

# Redcar

## Location, Parking and Access

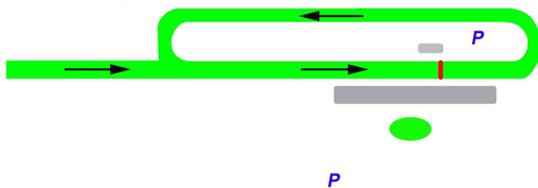


Redcar is located on the east coast not far from Middlesbrough. The nearest trunk routes are the A1(M) and A19. The course is signposted from the main approach routes.

Parking is on hardstanding or grass depending which car park is used.

Redcar Central station is a 5 minute walk from the course and is served by a half hourly service from Darlington, which is on the east coast mainline.

## Course Layout



Redcar is a tight oval of 1 mile 5 furlongs with an extended straight for races of up to a mile in length. It is a left handed (anti-clockwise) course and it is perfectly level throughout.

Despite the somewhat tight bends Redcar strongly favours the galloping sort.

Draw advantage: On the straight course those drawn high have an advantage, especially when the stalls are on the stands side.

## Admission

Redcar now operates a single main enclosure (£12 - £15) and the centre course enclosure (£4 - £5)

Annual membership: £145 single, £225 joint, life membership (over 65's only) £1,035

Like most courses accompanied under 16's are admitted free of charge.

**Discounts: Seniors**  **Group**

## Overview

There are two stands in the main enclosure.

The main stand has tiered viewing on the lower level. (The upper level is reserved for boxes and the restaurant). There is some seating in what was the old members end of the stand.



The second stand consists of tiered viewing only, but to a higher level than the main stand. Both tiered viewing areas are under cover. The area in front of the main stand is relatively narrow.

Viewing is generally good, although there is no big screen so 20/20 vision or binoculars are needed to get a good view of the far end of the straight.

The start of the back straight is obscured by buildings in the course enclosure.

The course enclosure has an open tiered viewing area. There is also a grass mound which allows reasonable viewing of the far side of the track.

There is a building housing a café and bar.

Redcar is a pleasant course staging racing of a reasonable standard. Viewing is good although there is a slightly claustrophobic feel in the main stand as space is limited. It does mean, however, that racegoers are close to the action.

It has to be said that Redcar is not in the prettiest setting. Located in the middle of a housing estate it can best be described as being in an urban setting and looking straight ahead from the stands the skyline is dominated by an industrial skyscape. However look towards the start of the straight there are some lovely views of the North York moors. It has to be said, however, that setting isn't everything and there is a friendly, welcoming, atmosphere at the course.

Everything at Redcar is narrow and that does aid viewing, even the far side of the course is relatively close to the stands and that is presumably why there is no big screen. Viewing of the far end of the straight mile course is difficult so binoculars are recommended.

The course enclosure looks to be better than most and it is also one of the cheapest, evidenced by the large number of patrons in that area.

For a good days racing, you could do a lot worse than spending an afternoon at Redcar.

## **Catering**

The main eating area is the Crows Nest in the main stand offering pre-booked packages from £55 (plus VAT) including admission. This area offers clear viewing of the entire course and the food is of excellent quality.

The Voltigure Restaurant, situated behind the Crows Nest, offers good food without the same views. Offering an a la carte menu, starters £3.15 - £5.95, mains £10.05 - £15.95 and desserts £4.50 - £5.50.

Elsewhere there are the usual food offerings including the inevitable hog roast (£6.00 in a baguette or £4.50 in a bap). Burgers are available for £3.50. Bars serve a range of meals at reasonable prices.

All in all a reasonable selection of food outlets catering for all tastes and budgets. Including sandwiches £2.25 - £2.90 and pies £2.40.

There is also a very good sweetshop located under the main stand, although strangely there were very few chocolate products on sale.

Lager is priced at £3.95 and bitter £3.90.

*Prices correct as at September 2013*

## **Ancillaries**

### **Bookmakers**

33 bookmakers were operating in the main enclosure, with almost as many, 21, in the course enclosure. Betting was to an over round of 2.13% a runner.

### **Racecard**

Cost £2.50, starting with the obligatory welcome message there then followed a two page guide to the main grandstand, concentrating mainly on the bars and restaurants. There are three pages of notices followed by the now standard Trackfacts page.

There was a colour card for one of the days away race meetings. The race details were clear with form guides.

Interestingly the main plan of the course, rather small, dual colour and difficult to read was tucked away between the race two and three details.

The feature race of the day was the Zetland Gold Cup and there was an interesting two page feature on the history of the race before the race details.

### **Toilets**

Toilets were more than adequate and clean. In the main stand there are separate doors for in and out easing congestion.

## **Parade Ring**



Located behind the main stand the attractive parade ring is oval in shape and surrounded by a large amount of tiered viewing areas. This proves to be a popular area. There is plenty of tiered viewing, some of it under cover.

The pre-parade ring is located near the paddock and there is a separate winners enclosure in front of the weighing room.

## **Non Racing Attractions**

It has to be said that Redcar itself is not the prettiest town in the country, nor is its beach particularly attractive. However venture a few miles down the coast and you come to Saltburn-by-the Sea – a most delightful little resort. The North York moors are close to hand and a little further afield are the resorts of Whitby and Scarborough.

<b>Contact Details</b>	
	<a href="http://www.redcarracing.co.uk">www.redcarracing.co.uk</a>
	01642 484068
	Redcar Racecourse The Racecourse Redcar TS10 2BY

<b>Ownership</b>	Private
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<b>Inspection Dates</b>		
<b>Date</b>	<b>Weather</b>	<b>Type</b>
28/05/07	Overcast and windy, showers later on	7 flat bank holiday
17/10/08	Overcast with sunny spells, cold.	8 flat midweek
03/09/09	Overcast and windy	7 flat midweek
01/08/12	Overcast and windy	8 flat midweek
11/09/13	Overcast and very windy	8 flat midweek