

Please follow the Countryside Code whilst on this walk, especially: -

- Take litter home with you
- Dogs to be kept on leads or close control as sheep roam the hills across this area, there is also endangered wildlife breeding within the moorland.
- Take dog excreta away to ensure others can enjoy the walk.
- Do not damage trees and other vegetation as these provide valuable habitat for the wild life.
- Care must be taken on the roads; they are relatively quiet but agricultural vehicles use them at all times of the day.
- Stay on the designated footpaths.

Leave only footprints.
Create memories,
take only photographs

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Whimsey Hill
572 m



Carrshield Camping Barn

WALK 6

Killhope Law and the source of the West Allen River

This is a challenging walk, due to the terrain and navigation across a barren peat plateau but rewarding with views across 3 counties. Enjoy the tranquillity of this remote region and the wildlife which breeds in the area, including some endangered species.

Distance: 13.3 km with 390 metres of ascent

Time to complete: Up to 4 hours

Terrain: A long steady climb up the valley with some level areas to break the strain. The route across the summit ridge can be extremely boggy in places. A short stretch of tarmac and gentle walking most of the route back. **Due to terrain ability with compass and map is essential in poor weather/visibility.**

Maps: OS Explorer Map OL31 or Landranger Map 86. Route available for free download to smartphone and tablet on the OS Maps and OutdoorActive apps.

www.carrshieldcampingbarn.co.uk

enterprise

WALK 6

Killhope Law & the source of the West Allen River

WAYPOINT 1 Start at Carrshield Camping Barn
Grid Ref NY 803 467



From the Camping Barn take the old road up a gentle slope with dog bin on your right, through the gate and onto the tarmac road. Turn left to follow the road into the main part of the village to find Downview Barn on your right.

WAYPOINT 2 Leave the village of Carrshield for open countryside – Grid Ref NY 803 475



Turn up the drive and circumnavigate around the house to reach open fields on its far side. Make your way across the first field then take a more direct upwards route to the left of the ruin that is Loudside. After passing through the gate the route heads up the grassy (and boggy in places) slope to the right but it is not marked and little used. As the ground flattens on Carrshield Moor the route of Isaac's Tea Trail will be seen. Head for the higher of the marker posts then continue onto a more clearly visible track which leads to the road on the far side.

WAYPOINT 3 Cross road onto old mine track
Grid Ref NY 814 458



Cross the road and take the gated old mine road opposite. At this point you are leaving permitted footpaths into Open Access countryside. Please respect the signs and usage of this land ensuring dogs are always kept under close control. Follow the old road until about 100 metres before the Shooting Cabin, then take the obvious track to the left. This is a metal roadway used by Gamekeepers and Shooters to access the higher ground avoiding extensive bog and heather moorland. At the top of this roadway head to the left to find the summit trig point that give amazing views in all directions, weather permitting.

WAYPOINT 4 Summit of Killhope Law
Grid Ref NY 819 448



This leg of the walk can be very challenging in poor visibility and is difficult walking even in dry weather due to the boggy nature of the area. There are no paths nor are there any obvious landmarks with which to navigate. Stay on the higher ground heading to Killhope Head, where a fence will be located. Turn right along this fence to reach to road at the border between Northumberland and Cumbria. Turn right down the road then turn left at gate with byway sign. Follow this path as it meanders through old mine spoil heaps to a gravel/stony track above an isolated house.

WAYPOINT 5 Turn left onto Isaac's Tea Trail
Grid Ref NY 800 452



Follow Isaac's Tea Trail posts across Alston Cleugh and up through the coal mine spoil heaps onto open moorland. On reaching the dry-stone wall turn right and follow the footpath signs that go to the east of the summit of The Dodd. After descending onto the wide grassy plateau to the north of the main summit turn right at a marked junction of pathways.

WAYPOINT 6 Turn right back towards Carrshield
Grid Ref NY 788 468



Follow the small, but well-marked pathway as it descends down to the river. On reaching the wall the path stays reasonably close to this as it goes through areas of thick soft rush, which can also be wet under foot. On reaching the stony track close to a house turn right along the track, Carrshield Camping Barn will soon be seen in front



Carrshield, Hexham NE47 8AR
OS map ref. NY803467 (Explorer OL31, Landranger 86/8)