ETAPE DU DALES - £180

24th April 2020 - 27th April 2020 (4 days)

This is a fixed centre tour based at Hawes Youth Hostel in Wensleydale in the Yorkshire Dales National Park. The tour will take in the route of the classic Etape du Dales sportive, 175km and 3,500m of climbing, which can be split neatly over 2 days. The route covers a number of famous Yorkshire Dales climbs including Fleet Moss and the Buttertubs and will take in the spectacular Ribblehead viaduct. The tour will be mostly on quiet roads with superb scenery and plenty of good cafes. This tour is suitable for riders with a good level of fitness who enjoy hilly terrain and spectacular scenery.

HOLIDAY TYPE: Guided
TOUR MANAGER: Lynn Bland
GRADE: Challenging
BOOKING STATUS: Places Available
ACCOMMODATION: Hostel
BOARD BASIS: Some Meals
TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS: Land Only
ROAD / OFF ROAD: Road
HOLIDAY STYLE: Centre-based
VEHICLE SUPPORT: Carry Own Luggage
HOLIDAY REF NO: 03453

Holiday Itinerary

Friday 24th April
Arrive Hawes Youth Hostel from 5pm onwards. Stay 3 nights. Meals: None

Saturday 25th April
Depart the hostel at 9am for led ride, climbing out of Hawes over the Buttertubs Pass to Swaledale, then climb back up to the isolated Tan Hill pub. Continue through Keld and Kirkby Stephen, along the valley to Garsdale Head, then either back to Hawes or a steep climb up by Dent Station over into Dentdale and back to Hawes. Approx 50/60 (hilly) miles. Meals: B D

Sunday 26th April
Depart the hostel at 9am for led ride past the Ribblehead viaduct then through Horton in Ribblesdale and Stainforth. Up and over to Halton Gill, Arncliffe, Conistone, Kettlewell and Buckden, finishing by climbing Fleet Moss and enjoying a spectacular descent back into Hawes. Approx 50 miles. Meals: B D

Monday 27th April
Half day ride, then return to the hostel for 1pm when the tour ends. Meals: B

Meals: B = Breakfast  D = Dinner
Holiday Summary

Accommodation & Meals
The hostel has 52 beds in rooms for 2-8 people, a cycle store, drying room, self catering kitchen and is licensed. Our accommodation will be in small dormitories (2 or 3 beds), with bedding provided. Friday dinner isn’t included but is available at the hostel.

Vehicle Support
There is no vehicle support.

Travel Insurance
Obtaining travel insurance is optional for UK residents as your Cycling UK membership provides third party cover. However, this does not cover any other risks such as cancellation charges, personal injury or lost property. We therefore strongly recommend that suitable insurance is taken out to safeguard against such risks. Members who do not reside in the UK are not covered for third party and are advised to obtain suitable cover before leaving their normal residence. If you already have an annual policy, you may need to confirm that it will cover a UK holiday or make provision for it to do so.

Price
The price of £180 is based on a minimum number of 10 people taking part in the holiday; please note Booking Conditions, clause 3. If there are insufficient bookings by 14th February 2020, we will contact you and return all monies paid, although in certain circumstances the holiday may still run at below minimum numbers but at the same price.

Price Includes
- 3 nights hostel, sharing dormitory (max 2 or 3 beds)
- 3 breakfasts, 2 dinners
- CTC Cycling Holidays & Tours costs

Price Does Not Include
- Travel to and from Hawes
- Friday night dinner
- Drinks with dinner
- Lunches or refreshments at morning and afternoon stops
- Entry fees at any attractions visited
- Any other personal expenses
- Travel Insurance

Payment Schedule
A deposit of £90 per person is payable upon booking, with the final balance of £90 per person to be paid ten weeks prior to departure, by 14th February 2020.

Cancellations
Should you be forced to cancel your booking for any reason you must notify us in writing. Cancellation charges are as follows:

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<th>Written notice received:</th>
<th>Cancellation charge:</th>
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<tr>
<td>Before 14th February 2020</td>
<td>Deposit (£90)</td>
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<tr>
<td>From 14th February 2020 through to departure</td>
<td>100% (£180)</td>
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Additional Information

Area Covered By The Holiday
The Yorkshire Dales National Park covers 680 miles straddling the central Pennines in the counties of North Yorkshire and Cumbria. It is an expansive area of hill country that rises in the Millstone Grit-capped Three Peaks to over 2,300ft (700m). This tour will cover a large part of the National Park providing the opportunity to ride along valley roads, across open moorland and through typical Dales villages.

Rides & Rest Days
Each day’s ride covers about 55 miles and is challenging due to the many hills. Apart from a few stretches of main road we will cycle on quiet lanes. Yorkshire Dales lanes are sometimes narrow and steep, with variable surfaces. The rides normally take all day, with two café stops. Riders speeds uphill will inevitably vary, but we will regroup at suitable points. Depending on the group, we may split into smaller groups to accommodate different paces, and meet at a café, or in a village. Mostly we will be sightseeing from the saddle, but occasionally there will be the opportunity for a quick look at a historical feature or a viewpoint.

If you want to do more sightseeing on one of the days you are welcome to cycle independently, or have a rest day if you wish. Route sheets will be provided, but you should bring a Yorkshire Dales map.

Accommodation & Meals
Friday dinner is not included but we can sample some of the fine food and real ales at the Crown Hotel. If you prefer, a meal can be obtained at the hostel, the chip shop or at one of the other pubs in Hawes. The hostel also has a self catering kitchen. The hostel will provide a substantial breakfast each morning and a 3-course dinner on Saturday and Sunday evenings (with a choice).

We will stop at a café for morning coffee and lunch. Lunch may be quite late, so it is important to carry basic snacks (energy bars, bananas) as well as a water bottle.
Group Information
The maximum number of participants will be 17 excluding the Tour Manager.

Weather & Clothing
Being April, the weather could be cold, and possibly wet. Going uphill, and in sheltered places, it can be warm, then cold in exposed places or descending. Bring a variety of layers which can be combined to cope with variable temperatures, and a change of clothes and shoes for evenings in the hostel.

Cycles & Equipment
A touring or sports cycle is recommended or an MTB with road tyres. The main requirement is a good range of gears to cope with the steep hills. A triple chainring is recommended or a compact if you are very fit. (For a low bottom gear, a small chainring the same size or smaller than the largest cog on your rear wheel is recommended). If in doubt, please discuss with the Tour Manager before the tour.
You should ensure that your cycle is in good working order, particularly wheels, tyres and brakes.
You will not need to carry luggage, but a rack top pack or bar bag will be useful for carrying wet weather gear, spare clothing needed for the day, camera, snacks and your map. You should also carry sufficient spare tubes and tools to deal with punctures and minor repairs.

Maps & Guides
You should carry a map in case you become separated from the group. The area is covered by the Goldeneye laminated cycling map Yorkshire Dales (1:100,000), or the Harvey Yorkshire Dales for Cyclists Map.

Tour Manager’s Contact Details
If you require any assistance, or have any queries, please don’t hesitate to contact the Tour Manager using the information provided below.

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