common. Keep ahead by wall and later past edge of forest, climbing to gate onto edge of Newton Moor. Bear R above plantation and follow Cleveland Way along scarp for some 2km before dropping to lane and parking area at Gribdale Gate.

4 **3¼ miles/6km**
Go R and L through gate with Cleveland Way to follow rising track through regenerating forest. Emerging from trees, keep ahead across open moor to tall column of the Captain Cook Monument.

5 **4¼ miles/6.8km**
Turn away sharp R on a clear path across the heather, shortly passing through a gap in a wall to continue beside a fallen boundary. At the corner, fork L and then keep R to drop across the hillside. Lower down, the way descends quite steeply before reaching a broad track contouring the bank. Cross and continue downhill more easily, passing out through a wall to meet another track lower down. Follow it away to R. Eventually becoming a lane, it ends at junction with Dikes Lane.

6 **5½ miles/8.4km**
Go L, following the main lane past Great Ayton Station and later keeping R back into the village. The Schoolroom Museum is to the L, beyond the car park and pub. **CW**

TRAILZILLA ID:
TZID31050

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