

Take a trip to the coast

“Sweeping golden sands and stunning coastal scenery”

East Yorkshire boasts the beautiful Heritage Coast, with award-winning beaches, clean sea and sand, and stunning scenery.

From the sweeping golden sands of seaside towns such as Hornsea and Bridlington, to the spectacular sites of Spurn Point, Bempton Cliffs and Flamborough Headland, there's plenty to please those who want to sit back and sunbathe, as well as those who want to watch the wonders of coastal wildlife.

Six coastal walks take in the views of lighthouses, fishing boats, and cliff tops bursting with wildflowers, all above bays perforated with rock pools and speckled with fossils.

Bridlington

Boasting sandy beaches, award-winning promenades and a historic harbour, Bridlington really does offer something for everyone.

A seaside town steeped in history, a 900-year-old working harbour is its heartbeat, but it also boasts one of Britain's most complete Georgian High Streets, lovingly restored as an historic quarter where cobbled streets are edged with antique emporiums and art galleries.

Traditional seaside shops selling rock and home-made fudge, shells and nautical oddments are always popular, as are the specialist food stores, tearooms and restaurants along the seafront, where there are also plenty of rides to keep the kids entertained.

Hornsea

Hornsea has a lovely sandy beach, a busy promenade, amusements and plenty of attractions for all the family.

The town centre is home to numerous independent shops and tea rooms with some irresistible homemade tea and cake, whilst Hornsea Freeport Shopping Village offers everything from big name fashion brands to bargains at the lowest prices.

For those seeking a little peace and tranquility, Hornsea Mere, Yorkshire's largest freshwater lake and RSPB reserve, is perfect for a picnic. For the more adventurous, it offers a chance to enjoy watersports such as sailing, rowing and motorboat trips.

Withernsea

A traditional holiday resort sporting an attractive promenade and seafront. Its famous lighthouse towers above the houses, some 127 feet high.

At the top is the lamp room, reached by 144 steps, while at its base is a museum telling the story of Withernsea's relationship with the sea and the lives saved by the RNLI and coastguards.

Other coastal attractions

Wassand Hall

Situated between Seaton and Hornsea, Wassand Hall contains a collection of 18th and 19th century paintings and portraits of past owners and their relations, as well as a collection of English and European silver, furniture and porcelain from the same period.

The house, gardens and parks are open on selected days during the summer, when teas are available in the fine conservatory in beautifully planted walled gardens.

Sewerby Hall and Gardens

Situated in a dramatic cliff-top position with spectacular views over Bridlington and set in 50 acres of early 19th Century parkland, Sewerby Hall and Gardens offers something for

everyone from the magnificent award-winning gardens to the deep rooted heritage of the grand hall.

The on-site zoo is home to a fascinating collection of animals and birds, while a children's adventure playground has an exciting nautical theme to appeal to children of all ages.

For sport-lovers there is a nine-hole pitch and putt golf course, 18-hole putting green, a FootGolf course as well as Crown Green Bowling.

Bempton Cliffs

Recognised by the RSPB (Royal Society for the Protection of Birds) as the best place in England to see breeding seabirds.

Bempton's three miles of 400ft high cliffs play host to more than 200,000 seabirds.

Between April and mid-August especially, visitors can view gannets, puffins, razorbills, fulmars and kittiwakes from safe vantage points on the cliff tops.

Flamborough Headland

A unique sea and cliff environment, Flamborough Headland is protected as a Site of Special Scientific Interest, and its seabird colonies mark it as a Special Protection Area. The offshore environment has been identified as a Sensitive Marine Area and a Special Area of Conservation. The reserve is part of the Flamborough Headland Heritage Coast.

Several features of archaeological interest remain well preserved, with signs of medieval ridge and furrow farming technique visible in the fields. More recent history can be seen on the cliff path with concrete WW2 pillboxes positioned to defend against the threat of invasion.

The present lighthouse was built in 1806, becoming automated in 1996 to show four white flashes every 15 seconds. The old Flamborough lighthouse is a 1673 constructed chalk beacon tower, thought to be the oldest building of its type in England.

In 2002 the area was designated a Local Nature Reserve in recognition of its wildlife value and importance to the local community.