



# Hawick

Set in bonnie Teviotdale, Hawick is the largest of the Border towns and is internationally famous for its fine quality knitwear. You will find big names and small businesses whose products can be bought in the many specialist shops. A textile mill can be seen at Peter Scott's in Buccleuch Street in Hawick. In former times there were many mills along the banks of the Teviot and its tributary streams, notably the Slitrig.

Hawick-born folk are known as Teries from the town's motto 'Ye Teribus y Teriodin', which is thought to derive from an ancient rallying call used in battle. You will find this motto carved on the plinth of the famous Horse Statue at the junction of the roads from Selkirk and Jedburgh. From here the long High Street, busy with shops, heads south to the Tourist Information Centre and to the museum located in the historic Drumlanrig's Tower. This is a romantic monument with a dark history, woven into the fabric of Hawick, and a stronghold of cross-Border warfare.

There are many fine buildings of historical interest in Hawick and a Town Trail leaflet describing them is available. The award-

winning Wilton Lodge Park on the banks of the River Teviot extends to over 100 acres with riverside and treelined walks and a walled garden with superb floral displays. The Hawick Museum and Scott Gallery reflect the town's history and also house exhibitions.

The Hawick Common Riding is held annually in early June and commemorates an event in 1514 when Hawick men defeated a body of English soldiers, capturing their banner. Other regular events include the Reiver Festival in Spring and the Summer Festival in August.

The river Teviot runs alongside the route as it flows through the town. Goosander can be seen in the winter months. Look out for ducklings, swan, grey wagtail, sand martin and heron.

Wilton Parish Church dates from 1860 and was designed by J.T. Emmet. The adjacent church hall has unusual spiralled brick chimneys.

Stirches Convent or to give it its proper title, St. Andrew's Convent. (originally a former house) was restored and extended by J. P. Alison in 1900. Since 1926 it has been a Roman Catholic Retirement Home for Ladies.

## Along the way Hawick to Selkirk

### Forestry at Salenside and Hartwoodmyres

The trees in these forests have been planted commercially. The trees used include Sitka spruce, Norway spruce, larch, pine and fir. The timber is felled in sections and the areas replanted. Wood will be used for paper, building and fencing amongst other uses. Look out for woodland flowers such as wood sorrel and primrose and signs of roe deer.

### Upland areas at Drinkstone Hill and near Wolrig

Sheep and cattle are farmed in these areas. Listen for curlew, buzzard and skylark.

### The Bishop's Stone

An undressed boulder built horizontally into the base of the dyke. It was thought to have been placed here to mark the boundary of the lands belonging to the Bishops of Glasgow, who owned most of the land in Ashkirk parish from as early as the 12th century.

### Bowhill

Bowhill House, ancestral home of the Dukes of Buccleuch, can be seen from Hartwoodmyres forest. The Gilkeekit bridge is part of a path linking the Borders Abbeys Way from Middlestead farm to Bowhill paths.

### The Haining

The Haining mansion house, can be seen at the Selkirk end of the Hawick to Selkirk walk. The original house, which was built in 1794, was re-modelled in 1819 and was damaged by fire in 1944. It is interesting to note that to the left of the house on the small Peel Hill, lay the long demolished medieval Selkirk Castle.

1. Hartwoodmyres Forest 2. Logs 3. Blackface Ewe with lamb  
4. The Haining Stables 5. The Haining Doocot 6. The Haining



- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.



# Hawick to Selkirk

Farmland, forestry, views

**Path surfaces** - Roads, farm tracks, forest rides

**Distance** - 19km/12miles approx

**Total ascent** - 350metres/1150feet approx

## Hawick to Selkirk

This section of the Way starts with a long, steady climb out of Hawick and Teviotdale onto the side of Drinkstone Hill and into typical Border hill farming countryside, and some forestry. The route then drops down into the valley of the Ale Water near the village of Ashkirk and then proceeds by way of the old track, known as the Thief Road, to Wollrig. After following a stretch of minor road to reach the highest point of the section at Hartwoodmyres Forest the route passes through the forest and continues down past Middlestead, Brownmoor and The Haining to enter Selkirk at the West Port.

Heading from Selkirk to Hawick is a good way to do this section as it allows for good views towards Hawick and the Liddesdale hills going downhill on the road at the end of the days walk.

This section may be done in two shorter stages between Ashkirk and Hawick and Ashkirk and Selkirk. Take the bus to Ashkirk and walk along the road to join the route back to your start point.

## Maps

The section described here is covered by OS Landranger maps 79 (Hawick and Eskdale) and 73 (Peebles and Galashiels) and by OS Explorer maps 331 and 338.

## Buses

There is a regular bus service between Hawick and Selkirk (service 95) running hourly Monday to Saturday and two-hourly on Sundays. The journey time between Hawick and Selkirk is about 30 minutes.

For timetable details, contact:

**Traveline on 0871 200 2233**

**[www.travelinescotland.com](http://www.travelinescotland.com)**, enquire at the bus stances in Hawick or Selkirk, or at any Tourist Information Centre in the region.

1. Badger 2. Toad 3. Fox 4. Rabbit 5. Brown hare  
6. Wood mouse 7. Roe deer 8. Weasel

1.	2.	3.	4.
5.	6.	7.	8.

## Car Parking

There are large car parks at the Teviotdale Leisure Centre, Hawick and off the Market Square in Selkirk. Please do not park elsewhere along the route, and never block access gates or farm roads. There is a small car park at Hartwoodmyres.

## Tourist Information

There are Tourist Information Centres at Tower Knowe, High Street, Hawick and at Halliwell's House, off the Market Square in Selkirk. For opening times and other information see **[www.visitscottishborders.com](http://www.visitscottishborders.com)** or **tel: 0870 608 0404**.

## Toilets

There are public toilets at the Common Haugh car park, Victoria Road, Hawick and in the Teviotdale Leisure Centre, Hawick. In Selkirk there are public toilets just off Market Square.

## Refreshments

There are shops including bakeries, and general stores in both Hawick and Selkirk. There is a range of tearooms, restaurants, hotels and bars in both towns.



## Paths to Health

Short walks on this section include

### Hartwoodmyres Forest Paths

- follow the Borders Abbeys Way for a short distance from the entrance to the forest and return on one of the waymarked routes managed by Buccleuch Estates. Forest tracks and woodland paths.

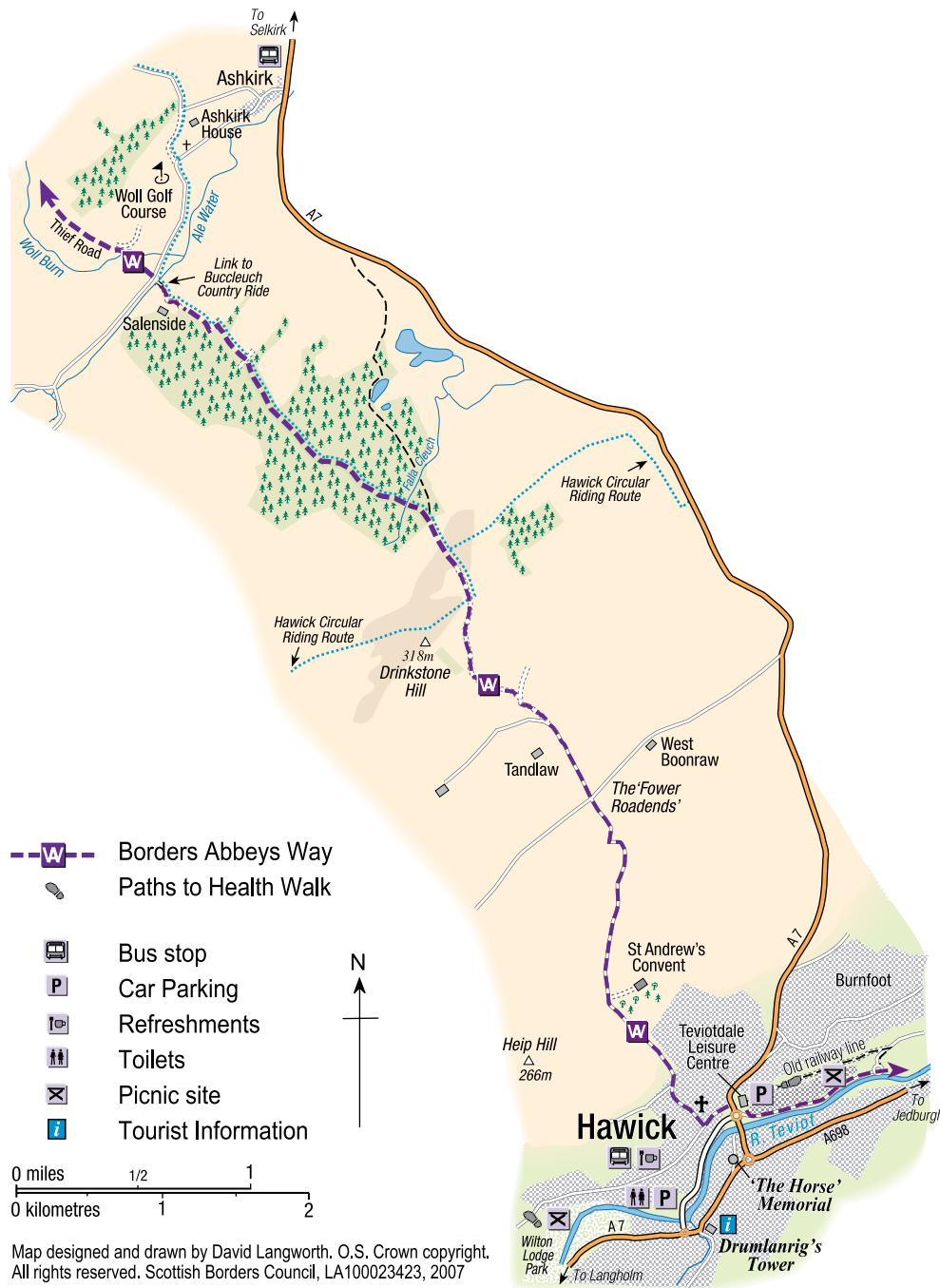
### Wilton Lodge Park in Hawick.

Level tarmac paths.

**Bowhill Estate** (parking/ admission charge in season) Woodland tracks and paths and estate roads.

# The Borders Abbeys Way Hawick to Selkirk

## Part 1 Hawick to near Ashkirk



Leave the **Teviotdale Leisure Centre** and cross the A7 road into Princes Street. Continue along Princes Street for approximately 200 metres and turn right uphill into Dickson Street. Continue up Dickson Street, passing **Wilton Parish Church** on your right. Go straight up this road and continue uphill, eventually leaving the town. The road narrows now, and as you continue, you pass the imposing red tiled **St. Andrew's Convent**.

Continue straight on past the entrance to the convent and follow the road through a series of dips. An extensive view opens up on the right, looking across the A7 to Rubers Law. Looking back from time to time on this section, there are also good views beyond Hawick to the Liddesdale Hills. After a further 2km a minor crossroads is reached, known locally as **'The Fower (Four) Road ends'**.

Pass straight over the junction onto the single track road, which takes you past roads on the left, the first leading to **Tandlaw** and the second to **Drinkstone Farm**. You now join a track, which is followed to the top of the hill. You will have completed 200 metres/ 650 feet of climb from Hawick. Here you fork left over a stile. Follow the track for a further 200 metres and after passing over the stile, follow the clearly defined track which continues uphill and to the

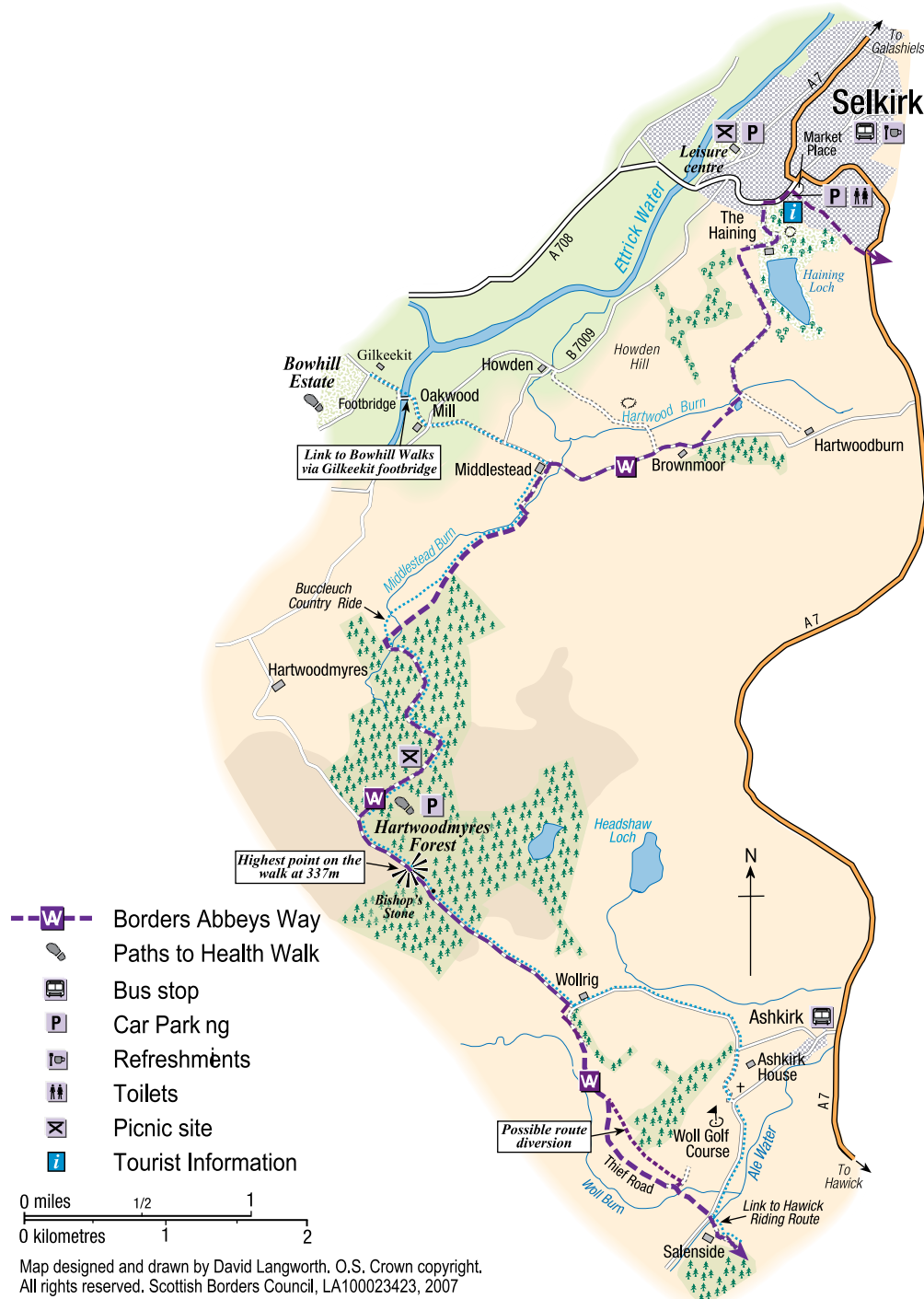
right. You eventually join the Hawick Circular Riding Route and after passing through the gate, follow the track parallel to the fence on the left until a second small gate is reached. After passing through the gate, go downhill and slightly to the right to another gateway. Pass through the gate and then go slightly left, through forestry, down to the burn, **Falla Cleuch**.

After crossing the burn, continue uphill, keeping the dyke and then the fence on your right. Follow the grass track as it proceeds along the left side of an older plantation to the brow of the hill before it drops down to meet a more clearly defined track. Follow this track straight ahead for approximately 800 metres until a small gate is reached at a track junction. After passing through the gate, follow the path between the plantation and the wall for a short distance, before entering a small wood. On leaving the wood, follow the waymarked route and join a clear track past a house on the left (**Salenside**). After approximately 150 metres, cross a bridge over the Ale Water onto a minor road. Turn right onto this road.

(To reach Ashkirk and the A7 continue along this road bearing left at the road junctions (2km))

# The Borders Abbeys Way Hawick to Selkirk

## Part 2 Ashkirk to Selkirk



After 80 metres, turn left over a stile. You are now on what is known as the **Thief Road** that takes you along the left side of the field. Pass over a ladder stile onto the golf course. Please give way to any golfers in play and beware of any golf balls in flight. Follow the waymarked route which will take you across a bridge on the left that crosses the burn and across to the other side of the course. Turn left here, and follow the track that runs parallel with the fence and then the wall, on your right. There may be a diversion in place here which will be waymarked.

Continue to follow this track through a small forest and into a field. On reaching the small wood at the top of the hill, carry straight on for a short distance, again keeping the fence on the right, until you reach a second track. Turn right onto this track and continue to the gateway that leads onto the minor road at **Wollrig**. Cross the stile, turn left onto this road and continue for 2km, climbing steadily. The top of this road is the highest point of this section of the walk at 337m/ 1105ft. There is an extensive view looking back, with the Cheviot Hills clearly visible in good conditions. Turn right into the parking area at **Hartwoodmyres** and follow the forest track straight ahead for about 1km. Follow this road as it continues downhill, first swinging to the left and then to the right as it does so. Then take the second forestry road on the left. Continue on this road for 400 metres to where it swings left and drops over **Middlestead Burn**. Turn right as the road rises. After 50 metres, do not follow the riding route through the gate but turn right and continue between the fence and the wood, to a wall. Pass through the gap in the wall, cross the stile and turn right onto the farm track where you rejoin

the riding route. Go on for approximately 150 metres and pass through another gate. After a further 400 metres you reach a double gate. Follow the track to yet another gate, with a wetland area on the right, and then continue for approximately 300 metres on the farm track that takes you through **Middlestead** farm steading and onto the minor road. Please take care passing through the steading, as there may be farm vehicles working here. There may also be cows. Keep your dogs on a short lead or under close control here.

Turn right onto the road and follow it for about 1km. After passing **Brownmoor Farm** on the right, the road drops downhill. On reaching the small lay-by on the right, turn left and cross the stile into the field. Follow the right edge of the field to the corner. Turn left and continue to the stile ahead. After crossing the stile and the bridge over **Hartwood Burn**, turn right over a stile along the field edge and over a further stile. Continue to follow the field edge for 50 metres until a farm track is reached. Turn left onto this farm track and in 800 metres; follow the track to the left across the field. If you look to the right you will see the **Haining Loch** through the trees. After passing an old stone dovecote on the right you reach a stile. Follow the path into the wood and turn right onto a track that continues past the stable buildings on the right. The track swings left onto the driveway that leads to **The Haining** mansion house, which is visible on the right. Continue down the driveway and pass under the arched gateway onto the road at the **West Port**. Turn right and go uphill into Selkirk's **Market Square** to end this section of the Way.