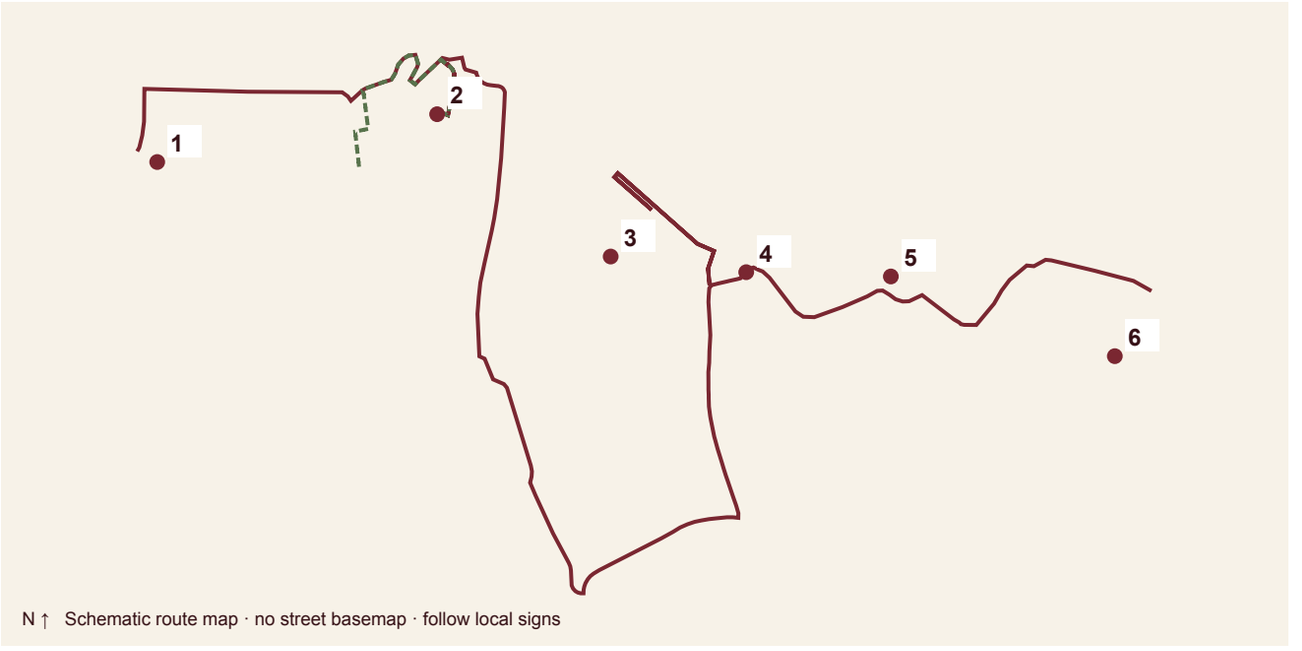
Bram Stoker and Dracula in Whitby

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.

About 2.0 km / 1.2 miles · About 40–50 minutes walking; allow 2 hours with stops



N ↑ Schematic route map · no street basemap · follow local signs

Before you set out

Hills, cobbles and the steep 199 Steps

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.

Scan for the live guide, booking links and current access notices.
https://www.bramstokerestate.com/resources/self-guided-walks/whitby

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Stops and practical information

1. 6 Royal Crescent – West Cliff

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.

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

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

2. West Cliff – the view towards East Cliff

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.

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

Next: Descend by Khyber Pass or the public streets to Pier Road and the quayside.

3. Pier Road – the historical library area

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.

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

Next: 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.

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

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.

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

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

5. St Mary's Church and churchyard

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.

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

Next: Continue along the signed East Cliff route to the Abbey visitor entrance.

6. Whitby Abbey

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.

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.

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Optional A. Royal Whitby – optional lunch or afternoon tea

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.

Next: Return to the West Cliff route, then continue towards Pier Road.

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