



Low season
special offers for
visits taken
between
November 2026 –
March 2027

Grinton Lodge – Yorkshire Dales

All-inclusive **Discovery** residential
packages for schools

Available all year round

Book Now

Call us on **0203 467 2002** or email
school.travel@firstbus.co.uk
to discuss your requirements.

Who are we?

First Education and School Travel are one of the UK's leading providers of school trip packages, working in partnership with over 100 venues and activity providers.

Renowned school tour operator

We are a fully bonded school tour operator working to current UK Package Travel Regulations, meaning your payments are 100% safe with us.

We are members of the Council for Learning Outside the Classroom



Book Now - Call us on 0203 467 2002 or email school.travel@firstbus.co.uk

The Venue

Grinton Lodge is a 19th-century former shooting lodge that has been a youth hostel since 1948. It is a Grade II listed building, situated above the village of Grinton, in beautiful Swaledale, just 9 miles from the market town of Richmond, North Yorkshire.

Staying at Grinton offers groups the opportunity to stay in an historic building in a unique landscape. Swaledale is one of the most northerly of the Yorkshire Dales with wild and unspoilt scenery. Many of the villages and tiny hamlets - still carry the names given to them by Viking farmers who settled here over a thousand years ago.

The Lodge has **77 beds** over 20 rooms, 5 of which are en-suite. All the none en-suite rooms have a wash basin with access to shared shower and toilet facilities close by.



All-inclusive Packages

These great value, all-inclusive curricular linked residential visits are delivered in partnership with YHA Grinton Lodge and are renowned for their high quality and value for money - **we include all coach travel, accommodation, meals, plus your chosen activities.**

2 nights / 3 days - Arriving at lunchtime on **Day 1** - departing at lunchtime on **Day 3** - activities are delivered during the mornings, afternoons, and evenings. Starting with the afternoon on **Day 1**.

These LOTC accredited packages cover various subject areas within the curriculum. They are led by on-site staff, with activities arranged, itineraries planned and all fully risk-assessed, taking away the pressure from trip organisers.

The Programmes

We offer **TWO** themed packages with a range of activities for you to choose from in advance, these are delivered both in the hostel grounds and also within the surrounding landscape of Swaledale.

Choose from either our all-inclusive **Discovery Programme** or our **Alex Rider Mission Briefing Programme** - each package includes your return coach travel, accommodation, a full board meals service as well as your chosen activities.

The Discovery Programme

Includes a fabulous range of activities and team challenges.

Choose from:

Reeth Guided Walk – Duration 2-3 hours

A guided walk takes the group down through the fields into Grinton, before heading up towards Fremington edge (or along the river for a shorter route) and into Reeth. Here groups can spend time on the Village green, souvenir shop, and most popular of all, a visit to the ice cream shop.

Moorland Guided Walk – Duration 2-3 hours

The second option for a guided walk is to take a hike across the Moors, these route takes the group across the undulating paths of the moorland through grouse filled heather, past historic lead mills, hidden hunting bunts and finally to a disused lead smelting furnace. This is an amazing walk for urban groups as it really takes the young people out to a different world.

Impacts of Development – Duration 4 ½ hours + Evening activity

This activity follows the route of the Moorland walk, but with a different emphasis. The pupils will be split into groups and each group will be given a different character. Each of these characters have a different plan for an area of moorland that is up for sale. In character the groups learn about the unique habitats and environments and the pros and cons of development.

Evening Activity – Once back at the hostel the group set about creating a presentation to convince the 'Town Council' that their development plans or conservation ideas are the ones that should be approved.

Archery – Duration 1 ½ hours

Pupils learn all about archery. The whole group will be given a safety demo and shown how to shoot correctly. Each participant will then shoot their arrows under guidance and tuition.

Fire Lighting – Duration 1 ½ hours

An introduction to the art of safe fire lighting, pupils will be taught about the fire triangle, and historic methods of starting fires before they build their own campfire using a flint and steel.

Shelter Building – Duration 1 ½ hours

Learn the art of making an outdoor shelter using various resources. Different designs will be shown to the group and practiced, before each team is provided with a scenario to design and build a shelter for. Shelter Building – Duration 1 ½ hours
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Orienteering – Duration 1 ½ hours

Tackle Grinton's own orienteering course. Learn the basic skills of map reading and orienteering before setting off on our course. A great way to encourage team building whilst giving the group some independence.

Team Challenges – Duration 1 ½ hours

It's all about building teamwork! Pupils will be taken through a series of different team challenges each designed to test different aspects of teamwork. Sessions include giant skis, marble run, inner tube challenge, swamp crossing and more.

Environmental Art – Duration 1 ½ hours

This activity enables pupils to create their own ephemeral natural masterpieces. Using natural material found around the hostel grounds, children create their own inspired artwork.

Map Skills – Duration 1 ½ hours

Pupils are taught the basic skills of map reading as well as more complicated aspects such as 4 and 6 figure grid references and how to take a compass bearing. The group then compete against the clock to finish the compass bearing challenge in the fastest

Evening Activities

Campfire – Duration 1 ½ hours

What better way to complete your day than sitting out under the stars with a roaring campfire? The on-site will build and lead a campfire session, including campfire songs, skits and toasted marshmallows.

Rokit Launch – Duration 1 ½ hours

Pupils build and design their own rocket with an 'egg' payload. Rockets are then part filled with water and using a track pump, launched into space. Can the egg return safely from orbit?

Night Hike – Duration 1 ½ hours

An exciting torchlit walk over a short section of the moors to watch the sun go down and the stars come out. Although not far from the hostel, this will feel like a million miles from anywhere for the pupils.

The Alex Rider Spy Themed Programme

Turn your students into super agents and watch them reap the rewards of working as a team with the **Alex Rider Mission Briefing**.

During this experience, pupils (or 'agents' as they will be referred to) will be put through their paces as they hone their skills in a variety of action-packed activities and spy skills.

All of the above activities can also be included as part of our exciting **Alex Rider Mission Briefing** package, but this time they are delivered with a **spy theme!**

All **Mission Briefing** participants will be given agent names for the duration of the stay, as well as a certificate of achievement. They will also receive a free copy of Anthony Horowitz's **Stormbreaker** novel courtesy of Walker Books Ltd.

There are also additional evening activities including **code breaking, gadget design and hunt the double agent**.



Why choose Grinton?

The Lodge is an incredible and historic venue, the type of location that most pupils will not ever have had the chance to experience. Grinton Lodge is ideally situated for walking on the nearby open moorland and to the nearby village of Reeth via the river Swale. There is plenty of safe outdoor space to enjoy the fresh air and take part in activities, areas including a large courtyard to the front of the building and a large garden area to the rear.

What can we eat?

The package includes a **full board meals service for groups** covering breakfast, packed lunch, and a two-course evening meal.

Breakfast is a buffet, served by members of the team, with guests choosing items from a range of cooked food (**sausage, bacon, hash brown, tomato, beans, scrambled eggs and vegetarian sausage**), **continental pastries, cereal, yoghurt, fruit juice, along with tea and coffee**.

Packed lunches consist of a pre-ordered sandwich, a piece of fruit, a biscuit bar and a bag of crisps. Please note that as part of YHA's commitment to reducing plastic waste, bottled drinks are not provided – however a water refilling station is available and we recommend that all guests bring a bottle to fill and refill.

Evening meals vary on different days, and an **example** two-course evening meal would consist of the following options:

Red tractor pork sausage with gravy and mash with vegetables
– 915 kcal

Vegetarian Cumberland sausage with gravy and mash with vegetables (v) – 787 kcal

Jacket potato with cheese & beans (optional) (v) – 657 kcal

Mini doughnuts with salted caramel sauce (v) – 285 kcal

Choc ice (v) – 171 kcal

Fresh fruit (v)

The team can cater for most allergies and other dietary requirements with advanced notice. Group leaders are sent meal choice forms ahead of the visit to allow participants to make their choices and return them along with details of any dietary requirements.



Find out more about us at
[firsttravelsolutions.com/
fest](http://firsttravelsolutions.com/fest)

Be more inclusive

We understand the current impact of cost-of-living increases on household budgets. We recognise how this will be affecting some children's opportunity to take part in a school trip.

You can help parents to include their child in a visit by moving your trip to a **low season month**, reducing the cost burden significantly and thus encouraging more opportunities for more children.

We can beat the squeeze on budgets with our low season residential packages, delivered between November and March when significant savings can be made.



These special prices
are only available
when booked directly
with us as an all-
inclusive package

**Book Now – Call us on 0203 467 2002 or
email school.travel@firstbus.co.uk**



How to book

Simply let us have some details of your school, age and year group, your proposed group numbers and your ideal dates.

We will check availability and come back to you with one all-inclusive price.

Simple as that!

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