

 **first** Education & School Travel
working in partnership with



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

Ravenstor – Peak District

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 through our membership of the British Coach Holidays Financial Protection Scheme. This means your deposit payments are 100% safe with us. See our website for details: www.firsttravelsolutions.com/fest

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

YHA Ravenstor is set in a spectacular location in the heart of the Peak District, perched high above the River Wye between Bakewell and Buxton.

Built in 1906 for the Dickie family—owners of the historic Cressbrook Mill and Litton Mill – this wonderful venue is set within its own extensive grounds and blends historic character with a peaceful natural setting.

The venue offers 15 bedrooms of various sizes with space for **up to 66 guests**, making it ideal for school groups looking to slow down, explore the surrounding landscape, and connect with the environment around them.



All-inclusive Packages

These great value, all-inclusive curricular linked residential visits are delivered in partnership with **YHA Ravenstor** 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.

This LOTC accredited venue and activities cover various subject areas within the curriculum. Activities are led by on-site staff, with programmes arranged, itineraries planned and all detail is fully risk-assessed, taking away the pressure from trip organisers.

The Programmes

We offer THREE 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 the Peak District National Park.

Choose from our all-inclusive **Discovery Programme**, our **Alex Rider Mission Briefing** or the more adventurous **Multi-Activity 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...



Monsal Trail Guided Walk – duration 3–5 hours

A guided walk following the Monsal Trail, with stunning views across the countryside and intriguing industrial and geological history to discover along the way. Groups can take a peek into the disused rail tunnels and lime kilns, check out the ancient Lava formation, and enjoy walking beside the beautiful River Wye before returning to the Hostel for more fun!

Mini Beast hunting – Duration 1 ½ hours

Explore the local woodland to discover the vast array of life that lies beneath the logs and leaves. Groups discuss camouflage and adaptations, and have the chance to help build a habitat for the creatures to live in.

Fire Lighting – Duration 1 ½ hours

An introduction to the art of safe fire lighting, pupils will be taught about the fire triangle, and differing 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 discussed, before each team is provided with a scenario to design and build a shelter for.

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 hoop games, marble run, blindfolded challenges, swamp crossing and more.

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.



River Dipping – Duration 1 ½ hours

Includes a short walk to nearby Tideswell Dale. River dipping is a fun way to explore an aquatic habitat and observe a diversity of different creatures from freshwater shrimp to Mayfly nymphs.

Orienteering – Duration 1 1/2 hours

An exciting outdoor activity that exercises mind and body. Practice how to relate a map to the surrounding features and locate the points marked on a map.

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.



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 staff will build and lead a campfire session, focusing on exploring our different senses, and finished by toasting bread over the fire topped with delicious chocolate sauce!

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 around the woodland, descending to the River Wye. Although still within the hostel's 60 acres, this will feel like a million miles from anywhere for the pupils.

Multi-Activity Programme

includes a selection of the Discovery activities, with the addition of some more adventurous activities. If you wish to include these adventurous activities, please let us know at the time of your enquiry – prices are higher for multi-activity programmes. Multi-activity activities include:

The Chee Dale Challenge – 5-6 hours

An adventurous journey on foot straight from the door of the Youth Hostel. Groups will use exploded mapping to navigate to various features including the disused railway viaduct at Millers Dale. The journey also includes some group rock climbing and other activities on the YHA site.

Canoeing and Raft Building – 6-8 hours

Challenge your group to a day of creative excitement at Carsington Water, including raft building and canoeing. Approximately 40 minutes of travel each way, transport to and from the Hostel to the water can be provided at additional

Caving, Scrambling, and Weaselling options are also available.

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 Discovery 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 Ravenstor?

YHA Ravenstor is surrounded by secluded National Trust grounds, along with woodland and a dedicated activity range, creating an ideal environment for pupils to explore, discover, and engage their senses.

Children can listen to birdsong, feel different natural textures, observe wildlife, and experience the changing sights, sounds, and smells of the outdoors.

The extensive grounds encourage curiosity, teamwork, and outdoor learning, while nearby routes such as the Monsal Trail provide opportunities for gentle walks and exploration. Nearby, the stream in Tideswell Dale provides an ideal location for river studies.

This immersive setting helps pupils build confidence, develop awareness of the natural world, and enjoy hands-on learning in a calm and inspiring outdoor environment.

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 & 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

Be more inclusive - reducing the cost for parents

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



Ravenstor

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!

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