

<p>Distance: Approx 6.5 miles</p> <p>Time Taken: Approx 3 hours</p> <p>Terrain: Woodland paths, farmland and good clear footpaths.</p> <p>Total ascent / descent: 1282ft 391m</p> <p>Dog Friendliness: There is some crossing farmland which tends to house cattle and sheep so dogs should be kept on leads. There is a short section of road as well.</p> <p>Toilets / Refreshments: Toilets in the car park. Selection of pubs and cafes in Great Ayton. There is a pub next to the car park at Roseberry Topping.</p> <p>Parking: Car Park at the bottom of Roseberry topping. Charges apply.</p> <p>OS Maps: OL26</p>	<p>Captain Cooks Monument – Roseberry Topping</p> <p>Background: Roseberry Topping is a distinctive hill in North Yorkshire. Its summit has a distinctive half-cone shape with a jagged cliff which has given it the nickname of mini matterhorn. Its unique shape is partly due to local geology and partly due to the collapse that occurred in 1912.</p> <p>Captain Cooks Monument was erected in memory of the famous circumnavigator who lived in Great Ayton as a young boy. The monument was built in 1827 by Robert Campion, a banker from Whitby.</p> <p>Route Description: We started in Roseberry Topping car park, we didn't ascend Roseberry Topping this time but went round to Captain Cooks Monument first and then approached Roseberry Topping from behind for our descent.</p> <p>After walking up the farm track to the top gate where the ascent of Roseberry Topping normally starts take the path on the right through the woods instead of the usual left handed or straight up path. The paths on this route are clearly defined but can be quite uneven in the woods due to the tree roots so take care on this part.</p> <p>Once you come out of the woods you reach the fields of Aireyholme farm, again the footpaths are marked clearly. There are normally just sheep in these fields but do watch out for bulls. Once you reach the farm buildings take a right towards the old quarries and another wooded area. Once out of here you will reach a road. Follow the road for around half a mile until you reach the footpath marker across another field at Ayton Bank mines and a small car park. At the car park take a right onto the path to ascend to Captain Cooks Monument. This path is quite steep and can be tiring for children and those who aren't as active but the path is a good path.</p> <p>Once you have reached the monument, descend the same route (there are others if you fancy something different) and once you reach the small car park again ascend the path directly in front of you. Follow this path all the way to the back of Roseberry Topping. You can take a number of paths at this point, you can follow our route to the right and go around Roseberry Topping, or go to the top and descend from the left or right and there is also an option to go around to the left.</p> <p>All of these routes are clear and well defined and will take you back to the car park at the start. There is normally an ice cream van in the car park if you want a post walk treat, there is also a pub next to the car park or you can head back into Great Ayton for refreshments if you wish.</p> <p>Points of Interest: The Cleveland Way forms part of this route, Captain Cooks Monument, Captain Cooks schoolroom museum (Great Ayton), and All Saints Church (Great Ayton).</p>
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