

## 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 burnings 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.



**BIRTLEY:** Standing on a ridge over the North Tyne valley, the place name means 'bright clearing' derived from the old-English word 'beorht'. The remains of several British camps encircle the village indicating the area has been settled since the Iron Age. Birtley Hall occupies the site of the old castle. On the opposite side of the road stands the 12th century church of St Giles.



**WARK:** Wark is a delightful village on the banks of the North Tyne. The village green is dominated by a chestnut planted in 1887 to celebrate Queen Victoria's golden jubilee. The town hall was built in 1875, and the bridge over the North Tyne constructed in 1878. In the middle ages, Wark was the seat of the 'Lordships of Tynedale' and a motte and bailey castle dominated the village. From 1150 to 1295 the Scottish kings held court in Wark as the village was then part of Scotland. The Lordship remained in royal hands until 1604. Wark has a general shop and pubs for refreshments.

## 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

### Remember!

Waterproofs, puncture repair kit and/or spare inner tube



Northumberland National Park

# Bellingham & North Tyne

## CIRCULAR CYCLE ROUTES



**NORTHUMBERLAND**  
AN INDEPENDENT SPIRIT

NATIONAL PARKS  
Britain's breathing spaces

Buteland Heights

## ROUTE 3: CURLEW

**Start & Finish:** Bellingham Square

**Distance:** 15 miles

**Time:** 2 - 3 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 on a circular route along quiet country lanes and over open moorland

**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

# DIRECTIONS

Leave Bellingham (Manchester Square/Rose & Crown) turn right.

**A** Right at Lloyds Bank.

**B** First right. R.10 to Redesmouth.

Follow the R.10 to Redesmouth, cross the River Rede and climb uphill towards the crest of the hill.

**C** At the crest **take care**. Right. Buteland Heights.

Follow R.10 along this gated road through to Birtley. Stunning 360 degree panoramic views.

**D** Birtley junction. Right, and into Birtley. ★

Ride on through Birtley, and follow the road downhill to Wark Bridge over the River North Tyne. **Take care. Steep hill in places.**

**E** Cross the bridge over the North Tyne into Wark. Take the opportunity for a break by the river or on the village green. ★

Go on ahead through the village, and take the Whygate and Stonehaugh road.

**F** Bear left signposted 'Whygate/Stonehaugh'.

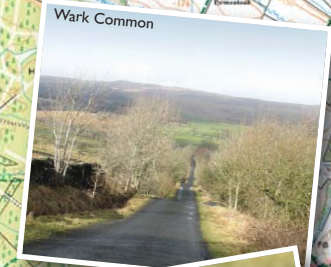
**G** Right. R.68 through the gated road. Follow the R.68 to the next 'T' junction, turn left R.68.

**H** Right. R.68. **Caution cattle grids.**

**I** Right. R.68, R.10.

**J** Left. R.68, R.10 and back into Bellingham.

- P** Parking
- I** Tourist Information
- W** Toilets
- H** Historic Building or Site
- A** Visitor Attraction
- C** Cafe/Pub
- S** Shops
- C** Church
- B** Bus/Public Transport
- A** Camping/Caravan Site
- W** Walks
- ★ Places of interest
- >> Hilly section
- ⚠ Take care



## CURLEW FACTS

The Curlew, is a wading bird that breeds on open moorland. Its call is a loud 'curloo-oo.' The curlew is the symbol of Northumberland National Park.

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.

