In the Dales

What, Where, Why

YORKSHIRE DALES
National Park

The Yorkshire Dales is one of 15 National Parks in the UK

Can you name them?

- 10 in England: Broads, Dartmoor, Exmoor, Lake District, New Forest, Northumberland, North York Moors, Peak District, South Downs, Yorkshire Dales
- 2 in Scotland: Cairngorms, Loch Lomond & the Trossachs
- 3 in Wales: Eryri (Snowdonia), Pembrokeshire Coast, and Bannau Brycheiniog (Brecon Beacons).

National Parks are large special areas of countryside that are designated for the benefit of everyone, because of their natural beauty, diverse wildlife habitats, opportunities for recreation, and cultural history.

National Park Authorities have specific purposes, which are:

- To conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage
- To promote opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of national parks by the public.

Each National Park has its own National Park Authority, but they do not own all of the land within it.

What do you know about the Yorkshire Dales National Park?

- It was created in 1954
- It covers 2,179 square kilometres
- It includes parts of three counties: Cumbria, Lancashire and North Yorkshire,
- Approximately 24,000 people live in the National Park.



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Why should I visit?

People visit the National Park because it is a special place.

- The wellbeing benefits of spending time in the outdoors and taking time to notice nature are well documented. The Yorkshire Dales is a great place for activities such as walking, caving and cycling, it is home to the peaks of **Pen-y-ghent, Ingleborough** and **Whernside**, known collectively as the **Yorkshire Three Peaks**.
- There are dozens of spectacular waterfalls, including the world famous **Aysgarth Falls** which featured alongside **Hardraw Force** in the hit movie *'Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves'* (1991).
- Some of the best examples of classic limestone scenery can be found in the Yorkshire Dales, including **Malham Cove,** which featured in *'Harry Potter & the Deathly Hallows: Part 2' (*2011).
- The stunning dark sky of the Yorkshire Dales National Park is one of its very special qualities, and each year we hold a festival to celebrate it.
- Stone-built villages sit amongst traditional farming landscapes of field barns, drystone walls and flower-rich hay meadows, and show how the area has been shaped over thousands of years by the people who have lived and worked here.
- Around 42% of the area of the National Park is moorland, which is internationally important for wildlife, plant species, and the carbon the moors store as peat.
- The National Park is home to nationally and internationally important landscapes and wildlife, including red squirrels, peregrine falcons, and lady's-slipper orchids.



More information

Yorkshire Dales National Park is an amazing place to visit and there are many fantastic places to explore

Be inspired by our suggestions, whether you are visiting in spring, summer, autumn or winter
www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/top-10-things-to-do

and find out where to go and what to see
www.yorkshiredales.org.uk/attractions

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