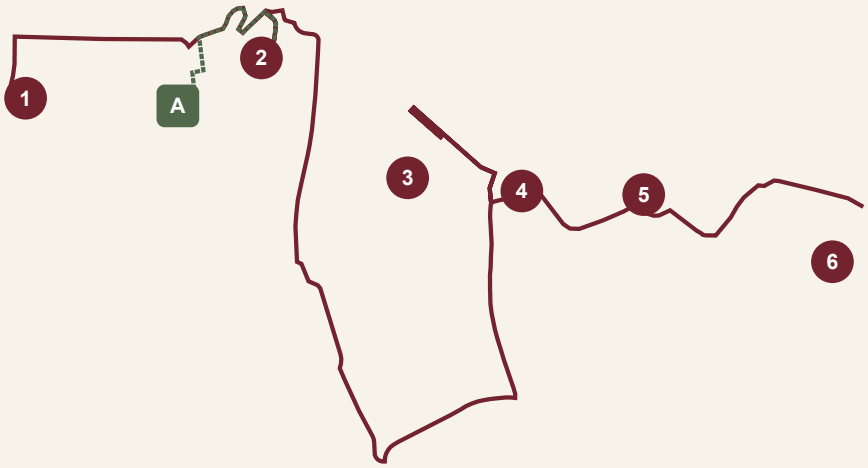
Bram Stoker and Dracula in Whitby

Follow Bram's 1890 holiday from his West Cliff lodging, across the harbour and up the 199 Steps to the Abbey. Six stops pair the documented visit with the places he gave to Mina, Lucy and the Demeter in Chapters 6 - 8 of Dracula. About 2 km, with hills, cobbles and steep steps.

Printable companion: stop summaries and directions. Full histories, readings and sources are available through the links in this guide.

Length	About 2.0 km / 1.2 miles
Allow	About 40 - 50 minutes walking; allow 2 hours with stops
Underfoot	Hills, cobbles and the steep 199 Steps
Start / finish	6 Royal Crescent, West Cliff -> Whitby Abbey, East Cliff



N is up. Schematic only: use the live map and local signs for street-level navigation.

Burgundy: main route/stops. Green: optional detours/stops. Gold dots: beach section (where shown).

1. 6 Royal Crescent - West Cliff
2. West Cliff - the view towards East Cliff
3. Pier Road - the historical library area
4. Tate Hill Sands and the 199 Steps - Dracula comes ashore
5. St Mary's Church and churchyard
6. Whitby Abbey

A. Royal Whitby - optional lunch or afternoon tea

For sources, image credits, access and safety notes, and the latest updates:
www.bramstokerestate.com/resources/self-guided-walks/whitby

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Before you set out

This is a steep route with steps. The 199 Steps are not a step-free route; arrange transport to East Cliff if needed. Check church and Abbey access before setting out.

The town walk can be followed independently. If you want to go inside Whitby Abbey, arrange your ticket and check the opening times before climbing East Cliff.

Whitby Abbey

Book online before the day of your visit for the advance-booking discount. General admission tickets are valid throughout that day's opening hours. Tickets can also be bought on the day.

Abbey tickets and opening times

A · Royal Whitby

Optional lunch or afternoon tea near the West Cliff route. The hotel reports a reading-room connection to Bram. Check menus and reserve directly.

Lunch, tea and reservations

The Bram Stoker Estate receives no commission or payment from recommendations or bookings.

Check the weather

Check the local forecast and any weather warnings before setting out. Pay particular attention to wind, rain and daylight on the exposed coastal sections.

Whitby forecast - Met Office

Follow the route

Use public paths and marked crossings. Respect private homes and working buildings. Distances are approximate; allow extra time for visits, lunch or tea. Check the live guide for access changes before travelling.

Open the live map and current guide

Prepared 13 November 2026. Route and historical notes: Bram Stoker Estate. Route geometry uses OpenStreetMap data (© OpenStreetMap contributors, ODbL). The overview is schematic, not a street basemap.

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Stops along the walk

1. 6 Royal Crescent - West Cliff



Courtesy of the Bram Stoker Estate.

Whitby: 6 Royal Crescent, where Bram stayed, with Civic Society plaque

Holiday lodging · late July - August 1890

Start with a holiday address before following the novel down into the town. Royal Crescent gives the walk a sense of the everyday Whitby from which its darker stories grew.

Look for: The house number and commemorative plaque at No. 6, and No. 7 beside it. Then step back to take in the curve of the terrace, the setting Mina calls simply “the Crescent”.

Practical: Private property: view the exterior and plaque from the pavement.

Walking to the next stop: Follow the West Cliff public streets towards the Whalebone Arch and the top of Khyber Pass, where the view opens over the harbour.

Full history, readings and source references

2. West Cliff - the view towards East Cliff



Courtesy of the Bram Stoker Estate.

Whitby Abbey and St Mary’s Church above the town

Later memorial · Holiday landscape · 1890; memorial seat · 1980

From one cliff, much of the next part of the walk is already in view. The harbour between the two heights becomes a stage on which the novel’s night-time drama can be followed.

Look for: The Bram Stoker memorial seat near the top of Khyber Pass. It was erected in 1980 by Scarborough Borough Council and the Dracula Society, on the 68th anniversary of Bram’s death, and makes a fine viewpoint.

Practical: Use public paths. Some approaches have steps; choose a descent that suits your group.

Walking to the next stop: Descend by Khyber Pass or the public streets to Pier Road and the quayside.

Full history, readings and source references

Optional A. Royal Whitby - optional lunch or afternoon tea

Connection attributed to the hotel · Optional refreshment stop

Optional lunch or tea near the West Cliff route. The hotel attributes a reading-room connection to Bram.

Practical: Optional and paid. Check current tea sittings, menus, prices, accessibility and availability directly with the hotel. The Bram Stoker Estate receives no commission or payment from recommendations or bookings.

Walking to the next stop: Return to the West Cliff route, then continue towards Pier Road.

Full history, readings and source references

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3. Pier Road - the historical library area



Courtesy of the Bram Stoker Estate.

Whitby Abbey and St Mary's Church above the town

8 August 1890; museum signature · 19 August 1890

The next clue to Dracula's making lies among the quayside buildings, in the story of a reader and an old travel book. What began as holiday reading helped shape the novel's vocabulary.

Look for: The quayside frontages facing the harbour, then the swing bridge ahead: the crossing to the East Cliff that Mina takes in Chapter 8, and the one you take next.

Practical: Busy quayside street: keep to the pavement and watch for traffic.

Walking to the next stop: Cross the swing bridge and follow Church Street, past Market Place, to Tate Hill Sands and the foot of the 199 Steps. The beach is an optional pause; the route stays on the landward streets.

Full history, readings and source references

4. Tate Hill Sands and the 199 Steps - Dracula comes ashore



Dave Hitchborne / Geograph

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Unmodified photograph.

The 199 Steps and Tate Hill beach, Whitby, photographed in 2011.

Fiction · Real shipwreck · 24 October 1885; fictional landing · Dracula, Chapter 7

A real wreck and an invented arrival meet on these sands. Keeping the two stories in view makes it easier to see how Bram transformed something Whitby remembered into the novel's most dramatic entrance.

Look for: Tate Hill Pier, the sand beside it and the foot of the 199 Steps. Compare the names: Narva and Varna, Dmitry and Demeter.

Practical: Steep, exposed steps and uneven cobbles. The beach pause is optional; the route stays on public streets and the Church Stairs.

Walking to the next stop: Climb the 199 Steps to St Mary's Church and churchyard. Take your time, and keep the route clear for others.

Full history, readings and source references

5. St Mary's Church and churchyard



© Colin Hamilton.

St Mary's Church, Whitby

Churchyard notes · 1890; Mina and Lucy's churchyard · Dracula, Chapters 6 - 8

The inscriptions invite a slower kind of reading after the climb. Names cut into these stones became part of the working material for a story read far beyond Whitby.

Look for: Inscriptions, many now worn, and the flat stones the novel calls "thruff-steans". Then look back across the harbour to the West Cliff, where Mina stood searching for Lucy.

Practical: A place of worship and remembrance. Keep to the paths and do not climb on gravestones.

Walking to the next stop: Continue along the signed East Cliff route to the Abbey visitor entrance.

Full history, readings and source references

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6. Whitby Abbey



Courtesy of the Bram Stoker Estate.

Whitby Abbey and St Mary's Church above the town

Fiction · Gothic church · about 1225 - 50; setting in Dracula, Chapter 6

The Abbey brings a much longer span of history into the walk. Its surviving stonework and the stories told about it offer two different ways of reading this final landmark.

Look for: The pointed arches and the exposed east end. Then turn towards the West Cliff and picture the same outline as Mina saw it, emerging from cloud by moonlight.

Practical: Abbey entry is paid and subject to opening times; check current access before you set out.

Finish: The walk ends at the Abbey; the harbour walk and Abbey admission are separate, and the present Whitby Museum in Pannett Park, whose visitors' book records Bram's 1890 signature, makes a good addition.

Full history, readings and source references

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