

Reedsford Mindrum TD12 4QQ

It is with great pleasure that we welcome you to THE BOTHY.

THE BOTHY is one of nine holiday homes in the Wild Plum Escapes portfolio, all located in the heart of North Northumberland, and exceptionally well placed for exploring the wider area. With Northumberland National Park just a short distance away, 400 square miles of stunning landscape awaits the avid walker or cyclist. For families, the Breamish Valley is a popular area with pretty river picnic spots and lovely walks to the waterfall at Linhope Spout. Alternatively, visit Ford & Etal Estates, with over 20 attractions to explore, including a 15" gauge steam railway, fishing, canoeing, cycle hire and riding centre.

We very much hope you enjoy your stay at THE BOTHY. Please do let us know if there is anything we can do to make your time here more enjoyable.

All the best,

Wild Plum Escapes

Andrew & Corinne Joicey

www.wild-plum.co.uk



THE BOTHY

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Emergency Contacts

Emergency	Contact
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Andrew & Corinne Joicey 01890 820540
Corinne Joicey 07866 880724

Head of Property/Estate Maintenance

Richard Thornton 07909 025487

Head Housekeepers

 Philippa Richardson
 07971 525212

 Tasha Buckland
 07795 474289

 Andrea Thornton
 07516 231945

Letting Agent

Crabtree & Crabtree Ltd 01573 226711

Police

Berwick Police Station Berwick-upon-Tweed TD15 1DZ 101 / 999

A & E Hospital

Borders General Hospital Melrose TD6 9BS (40 miles) 01896 826000

Please note that there are minor injuries departments at Berwick Infirmary and Alnwick Infirmary and Wansbeck Hospital has a 24-hour emergency care centre. Call 0191 203 1200 for advice on which venue to attend.

Doctors

Cheviot Medical Group Wooler NE71 6BL 01668 281575 Coldstream Medical Practice Coldstream TD12 4LQ 01890 882711



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Other Useful Telephone Numbers

Dentist

01289 356966
01668 281343
01289 306036
01890 882412
01668 281323
01289 330066
01890 882322
01668 216360
01668 281281
01668 282292

Train Station

Berwick-upon-Tweed Train Station TD15 1NF (15 miles)

Newcastle International Airport NE13 8BZ (56 miles) Edinburgh Airport EH12 9DN (61 miles)



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Safety Information

Fuse Box

The fuse box is above the back door (roadside door). In the event of loss of power, there is a torch, candles and matches in the kitchen.

First Aid Kit

You will find a first aid kit in the kitchen drawer.

Fire Extinguishers

There are multi-purpose dry powder fire extinguishers in the kitchen. There is a fire blanket in the kitchen.

The house is fitted with smoke alarms.

Stopcock

The stopcock is located under the kitchen sink.



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Cottage Information

Cleaning Equipment

You will find cleaning equipment and cleaning products in the cupboard in the bathroom.

Electrical Appliances

Instruction manuals for all the electrical appliances can be found in a folder on the shelves above the TV in the seating area.

Damage & Breakages

We understand that accidents do happen. For any minor breakages to kitchen items such as glasses or cups, we ask that you please leave a note for our housekeeper and a contribution towards replacement. In the event of other damage to items of furniture, furnishings or bed linen, it is important that you contact us or our agents, Crabtree & Crabtree, as soon as possible. The cost of repair or replacement will be taken from your good housekeeping deposit.

Dogs

We understand how lovely it is to be able to bring your dogs with you on holiday. We just ask that you keep them out of the bedrooms and do not allow them on any of the soft furnishings. Please ensure you keep your dogs under control, and clear up after them at all times.

Furniture

We respectfully request that you please use the provided coasters and table mats to avoid water and heat damage to the furniture, and deal promptly with any spillages.

Heating & Hot Water

The primary heat source for the cottage is the log burner in the sitting room, which heats both the domestic hot water and the central heating radiators.

However, there is also:

- 1. An oil-fired boiler (situated externally) which is connected to the central heating system, which is set to maintain the house at a minimum temperature of around 14 degrees.
- 2. An immersion heater, to maintain the temperature of the domestic hot water.
- 3. Two portable 'plug in' electric oil-filled radiators to provide extra heat where required. These should not be covered.

We ask guests not to alter the settings or controls for the oil-fired boiler or immersion heater.



After lighting from cold, the log burner will provide heat to the radiators within about half an hour.

Use the top slide control on the log burner to control the fire. It should be set to 'open' to provide maximum heat when heating the radiators, and 'closed' to reduce the fire and to ensure the fire stays on overnight. The lower slide is best left 'closed' at all times — leave the door slightly open when first establishing the fire. There are electric towel rails in the bath and shower rooms.

Instructions for the Log Burner

Scrunch up newspaper into loose balls, add 5/6 pieces of kindling in a pyramid shape, and light. After a few minutes, place a couple of smaller logs on top, in a pyramid.

- Get the initial logs burning well before filling the log burner with logs.
- After the fire is burning well, the pump will kick in and allow the hot water to circulate around the radiators.
- At night, fill the log burner with logs and shut the top vent down. There will be enough residual heat to keep the log burner going all night.
- To flare the fire up again in the morning, add some newspaper and kindling if required, and more logs. Leaving the door slightly ajar for a few minutes will also help to revive the flame.

Please do not leave the fire glove on top or near the stove when leaving the cottage, as this could easily catch fire. Please do not empty the ash.

Airing/Drying Cupboard

The two heat-escape radiators in the bathroom cupboard provide a lot of warmth which is ideal for drying. Please note that the un-lagged pipe gets very hot.

Washing Facilities

The washing machine is in the cupboard in the bathroom. The tumble dryer is in the outhouse.

Outhouse

The outhouse at the end of the cottage houses the tumble dryer, freezer and two airers. It also has a sink and dresser base which is useful for feeding dogs. It is an ideal store for bikes, waders, tack and outdoor equipment. The key for the outhouse is on one of the sets of keys.

Smoking

Please note that this is a strictly no smoking property.

Wi-Fi & Mobile Reception

There is no mobile reception. Wi-Fi is available through Borderlink.

Borderlink-tb Password: Thebothy

The landline number is 01668 216 786. Guests are welcome to use the landline for emergencies. Excessive use may be charged.



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Your Departure

Departure Time

Please depart the house by 10am. This ensures that the housekeeper has time to prepare the property for incoming guests. If you wish to depart later please contact us, as special arrangements may be possible.

Keys

House keys should be placed in the key safe on your departure. Thank you.

Ideally we would rather you leave, or be in the habit of leaving, the door keys in the key safe whenever you go out for the day. This is to ensure that keys are not misplaced or lost. You would be surprised how often this happens!

Departure Cleaning

Please leave the house tidy on your departure and put all disposable waste and recycling in the bins provided. Glass, however, cannot be placed in either of the bins. We ask that you please take glass to the Council communal recycling bins – see guidelines on following page, Rubbish & Recycling.

Guests will be charged for any additional cleaning required over what is considered acceptable for a property this size.



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Rubbish & Recycling

Please put rubbish in the black wheelie bin and recycling in the blue wheelie bin, located on the roadside by the back door. Collection takes place on Tuesdays. Details of what can be recycled are shown below. There is a box under the sink for storing items for recycling. Please wash out containers and empty the box into the blue wheelie bin regularly. Glass bottles cannot be recycled and must be removed from the property at the end of your stay. These should be placed in the Council's communal recycling bins, the nearest of which can be found outside the Cornhill Village Shop or in the public car park at the southern end of Wooler High Street. There is also a glass recycling facility at most of the main supermarkets.

Please put the following materials in your blue recycling bin:

Paper

Envelopes Catalogues

Newspapers Cardboard boxes Magazines Leaflets Unwanted mail Books

Cardboard

Clean cardboard packaging e.g. cereal boxes egg boxes kitchen roll tubes

Food cans e.g. beans cans soup cans Drinks cans e.g.

fizzy drinks cans beer cans

Empty aerosols

Plastic Bottles

Drinks bottles Plastic milk bottles Shampoo bottles Washing up bottles

IMPORTANT: Do not put glass or textiles into your blue bin.

Please **DO NOT** put the following materials in your blue recycling bin:

Paper

Envelopes with windows Padded envelopes Crisp packets Polystyrene packaging

Cardboard

Tetrapaks such as fruit juice cartons, milk cartons etc. They contain metal or plastic liners and due to their construction are not suitable for reprocessing.

Cans

Old paint tins

Plastic Bottles

Plastic bags Yoghurt pots Margarine tubs Icecream tubs Plastic film Plant pots Plastic toys





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Additional Services

Catering

For complete relaxation, special occasions and large get-togethers, you may wish to consider a catered service. We can suggest:

Thyme2eat — www.thyme2eat.uk Fig Food — www.figfood.co.uk Fiona Burn — www.fionaburn.co.uk

Wine Delivery

Majestic Wines (www.majestic.co.uk) should deliver to this property. However, Crabtree & Crabtree also have an arrangement with Corney & Barrow, who will deliver free of charge. Call them on 01573 226711 if you would like further details.

Food Delivery

Sainsbury's (Kelso) Tesco, ASDA and Morrisons (Berwick-upon-Tweed)

Additional Housekeeping

Guests requiring additional cleaning or linen changes during their stay should contact the housekeeper.

Church Services

St Michael & All Angels Church Ford Village Ford TD5 2PX
Chapel of the Blessed Virgin Mary Etal Village Cornhill-on-Tweed TD12 4TL
For more information on the churches in Ford & Etal visit:
www.ford-and-etal.co.uk/history-heritage/churches/

St Ninian's Catholic Church Burnhouse Road Wooler NE71 6EE

Saint Cuthbert's Parish Church Norham Berwick-upon-Tweed TD15 2LE www.norhamlife.co.uk



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Local Shops & Amenities

Cornhill-on-Tweed

The Cornhill Village shop is excellent. A very friendly family-run business, newsagent and post office. It offers locally sourced groceries, take-away hot snacks, breakfasts and pack lunches, and also sells wines, beers, local Doddington cheeses and ice creams and much, much more. Open Monday to Saturday 6.30am - 4.30pm and Sunday 8am-12pm (01890 883313).

Norham

RG Foreman Butchers in Norham is very good, with a selection of meat, cheese, wine and spirits, fishing tackle, waders and fishing permits. They will also deliver goods to Cornhill Village Shop for you to collect (01289 382260). Why not visit Norham Castle while you are there?

Coldstream

Coldstream has a small Co-op supermarket, butcher, pharmacy and petrol station.

Kelso

Kelso has a fine selection of local shops, banks, cafés and pubs, all situated round a pretty cobbled square in the centre of town. You will find everything from gifts, kitchenware, hardware, outdoor clothing, sporting equipment, shoes, bags, a wonderful florist and Hunters the Butcher. Take a peek at Kelso Abbey while you are there.

There is a large Sainsbury's, a Lidl and a Co-op, and we highly recommend Julian's Veg (07596 704783), an independent greengrocer based at Mayfield Garden Centre.

Wooler

Wooler has a good range of local shops, including the Good Life Deli, two butchers, gift shops, an antique shop, cafés, and pubs. There is also a small Co-op supermarket, bank, chemist and garage. Farm to Freeze Butcher & Game dealer also have a convenience store. Also worth a visit is the Doddington Dairy Milk Bar — www.doddingtonmilkbar.co.uk

Berwick-upon-Tweed

Berwick-upon-Tweed is a historic town with a mainline train station. There is a good range of local shops and cafés on Bridge Street and several supermarkets on the edge of town, including Morrisons, Tesco, Asda and M&S. Northern Edge Coffee Shop & Café on Silver Street is worth a visit on the way down to the pier and lighthouse. For fans of fresh fish and seafood, we can recommend The Berwick Shellfish Company.



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Farmer's Markets

Alnwick Market Place – last Friday of the month 9am-2pm Berwick The Maltings Art Centre – last Sunday of the month 10am-1.30pm Kelso Town Square – 4th Saturday of the month 9.30am-1.30pm Jedburgh Market Place – 1st Friday of the month 9.30am-1.30pm Peebles Eastgate Car Park – 2nd Saturday of the month 9.30am-1.30pm

Electrical Car Charging Points

Etal Village Hall –TD12 4TL

Coldstream

88 High Street -TD12 4AQ 73 High Street -TD12 4AE

Wooler

Black Bull Car Park - NE71 6BY

Berwick-upon-Tweed

Swan's Leisure Centre -TD15 2AS 40 Chapel Street Car Park -TD15 1BX Berwick Infirmary -TD15 1LT Tesco - TD15 2XG

Kelso

Town Hall -TD5 7HF The Butts Car Park - TD5 7BH Rose Lane -TD5 7AD Inch Road -TD5 7JP



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Places to Eat

Below is a list of recommended eating places in the area, listed by most local first. Some will do takeaways, so contact them to enquire.

The Black Bull

Etal TD12 4TN 01890 820200 www.theblackbulletal.co.uk

The Lavender Tea Rooms

Etal TD12 4TN 01890 820761 www.thelavendertearooms.org.uk

BOES Café at Heatherslaw Mill

Ford TD12 4TJ 07519 640933 jodie@carreraonline.uk www.boes.co.uk Located within Heatherslaw Corn Mill offering a full range of coffee, tempting lunches and handmade cakes, patisserie and gelato.

The Cheviot Tap

Slainsfield TD12 4TP 07778 478943 www.cheviotbrewery.co.uk Brilliant rustic outdoor bar, serving locally brewed beer (Cheviot Brewery) and fresh pizzas from the wood-fired pizza oven.

The Border Hotel

Yetholm TD5 8PQ 01573 420237 www.borderhotel.co.uk Just up the road from Reedsford and perfect stop along the St Cuthbert's Way.

The Blue Bell Inn

Crookham TD12 4SH 01890 820789 A walk across a field from Crookham Eastfield.

The Collingwood Arms

Cornhill-on-Tweed TD12 4UH 01890 88242 www.collingwoodarms.com

The Red Lion Inn

Milfield NE71 6JD 01668 216224 iain@redlionmilfield.co.uk www.redlionmilfield.co.uk

The Black Bull Inn

Lowick TD15 2UA 01289 388375 www.blackbulllowick.co.uk

The Allanton Inn

Allanton TD11 3JZ 01890 818260 www.allantoninn.co.uk

The Cross Inn

Paxton TD15 1TE 01289 384877 www.thecrossinn.co.uk

The Percy Arms

Chatton NE66 5PS 01668 215244 www.percyarmschatton.co.uk



Atelier

Berwick-upon-Tweed TD15 1ES 01289 298180 www.atelier.cafe

Cobbles Inn

Kelso TD5 7JH 01573 223548 www.thecobblesinn.co.uk

The Terrace Café at Floors Castle

Kelso TD5 7SF 01573 225714 www.floorscastle.com Lovely in the summer - we recommend reserving a table in the walled garden!

The Café at The Mainstreet Trading Company

St Boswells TD6 0AT 01835 824087 www.mainstreetbooks.co.uk Award-winning bookshop & café, with a delightful deli and inspiring home shop. Really worth a visit!

The Barn at Beal

Berwick-upon-Tweed TD15 2PB 01289 540044 www.barnatbeal.com Perfect before or after a visit to Holy Island.

The Potted Lobster

Bamburgh NE69 7BS 01668 214088 www.thepottedlobster.co.uk Excellent seafood bistro, ideal after a day at Bamburgh beach. Pre-booking essential.

The Treehouse Restaurant

Alnwick Gardens NE66 1YU 01665 511350 www.alnwickgarden.com Gets busy during holidays, so advisable to book.

Carnaby's

Chathill NE67 5HW Everyday 9.30am-4pm www.carnabyscafe.co.uk Gift shop, café and delicious deli lunches.

The Pack Horse Inn

Ellingham Chathill NE67 5HA www.packhorseinn-ellingham.co.uk Traditional English Country Pub, known for its locally sourced produce and ales!

Seaside pubs where dogs are welcome, with fabulous walks to Dunstanburgh Castle.

The Ship Inn

Low Newton-by-the-Sea NE66 3EL 01665 576262 www.shipinnnewton.co.uk

Jolly Fisherman

Craster NE66 3TR 01665 576461 www.thejollyfishermancraster.co.uk Fabulous seafood, including world famous Craster Kippers!

The Joiners Arms

Newton-by-the-Sea NE66 3EA 01665 576112 www.joiners-arms.com



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Things to Do & See in the Local Area

Ford & Etal Estates

Ford & Etal Estates has so much to see and do, it will keep you busy for at least a couple of days! We recommend starting at Heatherslaw, where you will find Heatherslaw Light Railway, a working Corn Mill & Shop, Boes Café and newly arrived Raven Clay Pottery. Further information on short walks around the Estate can be gathered at the Visitor Centre.

Both villages of Ford and Etal have much to offer, places to eat and historic sites to see. At the other end of the railway track or a short walk from Heatherslaw, Etal Village boasts The Black Bull Pub, The Lavender Tearooms and Etal Castle ruin, built in the mid-14th Century. Visits to Etal Castle can be booked through English Heritage.

In Ford, we recommend seeing the Lady Waterford Hall (free of charge) and the Horseshoe Forge (it's an Aladdin's cave). Ford Village Shop sells teas, coffees and ice creams and other sundries, but notably, you can hire excellent bicycles here.

Flodden Field

Visit Flodden Field, site of the infamous battle between the English and Scots. The 500th anniversary of the battle has been commemorated with an eco-museum — www.flodden1513.com. Park at Branxton below the memorial, and follow the outdoor trail.

More information can be found at www.ford-and-etal.co.uk/attractions

Berwick-upon-Tweed

The Berwick Ramparts (4km)

Built in 1558, an easy and well-worthwhile walk around the walls of this this historic garrison town.

The Maltings Theatre & Cinema

A cinema and live arts venue well worth visiting. Check their box office for the programme. The Maltings Café, with great views over the Berwick rooftops and the Tweed, is highly recommended for lunchtime and evening dining — www.maltingsberwick.co.uk



Boat Trips

Berwick Boat Trips – www.berwickboattrips.co.uk

Run seven days a week, tides and weather permitting. Check their website for timetable or private hire. Ask David and Pamela Thompson (07713 170845) about mackerel fishing, dolphins, seals, sea trips to St Abbs Head, Holy Island and one-hour or two-hour bay trips and river excursions.

North Berwick Boat Trips - www.seabird.org/boats

Book boat trips through the Scottish Seabird Centre to the Isle of May, where you will see the unusual, architecturally interesting lighthouse, operational since 1635, and large colonies of breeding seabirds, including puffins. Trips also include visits to the Bass Rock and Craigleith. You'll find lots of information on their website.

St Abbs Rib Rides – www.ribridesstabbs.co.uk

Offers fast blasts or a leisurely cruise up and down the rugged coastline.

Eyemouth Harbour Rib Trips – www.eyemouthribtrips.co.uk

Skipper Tim, a lovely man, full of interesting information, offers various trips up the coastline.

Victoria Harbour Dunbar, Blue Wild Boats - www.bluewild.co.uk

Skipper Alan Stewart (also a lovely man) mainly does private charter. Can offer professional tour guides for historical or ornithology trips and is well worth it!

Farne Island Boat Trips Seahouses – www.farne-islands.com

Probably the best seabird colony in Britain and also famous for its seal population. We recommend booking through Billy Shiels, Glad Tidings.

Paxton House Boat Trips – www.mouthofthetweed.co.uk/boattrips

Take a boat trip on a RIB up the Tweed from Berwick to Paxton House.

Local Area Information

www.visitnorthumberland.com www.visitscottishborders.com www.scotlandstartshere.com



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Beaches, Coastline & Hills

To the south of Berwick-upon-Tweed:

Cheswick (25mins)

Often very quiet. Miles of sand. Great for dog walks, picnics and swimming.

The Holy Island of Lindisfarne (30mins)

The Holy Island of Lindisfarne is an island accessible by a tidal causeway. It is home to the Lindisfarne Castle and Priory, and many other excitements, including The Lime Kilns and Lindisfarne Mead. The final stage of the historic St Cuthbert's Way crossing the sand by the well known Pilgrims' Crossing. Check safe crossing times before setting out.

Ross Beach (30mins)

A very long stretch of sand, great for walkers and runners. Well known for its bird life and seal population. We recommend trying the local oysters, available all year round from Lindisfarne Oysters Ltd, West House, Ross Farm — www.lindisfarneoysters.co.uk.

Bamburgh (40mins)

A world-famous beach with the impressive Bamburgh Castle towering over you. The main beach is very easily accessible from the village, but for the slightly more adventurous, we recommend heading to the far end of The Wynding by the Golf Club. Follow the steep narrow path down to a small bay. Please be aware that at peak times, Bamburgh can be incredibly busy.

Dunstan Steads (45mins)

Walk across the golf course onto Embleton Bay, one of the best surfing beaches in the area, in the shadow of the ruins of Dunstanburgh Castle.

Beadnell Bay (50mins)

Another glorious stretch of beach with a safe bay, busy sailing club and many other water sports. The cute little harbour, with lime kilns above, sits at the northern edge.

Alnmouth (1hr)

Located five miles east of Alnwick, Alnmouth is a beautiful village on the banks of The River Aln. Known for its estuary and stunning beaches, and popular for sailing.

Northumberland Coastal Path (62 miles from Berwick-upon-Tweed to Druridge Bay)

Features many of these beauty spots and includes a diversion from the coast to St Cuthbert's Cave.



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Beaches, Coastline & Hills

To the north of Berwick-upon-Tweed:

Eyemouth (30mins)

Best known for its bright, busy harbour and fishing industry, which dates back to the 13th Century. Alongside this, the town has a long history of smuggling. Gunsgreen House, once central to this activity, has been newly renovated and is worth a visit. The waterfront is part of a huge regeneration project which will transform the town.

Coldingham Bay (35mins)

A pretty little village with a small, sheltered sandy bay, perfect for young children and home to the St Vedas Surf school.

St Abbs Head (35mins)

This is the star of the trio. A thriving fishing village just over the Creel Path from Coldingham Bay. Its quaint and picturesque harbour, not only famous for its lobster and crab (Ebbcarrs Café), found fame following the filming of *Avengers: Endgame*. The rich marine coastal waters makes this a popular destination for divers and walkers. The Nature Reserve and seabird colony at St Abbs Head boasts outstanding views over a truly rugged coastline.

Cove Harbour (35mins)

A hidden gem and the first stop on the Berwickshire coastal route after Cockburnspath (my home town) is a must! Small car park, so best to avoid peak times.

Berwickshire Coastal Path (48km)

Cockburnspath to Berwick-upon-Tweed. Passes through all the above and many other glorious places, including the ruin of Fast Castle, along the way. For keen geologists, visit Siccar Point, the world famous geological outcrop known as 'Hutton's Unconformity'.

Continuing north along the coastline:

Tyninghame and Seacliffe Beaches - East Lothian (1hr 20mins)

Both beaches are well worth a day trip. Beautiful bays looking out to the Bass Rock. Tyninghame is more remote and wild, with quite some walk along a pretty woodland path to the beach.* There is limited parking for about 20 cars (£2 for the day). I'd advise arriving early. On the other hand, Seacliffe, overlooked by the mighty ruin of Tantallon Castle, has easy access right down to the beach. Good parking (3 x £1 coins) and toilet facilities.

^{*} Directions are not well signposted. Please speak to Corinne if you want guidance before your visit.



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Beaches, Coastline & Hills

Into the hills:

Halterburn Loop Walk – Kirk Yetholm (14km)

At the western fringes of the Cheviot Hills, barely a mile from The Border Hotel at Kirk Yetholm.

Yeavering Bell – Kirknewton (5.5km)

A twin-topped Iron Age hill fort at the northern end of the Cheviots. Look out for the infamous feral goats.

The College Valley – Kirknewton

A truly wonderful unspoilt wilderness with a wealth of ancient hillfort site. There are 28 miles of paths and bridleways, and bridleways, and a network of cool waters including The College Burn and famous Hethpool Linn.

Those wishing to take a car beyond the free car park at Hethpool will need to pre-book a day permit (£10) www.college-valley.co.uk

The Cheviot — the highest of the Cheviot Hills (815m high)

The least complicated route is from Langleeford, Wooler (approx a 2-3hr climb), but there are many other routes to choose, including via Hen Hole in neighbouring College Valley. Nearing the top, climb the stile over the wall and follow the large paving stone footpath to the monument.

Humbleton Hillfort – Wooler (4km)

Follow the gentle, winding grassy path up behind the site to the top. Fantastic views for miles and beyond.

Ingram Valley

Pretty picnic spots along the Breamish River and lovely walks to the spectacular waterfall at Linhope Spout.

For guided walks, please get in touch with Patrick Norris – www.footstepsnorthumberland.co.uk 07847 506399 / info@footstepsnorthumberland.co.uk



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Castles, Country Houses & Gardens

There are many great castles, houses and gardens in the area. Some I have already mentioned. Here are a few others to consider.

Alnwick Castle and Gardens - www.alnwickgarden.com

Alnwick Castle is a fantastic day out for the whole family, and there really is something for everyone, whether you're interested in the magnificent castle and gardens, hands-on activities, eating out, outdoor events, or the castle's fascinating history dating back to Norman times. Alnwick Castle is the family home of the Duke and Duchess of Northumberland, and has appeared as a set in many film productions, including *Harry Potter* and *Downton Abbey*. We'd highly recommend a visit to the Treehouse for lunch.

Warkworth Castle – www.english-heritage.org.uk

With stunning views over both the Coquet River and the coast, Warkworth Castle is operated by English Heritage and is well worth a visit. It has a tremendously important border history and magnificent architecture, and also offers family activities and occasional outdoor events.

Chillingham Castle – www.chillinghamwildcattle.com – www.chillingham-castle.com The Wild Cattle have run wild in the park for hundreds of years. Visit the nearby 13th century Chillingham Castle, famous for its ghosts!

Howick Hall Gardens & Arboretum – www.howickhallgardens.org

Well known for its spectacular grounds and gardens and boasts a world renowned Arboretum. Covering some 65 acres, almost all of the garden has been grown from seed collected in the wild since the 1980s. An absolute must! The visitor centre provides a wealth of information about the house and grounds.

Floors Castle – www.roxburghe.net

Floors Castle, in Kelso, is home to the 11th Duke of Roxburghe. Walk or cycle around the trails situated within the garden and grounds. Make sure to pop into the shop and cafés along the way.

Thirlestane Castle – www.thirlestanecastle.co.uk

For over 400 years, Thirlestane Castle has been home to the Maitland family. Book a guided tour around the castle to see the grand state rooms, followed by a delicious afternoon tea. Check their events calendar, which is full of a variety of activities, ranging from outdoor theatre productions to classic car festivals.



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Castles, Country Houses & Gardens

Abbotsford - www.scottsabbotsford.com

Abbotsford is the historic home of the famous novelist and poet, Sir Walter Scott. The house is full of fascinating history and Scott's quirky collections, with a beautiful library and writer's room, and views out onto the Tweed. There's also a visitor centre giving an insight into his life and legacy. The gardens, laid out by Scott himself, are picturesque and peaceful for walking. The Ochiltrees Restaurant offers a lovely lunch and you can also buy drinks and snacks from the horsebox in the carpark. It's best to book tickets online.

Bowhill - www.bowhillhouse.co.uk

Full of great adventure and outdoor fun, Bowhill is a perfect destination for families. They have a large adventure playground and also offer lots of other activities, from fishing to horse riding. The magnificent house hosts the impressive Buccleuch Art Collection, a Courtyard Gallery, café and gift shop.

Manderston – www.manderston.co.uk

Possessing the only silver staircase in the world, Manderston, an Edwardian country house, is worth a visit. It stands in 56 acres of immaculate gardens and is a well-known venue for various events.

Mellerstain House & Gardens – www.mellerstain.com

A local treasure, with spectacular views of the Cheviot Hills, Mellerstain provides a very enjoyable visit. You can easily while away the hours, immersing yourselves in the 100 acres of beautiful parkland, and explore the children's play area located along the woodland walks.



Golf

The Hirsel Golf Course

Kelso Road Coldstream TD12 4NJ 01890 882678 secretary@hirselgc.co.uk www.hirselgc.co.uk

Wooler Golf Club

Dod Law Doddington Wooler NE71 6AN 01668 282135 enquiries@woolergolf.co.uk www.woolergolf.co.uk

Goswick Golf Club

Station Cottages Goswick Berwick-upon-Tweed TD15 2RW 01289 387256 rory@goswickgolfclub.com www.goswickgolfclub.com

Bamburgh Castle Golf Club

The Wynding Bamburgh NE69 7DE 01668 214378 (Clubhouse) 01668 214321 (Secretary/Manager) secretary@bamburghcastlegolfclub.co.uk www.bamburghcastlegolfclub.co.uk

SCHLOSS Roxburghe Golf Course

Championship Course and Hotel Heiton Kelso TD5 8JZ 01573 450333 info@roxburghe-golf.com www.roxburghe-golf.com/en/contact

Cycling

There are some fabulous local cycling routes. For more information, visit: www.wooler.org.uk/cycling/373-wooler-cycle-hub

Adventure Sports

Adventure Northumberland

Alnwick 01665 602925 www.adventurenorthumberland.co.uk Organised rock climbing, kayaking, coasteering, abseiling or surfing.

Tennis

Lennel Tennis Club

Swinton Road Coldstream TD12 4AX Richard Ward 07906 928454 rwtennis@btinternet.com

Berwick Tennis Club

Pier Fields Devon Terrace Berwick-upon-Tweed TD15 1JE Richard Ward 07906 928454 rwtennis@btinternet.com

Wellbeing

The Beauty Room

Branxton TD12 4SL 07900 841636 www.thebeautyroombranxton.co.uk Book yourself one or more of Lisa Turnbull's lovely treatments.

Riding

Kimmerston Riding Centre

Wooler Northumberland NE71 6JH 01668 216283 / jane@kimmerston.com www.kimmerston.com
Riding in the Cheviot Hills or along the Northumberland beaches.

Surfing

There are many beaches along the East Coast from Coldingham to Warkworth, which, are notable for surfing, including Bamburgh, Cocklawburn, Seahouses and Beadnell.

For surf lessons contact:

Sally Cook

07810 562972 sally@surfnorthumberland.co.uk www.surfnorthumberland.co.uk

KA Adventure Sports

07766 303876 info@kitesurfinglessons.co.uk www.kitesurfinglessons.co.uk/surfing/

Leisure Centres & **Swimming Pools**

The Swan Centre

Berwick-upon-Tweed TD15 2AS 01670 620200 www.activenorthumberland.org.uk

Kelso Swimming Pool

Inch Road Kelso TD5 7JP 01573 224944 www.liveborders.org.uk

Fishing

For salmon fishing on the River Tweed and its tributaries, see FishTweed. Salmon season begins on 1st February and runs right through to 30th November, with fishing available from Monday through to Saturday (no Sunday fishing).

FishTweed

01573 470612 www.fishtweed.co.uk

The Till Fishing

From Redscar Milfield to Tindal House Contact Brian Thompson 01668 216 223

The legal season for brown trout starts on 15th March and finishes on 6th October, but in practice most clubs restrict the season from 1st April to 30th September. Whilst it is legal to fish on Sundays (unlike salmon and sea trout), most clubs do not allow Sunday fishing. Crabtree & Crabtree (01573 226711) can also advise on local fishing, guides, instructors, and tackle hire.

There is also still water trout fishing at:

Chatton

www.chattontroutfishery.com

Watch Water Fishery

Lammermuir Hills www.watchfishery.co.uk

Coldingham Loch

near St Abbs Head www.coldinghamloch.co.uk



THE BOTHY

Reedsford Mindrum TD12 4QQ

The Countryside Code

We kindly ask that all guests follow The Countryside Code:

Respect everyone

- be considerate to those living in, working in and enjoying the countryside
- leave gates and property as you find them
- do not block access to gateways or driveways when parking
- be nice, say hello, share space
- follow local signs and keep to marked paths unless wider access is available

Protect the environment

- take litter home leave no trace of your visit
- do not light fires and only have BBQs where signs say you can
- always keep dogs under control and in sight
- dog poo bag it and bin it any public waste bin will do
- care for nature do not cause damage or disturbance

Enjoy the outdoors

- check your route
- plan your adventure know what to expect and what you can do
- enjoy your visit

Further reading may be found at

www.gov.uk/countryside-code

Scottish Outdoor Access Code

Scotland has its own outdoor rules.

Visit www.outdooraccess-scotland.scot for details.