

EXPLORING YORK

Exploring York and all that it has to offer has never been so easy.

We've routes for all ages and abilities, ready and waiting for you to explore.

Whilst you're out and about, remember let's be respectful and patient of others. Let's keep as safe as possible by following social distancing measures.

Heworth Holme and Tang Hall Beck trail

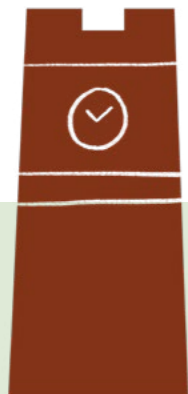
 Distance
1 mile

 Est. Time
30 mins

If you're planning to travel to, from and through York we want to make sure you have access to travel information that will help keep you safe and be able to plan your journey.

You can explore information about active travel and its benefits by downloading our Cycle route maps, Walking Guides and information on our popular Urban Cycle Skills Sessions at www.itravelyork.info

For further information on how to explore York safely go to www.visitYork.org



Is it a bird?

You may hear some singing coming from the undergrowth... it's not a bird, but a grasshopper! With strong back legs for jumping, they rub them against the sides of their body to produce a song which they use to attract a mate. Grasshoppers have their ears at the tail-end of their body (the abdomen) but their weird relatives, crickets, have ears in their front legs!



Heworth Holme







Heworth Holme is formed of six acres of wet grassland alongside the Tang Hall Beck and a small wood on higher ground. It's a remnant of old countryside in the town, protected from development by its regular winter flooding. Look out for tawny owls hunting over grassland, kingfishers along the beck, spotted woodpeckers drumming on hollow trees and water voles rustling amongst the long grass.



Ladybirds

Along the trail you're bound to spot a ladybird. Amongst the best known and most popular insects, ladybirds are easy to recognise, with the most familiar species having a bright red colour with either two or seven spots. The bright colour warns predators that ladybirds have a bitter taste.

How many different types of leaves can you find?

- | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
|  |  |  |  |
| <input type="radio"/> Alder | <input type="radio"/> Ash | <input type="radio"/> Beech | <input type="radio"/> Rowan |
|  |  |  | <input type="radio"/> |
| <input type="radio"/> Sycamore | <input type="radio"/> Oak | <input type="radio"/> Birch | <input type="radio"/> |

Living history

When the Romans came to Britain they brought their favourite crops and medicinal plants with them as well as livestock and even pets. Later invaders brought more. Victorian plant collectors undertook dangerous journeys for spectacular plants – many of these can now be found growing in the wild. Common introduced species include the grey squirrel and the butterfly bush – also known as buddleia.



Did you spot any birdlife on your walk?

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="radio"/> Blackbird | <input type="radio"/> Greenfinch |
| <input type="radio"/> Blue tit | <input type="radio"/> House martin |
| <input type="radio"/> Bullfinch | <input type="radio"/> Robin |
| <input type="radio"/> Chaffinch | <input type="radio"/> Swallow |
| <input type="radio"/> Chiffchaff | <input type="radio"/> Swift |
| <input type="radio"/> Goldfinch | <input type="radio"/> Whitethroat |
| <input type="radio"/> Great tit | <input type="radio"/> Willow warbler |
| <input type="radio"/> Great-spotted woodpecker | <input type="radio"/> Vulture!? |
| | <input type="radio"/> |



Wanted dead or alive!

Whilst living trees are important for wildlife, dead and dying trees are just as important. Bats nest in the cavities of old trees, and woodpeckers feed on the insects found under the bark of decaying trees. At Heworth Holme you'll see many fallen logs – these are home to many beetles, fungi (mushrooms) and a host of other small creatures.



Tang Hall Beck

The trail follows Tang Hall Beck. The name 'Tang Hall' is derived from the Anglo Saxon 'Tang', which means the meeting place of two becks (Osbalwick and Tang Hall beck).

