

Points of interest

See pages 18-19 in the booklet for full details.

A Nenthead Mines



The old smelt mill at Nenthead Mines

B Shake holes



Shake holes are a quite common feature in the North Pennines

C Rock layers

D Dry Burn



E Leadgate

F Park Fell

G The Ward Way

H Alston

I Blagill

J Aerial ropeway remains

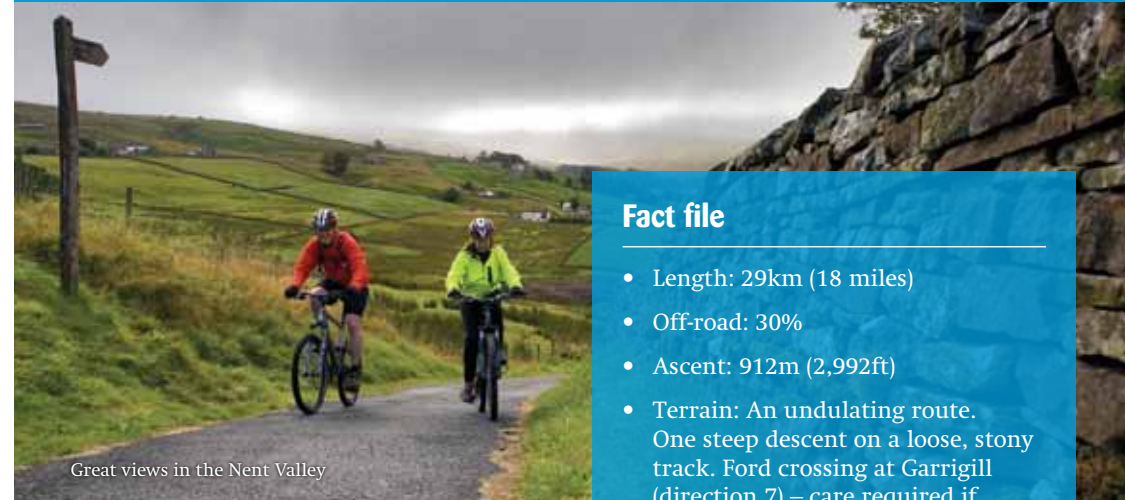


NORTH PENNINES
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty



Route 1: Alston

You'll travel through a landscape rich with echoes of the area's lead mining past. Passing through the small town of Alston and the villages of Nenthead and Garrigill, as well as over the high moors, it's a route of contrasts.



Great views in the Nent Valley



Riding above Nenthead in the Upper Nent Valley

Fact file

- Length: 29km (18 miles)
- Off-road: 30%
- Ascent: 912m (2,992ft)
- Terrain: An undulating route. One steep descent on a loose, stony track. Ford crossing at Garrigill (direction 7) – care required if South Tyne River is high
- Start: Nenthead Mines car park (NY 781 436)
- OS maps: Explorer OL31/ Landranger 87
- This route is promoted as a horse riding and a mountain biking trail. Please ride carefully and be aware of other users, including walkers

Funded by:



This trail has been upgraded by the North Pennines AONB Partnership in collaboration with Cumbria County Council's Countryside Access Team.

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NORTH PENNINES
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Key

- L – left
- R – right
- TL – turn left
- TR – turn right
- SA – straight ahead
- SP – signposted
- Xrds – crossroads
- Tj – T-junction

Directions

- 1 Go through the gate just to the R of the buildings. Follow the stone track SA up through the site. At Mill Cottage continue SA – SP bridleyway to Priorsdale
- 2 At the fork bear R over the stream and in front of a building with a corrugated iron roof
- 3 At the fork bear L along the lower track – SP bridleyway and red 7. After 50m continue SA
- 4 SA on the road. After the R-hand bend continue downhill into the forest
- 5 TR on the main road
- 6 TL SP with a blue C2C sign. Just after the cottages continue downhill on the stone track. Take care – this section is very steep with a loose surface (especially towards the bottom) – walking could be a good option!

- 7 Cross the ford. TR at the road. Continue SA through Garrigill, passing to the L of the green
- 8 TL in Leadgate – SP Penrith 17
- 9 After an uphill section TR – SP Public Way
- 10 Cross the A686 – CARE! – Continue ahead on the track
- 11 Go round the sharp R-hand bend and continue downhill on the tarmac
- 12 TL and then immediately R onto the main road
- 13 TL at the Tj (SP Hexham A686). Go through Alston, passing the petrol station. Just before the national speed limit signs TR up the steep hill – SP Coatley Hill (North Loaning)
- 14 TR at the top
- 15 Just after the really sharp R-hand bend TL through the gate – SP Public Way & Clinty Brow Farm
- 16 TR onto the tarmac
- 17 At the Tj TL uphill and follow the road back to Nenthead

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