

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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Carrshield Camping Barn

WALK 3

High level circuit above Carrshield

A walk taking in the industrial heritage of the area as well as the natural beauty for which the northern Pennines are renowned. From the higher slopes it is possible to see across the whole of the county to Cheviot 50 miles away and across to Cross Fell in the opposite direction.

Distance:	Approximately 9.2 km with around 300 metres of ascent.
Time to complete:	Between 3 and 3.5 hours.
Terrain:	There is one steep ascent at the beginning of the walk; throughout the walk there are areas that are boggy especially after wet weather.
Maps:	OS Explorer Map OL31 or Landranger Map 86. Route available for free download to smartphone and tablet on www.ViewRanger.com

www.carrshieldcampingbarn.co.uk

enterprise

WALK 3

High level circuit above Carrshield

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



Leave the Camping Barn and progress along the track over the road bridge. Follow this rough track until a footpath sign is found on your left, just before the gate and remains of a kiln.

WAYPOINT 2 Turn left before the kiln, up the grassy slope - Grid Ref NY 799 473



Turn left up the grassy bank and follow this small bridleway as it ascends to the ridge above the West Allen valley. There are places along this section that are steep and can be very boggy. For most of the way you will be close to the dry-stone wall. Where this turns to the right continue upwards following the bridleway signs.

WAYPOINT 3 Turn left along the ridge towards The Dodd
Grid Ref NY 788 468



On reaching the ridge where there is a junction of routes, take the opportunity to enjoy the wide-open views over the valley and neighbouring Tyne valley to the North. There is evidence of several abandoned mines and quarries still visible along this ridge. Turn left and head towards The Dodd but keep to the track that passes below the summit on the eastern side of the hill. The summit is very boggy even in dry weather. After contouring around the summit, you will eventually reach another dry-stone wall that passes along the ridge to the south of The Dodd, this wall is the county boundary between Cumbria and Northumberland. Head left along the wall until reaching a small gate with a yellow topped sign that marks the long-distance route known as Isaac's Tea Trail. Take a moment to look over the neighbouring Nent valley towards Cross Fell in the distance.

WAYPOINT 4 Follow Isaac's Tea Trail away from the county border - Grid Ref - NY 791 451

Turn left across the top of the moorland following the yellow posts, there is a small pathway to follow. On arriving at the top of the old coal mines wind your way to the main access track and over Alston Cleugh, arguably the beginning of the West Allen river. Pass through the metal gate and continue along the track to the road. Take the road signed towards Allenheads until just after the bridge.



WAYPOINT 5 Follow Isaac's Tea Trail across Carrshield Moor - Grid Ref NY 807 455



Take the old track away from the road, passing the rear of derelict houses that were once part of the busy village of Coalcleugh, once the highest village in England. After the ruins the track reverts to a path but is well signed. On reaching the last post before the summit there is a junction of paths, take the faint route to the left that will gradually lead you down towards the centre of Carrshield, again at derelict old buildings. Make your way along the signed paths, between the buildings to the road.

WAYPOINT 6 Turn left along road by Downview Barn
Grid Ref NY 802 475



Turn left onto the road for a short distance until a Restricted By-Way is found on your right just after a stone house overlooking the old mine works. Take this track down to the Carrshield Camping Barn.

 **Carrshield
Camping Barn**

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