PLACES OF INTEREST

BELLINGHAM: Said to be sited on a Roman station. St Cuthbert’s Church was consecrated in 1180 and is unique in having an arched stone roof built in response to the repeated burning of its former wooden roof by border raiders. ‘Cuddy’s Well’ is thought to have been used by St Cuthbert for baptisms, and to retain miraculous healing powers. HARESHAW LINN - a waterfall hidden in ancient woodland, is a short walk from Bellingham.

HESLEYSIDE HALL: The house is the home of the Charlton family, and was built in 1719 with later alterations and an earlier core. It stands on or near the site of a 14th century tower or baste house. Nearby in the Chirdon Burn valley is the remains of DALLY CASTLE - built in the 13th century as a ‘hall-house’ (a defensible building) for a Scottish nobleman.

GREENHAUGH: Situated in the Tarset Burn valley, the village is overlooked by Kielder Forest and the vast moorland expanses of Hareshaw and Troughend Common. The Holly Bush Inn dates back to the early 18th century.

BASTLE: These are fortified farm houses built to withstand the frequent cross border raids. The stout walls protected the family and their livestock from the Border Reivers. BLACK MIDDENS BASTLE (pictured) - was built in the 16th/17th century. There are many such bastles in this area, relics of a time when this was a lawless frontier between Scotland and England.

ESSENTIAL INFORMATION

Bellingham & North Tyne Circular Cycle Routes: Largely follow the existing National Cycle Network - Pennine Cycleway Route 68, Reivers Route 10 to Greenhaugh. There are hills to negotiate on all the routes, nothing too steep, but some long climbs.

Cycle Hire: Purple Mountain, Kielder T: 01434 250532 The Bike Place, Kielder T: 01434 250457 The Bike Place, Bellingham T: 01434 220210

Cycle Repair: The Bike Shop, Hexham T: 01434 601032 Bicycle Repair Man, Prudhoe T: 01434 830618

Other Cycle Routes: Pennine Cycleway Route R68 Hadrian’s Cycleway Route R72 Reivers Route R10

Start & Finish: Bellingham Square Distance: 12 miles Time: 2 hours

Route: Moderate with some hill climbs

Type of Bike: Mountain bikes or hybrids

Description: Follows the existing National Cycle Network, R.68 and R.10, to Greenhaugh in a circular route along quiet country lanes

Remember! Waterproofs, puncture repair kit and/or spare inner tube

OS Map: Explorer OL42 and OL43 or Landranger 80 and 87

Local Facilities: Bellingham - toilets, cafes, pubs, shops, accommodation and Heritage Centre with Tourist Information

Nearest Railway Station: Hexham (Newcastle/Carlisle service) Trains carry a limited number of cycles free of charge on a ‘first come, first served’ basis. Pick up a timetable, or phone 08457 484950

Traveline: 0871 200 22 33

www.northumberlandnationalpark.org.uk
Whilst we have made every effort to suggest routes that are safe for cycling on legal rights of way, neither the producers or publishers of this leaflet can accept any responsibility arising from its use.

DIRECTIONS

Turn left out of Bellingham (Manchester Square) and head towards Bellingham Bridge, past St. Cuthbert’s Church on your left.

Pass Hesleyside Hall - the ancestral home of the Charlton’s, a famous Border Reiving family. ★
Further on pass Snabdaugh - 15th century farmhouse and bastle. ★
Just after the hump back bridge detour up to the ruins of Dally Castle. ★

B Right at the junction, R.10, and follow road up the hill to Lanehead.

C Lanehead. Continue up hill into Greenhaugh ★. Refreshment stop. Holly Bush Inn or picnic in the Greenhaugh community orchard. Retrace route back through Greenhaugh to D.

D Signposted ‘Otterburn/Elsdon’. The road climbs up onto Sandysike and Meadhopelaw.

E Right. Signposted ‘Bellingham’. Follow road back downhill and into Bellingham, and return to Manchester Square.

DALLY CASTLE

Built in the 13th century as a ‘hall-house’ (a defensible building) for a Scottish nobleman. By the 14th century Dally had become more castle like in appearance when it was converted to a ‘tower-house’. It fell into ruin in the 18th century.

BUZZARD FACTS

The buzzard is a medium to large bird of prey, and can often be seen soaring above the landscape. It eats mainly small mammals, pheasant, and rabbits. The call is a ‘peeo-oy’, similar to a cat’s meow.

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