

A BIT OF THE SEA

North Tyneside • Northumberland

 4.9 MILES

 MOSTLY FLAT,
SOME MILD RISES

 BUS STOP

Blyth Battery is the remnants of a World War One coastal artillery battery, re-fitted for use in World War Two. It is the most intact and accessible coastal defence battery left on the North East and Yorkshire coastline.

Blyth Battery was built after the 1914 bombardment of Hartlepool.

Follow the England Coast Path sign to a tarmac path through the sand dunes all the way to Blyth. Called "Eve Black Way", it's named after a popular Labour councillor and humanitarian campaigner.

It's rumoured a meeting of the Admirals (including Wellington) took place at Tower House during the Napoleonic Wars.

Tower House Gallery was built around 1720 and its design has been attributed to Sir John Vanbrugh, who built Delaval Hall. The house has been His Majesty's Revenue Office and harbour master's house.

Can you see "Rocky Island"? It was created in 1764 when John Hussey Delaval constructed a long cut through the sandstone rocks.

Crag Point offers some fantastic views out to sea and the dramatic sandstone cliffs themselves are well worth visiting.

Start your journey at St Mary's Lighthouse – linked to the mainland by a short causeway. Built in 1898, monks maintained a lantern warning ships of the rocks.

Pass Blyth Port and come to Ridley Park. Continue on to finish on the quayside.

Look out for the sculpture Spirit of the Staithes at Blyth Commissioners Wharf.

At the gun emplacements, head towards the sea, then along the promenade, passing beach huts.

A golden stretch of sandy shoreline, Blyth beach offers a haven for wildlife and is popular with bathers, surfers and anglers.

Seaton Sluice owes its unusual name to Sir Ralph Delaval. In 1660 he organised construction of a pier, but the dry harbour often blocked with silt. His solution was to build sluice gates, so at high tide the sea water was trapped and later released to flush silt and mud out to sea twice a day.

Heading into Seaton Sluice, walk along Collywell Bay Road. The Bay features a sandstone pinnacle, known as "Charlie's Island", that was once joined to the mainland and a local, Charles Dockwray, made a small garden on top of it.

Take in the views to the north of the power station at Lynemouth.

Before venturing out to St Mary's, make sure you check the tide tables ...you don't want to get stranded!

At the quayside, can you see a restored tall ship called Williams II (assuming it's not at sea!)

Blyth South is often visited by porpoises, dolphins and seals.

The Northumberland coastline is truly spectacular, and A Bit of the Sea takes in immaculate beaches, a vibrant port and stunning countryside.

Ending in Blyth, this trail offers some truly breathtaking scenery.

It also follows a section of Northern Saints Trail, "The Way of the Sea", hence the peculiar name.

THE ROUTE

1. Shine a light
2. Point in the right direction
3. Garden of stone
4. Seaton Sluice
5. Tower House
6. Dunes with a view
7. Sandy shores
8. Battery charger
9. Beach huts
10. Blyth spirit

HOW TO GET TO THE START

Visit livemap.nexus.org.uk and enter the postcode NE26 4RS.

SUITABILITY



The route is fully accessible to walkers, wheeled pedestrians and cyclists.

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www.gosmartergoactive.co.uk