

TOUR DE YORKSHIRE

29, 30 APRIL AND 1 MAY 2016

The Tour de Yorkshire is back! Three new exciting Stages have been planned that present the best of Yorkshire and challenge world famous cyclists to one of the toughest races of the year. Use our maps to get to know the routes and find out what's in store for the riders. Where will you be on the day?



The Tour begins on Friday 29 April at the beautiful medieval town of **Beverley** dominated by its grand church Beverley Minster. The ceremonial start takes you past the Saturday Market Cross, St. Mary's and out through the North Bar. The riders then head over the Westwood to Beverley Race Course where the official start of the race begins.

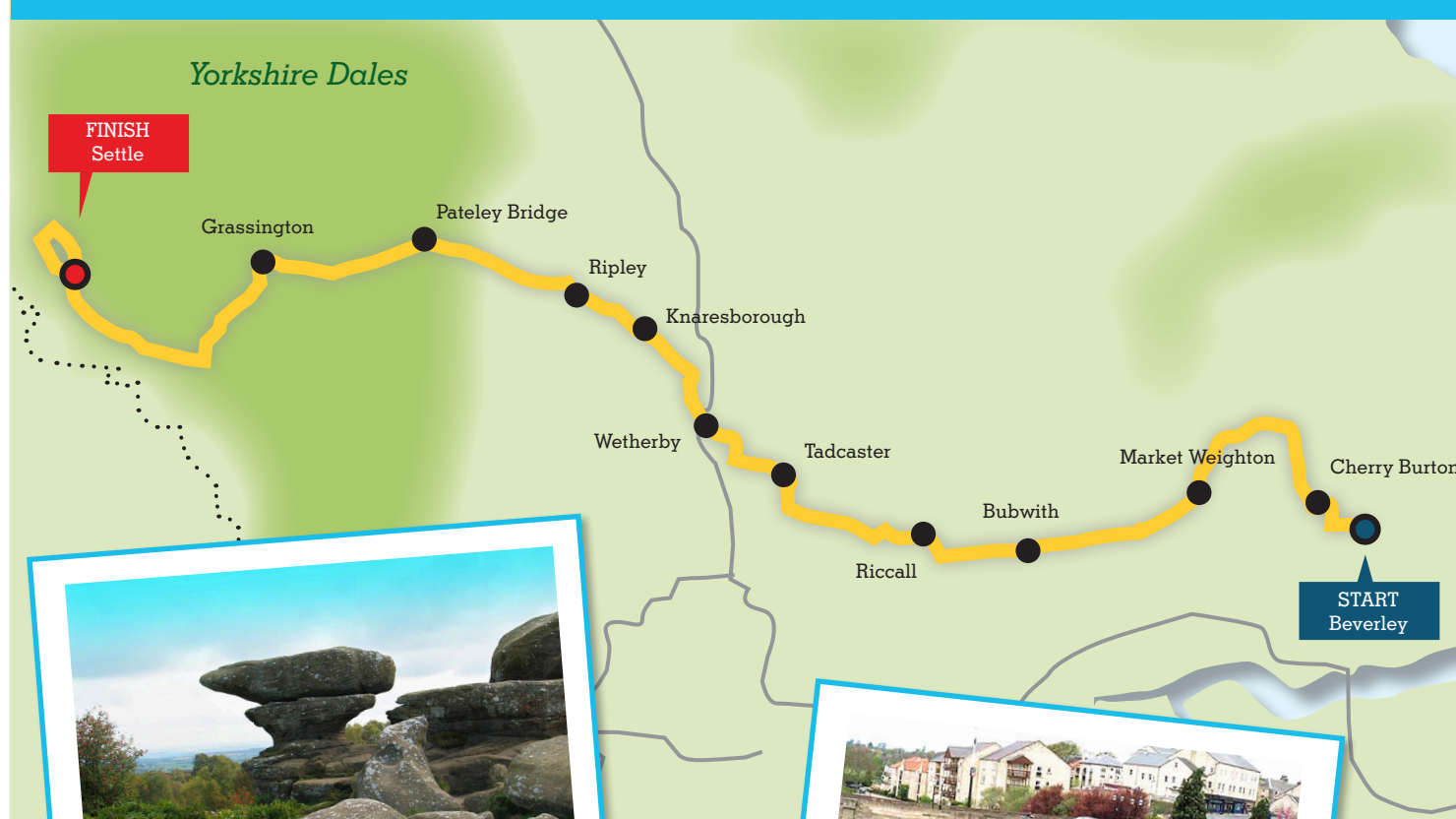


Plenty to watch out for on Saturday 30 April as the **Women's Race** takes place in the morning completing the same 135.5 km route. Stage 2 sets off from the riverside town of **Otley**, home to current women's road World Champion Lizzie Armitstead. There's no gentle start on this route: the peloton tackles an early King/Queen of the Mountain at **Harewood** quickly followed by a second at **East Rington**.



On Sunday May 1, Stage 3 starts in **Middlesbrough** - the town that discovered the world and built it too! Captain James Cook was born here and iconic structures around the world including the Sydney Harbour Bridge are stamped "Made in Middlesbrough." Riders start from Centre Square, home of Middlesbrough Institute of Modern Art (mima). They will ride through Teesside University, past great shopping and restaurants, Middlesbrough Sports Village - a place where you can run, play and cycle, the Dorman Museum, Albert Park and The Captain Cook Birthplace Museum in Stewart Park en route to a challenging and hilly race to Scarborough.

STAGE 1 - FRIDAY 29 APRIL 185 KM



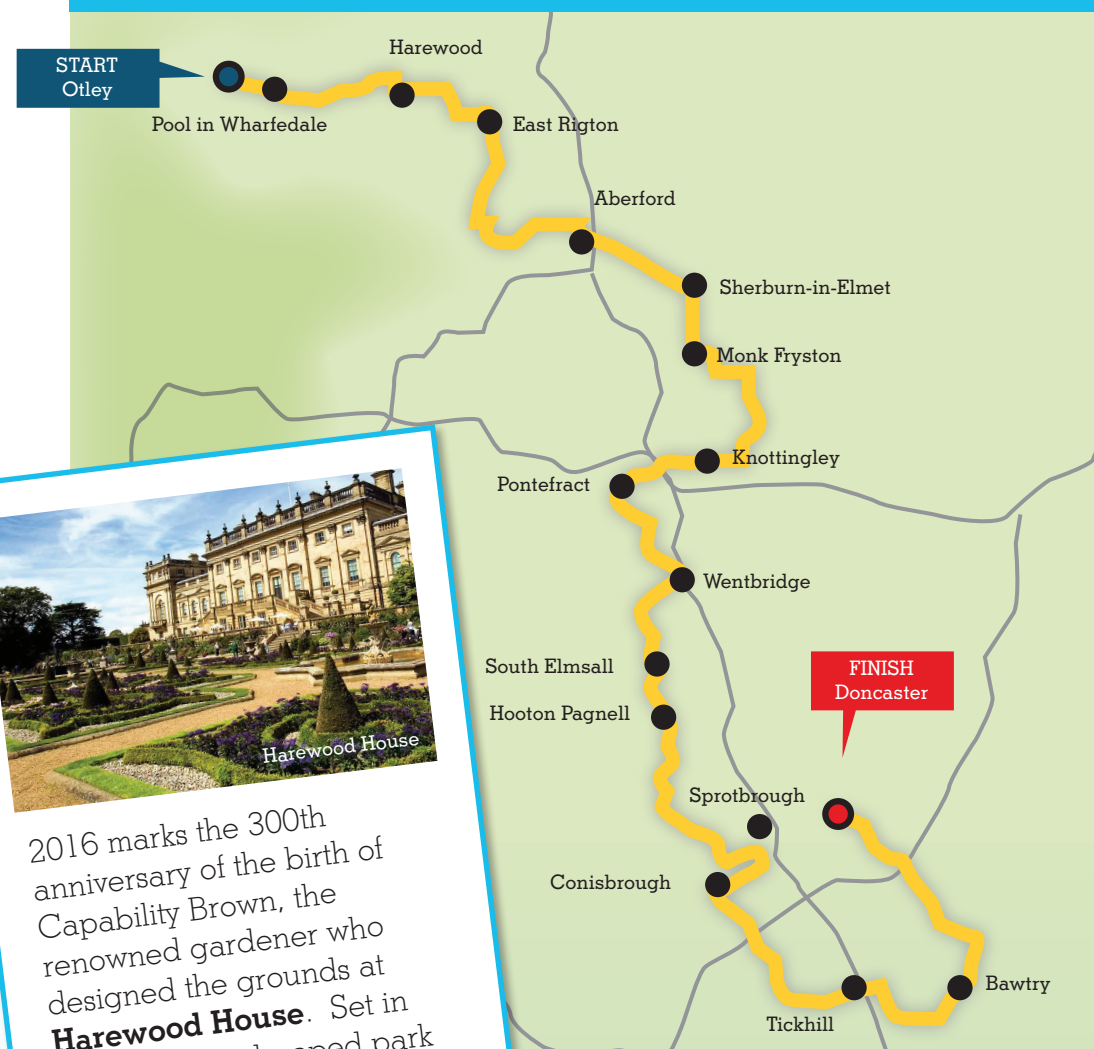
Riders are challenged near the end of the Stage by a series of climbs over beautiful open countryside. The **Brimham Rocks** near **Pateley Bridge** attract thousands of visitors each year. These strange, giant formations have eroded through time into extraordinary shapes - some earning them their own names such as The Sphinx, The Idol and the Dancing Bear.



When coach and horses were the main mode of travel, **Wetherby** was a popular stop-over with almost 40 inns and coach houses to choose from. Today, this peaceful market town attracts many visitors who come to see its beautiful floral displays created by the prize-winning 'Wetherby in Bloom' committee.

STAGE 2 - SATURDAY 30 APRIL 135.5 KM

Morning: Women's Race Afternoon: Men's Race



2016 marks the 300th anniversary of the birth of Capability Brown, the renowned gardener who designed the grounds at **Harewood House**. Set in a glorious landscaped park of 400 hectares, this grand country house is well worth a visit. There's an exciting Bird Garden too - don't miss the penguin's feeding time!

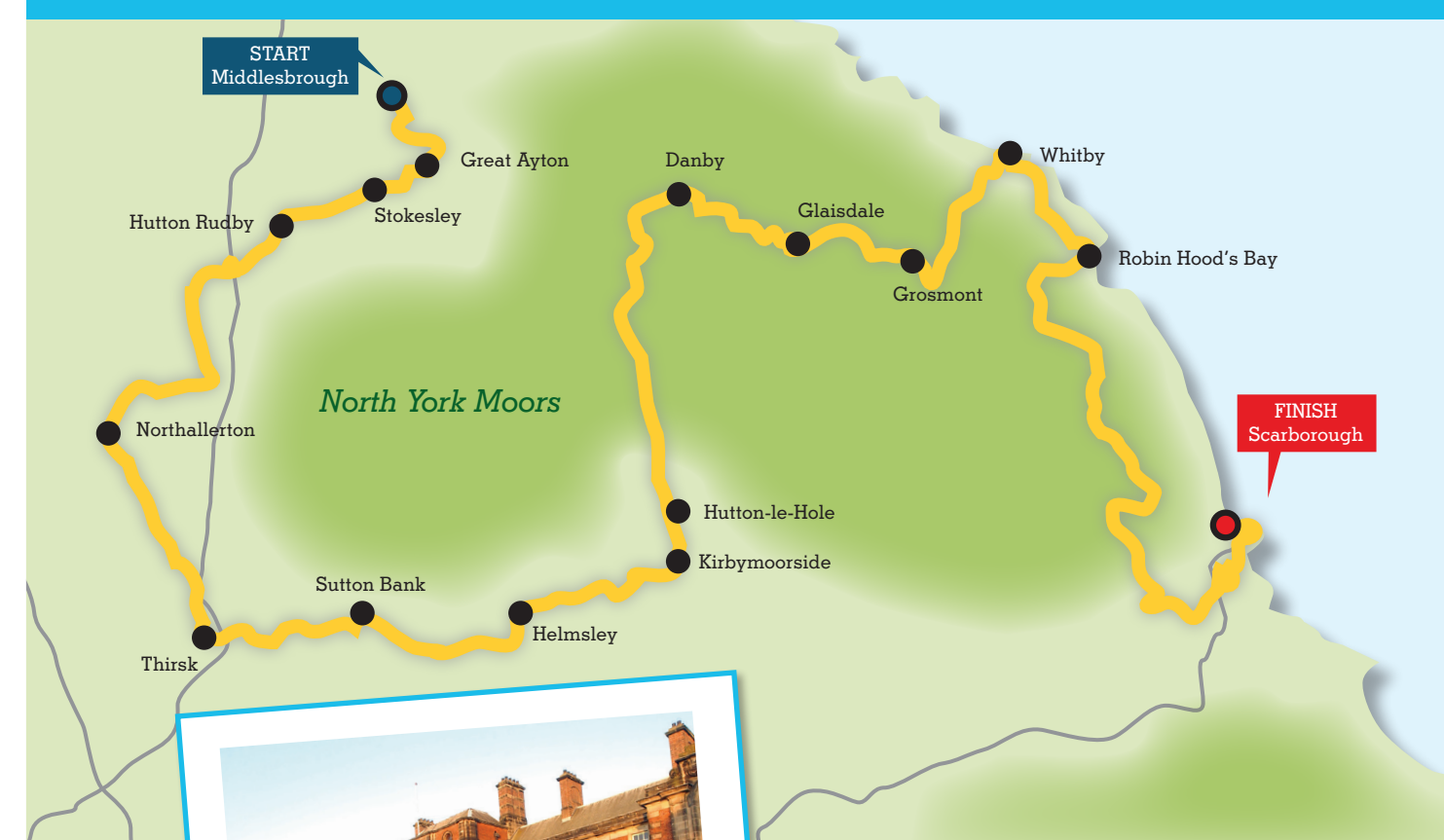


The route through Doncaster takes in the picturesque village of **Hooton Pagnell**. It passes over **Sprotbrough Falls** giving beautiful views of the weirs on the River Don. There will be a sprint point at Warmsworth before a lap around the historic **Conisbrough Castle**, which inspired Sir Walter Scott's *Ivanhoe*. The peloton will then head towards **Tickhill**, with its imposing Buttercross. Stage 2 comes to an end with a race along the perimeter of Doncaster Sheffield Airport, past the Yorkshire Wildlife Park, Doncaster Racecourse and on to a sprint finish on South Parade in **Doncaster** town centre.

Safe Cycling

Cycling anywhere in our region is exhilarating and challenging: we would urge everyone planning to cycle parts of the Tour de Yorkshire route to make sure that they and their bicycle are fully prepared, to look carefully at the route guidance available online and to treat these challenging roads with respect and caution, especially at blind corners and on long descents that can be more demanding than people may expect. Tips on safe cycling can be found on www.roadwise.co.uk.

STAGE 3 - SUNDAY 1 MAY 198 KM



Northallerton is one of the many beautiful Yorkshire towns along the Tour's route. Famous for its lively market and rich heritage, it is also the County town to North Yorkshire and home to the magnificent County Hall. The town has had its share of well known visitors over the years - even Charles Dickens is said to have stayed at the medieval Fleece Inn while writing *Nickleby*.



After their climb at **Grosmont**, riders head on towards the coast at **Whitby** where they might well find themselves racing alongside a classic steam engine. The North Yorkshire Moors Railway drives lovingly restored steam and heritage diesel trains along its own scenic track from Pickering to Whitby. If there's enough room in the Guard's Van on the day, you'll even be able to bring your bicycle on board.

Urban Cycling Guide

Cycling to work or around town? Watch an experienced urban adult cyclist as he rides around city centres familiar to you, offering tips and techniques to keep you safe on your daily journey through the traffic. The Urban Cycling Guide is broken down into a series of short videos tackling everything along your journey: junctions, roundabouts, filtering, hazard perception and challenging turns. Find the Urban Cycling Guide on YouTube!

Cycle Yorkshire - Ride the Routes

Cycling in the countryside can be challenging as well as fun. Go to www.ridetheroutes.co.uk or download the updated Cycle Yorkshire - Ride the Routes free app for tips and techniques for riding on any rural route. The app now includes the 2016 Tour de Yorkshire routes as well as last year's Tour and the original Yorkshire Grand Départ routes from 2014. Watch semi-pro rider Jamie Sharpe as he rides the routes, pointing out potentially challenging sections and how to ride them to maximise your safety and enjoyment.