



THE UNSELFISH GEN

Would you sacrific
a kidney for a stranger

HEIGHT OF BAD TAST

While his people starve
Kim Jong-un builds a ski reso

BRING ME SUNSHIN

Donna Hay's recipe
for brighter days ahead

Hang loose

The living is easy
in this summer's shirtdresses

Four of the best holiday rentals in Yorkshire, by Francesca Syz

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Lendal Tower York My three-year-old actually squealed with delight when we arrived at Lendal Tower ('our little castle') in the centre of York. It may look like a castle, but it was built as a defence fortification on the banks of the Ouse in the 1300s, later housing the donkey-powered pump that brought York's first piped water into the city, and, from 1846, serving as York New Water Works Company's headquarters. After a period of dereliction, the tower was rescued in 2010 by a private investor, and today it is a thoroughly original three-bedroom holiday let with the old boardroom a master suite with freestanding tub. The location is astonishingly central – right next to Lendal Bridge and a three-minute walk from York Minster. On the ground floor there is a double-height living room, dining room and well-equipped kitchen. A wonderfully creaky spiral staircase leads up to the three large wood-panelled bedrooms, one on each floor, with the pièce de résistance – a roof terrace with panoramic views, accessed via a stepladder at the top. **The details** Three-night weekends from £855 (0844-736 7276; gorgeouscottages.com).



Bramblewick Robin Hood's Bay Sheffielders Dawn and Steven Totty fell in love with the Robin Hood's Bay area near Whitby over many years of holidaying there so when the opportunity came to buy a small farmstead on a hill overlooking it, they jumped at the chance. Today they live on the farm and rent out two other beautifully designed cottages, each with one luxurious bedroom. Our favourite is the wonderfully contemporary-feeling, light-filled Bramblewick, set in pretty cottage gardens with terraces for outdoor dining. On the ground floor is a spacious open-plan kitchen-dining-living space with floor-to-ceiling windows overlooking the coast, an Aga and a central fireplace. Upstairs is a cosy bedroom and a 'snug' with a second fireplace. Take the coastal path below the house and it is just under three miles to the fishing village of Robin Hood's Bay (drive and it is 11.5 miles). There are lots of great pubs in the area – it is a two-and-a-half-hour walk along a disused railway line to the closest, Hayburne Wyke in Cloughton, which does an excellent Sunday carvery. **The details** Three-night weekend stays from £930 (uniquehomestays.com).

Broughton Hall near Skipton A 10-minute drive from the market town of Skipton on the edge of the Yorkshire Dales, Broughton Hall has been the home of the Tempest family for about 1,000 years. It is now run by 32nd-generation Roger Tempest. Until two years ago, the family lived in the whole of Broughton Hall. They have now decamped to a wing, making the rest – including a 17th-century barn they call Eden, a five-minute walk from the main house – available for holiday lets and functions. Sleeping 13, the six-bedroom Eden is beautiful, sleek and spacious, with multiple comfortable spaces to lounge, a lovely eat-in kitchen and then a much more traditional feeling dining room for dress-up dinners. There are two bedrooms downstairs, four up. The house has a wood-fired hot tub and camp fire with seating and comes with acres of outdoor space to roam in, including deer-filled woodland to which they have just added 5km of mountain-biking paths. The three Yorkshire Peaks are all within a half-hour drive, as is the Brontë parsonage at Haworth. **The details** Three-night weekends from £1,800 (01756-799608; broughtonhall.co.uk/eden).



Swallow Barn near Whitby Eight miles inland from Whitby in a little valley in the North Yorkshire Moors National Park, the low-impact La Rosa campsite, which offers accommodation in beautifully decorated but basic vintage caravans (with candlelight, composting loos and so on), was a trailblazer in quirky camping experiences when it opened a decade ago. Its latest addition is the Swallow Barn, which is one step up from a caravan, with electricity and a few other mod cons, but not quite a cottage. Expect one big room on the ground floor with a living area, wood burner and a large double bed that can be separated from the rest of the room by a curtain, two adjoining converted stables housing a composting loo and a bath, and, from April, a second bedroom with a double bed, up one flight of stairs. Camping hobs and crockery are found in the campsite's two communal cooking marquees. All profits from stays in the Swallow Barn go to the Open Nest, a charity providing post-adoption support for families (theopennest.co.uk). **The details** From £80 for two people (01947-606981; larosa.co.uk/swallow-barn.html). **Next week: holidays for art lovers**