Countryside Visits

Easy Access to the Countryside

Short, easy walks for everyone in the Scottish Borders. Including places to visit with some access for wheelchair users.



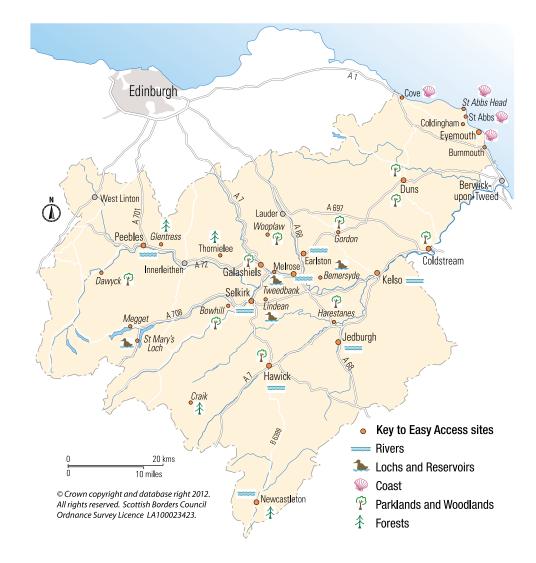






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Dr Eric Baijial, Joint Director of Public Health for Scottish Borders Council and NHS Borders



Peebles

Introduction

As Joint Director of Public Health for both Scottish Borders Council and NHS Borders I am delighted that NHS Borders is supporting the launch of the Easy Access to the Countryside publication. NHS Borders support the WalkIt project and in conjunction with Paths for All introduce this brochure which brings some of the fantastic Easy Access Walks available in the Scottish Borders together.

The production of this booklet has very much been a team effort and has involved several key partners supporting Scottish Borders Council.

NHS Boards in Scotland have the statutory purposes of "the securing of improved health for people in Scotland and the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of illness". Walking is a fantastic way to add physical activity into your lifestyle and brings many health benefits as well as the wellbeing factor of being out in the Borders countryside and fresh air. We hope you all enjoy the publication.

1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	Cover image – Hay Lodge Park
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- 1. Welcome to the Scottish Borders 2. Jedburgh Waterside 3. Walkers at Harestanes 4. Primrose
- 5. Walklt walkers Melrose 6. Borders Abbeys Way 7. Peebles riverside 8. Peebles Walklt group.

walkit

WalkIt is the Paths to Health Project in the Scottish Borders and aims to encourage people to take up walking as part of a healthier lifestyle. Our walks are usually short and easy, though the routes can sometimes involve rough paths and low level gradients. All the routes in this booklet are WalkIt routes.

For information telephone 01835 825060. or find us on the web at www.scotborders.gov.uk/WalkIt

Walkers with visual impairments are welcome on WalkIt walks. Volunteers who can act as leaders or sighted guides for these walks may be contacted through Walk It. There are equal opportunities for disabled volunteers with Walk It.

For further information contact:

Walk It

Scottish Borders Council tel: 01835 825070 WalkIt@scotborders.gov.uk

Borders Health Board

National Health Service Borders tel: 01896 826000 www.nhsborders.scot.nhs.uk

Why get out and about on a walk?

- · Get some exercise
- Enjoy the fresh air
- Listen to birdsong
- Discover a new place
- Watch a heron
- Enjoy some company
- Get away from the TV
- Spot a squirrel
- Reduce stress
- Take a photograph

Paths for All Partnership

tel: 0786 641851 www.pathsforall.org.uk info@pathsforall.org.uk











Countryside with Easy Access

This booklet aims to provide information on some good places to visit and enjoy wildlife in the countryside of the Scottish Borders. It describes places to visit with some access paths which are wide, fairly level and hard surfaced. Some paths may be suitable for people with limited mobility, some wheelchair users and people pushing a child in a buggy. It is hoped that this will be of assistance to wheelchair users and others with limited mobility to plan a visit to the countryside.

For many of the sites there is a contact telephone number of a manager or countryside ranger who could give further details. The list of sites is not comprehensive and is meant as a guideline only. The accessibility of a location in the countryside for wheelchair users is liable to change with the weather and to be dependent on the physical ability of the wheelchair user, the assistance they have available and the type of wheelchair.

Scottish Borders Council Countryside Ranger Service wishes to thank the many people of varying abilities who helped to produce this guide. In particular some groups worked hard to assist in the updating of this information.

A group from the Ability Centre surveyed a number of the sites mentioned in this guide during the years between 2002 and 2008, the Katharine Elliot Centre's Hawick and Jedburgh groups in 2009 and 2010, and the Borders Disability Forum in 2010, 2011 and 2012.

Some of the photographs taken on these visits have been used in this publication. The Ability Centre's Outdoor Visit Diary included this quote:

"We have enjoyed the visits. I didn't realise there were so many places to visit on our doorstep."

The Borders Disability Forum and WalkIt Group continue to update this information with outdoor visits to countryside locations planned for future years.

Scottish Borders Council Countryside Ranger Service produced this information. The rangers can give further information on general countryside access in the Scottish Borders area. They would welcome comments on the usefulness of this information, and any suggestions.



Walkers

Scottish Borders Council Countryside

Ranger Service Council HQ, Newtown St Boswells MELROSE TD6 0SA tel: 01835 825070 email: rangers@scotborders.gov.uk

or

Borders Disability Forum

Countryside with Easy Access website www.onlineborders.org.uk/community/bdfc

General Advice

Before setting off, always check the weather forecast and prepare yourself accordingly. Remember that weather conditions can change rapidly. Remember that hot weather, causing sunburn and/ or dehydration, can be just as debilitating as rain. Always carry adequate cover for your body in all conditions. You should always wear or carry good waterproofs, windproof clothing and refreshments, just in case.

Take great care when walking on country roads.

- · Pavements or paths should be used if provided.
- If there is no pavement or path, walk on the right-hand side of the road so that you can see oncoming traffic. You should take extra care and be prepared to walk in single file. especially on narrow roads or in poor light. Keep close to the side of the road. It may be safer to cross the road well before a sharp right-hand bend (so that oncoming traffic has a better chance of seeing you). Cross back after the bend.
- · Help other road users to see you. Wear or carry something light coloured, bright or fluorescent in poor daylight conditions.



1. Comma Butterfly 2. picnic tables 3. Jedburgh Abbey and riverside path 4. Selkirk riverside 5. Leaderfoot 6 Lindean Loch 7. Common Blue butterfly 8. Starfish.



Livestock and Wildlife

Dogs can be a particular concern for farmers during lambing time (March – May) and when cows are calving (Spring & Autumn).

Dogs therefore should not be taken into fields where there are young livestock. This includes all young livestock such as lambs, calves and foals. In more open countryside where lambs are present, keep your dog on a short lead.

Disturbance at this time can separate young livestock from their mothers leaving them cold, hungry and exposed to predators.

Dogs should not be taken into fields of cattle when they have calves, as the cows see a dog as a threat and may attack it. Go into a neighbouring field or onto adjacent land.

During the bird breeding season (April -June) keep your dog under close control or on a short lead in ground nesting areas.

Without a dog, if you walk quietly through livestock areas, keeping a safe distance from stock and watching them carefully, you should experience little or no difficulty. Please leave gates as you find them and ensure that if you have to open a gate, you

close it securely behind you. Thank you for your cooperation, which will help to ensure that these walks are available for those who follow in your footsteps in future years.

Health Warning!

Infections from animals can cause serious human illness. Stay safe from diseases when out in the countryside by:

- a. Washing hands with soap & water (or use wet wipes) after visiting the toilet, after activities, touching animals and before handling, cooking and eating food
- b. Taking care to avoid spreading animal faeces on footwear
- c. Avoiding camping or having a picnic on land which has recently been used for grazing animals
- d. Not drinking untreated water from rivers, streams and lochs
- e. Avoiding tick bites; cover legs when walking through long vegetation

Contact the Public Health Department for more information 01896 825 560



Comma Butterfly

Access in Scotland

The Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 and the Scottish Outdoor Access Code came into effect in February 2005. The LRSA establishes a statutory right of responsible access to land and inland waters for outdoor recreation, crossing land, and some educational and commercial purposes. The Scottish Outdoor Access Code gives detailed guidance on your responsibilities when exercising access rights and if you are managing land and water. The Act sets out where and when access rights apply. The Code defines how access rights should be exercised responsibly.



Know the Code before you go... **Enjoy Scotland's outdoors** responsibly!

Enjoy Scotland's outdoors! Everyone has the right to be on most land and inland water for recreation, education and for going from place to place providing they act responsibly. These access rights and responsibilities are explained in the Scottish Outdoor Access Code. The key things are:

When you're in the outdoors:

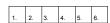
- · take personal responsibility for your own actions and act safely;
- · respect people's privacy and peace of
- help land managers and others to work safely and effectively:
- · care for your environment and take your litter home:
- keep your dog under proper control;
- take extra care if you're organising an event or running a business.

When you're managing the outdoors:

- respect access rights;
- · act reasonably when asking people to avoid land management operations;
- work with your local authority and other bodies to help integrate access and land management;
- respect rights of way and customary access:

Find out more by visiting

www.outdooraccess-scotland.scot or telephoning your local Nature Scotland



1. Chaffinch 2. Rabbit 3. Cattle 4. Farmer and Eildon Hills 5. Tractor 6. Ewes and lambs



Core Paths

Many of the paths in this booklet are core paths. Core paths provide the basic framework of legally recognised, promoted and signposted paths. These link to the wider path network of other formal and informal paths and to the wider countryside. Details of local core paths at www.scotborders.gov. uk/corepaths

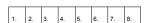
Toilets

RADAR wheelchair access toilets are available in most Borders towns. Where there are other wheelchair access toilets, these are shown on the maps for the routes.

Further information www.scotborders.gov.uk

Parking

Most locations listed have free parking and some wheelchair access parking provided. Details on maps and for each route description.



- 1. Disabled Parking 2. Easy Access path 3. Herring gull
- 4. Fingerpost at Scott Park Galashiels
- 5. Southern Upland Way waypost 6. Hay Lodge park
- 7. Waverly path near Teviotdale Leisure Centre.



Lindean Loch

Waymarking and Maps

The majority of the routes are waymarked. however an appropriate map could be used in conjunction with this booklet for further interest. Local leaflets may also be available from some locations and further information is often available from a website.

The Paths around Towns booklets and Town Trail leaflets also provide information on further walk possibilities: visit www.scotborders.gov.uk/walking Ordnance Survey maps in the 1:25 000 Explorer range provide detailed information.

Admission Charges

A few locations with particular countryside interest have been included that have a small admission charge or parking charge. Details may change and are correct at time of going to press.

Swimming Pools

A number of the routes listed in this booklet are adjacent to swimming pools. Many have accessible toilets and café areas with vending machines. Whether or not you intend to go for a swim, these venues are open to the public to visit during opening hours. As such they can be a useful stopping place as part of your countryside visit. Below are listed the swimming pools near the routes listed. Other pools are located at Kelso and Duns.

Live Borders

tel: 01896 661166 | www.liveborders.co.uk

Route	Facility	Café area with vending machines	Toilets and Disabled Toilets	Swimming Pool
Waverley Path Hawick	Teviotdale Leisure Centre	Yes	Yes	Yes
Selkirk Riverside	Selkirk Leisure Centre	Yes	Yes	Yes
Gala Policies and Scott Park Galashiels	Galashiels Swimming Pool	Yes	Yes	Yes
Peebles Riverside	Gytes Leisure Centre		Yes	No
Peebles Riverside	Peebles Swimming Pool	Yes	Yes	Yes
Eyemouth Seafront	Eyemouth Leisure Centre	Yes	Yes	Yes

Jedburgh Riverside - Laidlaw Memorial Pool Jedburgh -**Jedburgh Leisure Facilities Trust**

tel: 01835 863430 | www.laidlawmemorialpool.org.uk

Route	Facility	Café area with vending machines	Toilets and Disabled Toilets	Swimming Pool
Jedburgh Riverside	Laidlaw Memorial Pool Jedburgh	Yes	Yes	Yes



Rivers - Teviot and Wilton Lodge Park, Hawick

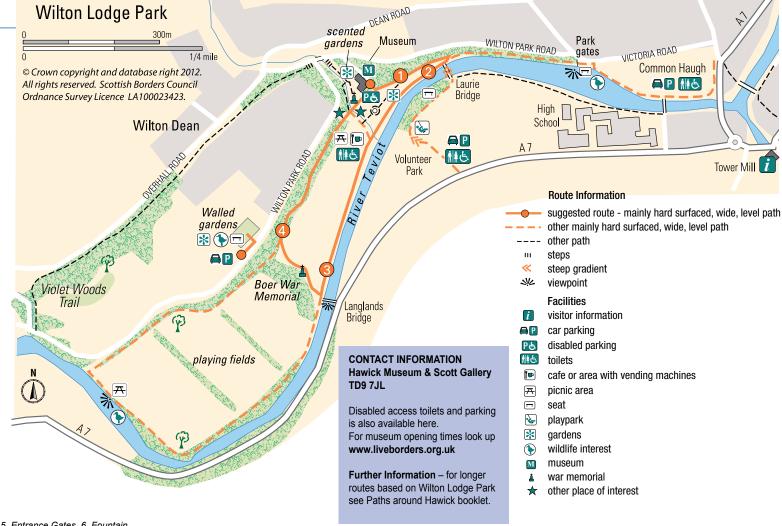
walkit

Extensive park area at the edge of the town steeped in Hawick history. Paths follow the river Teviot and return to the museum through the park. Some natural woodland and lawns with colourful flower beds.

Start and finish: Common Haugh Car Park. Hawick. TD9 7AH

Distance: 1-2¹/₂ miles/2-4km Time: Allow 2 hours to explore. Terrain: Wide tarmac paths with a few slopes and some uneven sections.

- 1. Follow the river Teviot upstream along the edge of the car park and through the gates of the park.
- 2. Go along the main drive.
- 3. Join the riverside path, to the far end of the park, to a road.
- 4. Turn right, staying on the park path, and with the playing fields on your right, to return through the park to the museum
- 5. Return to the car park by the main driveway.



- 1. River Teviot 2. Mallard Ducks 3. Picnic Area 4. Laurie Bridge 5. Entrance Gates 6. Fountain
- 7. War Memorial 8. Daffodil



Rivers - Jedburgh Riverside

walkit

Start and finish: Lothian Park Car park near Jedburgh Abbey.

Distance: 11/2 mile/2.5km

(total of 3 miles/5km including return) Terrain: Hard tarmac fairly level path for Borders Abbeys Way and Riverside. The access near the cauld is a short slightly rough section at start leads to level hard path alongside Jed Water. Lothian Park has hard surfaced narrow path.

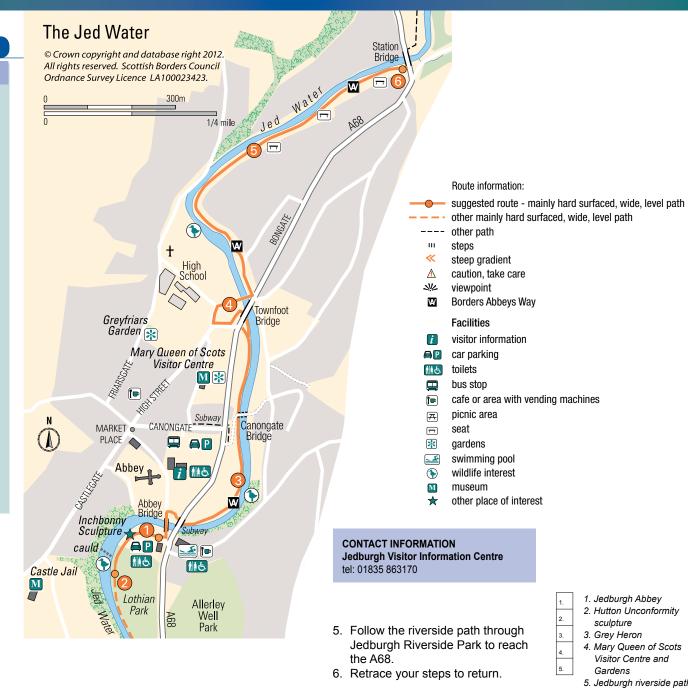
Parking: at Lothian Park near the abbey also in town and parking on roadside where Borders Abbeys Way leaves street near Fire Station.

Toilets: Nearest wheelchair access RADAR toilet Jedburgh Car park Visitor Information centre.

Facilities: Information boards, Huttons Unconformity Sculpture By Max Nowell, children's play area adjacent to information centre.

Includes: Jedburgh Waterside Park, Borders Abbeys Way, Lothian Park and Jed Water in the town centre with views of the river, and the abbev. Cliffs on opposite bank are host to trees, and birds.

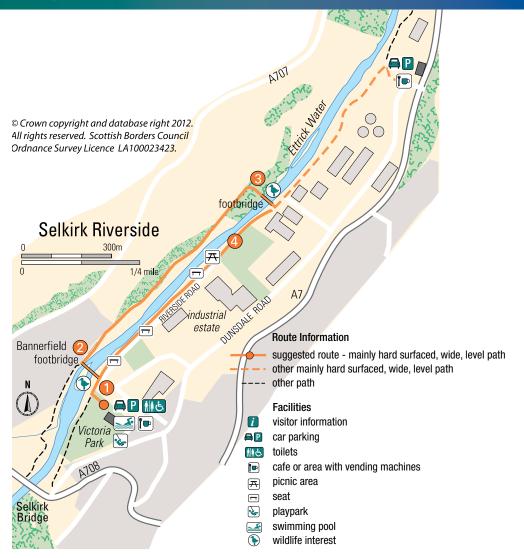
- 1. Lothian Park Follow the path along the riverside through Lothian Park to cauld and alongside river.
- 2. Retrace your steps to return.
- 3. Riverside park From Lothian Park cross bridge to join the Borders Abbeys Way through underpass on level tarmac path to Canongate bridge.
- 4. Continue through underpass following the Borders Abbeys Way route around the streets to reach the riverside path again.



- 1. Jedburgh Abbey
- 2. Hutton Unconformity sculpture
- 3. Grev Heron
- 4. Mary Queen of Scots Visitor Centre and Gardens
- 5. Jedburgh riverside path







Rivers - Selkirk Riverside - Paths by Ettrick Water

walkit

Start and finish: Selkirk Leisure Centre

(Swimming Pool) car park. Distance: 1mile/2km

Terrain: Fairly level fairly wide tarmac

Parking: at Selkirk Swimming Pool,

Victoria Park, Selkirk.

Toilets: Wheelchair access toilet at Swimming Pool during opening hours Facilities: Picnic tables, bench seats, caravan site, children's play area.

- 1. From the end of the car park turn right to follow the riverside path downstream a short distance to a bridge.
- 2. Cross the river and go through a small gate to the riverside woodland area. This is a mainly level path, with some slightly narrow sections and one short steep section.
- 3. Cross the ramped bridge across the river.
- 4. Return to the car park through the riverside park areas with bench seats and views.

CONTACT INFORMATION Selkirk Leisure Centre - Live Borders

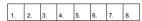
tel: 01750 20897 www.liveborders.org.uk

Paths around Selkirk Booklet www.scotborders.gov.uk/walking

Salmon Viewing Visitor Centre Philiphaugh by Selkirk

This Wildlife Information Visitor Centre is accessible with video of salmon. other river fish and other wildlife. There is also some audio information available.

How to get there: from Selkirk take the Moffat Road for a mile or so and turn into Philiphaugh Farm. There is a car park at Philiphaugh Farm near to the visitor centre. There are some paths that are low level but rough that lead to viewing area for salmon ladder and riverside paths.



^{1.} Bridge 2. Rotary Club path 3. Riverside path 4. On Bridge 5. View of Ettrick 6. Path

^{7.} Salmon at Philiphaugh Cauld 8. Looking out at the Cauld at Philiphaugh



Rivers - Peebles Riverside and Hay Lodge Park

walkit

A selection of low level paths allow for a variety of routes. Good level tarmac paths by the river and in neighbouring park areas.

Ninians Haugh and Hay Lodge Park **Start and finish:** Tweedside Car park

Distance: 1mile/1.5km

Terrain: Mainly wide tarmac paths with

some sloping sections.

Parking: at Tweedside car park, also at Gytes Leisure Centre and near Cuddy Burn

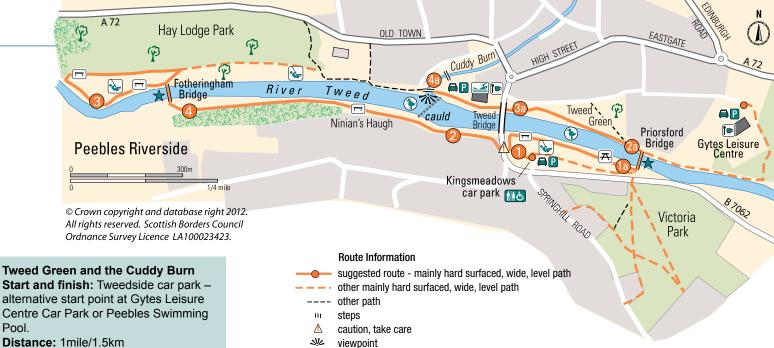
at Peebles Swimming Pool.

Toilets: Wheelchair access RADAR toilet

at Tweedside car park.

Facilities: Bench seats, picnic tables, river views, children's play area, fishing platforms along river side.

- 1. Follow shallow sloping access paths on to the Tweed Road Bridge.
- 2. Cross the road and continue on the riverside path to Fotheringham Bridge.
- 3. Cross the Bridge and continue on the riverside in Hay Lodge Park. Turn right onto park paths and return to Fotheringham Bridge.
- 4. Retrace your steps to return.



Tweed Green and the Cuddy Burn

alternative start point at Gytes Leisure Centre Car Park or Peebles Swimming

Pool.

Distance: 1mile/1.5km

Terrain: mainly wide tarmac paths with some sloping sections.

- 1a. From Tweedside car park. Cross the Priorsford Bridge.
- 2a. Turn left and along the riverside at Tweed Green.
- 3a. Keep left on the riverside path and under the road bridge and continue with the swimming pool on your right.
- 4a. The path reaches the Cuddy Burn. This area is a good viewpoint for river birds. Retrace your steps to return.

Facilities

■ car parking

toilets

cafe or area with vending machines

|| | picnic area

□ seat

₽ playpark

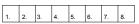
swimming pool

wildlife interest

Other routes are possible including paths at Victoria Park.

Look out for riverside birds - goosander, mallard, dipper, mute swan, coot, moorhen, black-headed gull, grey wagtail and fish jumping in the river.

There are some very old large trees of great interest in Hay Lodge Park.



- 1. Tweed Bridge 2. Peebles 3. Path 4. Cranes-bill 5. Hay Lodge park 6. Tweed 7. Autumn by Tweed
- 8. Tweedside car park



Rivers - Kelso Riverside and Kelso Abbey and **War Memorial Garden**

walkit

Start and finish: Mayfield Riverside, Kelso.

Distance: 1mile/1.5km

Terrain: Paths are level wide tarmac. Kelso Abbey is level hard ground but

gravelly.

Parking: at Mayfield Riverside, Kelso Toilets: Nearest RADAR wheelchair access toilet Kelso town centre. Facilities: Bench seats, riverside views.

- 1. Follow the riverside paths downstream.
- 2. You continue past a plaque marking the spot where Walter Scott sat under a tree reading Bishop Percy's "Reliques of Ancient Poetry".
- 3. On reaching the ramp at Bullet Lane you may turn right to go along the Kelso New Bridge for views of the river. (Alternatively you can turn left here and return through the town.)
- 4. Retrace your steps to return.

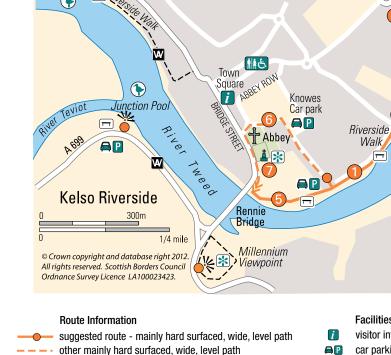
- 5. The riverside path can be followed upstream to the Rennie Bridge. Retrace your steps to return.
- 6. Park or walk to The Knowes car park. Follow roadside paths to Kelso Abbey. Wheelchair access to entrance and information board. The surface is hard flat gravel in the main area at the centre of the abbey ruins. Easy access to view abbey walls and impressive carved stonework and high building remains.
- 7. You can also visit the war Memorial Gardens which are adjacent to the Abbey. Retrace your steps to return.

Kelso Abbey is in the centre of Kelso and is cared for by Historic Scotland. The west end of the great abbey is the church of the Tironensians, brought to Kelso in 1128 by David I.

War Memorial Gardens have bench seats, flower beds, display flower bed, views to Kelso Abbey.

www.scotborders.gov.uk/parks

Junction Pool, Kelso has an easily accessible path to an information board and bench seat. Parking at roadside.



other path

steep gradient

viewpoint

Borders Abbevs Wav

Facilities

visitor information

car parking

書も toilets

<u>-</u>

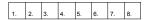
|T| picnic area

seat

gardens

wildlife interest

war memorial



1.2. Walkers at Kelso Riverside 3. Kelso Abbev 4. Tweed at Junction Pool 5. War Memorial Garden 6. Mute swan 7. Millennium Viewpoint 8. Dog Rose



Rivers - Mill Meadow Riverside Path by Leader Water Earlston

walkit

Start and finish: Mill Road Distance: 1mile/1.5km

Terrain: Tarmac and hard surfaced

paths and road.

Parking: On Mill Road, behind Rutherfords Garage, no special provision so please park considerately. Toilets: Nearest wheelchair access RADAR lock toilet in Earlston. Facilities: Picnic tables, bench seats along riverside path.

- 1. Go through metal gate which opens to short level tarmac path alongside the Leader Water river.
- 2. Tarmac path becomes narrow after a short distance but continues as a level
- 3. Continue on the Mill Meadow field.
- 4. To return turn right onto the road or retrace your steps.

Further Information:

There is a booklet "Country Walks around Earlston and Redpath" available locally. The Earlston Paths Group have a website: www.earlstonpathsgroup.co.uk

Lauder

Nearby Lauder has a low level countryside path - the Burn Mill Path. Information locally or at

www.scotborders.gov.uk/walking



Burn Mill Path, Lauder



Route information:

suggested route - mainly hard surfaced, wide, level path other mainly hard surfaced, wide, level path

other path

steps

viewpoint

Facilities

制色 toilets

cafe or area with vending machines

picnic area

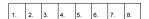
 \Box seat

bus stop

war memorial

wildlife interest

other place of interest



1. Leader Water 2,3. Riverside park 4. Earlston Paths 5. Peacock Butterfly 6. Mallard drake

7. Mill Meadow Path 8. Fingerpost



Rivers - River Tweed by Newtown and Melrose area

Tweed viewpoints near Melrose and Newtown St Boswells and St Boswells. The Tweed and its tributaries are host to a wealth of river wildlife. Look out for dipper. heron, goosander, mallard and swan throughout the year; grey wagtail and common sandpiper are summer visitors.

The Chain Bridge, Melrose

Short walk to cauld along riverside, bridge is wide with low level gradients, views of Tweed and river wildlife. Park adjacent to bridge. This bridge links Gattonside and Melrose.

Leaderfoot

Accessible path across old bridge for views of Leaderfoot Viaduct and the River Tweed. Parking adjacent to old bridge and sculptures, off the A68.

The Rhymer's Stone

Path may be accessible to some wheelchair users with assistance. Path bumpy and cobbled with ridges. Views to Leaderfoot, Black Hill of Earlston, Kittvfield Farm, Eildon North Hill and Galashiels. Parking adjacent to viewpoint by opening the gate.

Scott's View

Viewpoint of the River Tweed and the Eildon Hills, also the Black Hill of Earlston. A different view each season of the year. Sir Walter Scott stopped here on his carriage journeys to and from nearby Abbotsford House. It is said that this was his favourite view and his horse always stopped there on the way past. Information plaques at low height suitable to be read from wheelchair height. Car park area allows for views from car or from paved area at viewpoint.

Wallace's Statue

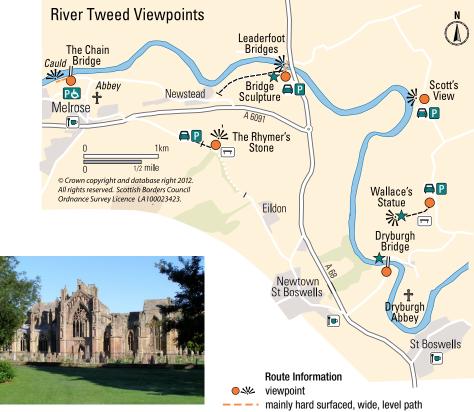
There is a flat level path from a car park with disabled parking. Ramped access to sandstone sculpture for views across the Borders Countryside.

Dryburgh Suspension Bridge

Parking adjacent to bridge. Easy accessible bridge for views of River Tweed and towards the Temple of the Muses.

Melrose Abbey path

Follow the path between Priorswood Gardens and Melrose Abbey for a flat level path with good views of Melrose Abbey. Play Park.



Facilities

other path

car parking \triangle P

1116 toilets

cafe or area with vending machines Ī

□

(wildlife interest

other place of interest



1. The Chain Bridge, Melrose 2. Leaderfoot 3. Rhymers Stone viewpoint 4. Wallace Statue 5. Dryburgh Suspension Bridge 6. Melrose Abbev path 7. Scotts View of the Eildon Hills 8. Straw Bales near Rhymers Stone



Rivers - Newcastleton Village, Holm Bridge and the **Liddel Water**

walkit

A riverside walk on roads and hard paths

Start and finish: Douglas Square,

Newcastleton.

Distance: 1mile/1.5km

Terrain: Hard tarmac paths, pavements and some sections on quiet road.

Parking: Douglas Square. Toilets: Langholm Street.

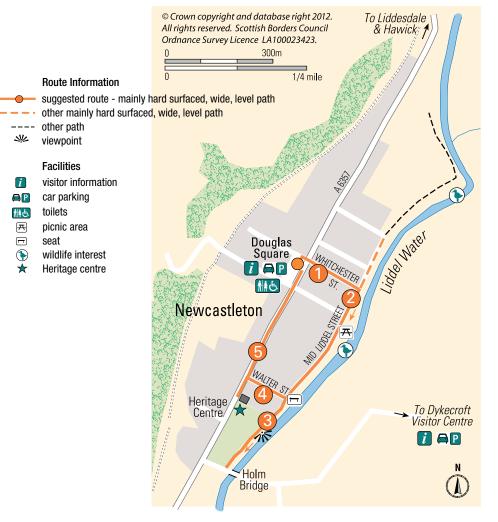
- 1. From the information board in the square go down Whitchester Street to Mid Liddel Street by the river.
- 2. Turn right to go along the road.
- 3. Continue on the riverside path for views of river wildlife and Holm bridge.
- 4. Retrace your steps to the end of the riverside path.
- 5. Turn left along Walter Street.
- 6. At South Hermitage Street turn left to reach the Newcastleton Heritage Centre. Alternatively turn right to return to Douglas Square.

For more information: please see the Paths around Newcastleton booklet at www.scotborders.gov.uk/walking Information on Newcastlleton area and Liddesdale Heritage Centre www.visitnewcastleton.com and www.thereivertrail.com



Paths at Ponds walk, Newcastleton Forest







- 1. Newcastleton sign 2. War Memorial 3. Grey Heron 4. Riverside path 5. Picnic table and daffodils
- 6. Holm Bridge 7. Creeping Thistle 8. Liddlel Water path near Holm Bridge



26 Newcastleton Village www.visitnewcastleton.com 27

Lochs 1

Lochs and Reservoirs Gunknowe Loch in Tweedbank and link to Abbotsford House and Visitor Centre

Hard path all the way around the pond. Level tarmac paths in park area around park. A wide variety of wildfowl. The nature trail was created by Tweedbank Primary School.

Start and finish: Gunknowe Loch car park, Tweedbank or Abbotsford House Visitor Centre car park.

Distance: 1.5km/1 mile

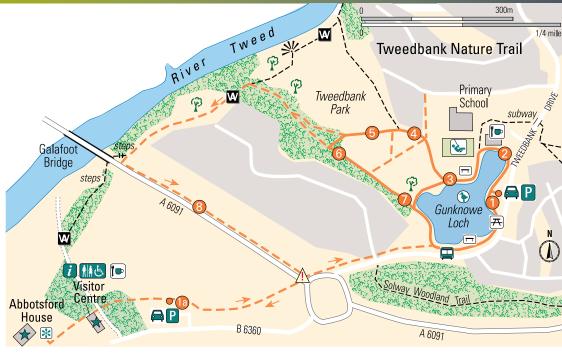
Terrain: Flat hard surfaced tarmac paths. **Parking:** Car park by loch. Ramp access is on left of car park if facing pond. Wide tarmac ramp to pondside.

Toilets: Nearest Wheelchair access RADAR lock toilets - Galashiels, Melrose. **Facilities:** Bench seats, café, information boards.

- 1a. From Abbotsford follow the paths to reach the pond and walk around the pond with the pond on your left.
- From the Gunknowe Loch car park turn left to go down the gentle slope to the pond.

- 2. Turn right and walk around the side of the pond.
- After an open area with bench seats by the pond, turn right, walk past the play area and take the second left.
- 4. Go straight on (The full nature trail turns left here).
- Follow the tarmac path with the large grass area on your right. You join the trail again at the end of the grass area.
- 6. Turn left towards the pond.
- 7. Walk around the pond to the right, and back to the start of your walk. Turning left here would bring you back to the play park.
- A path link can form a longer route on tarmac paths from point 6 turn right then when you meet the Borders Abbeys Way stay on the tarmac path to the left and turn left to follow the path beside the A6091and return to your start point.

Further information: please see the Paths around Galashiels booklet at www.scotborders.gov.uk/walking



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Abbotsford House

Built in 1824, Abbotsford House was the home of writer Sir Walter Scott. A new visitor centre adjacent to the house was opened in 2012.

Route Information

suggested route - mainly hard surfaced, wide, level path

other mainly hard surfaced, wide, level path

--- other path

ıı steps

caution, take care

■ Borders Abbeys Way

Facilities

visitor information

■P car parking

toilets

=

📮 🛮 bus stop

cafe or area with vending machines

picnic area

seat

playpark

gardens

wildlife interest



1. Tweedbank Family Nature Trail 2. WalkIt walks at Gunknowe Loch 3. Tweedbank Park 4. Tufted Duck.





Lochs 2

Lochs and Reservoirs -Lindean Loch, near Selkirk

walkit

A short wheelchair access path takes you to a loch-side platform for views over the loch. The loch has interesting flora and birdlife. The path around the loch is 1.5km/1 mile long and is a low level rough countryside path.

Facilities: Bench seats on main path, information panels.

Parking: Area with wheelchair access. Toilets: Nearest wheelchair access RADAR lock toilet - Selkirk, Galashiels.

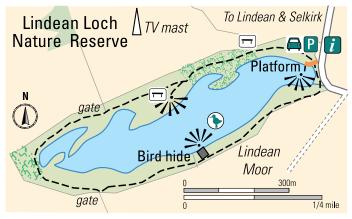
How to get there: From the A7 between Selkirk and Galashiels, take the road at Lindean past Lindean Village Hall and continue for about a mile or so. Go straight on at a junction and you will reach Lindean Loch.

The Grasslands and wetlands are rich in plant species and the open water contains a diverse mix of aquatic invertebrates. There is a platform for a view of the loch and where pond dipping can be done.



Lindean Loch

The reeds and sedges provide cover for water rail, reed bunting and sedge warbler and otter frequent the area. Look out for Northern march orchid, bogbean, Greater spearwort, Tufted duck, dragonflies, Mute swan and moorhen.



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Route Information

suggested route - mainly hard surfaced, wide, level path

other path

∨iewpoint

Facilities

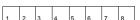
visitor information

car parking

seat

wildlife interest

Further information: please see Paths around Selkirk booklet at www.scotborders.gov.uk/walking or for wildlife info visit www.scotborders.gov.uk/biodiversity



1. Lindean Loch 2. Mute Swan 3. Platform, Lindean Loch 4. Northern Marsh Orchid 5. Ranger Keith Robeson recording birds at Lindean Loch 6. On the path 7. Easy Access path to Loch 8. Fishing for water invertebrates



Lochs 3

Lochs and Reservoirs -**Bemersyde Moss**

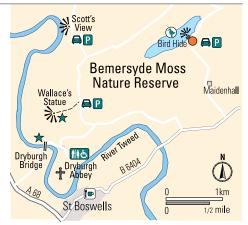
Bemersyde Moss near St Boswells is a large marsh area with birds. Geese roost here in winter. You can birdwatch from an easy access bird-hide, the ramp is on your left from where you park. There is information on birds inside the hide.

Toilets: Nearest RADAR lock wheelchair access toilet is in Melrose.

How to get there: from Scotts View go south into Bemersyde village and turn left. Go straight on at the first junction with the Moss visible below the road. Turn left past Whitrighill. Park on road verge adjacent to the nature reserve.

Further information: **Scottish Wildlife Trust**

Tel: 0131 312 7765 www.swt.org.uk



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- **Facilities**
- viewpoint
- car parking
- toilets
- cafe or area with vending machines
- A picnic area
- \Box seat
- wildlife interest
- James Hogg Ettrick Shepherd monument

- 1. Bemersyde Moss 2. At the Bird-watching Hide 3. Cuckoo Flower 4. Black-headed Gull 5. Oxcleuch Haugh
- 6. St Mary's Loch 7. Megget Reservoir 8. Foxglove

Lochs 4&5

Lochs and Reservoirs -St Marys Loch and **Megget Reservoir**

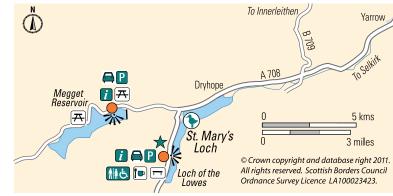
St Marys Loch

Lochs with views of surrounding hillsides. St Marys Loch is the largest loch in the Scottish Borders. It was formed during the last ice age by glaciers. Loch of the Lowes is at the South end of the loch. There is a café, views and picnic area at this area. Toilets: RADAR wheelchair access toilets adjacent to the Glen Café, Loch of the Lowes. Ramp is fairly steep.

Megget Reservoir

Megget Reservoir is nearby. It is possible to drive a car up to the reservoir where there is a car parking area.

The road between Megget and Talla is not suitable for coaches. There are information boards, which are on a grass area, with a kerb, adjacent to the car park. Information on the water supply and local wildlife. Views across the reservoir.



car parking

Facilities

viewpoint

- toilets
- cafe or area with vending machines
- picnic area ||
- seat
- wildlife interest
- James Hogg Ettrick Shepherd monument

Coastal -The Berwickshire Coast

walkit

Check out the Paths around Eyemouth booklet and the Berwickshire Coastal Path at www.scotborders.gov.uk/walking

Some locations on the coast have some easy access. Sea views, villages, harbours, historic locations, and wildlife may be seen in this area.

Locations include:

Cove Harbour - Parking area allows for coastal views.

Burnmouth - Park at Lower Burnmouth to watch birds at the rocky shore. Picnic tables.

Further information: please see the Paths around Eyemouth booklet and the Berwickshire Coastal Path at www.scotborders.gov.uk/walking



1. Cove Harbour 2. Sculpture 3. Burnmouth harbour 4. Lobster Creel 5. Luckenbooth at Coldingham Car park 6.7. Coldingham Priory 8. Common Blue butterfly

Coastal 1

Coastal -**Coldingham Priory**

walkit

Start finish and Parking Coldingham Village Car park

Distance: 200m

coastal sites

viewpoint

Facilities

car parking

toilets

visitor information

disabled parking

maritime museum

cafe or area with vending machines

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PЬ

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[**•**]

seat wildlife interest

Terrain: level, hard surfaced paths Toilets: Disabled Access Toilets at Car

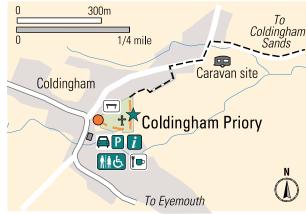
park

Coldingham Priory

The atmospheric ruins of Coldingham Priory represent nearly 1000 years of unbroken worship. A church was founded here in 1098 by King Edgar I of Scotland, possibly on the site of an earlier Anglo-Saxon monastery. Edgar's church grew into a priory, and its community lived in Coldingham for 400 years. The Priory was largely destroyed by Oliver Cromwell in the 17th century.

Further information:

www.rcahms.gov.uk www.coldingham.info





Coastal - Coldingham Sands

walkit

Coldingham Sands is a sheltered sandy beach. The sand stretches for a kilometre within the bay and there are rocky shores at either end of the beach.

Start and finish: Disabled parking at Coldingham Sands.

Distance: 100metres

Terrain: Paved path to paved viewpoint

area and bench.

Parking: General parking including some disabled parking near beach. Disabled parking is available for 2 cars at the bottom of the steep tarmac road beyond the gate (which is open at all times).

Toilets: Disabled access RADAR toilet. Facilities: Picnic tables, Bench seats, Seasonal café. Information panels are at a suitable height for wheelchair users.

Accessibility

Sand on the beach is deep and very soft and wheelchair wheels are liable to sink into this. Other paths around the beach are low level with some steep and rough sections.

How to get there: A regular bus service from Berwick-upon-Tweed: where there is a railway station. The local bus stops at Eyemouth, Coldingham Village and St Abbs Village.

There is an unclassified road from Coldingham Village to Coldingham Bay.

For more information visit: www.scotborders.gov.uk



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Route Information

suggested route - mainly hard surfaced, wide, level path other mainly hard surfaced, wide, level path

other path

steps

steep gradient

viewpoint

Facilities

visitor information

■P car parking

disabled parking

toilets

cafe or area with vending machines

picnic area

 \Box seat

wildlife interest

Coastal 3

Coastal - St Abbs - Eyemouth **Voluntary Marine Reserve**

walkit

St Abb's Nature Centre and Eyemouth **Voluntary Marine Reserve**

The area of the marine reserve is shown on the map on page 34. It includes the sea area by St Abbs, Coldingham and Eyemouth.

For more information visit:

www.marine-reserve.co.uk



- 1. Coldingham Sands 2. Disabled Parking 3. At the accessible picnic area
- 4. Small Copper butterfly 5. Crab 6. Starfish 7. Beadlet anemone 8. Sea urchin









Coastal - St Abb's Head **Nature Reserve - Starney Bay**

walkit

Rocky headland, grassland, cliffs. Paths from the car park to Starney Bay are wide, hard and fairly level. This provides access to view birds. How to get there -St Abb's Head is off A1107, 2miles North of Coldingham

Start and finish: St Abb's Head car park (wheelchair users may park in the area below buildings where there is a hard level path to toilets, tearoom and craft shops.)

Distance: 1/2 mile/1km

Terrain: Fairly level countryside paths. Parking: Nature Reserve Car Park with

no special provision.

Toilets: Wheelchair access toilet near

visitor centre

Facilities: Picnic tables, cafés.

- 1. Follow the path alongside a field to the corner.
- 2. Turn left to continue alongside a wall.

- 3. As you reach the cliff area take care and look out for seabirds such as fulmars and kittiwakes from the viewpoint.
- 4. Retrace your steps to return.
- 5. To extend your walk and visit the St Abbs Visitor Centre cross the road and follow the path to the top of the village and return.

Note: disabled visitors may drive to the Lighthouse car park (far end of the Reserve) to see views of the sea.

National Trust for Scotland

Countryside Ranger Rangers Cottage Northfield St Abbs Berwickshire TD14 5QF Tel/Fax 018907 71443



Route Information

suggested route - mainly hard surfaced, wide, level path other path

viewpoint

Facilities

visitor information

car parking

disabled parking

toilets

cafe or area with vending machines

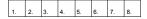
picnic area

wildlife interest

voluntary marine reserve

on a high point at the top of the village. It was created in 2011 and is based in the former village hall. There are displays, artefacts and interactive exhibits covering a broad range of topics including the history, heritage, wildlife and stunning geology of the area. They have a portable ramp that can be put in place if required.

www.stabbsvisitorcentre.co.uk



1. Bell Hill and St Abb's Head 2. Guillmots 3. At the viewpoint 4. Visitors at Starney Bay 5. Fulmar 6. Herring Gull 7,8. St Abbs Harbour















Coastal - Eyemouth Bantry and Gunsgreen House

walkit

An interesting route around this traditional fishing village. There is an array of boats and buildings to look at including Gunsgreen House.

Start and finish: Eyemouth car park by harbour.

Distance: 1mile/1.5km

Terrain: Hard surfaced level pavements

etc.

Parking: Disabled access parking places at swimming pool and at harbour car park

Toilets: Wheelchair access RADAR toilet in Evemouth, at top end of harbour. Facilities: Picnic tables, bench seats by the promenade.

- 1. With the harbour on your right follow the road around to reach the beach.
- 2. Continue along the path above the beach "The Bantry" to reach Eyemouth Swimming Pool.
- 3. Retrace your steps to return.

- 4. To go to Gunsgreen House. From the car park at the edge of the harbour by the toilets- go straight ahead to follow the harbour around with the sea on your left. Take care and be aware that this is a working harbour.
- 5. Continue over the bridge to Gunsgreen House.
- 6. Retrace your steps to return.

For more information: please see the Paths around Evemouth booklet and the Berwickshire Coastal path www.scotborders.gov.uk/walking



Gunsgreen House www.gunsgreenhouse.org



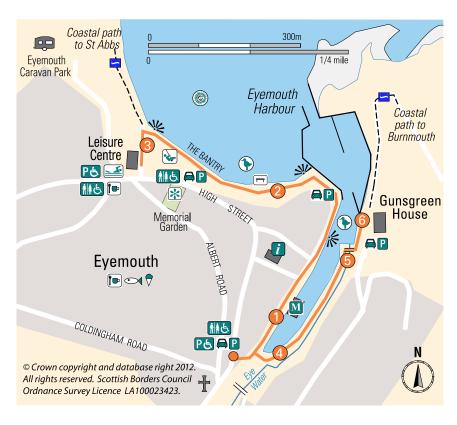
^{1.} Eyemouth Harbour 2. Grey seal 3. Harbour and Gunsgreen House 4. Herring Gull

5. Eyemouth and Harbour from Gunsgreen









Route Information

suggested route - mainly hard surfaced, wide, level path

other path

steep gradient

viewpoint

Facilities

visitor information

car parking

disabled parking

から toilets

[D cafe or area with vending machines

 \Box seat

~ playpark

gardens

swimming pool

wildlife interest

maritime museum

Woodlands - Harestanes **Countryside Visitor Centre, by Ancrum near Jedburgh**





The Cricket Park (yellow) route

Start and finish: Harestanes Countryside Visitor Centre car park. Distance: 1mile/1.5km

Terrain: Woodland paths, level hard surfaced paths suitable for many wheelchair users with gentle gradient and a few rough patches.

Parking: 4 disabled access parking

places. Free parking.

Toilets: Wheelchair access toilet Facilities: Harestanes has a large play park, a wildlife garden, a café, indoor games and exhibition gallery. Nearby are independent craft workshops.

Opening times:

Paths, car park and craft shops are open all year.

Centre and play park

See www.liveborders.org.uk

1. Follow the yellow route heading North from the Visitor Centre and past the old Cricket Pavillion.

- 2. Turn right and cross a bridge.
- 3. Turn right, and after a short distance you will reach the pond with an easy access viewing platform.
- 4. Go straight ahead at the path junction.
- 5. At the road turn right and go carefully along the estate road.
- 6. At the path junction leading to the craft workshops go straight on.
- 7. Turn right to visit the Wildlife Garden
- 8. Return to the visitor centre area.

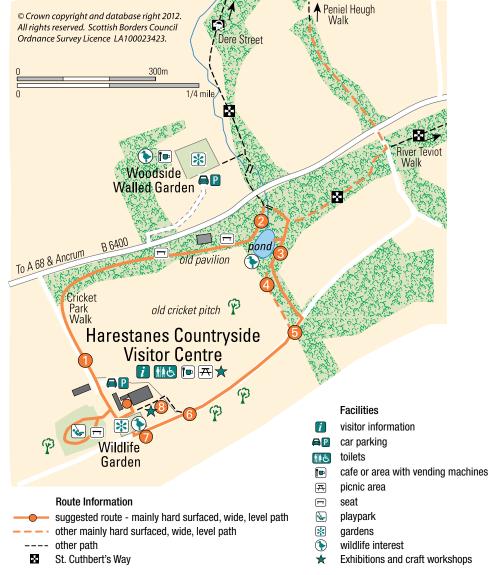
Contact Information

www.liveborders.org.uk

For more information: please see the Paths around Jedburgh booklet www.scotborders.gov.uk/walking and St Cuthberts Wav www.stcuthbertsway.info



- 1. Walkers at Harestanes 2. On the woodland path 3. The Old Beeches 4. At the pond 5. Harestanes play area
- 6. Walkers 7. Poppy in wildlife garden 8. Indoor games







Woodland - Gala Policies Galashiels

walkit

A wide hard surfaced path with low gradients can be followed to a viewpoint.

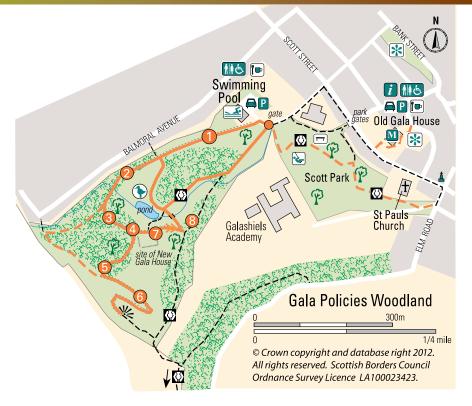
Start and finish: Gala Policies car park by Galashiels swimming pool. Distance: 1 mile/ 1.6km

Terrain: Woodland paths and tracks. Parking: Car park adjacent to the woodland – no special provision Toilets: Nearest wheelchair access RADAR toilets St Johns Street by Bank Street Gardens, Galashiels High Street, and Bus Station. Galashiels.

- 1. Go through the gate and up the track.
- 2. Go straight on where a path swings left to the pond.
- 3. Follow the driveway as it sweeps to the left to a path junction before an open area with the mound which was the site of the New Gala House.
- 4. Turn right onto a hard surfaced path which continues into the woods.

- 5. Turn right and follow the path through the woodland to the open meadow area. Continue on gently sloping path as it winds up through the meadow to a viewpoint. From here there are views of the meadow and around the hillsides of the Galashiels area including Gala Hill, Meigle Hill, Langlee Woods, Buckholm Hill and Ladhope Moor.
- 6. Retrace your steps to return to the site of New Gala House.
- 7. At the open area near the house site turn right and follow the wide track straight on the Southern Upland Way. Turn left after a short steep section, to descend gently through the woods and onto a bridge over a burn to reach the ponds.
- 8. Return to the start by the Southern Upland Way or around the pond on boardwalks to return to the main driveway.

Further information: please see Paths around Galashiels booklet. www.scotborders.gov.uk/walking and the Southern Upland Way www.southernuplandway.gov.uk



Route Information

suggested route - mainly hard surfaced, wide, level path other mainly hard surfaced, wide, level path

other path

steep gradient viewpoint

Southern Upland Way

Facilities

visitor information

car parking

制色 toilets

[***** cafe or area with vending machines

seat

~ playpark gardens *

swimming pool

wildlife interest

museum

war memorial



1. Fingerpost 2,3. Woodland Path 4. Pond dipping at the pond 5. Inkcap fungi 6. Marble Gall on oak 7. The Scott Park Oak 8. St Pauls Church











Woodlands - Hirsel Coldstream

walkit

Free entry to countryside paths.

The Black (Crooks) route

Start and finish: Hirsel Courtyard.

Distance: 1mile/1.5km

Terrain: quiet estate roads, woodland

paths.

Parking: small cost for parking (ticket machine). Disabled access parking

available.

Toilets: Disabled access toilets on site. Facilities: Woodland walks, picnic area, lake, magnificent trees, courtyard museum, restaurant, childrens play area. The museum in the courtyard includes information on wildlife, estate activities such as forestry, farming and domestic life in the past.

- 1. Turn right from the courtyard by the lake and past the car park.
- 2. Continue to follow the quiet estate roads past many interesting trees.
- 3. Turn right to go along a fairly level woodland path.
- 4. Take care on a short steep section past the walled garden.
- 5. Return to the start on the estate road past the lake.

Web: www.dandaestates.co.uk

For further information: please see Paths around Coldstream booklet. www.scotborders.gov.uk/walking



Route Information

suggested route - mainly hard surfaced, wide, level path other mainly hard surfaced, wide, level path

--- other path steep gradient

Facilities

visitor information

car parking disabled parking

toilets

cafe or area with vending machines

picnic area

~ playpark

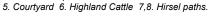
gardens

wildlife interest

museum



1. Coldstream paths 2. Lord Home statue 3. Walkers 4. Peacock Butterfly



Woodlands -**Gordon Community Woodland**

Gordon Community Woodland

Gordon Community Woodland is owned by Gordon Community Woodland Trust and managed in conjunction with Borders Forest Trust. The woodland is mixed broadleaved trees with a large pond, Picnic sites and benches.

There is a stretch of all ability path to a picnic area. This path is suitable for assisted wheelchair users and starts at the main car park on the A6105. Other low level woodland paths go through the woodland area you will see these on the map-board at the car park. You will find Gordon Community Woodland 1 mile east of Gordon village on the A6105; the main car park is marked by a large stone plinth.



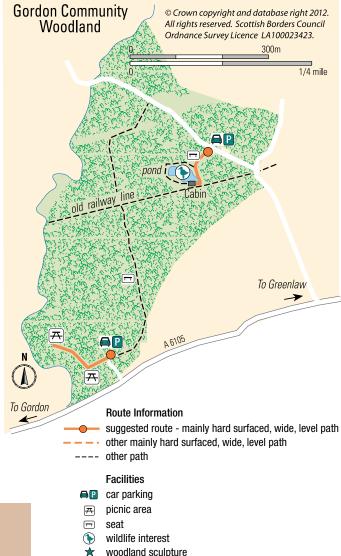
Tortoiseshell on knapweed



^{1.} Gordon Community Woodland 2. Easy Access path 3. Pond plants 4. Boardwalk to Pond 5. Pond dipping

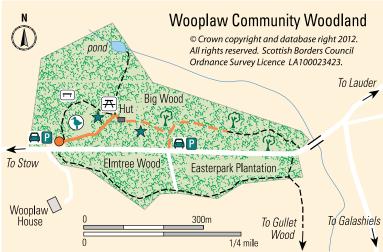
6. Path 7. Spear thistle 8 Picnic table.

CONTACT INFORMATION Borders Forest Trust www.bordersforesttrust.org



woodland sculpture





Route Information

suggested route - mainly hard surfaced, wide, level path

other path

冬 viewpoint

Facilities

disabled parking

1116 toilets

[

cafe or area with vending machines

□

visitor information

 $\triangle P$ car parking

| picnic area

seat

playpark

gardens

other place of interest

Woodland 5

Woodlands - Wooplaw **Community Woodland**

Wooplaw Community Woodland was the first community woodland in Britain. Wooplaw has a log cabin, totem poles, ponds, a stream, picnic tables, paths and sculptures. Community activities are regularly held within the woodland.

A 750m section of the path network that runs from the Axehead car park past the log cabin and into Big Wood has been established to an easy access path suitable for some assisted wheel chair users.

Wooplaw Community Woodlands is located roughly equidistant between Stow. Lauder and Galashiels. Grid reference for main car park at Axehead is NT 503 421. There is an audio nature trail available as a smart phone application.

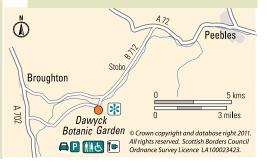
Visit: www.wooplaw.org

CONTACT INFORMATION Borders Forest Trust www.bordersforesttrust.org

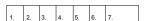
Woodland 6

Woodlands - Dawyck **Botanic Garden**

Dawyck Botanic Garden is 28 miles south of Edinburgh on the B712, around 8 miles southwest of Peebles in the Scottish Borders. There is a large visitor centre with toilets and a café that has large windows that look on to the gardens. There is also a studio for exhibitions and short films. Entry charge to gardens. Disabled visitors are welcome and a short wheelchair accessible route may be followed. Ask for more information.



CONTACT INFORMATION Dawyck Botanic Garden Stobo Near Peebles Scottish Borders EH45 9JU tel: 01721 760 254 email: dawyck@rbge.org.uk visit: www.rbge.org.uk/dawyck



^{1.} Wooplaw 2,3. Woodland Art 4. Totem Pole Wooplaw 5. Polypody fern 6. Dawyck Botanic Garden

^{7.} Dawyck Visitor Centre.

Woodlands - Bowhill House & Country Estate

Bowhill House & Country Estate is situated 3 miles west of Selkirk on the A708. The Estate has a variety of tarmac roads and tracks which may be accessible for wheelchair users with assistance; some are too steep for nonassisted access. Parties of people with disabilities may arrange to drive around the woodlands and lochs in a vehicle

apply during open season. Facilities: Victorian kitchen, shop, tearoom all located within the courtyard, adventure playground, theatre. Bowhill House is wheelchair accessible. For

Countryside Ranger. Entrance charges

or arrange a group ramble with the

opening dates see website.

Parking: Disabled access parking wheelchair users may park in front of

Bowhill House.

Toilets: wheelchair access toilet. Opening dates are between spring and

autumn details on website www.bowhillhouse.co.uk Start: Bowhill House

- 1. Make your way from Bowhill House to the Courtyard.
- 2. After visiting the courtyard, at the Courtyard entrance, continue on the road.
- 3. At a road junction go straight on to reach the adventure play park.
- 4. Retrace your steps

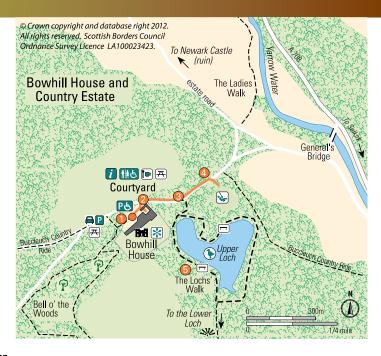
tarmac.

5. There is a path around the Upper Loch - follow the road down a steep slope from point 3. The path around the loch is a fairly level countryside path The road is

CONTACT INFORMATION tel: 01750 22204

Buccleuch Ranger Service Buccleuch Living Heritage Trust Bowhill Selkirk TD7 5ET

email: bht@buccleuch.com



Route Information

suggested route - mainly hard surfaced, wide, level path

--- other path

viewpoint

Facilities

visitor information

car parking

disabled parking

書も toilets

cafe or area with vending machines

| picnic area

 \Box seat

~ playpark

aardens

other place of interest



^{1.} Bowhill House 2. Bowhill Loch 3. Alder 4. Tortoiseshell Butterfly 5. Bowhill House 6. Polypody Fern

Parkland 1

Parklands - Duns Park Tree **Trail and Duns Scotus way**

walkit

Public Park with specimen trees, war memorial and statue of Duns Scotus.

Start and finish: Car Park adjacent to

park.

Distance: 1mile/1.5km

Terrain: Flat level tarmac path.

Parking: Parking in car park adjacent to

park.

Toilets: Nearest RADAR wheelchair

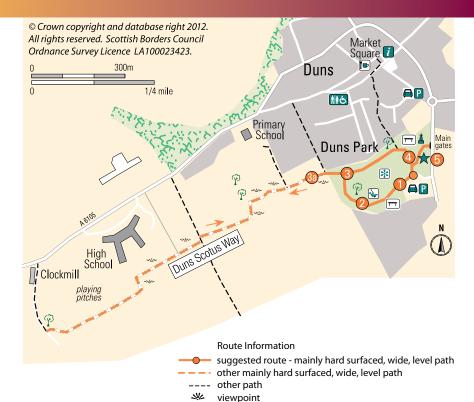
access toilets, Duns.

Facilities: Tree trail information boards. childrens play park, bench seats. Refreshments available in nearby Duns

town.

- 1. From the car park enter the park and turn left. Look out for tree trail signs along the way.
- 2. Pass the play park and continue around the park.
- 3. At the path junction turn right to follow the tarmac path around the park.
- 3a. At this point, as an option, you could turn left to go along the Duns Scotus Way, fon good paths and boardwalk through the countryside. Retrace your steps to return. Continue around the park.
- 4. Turn left to enter an open area with bench seats and the John Duns Scotus statue.
- 5. Turn back at the Park entrance gates and return to the car park.

Further information: please see the Paths around Duns booklet at www.scotborders.gov.uk/walking



Facilities

visitor information

car parking

toilets 書も bus stop

cafe or area with vending machines

☶ **₽** playpark

gardens *

wildlife interest

war memorial

Duns Scotus statue



1. Duns Park Tree trail 2. Duns Scotus statue 3. Duns Park 4. Variegated Holly 5. Conkers 6,7,8. Duns Scotus Way







Parkland 2

Parklands - Duns **Castle Estate path**

walkit

Duns Castle Estate path can be visited as part of route 1 in the paths around Duns booklet. Habitats include a loch or Castle Lake called Hen Poo and mixed woodlands.

Parking: Near North Lodge, Castle Street.

Start and finish: at entrance to Duns

Estate, Duns.

Distance: 1mile/1.5km **Terrain:** Hard tarmac path.

- 1. Follow the fairly level driveway from estate entrance to castle entrance arch.
- 2. Turn right to follow the hard tarmac level path to cattle grid.
- 3. Go through the gate beside the cattle grid and on a short grassy section to further level tarmac path to loch.
- 4. There are bench seats by the Hen Poo loch with views across the loch to Duns Castle and woodland. Retrace your steps to return.

The Parkland area next to the Hen Poo loch is grazed farmland. Water birds on Hen Poo include swan, mallard and moorhen. Please keep your dog under close control at all times.

Further Information: please see the Paths around Duns booklet at www.scotborders.gov.uk/walking

Paths around Duns Route 1

Leads to a loch called Hen Poo (or Castle Lake) The Hen Poo was created in the 18th century during landscaping work on the estate. The surrounding woodland was planted at this time. The estate is owned and managed by the Hay family of Duns Castle. The castle is in private grounds and is private. Fine views can be achieved looking across Hen Poo.

Route Information

suggested route - mainly hard surfaced, wide, level path

other mainly hard surfaced, wide, level path

other path

viewpoint

Facilities

visitor information

car parking

1116 toilets

bus stop

cafe or area with vending machines [D

☶

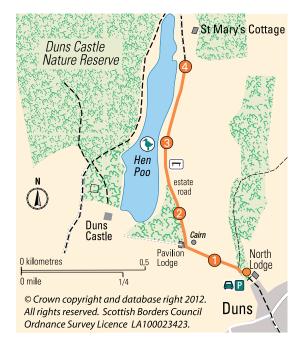
~ playpark

gardens

wildlife interest

war memorial

Duns Scotus statue





1. Duns Castle Nature Reserve 2. Pavillion Lodge Duns Castle 3. Path at Hen Poo 4. Feeding the ducks

5. Mallard 6. Tufted duck 7. Coot 8. Parkland trees.



Parkland 3

Parklands - Wilton Lodge Park Walled Garden

walkit

Wilton Lodge Park Walled Garden has colourful displays of flowers. Main paths to access this site are wide, gently sloping and level. There is also a glasshouse with indoor plants. Look out for dahlias, marigolds, salvia, sedum, geranium, pleasantly scented sweet peas, honeysuckle, roses and nicotiana; also blackbirds, song thrush, blue tit, great tit, robin and peacock and tortoiseshell butterflies in summer Parking: Adjacent to walled gardens **Toilets:** Nearby at Wilton Lodge Park and Common Haugh.

For location see Wilton Lodge Parkin this booklet

CONTACT INFORMATION Scottish Borders Council

Tel: 0300 100 1800

Web: www.scotborders.gov.uk/parks

Parkland 4

Parklands -**Waverley Walk, Hawick**

walkit

The old railway path from Teviotdale Leisure Centre with views across Hawick.

Start and finish: Teviotdale Leisure Centre Car Park Hawick.

Distance: ¹/₂ mile/1km and return Terrain: Main path is flat wide tarmac. Parking: at Teviotdale Leisure Centre. Toilets: toilets in the Teviotdale Leisure Centre.

Facilities: Café with easy access at the Teviotdale Leisure Centre, bench seats, children's playground.

- 1. Follow the tarmac path ahead.
- 2. Continue past the play park and skate
- 3. After nearly 1km you will reach a tunnel with steps on your right and soon after a pavement and road ahead. Retrace your steps to return.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Scottish Borders Council

tel: 0300 100 1800

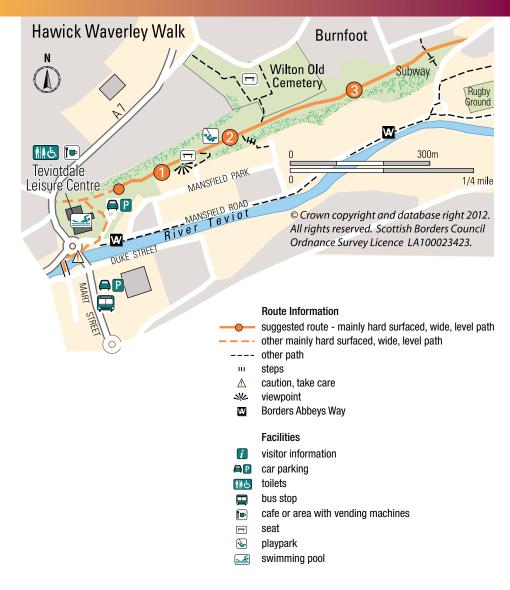
web: www.scotborders.gov.uk

Check out the Paths around Hawick booklet

www.scotborders.gov.uk/walking



- 1. Walled garden Wilton Lodge park 2. Primrose 3,4. Walled Garden 5. Teviotdale leisure Centre
- 6. WalkIt walkers on Waverley walk 7. Sycamore 8. Waverley path





Forest 1

Forestry and Land Scotland Glentress Forest

walkit

There is public access to all Forestry and Land Scotland managed forests across the Scottish Borders. A selection of trails are included here which are designed for those with limited mobility, wheelchair users and families with buggies.

Visit: www.forestryandlandscotland.gov.scot Forest and Land Scotland Sites in the Tweed Valley

Glentress Forest near Peebles: The Ponds Trail is an easy access stroll around the upper ponds at Glentress with plenty of seating and lots of wildlife spotting opportunities en route. Also there is a brass rubbings nature trail.

Start and finish: Falla Brae (Red Squirrel) Car Park. Distance: ¹/₂ mile/0.6 km Terrain: Woodland paths.

Parking: Disabled access parking at the Falla Brae (Red Squirrel) car park,

parking charges apply.

Toilets: Wheelchair access toilet at car

park.

- 1. Leave the Car park entrance and follow the road to the left for a short distance.
- 2. Follow the path around the pond. There is one steep section near the far end of the top pond. There are accessible picnic tables along the path.

The Tweed Valley Wild Watch Osprey Viewing Centres at Glentress Peel and Kailzie Gardens are both accessible to all users. They include live remote osprey viewing facilities. Both sites also have café/restaurant and wildlife interpretation. Parking charges apply.

www.tweedvalleyospreys.com

CONTACT INFORMATION

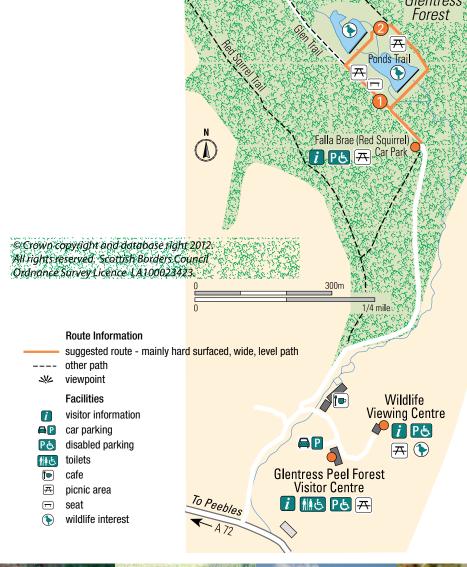
Forestry and Land Scotland Recreation Team

Dumfries and Borders Forest District

Tel: 0300 067 6900

www.forestryandland.gov.scot

1,2. Ponds trail 3. Glentress Peel 4. Picnic tables at Glentress 5. logs 6. Forest trees 7. Glentress Peel 8. Osprey











Forest 2

Forestry and Land Scotland Thornielee Meadows trail

walkit

Thornielee Forest near Clovenfords is 5 miles west of Galashiels on the A72 between Clovenfords and Walkerburn.

The Meadow trail

Distance: 1/2 mile/1km

This is an easy access trail, offering lovely views over the River Tweed and is a hotspot for butterflies during the

summer months.

Facilities: Picnic area. Muckle Moothed Meg sculpture by Rob Taylor. Parking: is available adjacent to the

sculpture - no special provision. Toilets: nearest wheelchair access



Route Information

suggested route - mainly hard surfaced, wide, level path

other path

✓ viewpoint

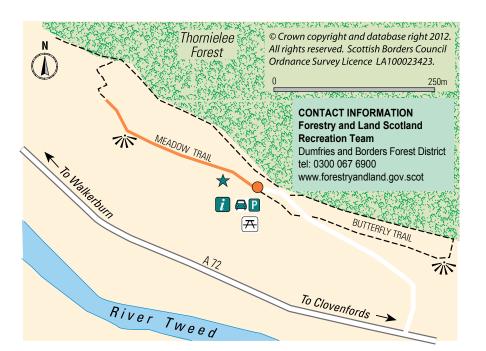
Facilities

visitor information

arrange Pcar parking

picnic area

'Muckle Mouth Meg' sculpture



Forest 3

Forestry and Land Scotland Burnside Trail Craik Forest Easy Access Path

walkit

Craik Forest near Hawick is located approximately 7 miles south of Hawick. Take the Roberton road from the A7 and enjoy the scenic drive through farmland and forestry.

The Burnside Trail follows the Borthwick Water from the lower car park.

Start and finish: Large car park area with picnic tables near stream and ponds.

Distance: 1/4 mile/0.4km

Terrain: Flat level hard and wide forest

paths.

Facilities: Forest walk, picnic area, stream, ponds, information.

Parking: Large car park with ample parking adjacent to picnic area and path. Toilets: Easy access toilets in forest.

- 1. Take the path beside the burn.
- 2. At a path junction go right through the forest trees.
- 3. Continue back to the car park and picnic area.



Route Information

suggested route - mainly hard surfaced, wide, level path

other path 业 viewpoint

Facilities

toilets

car parking

picnic area

CONTACT INFORMATION Forestry and Land Scotland Recreation Team

Dumfries and Borders Forest District

Tel: 0300 067 6900 www.forestryandland.gov.scot

Craik Forest Roberton & Hawick * Borthwick

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Old school

Forest 4

Forestry and Land Scotland Newcastleton Forest Ponds Trail

walkit

Dragonfly Ponds Trail, Priesthill, Newcastleton Forest. Waymarked with blue waymarkers.

Start and finish: Priesthill Car Park.

Distance: 1/3 mile | 0.5 km

Terrain: Hard surfaced paths with some

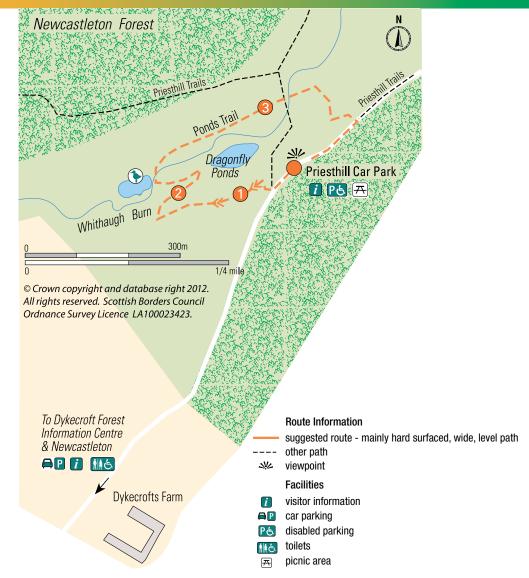
steep sections. Toilets: Dykecrofts.

- 1. From the information sign follow the route down to the left.
- 2. Continue on the path as it winds and slopes downhill beside the Whithaugh Burn and between the Dragonfly Ponds.
- 3. Continue to follow the path gently sloping uphill to reach the forest track near the car park.



Red Damselfly

CONTACT INFORMATION Forestry and Land Scotland Recreation Team Dumfries and Borders Forest District Tel: 0300 067 6900 www.forestryandland.gov.scot





1,2,3,4, Ponds trail 5. Common toad 6. Marsh Marigold 7. Red Damselfly 8. Cuckoo Flower



Contact Information

Access & Countryside Team

Scottish Borders Council Regulatory Services Council Headquarters Newtown St Boswells **MELROSE** TD6 0SA

Tel: 01896 825070

email: outdooraccess@scotborders.gov.uk

Scottish Borders Council information on sites and activities:

www.scotborders.gov.uk www.scotborders.gov.uk/walking www.scotborders.gov.uk/countrywalks www.scotborders.gov.uk/biodiversity www.scotborders.gov.uk/parks WalkIt Paths to Health Project in the Scottish Borders www.scotborders.gov.uk/Walk It Walk It@scotborders.gov.uk

Contact Information for general easy access:

The Borders Disability Forum Countryside with easy access website includes information on more than 40 locations in the Scottish Borders. It is updated after site visits by disabled path users. The locations listed all have countryside interest and either free of charge or minimal parking charge. http://onlineborders.org.uk/community/bdf http://onlineborders.org.uk/community/bdfc

Traveline Scotland (for public transport information)

Tel: 0871 200 2233 www.travelinescotland.com Toilets - National Key Scheme There are RADAR and wheelchair access public toilets in a number of Scottish Borders villages and towns: Selkirk, St Mary's Loch, Peebles, Innerleithen, Broughton, Newtown St Boswells, St Boswells, Melrose, Lauder, Kelso, Town Yetholm, Jedburgh, Hawick, Greenlaw, Newcastleon, Galashiels, Evemouth, Earlston, Duns, Coldstream,

Local information from: **Scottish Borders Council**

Cocksburnpath, and Chirnside.

Newtown St Boswells Tel: 0300 100 1800 Look up toilets at www.scotborders.gov.uk

RADAR Scheme details from:

Disability Rights UK 0203 687 0790 RADAR key available from shop@disabilityrightsuk.org

Visitor Information Centre - Jedburgh

Gives information on countryside locations Local accommodation and accessible accommodation.

Holds a RADAR key for visitors

The following information is available from Visitor Information Centres:

Practical Information for Visitors with Disabilities to Scotland Published by the Scottish Tourist Board Scottish Borders Tourist Board Fact Files Places of interest - information for Disabled Visitors Accessible Accommodation

Tourism and accommodation:

www.visitscotland.com look up Scottish Borders info@visitscotland.com

Forestry organisations: **Forestry and Land Scotland Recreation** Team

Dumfries and Borders Forest District Tel: 0300 067 6900 www.forestryandland.gov.scot

Borders Forest Trust

www.bordersforesttrust.org

Natural Heritage information:

Nature Scotland Outdoor Access Code Lothian & Borders Area Office Tel: 01896 756652 www.outdooraccess-scotland.scot

Rivers

www.tweedforum.com

Built Heritage information:

There are Town Trails in most Borders towns. Parts of most trails will be on level pavements however they may not be easy access. The trails take about 2 hours to complete and are an excellent way to discover the towns. It provides an added dimension of local history and flavour of the town's development through time.

Full Town Trail guides are available from Visit Scotland or online at

www.scotborders.gov.uk/walking

Abbeys - Jedburgh, Melrose, Kelso, Dryburgh historic locations. www.historic-scotland.gov.uk

Scottish Borders Heritage

www.scottishbordersheritage.co.uk www.scotborders.gov.uk/archaeology www.canmore.org.uk

Building design

Technical advice regarding access for disabled visitors may be obtained through reference to "The Disabled Access Design Guide" produced by Scottish Borders Council (Building Control) Tel: 0300 100 1800

Acknowledgements

Some of the routes, waymarking and information in this booklet was provided and developed in cooperation with the land managers, owners and farmers whose land they cross. Their cooperation is gratefully acknowledged. Funding for signage etc on some routes came from the European Union whose assistance is also acknowledged.

Every effort has been made to ensure that the information and advice contained in this booklet is correct at the date of publication. However, it is always for you to assess whether completing a route is within your capability, using your common sense and your knowledge of your own state of health and fitness, competence and experience. No liability is accepted by the authors or publishers for any loss, injury or damage, arising out of, or in any way connected with, any person or persons undertaking or attempting to undertake any of the routes described in this booklet, howsoever caused.



Walking at Harestanes

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COUNTRYSIDE RANGERS

Council Headquarters | Newtown St Boswells | MELROSE | TD6 0SA rangers@scotborders.gov.uk



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Designed by Scottish Borders Council Graphic Design Section. Printed 2005, Revised reprinted in the Scottish Borders 2013.

Revision for web 2021.