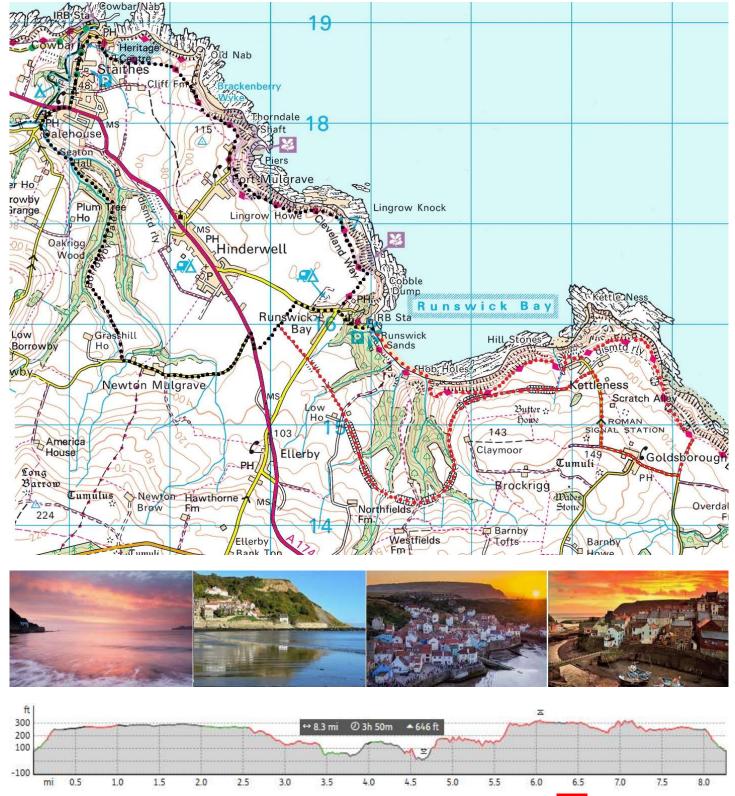
Runswick Bay & Staithes - Runswick Bay is one of the most attractive villages on the North Yorkshire coast and a paradise for artists and photographers. Its cottages perch randomly and almost precariously on a series of hillside terraces above the beach and the streets are little more than narrow passageways and flights of steps, which continually open up new vistas as they twist and turn between the close-packed buildings. Both Runswick Bay and Staithes are highly individual coastal villages: the former a picturesque jumble of cottages above a fine sandy beach, the latter an old harbour beside a steep-sided inlet, still with a strong Victorian atmosphere. The first half of the suggested clockwise 8½ mile (with 646ft of ascent) BLACK walk from Runswick Bay Bank Bottom car park (TS13 5HT) to Staithes goes inland, following an attractive route across fields, by farms and through woodlands. The return journey is along a memorable stretch of the North Sea coast which affords spectacular views throughout.



The route can easily be extended to 14 miles (with 1130ft of ascent) by adding an optional RED walk along the disused railway track-bed to both Kettleness and Goldsborough with a return to Runswick Bay being made both via the spectacular cliff-top and finally Runswick Sands (tide permitting).