

# Enjoy the Northumberland Coast by Bus



## Grace Darling Experience by Bus

Grace Darling was 22 years old when she risked her life in an open boat to help the survivors of the wrecked *SS Forfarshire*. The courage that Grace and her family showed on that day is now legendary. This itinerary includes a visit to Longstone Lighthouse where the family lived and the fabulous RNLI Museum and St Aidan's Church in Bamburgh where she is buried.

### Essentials

- Longstone Lighthouse is accessible by boat from Seahouses, the cruise is operated by Golden Gate between 1<sup>st</sup> April and 31<sup>st</sup> October. Book ahead and check sailing before you leave (01665 721210)
- Sailings are at 10:30, 12:30 and 14:30
- The RNLI have an excellent Grace Darling Museum in Bamburgh
- Grace was buried in St Aidan's Churchyard in Bamburgh, it is possible to visit the grave
- It is colder offshore, please dress appropriately
- Bring your binoculars and camera, seals and seabirds will be seen on the boat trip.
- If you have the time, visit the RNLI lifeboat Station in Seahouses, the Mersey all weather boat is named 'The Grace Darling'



Grace Darling (© RNLI)

[Golden Gate Farne Island Boat Trips](#) have kindly offered 10% discount on the Longstone Cruise for visitors who have a valid **Arriva** Bus Ticket



You can also get 10% off the entrance fee at the [RNLI Grace Darling Museum](#) with your valid **Arriva** Bus Ticket.



Longstone Lighthouse (© Graeme Peacock)

Perryman and Travelsure also provide services on the Northumberland Coast.

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[www.northumberlandcoastandcastles.org](http://www.northumberlandcoastandcastles.org)



## Route/Description

Arriving in Seahouses, get off the bus in the village. There are toilets opposite the Tourist Information Centre in the car park. At the harbour, head for the Golden Gate kiosk to get your boat tickets, the trip takes two hours and includes a tour of the lighthouse. Once you are back on land, return to the village centre to catch the 501 Arriva or 401 Travelsure service to Bamburgh.

Grace Darling was born in Bamburgh in 1815, she lived in Brownsman then Longstone Lighthouse. She died from Tuberculosis only four years after the famous rescue. [Download the Grace Darling factsheet.](#)



Grace Darling Museum (© Iain Robson)

Disembark the Bus in Bamburgh Village and head West, the Grace Darling Museum is on Radcliffe Road. The Museum has recently been rebuilt, it tells the tale of Grace Darling and the famous rescue. It also includes the famous rescue coble, Grace's dresses, letters and family belongings and a cornucopia of commemorative ware.

The museum is open throughout the year and there is small charge to enter, see the [Museum Website](#) for further information.

After visiting the Museum, cross over the road to St Aidan's Church. A place of worship was founded on the site of the present church in 635 by Saint Aidan. St Aidan was called to Bamburgh from Iona by King Oswald to establish Christianity in his newly United Kingdom of Northumbria. The Church is open daily from 9am, memorials to Grace Darling can be found in both the Church and Churchyard.

Before you leave Bamburgh why not stop for tea in one of the hotels or teashops?



Victoria Hotel, Bamburgh  
© Gavin Duthie)

## OUR COAST OUR SEA

The Northumberland and Berwickshire coast is a wonderful area to visit with lots to learn and enjoy. '[Our Coast Our Sea](#)' aims to make it even better, offering inspiring ideas for your visit and helping you discover providers of exciting activities for adults and children.



# Map



Northumberland County Council OS Licence No. 100049048(20100)

### Key

- Bus Journey
- Boat Trip
- Bus Stop



Use Ordnance Survey Explorer map number 340



## Bus Information

### Outward to Seahouses

#### From Newcastle, Alnwick and Morpeth

501 Coast and Castles Connection, a two-hourly service from Newcastle Haymarket Bus Station via Morpeth and Alnwick. Use the 505 from Newcastle early in the morning and change at Alnwick.

#### From Berwick-upon-Tweed via Belford

501 Coast and Castles Connection, a two-hourly service from Berwick-upon-Tweed to Newcastle. Travelsure operate a 411 between Berwick-upon-Tweed and Beadnell.

#### From Ashington and Blyth

From Ashington use the 35 to connect with the 501/505 in Morpeth. From Blyth use the 2 to connect with the 501/505 in Morpeth.

### Return from Bamburgh

#### To Newcastle, Alnwick and Morpeth (change at Morpeth for Ashington and Blyth)

501 Coast and Castles Connection, a two-hourly service from Berwick-upon-Tweed to Newcastle Haymarket Bus Station via Alnmouth Railway Station, Alnwick and Morpeth. Travelsure operate a 401 to Alnwick

#### To Berwick-upon-Tweed via Belford

501 Coast and Castles Connection, a two-hourly service from Newcastle Haymarket Bus Station to Berwick-upon-Tweed. Travelsure operate a 411 to Berwick-upon-Tweed

### Sunday Service

There is a limited Sunday service which may make this itinerary unsuitable on Sundays.

### Times

You should allow two hours for the boat trip. Allow one to two hours to visit the Church and Museum in Bamburgh, longer if you visit the pub or dip your toes in the sea.

## Plan Your Journey

**traveline**  
public transport info  
0871 200 22 33\*

All bus, rail and boat journeys to and within Northumberland.  
Lines are open 0700-2100 7 days a week and all calls are charged at National Rate.  
National Rail Enquiries: 08457 484950

[www.traveline.info](http://www.traveline.info)

\*Calls provided by BT will be charged at 10p per minute plus 6p set up fee per call. Mobile, business and other providers' charges may vary.



## Further Information

- [Arriva](#)
- [Northumberland Coast AONB](#)
- [Visit Northumberland](#)
- [Seahouses Lifeboat](#)
- [Golden Gate Boat Trips](#)
- [Grace Darling Museum](#)
- [Longstone Lighthouse](#)
- [Seahouses Website](#)
- [Bamburgh Website](#)
- [St Aidan's Church](#)

## Which Ticket is best for me?

North Northumberland Discover Ticket £5.20

North Northumberland Passport (weekly ticket) £17.50

Arriva Day Ticket travel all day for £6.20

Family Day ticket, two adults and up to three children £11

NE Explorer – All day with any operator in NE £8.00

Family Explorer £16.00

## Food and drink

Seahouses has a range of pubs and café's serving food and of course, the fish and chip restaurants. Ice cream and seafood can be bought on the harbour in summer. [The Olde Ship](#) specialises in real ales, it usually has a good range of local brews

In Bamburgh, there are a number of teashops and hotels offering lunches, teas and snacks.



Clarks Grocers in Bamburgh © Gavin Duthie

### Why not take a taste of Northumberland Home with you?

In Seahouses, [Swallow Fish](#), a traditional smokehouse sells kippers as well as a wide range of fresh fish. The Northumbrian Hamper in the village showcases many locally produced delicacies from honey and preserves to locally milled flour, cheeses, oils and cakes.

In Bamburgh, [Carters Butchers](#) is famous for the Bamburgh Banger and G.S Clark sell local veg.

This Itinerary has been prepared by the Northumberland Coast AONB Partnership. If you have any suggestions or comments regarding the itinerary or bus travel on the Northumberland Coast please call us on 01665 511206 or email: [CoastAONB@northumberland.gov.uk](mailto:CoastAONB@northumberland.gov.uk) .

Although the information provided in this itinerary is currently correct services may be subject to change and the Northumberland Coast AONB Partnership or Arriva cannot be held responsible for any inaccuracies  
We recommend that you check the bus and opening times of attractions before travel.