

# THE NORTH SEA BREEZER

County Durham • Sunderland

Stretching from the immaculate Seaham Harbour to the rolling waves of Wearside's best kept secret, the North Sea Breezer takes in some spectacular views.

This lesser-trodden route along the cliff tops will fill your senses with the sea air while a bracing breeze blows you along.

With stunning sculptures, dramatic vistas, a heritage trail and plenty of selfie spots, the North Sea Breezer is "toppa", as they say in this part of the world.





## THE ROUTE

1. Lifeboat launch
2. Full metal jacket
3. Beach break
4. Let's go Hall the way
5. Stay on the path
6. Ryhope springs eternal
7. Peruse the Promenade

## HOW TO GET TO THE START

Visit [livemap.nexus.org.uk](http://livemap.nexus.org.uk) and enter the postcode SR7 7EE.

## SUITABILITY

 Full route
  Partial route
  Partial route
  Partial route

Suitable for wheeled pedestrians and cyclists

**GoSmarter  
GoActive**

[www.gosmartergoactive.co.uk](http://www.gosmartergoactive.co.uk)

 5.1 MILES  1 MILE

 MAINLY FLAT, SOME MILD RISES AND STEPS TO HARBOUR/BEACHES

 BUS STOP  TRAIN

1 Start in Seaham Harbour Marina to visit the East Durham Heritage & Lifeboat Centre and take in the vessels moored there. A great spot to start your journey, there is a steep rise out of the Marina.

2 Tommy is a stunning statue of a First World War soldier by artist Ray Lonsdale, close to Seaham war memorial, on Terrace Green. It depicts a First World War soldier in boots, puttees, greatcoat and tin hat, sitting on an ammunition box.

4 Built in the 1790s by Sir Ralph Milbanke, Seaham Hall is where poet Lord Byron married Anne Isabella Milbanke. Now a luxury spa, the Hall affords fantastic coastline views.


Seaham Hall was once owned by Charles William Vane, 3rd Marquess of Londonderry, whose statue stands in Durham Market Place.


5 Following a stroll along the B1287, join the England Coastal Path. Enjoy a spell off the beaten track on your journey.

6 Another secluded beach, much of Ryhope Beach's sand has been lost to coastal erosion. It remains popular with walkers and anglers and was once – according to local fables – a favourite sea-bathing spot of the Bishop of Durham. Check tide times, posted at beach access points. Hop off the trail for a short while and visit nearby Ryhope Engine Museum.

? Shipbuilding in Sunderland began in Hendon with the opening of Thomas Menville's yard in 1346.

7 Hendon Beach is one of Sunderland's best kept secrets – a strip of sand and shingle, it has imposing rocky sea defences, offering dramatic views.

 Sections of the route are challenging, so be sure to check it out beforehand on the "This Is Durham" website.

 Take a trip to the shoreline and see how much seaglass you can find.

3 Head out of the town, toward Sunderland. You can drop down to Seaham or Glass Beach. Glass Beach gets its name for the variety and amount of seaglass washed up on its shore.

? Seaham Harbour is County Durham's only marina, providing facilities for 96 boats.

