



# Ravenscar:

'the town that never was'

Walk



2 miles



1 1/2 hours



National Trust



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## Find out more:

**Ravenscar Visitor Centre**  
**Address:** Peakside Ravenscar, Scarborough YO13 ONE  
**Telephone:** 01723 870138  
**Free entry.** Open weekends year-round. Open daily during school holidays and from Easter until the end of November.

**Turn right into Church Road and walk along until you reach Church Road Farm on your right. 8**

In the late 1800s this was the post office. A few paces on you come to Boundary Edge and Moorcliffe on your left. This plot was originally purchased by Sarah Butler from Peterborough. Developers envisaged houses on both sides of this road. Opposite the cricket field are two semi-detached properties, Ravenhurst and Ranworth. These formed the Estate Office.

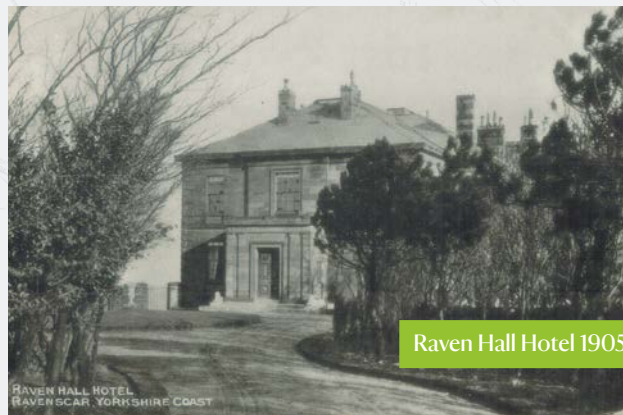
**At the end of Church Road turn right into Raven Hall Road, past St Hilda's Church. 9**

The church's stained glass windows were salvaged from the fire-ravaged Palace of Westminster by local philanthropist William Hammond.

**Follow Raven Hall Road. After the last house on your left, turn left into Crag Hill Road. 10**

Craghill, on the corner, was one of the Estate's show houses. The land on your right would also have been plots. From here you get a great view of Raven Hall Hotel's golf course, where you can see the scars of Briton Road, Dane Road and Saxon Road.

**Follow the rough path down the hill until you reach the bridge. Take care on the slippery stones and uneven ground.**



Raven Hall Hotel 1905

**Plot 11, originally called 'Corbie', is now known as Ness Hall**



**Take the steps down the left-hand side of the bridge, turn right at the bottom to pass under the bridge and on to the Cinder Track. 11**

With the bridge as a frame you'll get a view of Bay View and Glen Villa, built on plot 63.

**Travel along the track until you reach a junction. Turn right towards Ravenscar. 12**



To your left is a clear view of Robin Hood's Bay with the remains of Peak Alum Works in the foreground. Spot bricks in the path's base made at Ravenscar's brickworks, which was set up to provide building material for the new town.

**13 Walk up the incline until you reach a gap in the wall on your right. Climb the three steps and look to your left for a glimpse of the disused railway tunnel (no longer accessible).**

**Return to the track and head up the hill. Finish back at the visitor centre for well-deserved refreshments.**

In the late 1800s, there were grand plans to build a new seaside resort at Ravenscar. Maps were drawn up, sewers laid and roads were built by the Ravenscar Estate Company. Around 1,300 plots of building land were created and in ten years around 700 plots were sold. However, only a handful of the houses were built.

**This walk explores 'the town that never was'.**

- Route
- P Roadside parking
- WC Public toilets
-  **Moderate terrain, uneven and slippery in places.** Sturdy shoes recommended. Not suitable for wheelchairs.
-  Please keep dogs under close control

## Step back in time

Turn left out of the visitor centre, pass Raven Hall Hotel on your left and walk 100 yards to a white building on your right called Raven Lea. **1**

Raven Lea was originally Plot 635. This was sold in 1898 to Edwin Ackroyd who also bought three adjacent plots but didn't complete his purchases. The four plots were earmarked for shops, but instead resold to Alfred Lloyd in 1924.

Opposite Raven Lea look for the Cleveland Way, signposted to Hayburn Wyke. Follow this route, once known as Hammond Road, until you reach the cliff edge. **2**

Look out for drain covers and kerbstones laid in preparation for the new town.

Instead of following the coastal path, turn and head back up the lane a few paces.

Just before the water treatment plant, turn left and go through a large wooden gate. Follow the rough path next to the hedge. This is Marine Esplanade. **3**

There were plans to build over forty grand villas here, with more intended near the top of the cliff. Can you spot the drain covers and kerbstones beneath the grass?

Pass a white painted house on your right. **4**

Cliff House was built in 1899 and sold to William Rusby of Leeds. Further along Marine Esplanade you'll pass Ness Hall, which was built by the Estate and sold to Sydney Hammond Carter.

Carry on until the track bends to your right. **5**

Marine Esplanade would have continued along the cliff top. Notice a short path to your left. It leads to the site of another covered seating area and steps down to the 'beach' which have long since disappeared. This area is now inaccessible, please remain on the track.

Bear right and carry on into Station Square. **6**

On your left, up a short track, you'll see the former Station Master's house, built in 1897. To your right are houses and a café. These stand where a row of shops and a hotel were proposed in 1896.

Go straight on and up the steps to the station platform. At the top, turn left and walk towards the wooden gate at the end. Just before the gate, turn right, and pass the 'permissive path only' sign at the bottom of Loring Road. **7**

On your left are four houses built as show houses. Look out for more drain covers and kerbstones. Fifty houses were due to be built here; Derwent Road, Arnold Road and St Hilda's Road would have run off at right angles.

Walk to the top of Loring Road.



Beware – cliff edge

Start: Ravenscar Visitor Centre