The walk starts in the middle of village by the green. Follow the minor road northwards out of the village.

2 Leave the tarmac road and follow the signpost Pennine Way, South Tyne Trail, Alston 3.75 miles. Follow the track and pass to the left of the woodyard. Follow the obvious path, initially across fields and then on the riverside until the footbridge across the River South Tyne.

3 Cross the footbridge signposted Pennine Way and continue on the opposite riverbank all the while following signs for the Pennine Way.

4 At Bleagate walk through the farmyard before again continuing through numerous dry stone walled fields towards Alston.

5 Pass through a wicker gate and follow the well-made path alongside the woodland.

6 At this point the route follows the Pennine Way as signposted down the steps to the impressive Brewery Bridge, which again crosses the River South Tyne. Cross the bridge and take the footpath on the opposite side of the river signposted Leadgate Road.

Alternatively, you can take a break from the walk and have a look around Alston with its many cafes and pubs, rejoining the walk at your leisure.

7 Turn left along the Leadgate road for 2km, passing through Leadgate and descending down the road to Blackburn Bridge.

8 Cross the bridge and turn left through the small gate and along the side of the Black Burn, signposted Footpath.

9 At the bridge take the path signed Footpath Garrigill. Follow the footpath through riverside vegetation and fields until you return to the footbridge crossed earlier (3). From here, retrace your steps back to Garrigill.

**Walking from Garrigill**

---

**Garrigill round**

13.5 km (8.5 miles) – easy circular walk

**Walking from Garrigill**

1 The walk starts in the middle of village by the green. Follow the minor road northwards out of the village.

2 Leave the tarmac road and follow the signpost Pennine Way, South Tyne Trail, Alston 3.75 miles. Follow the track and pass to the left of the woodyard. Follow the obvious path, initially across fields and then on the riverside until the footbridge across the River South Tyne.

3 Cross the footbridge signposted Pennine Way and continue on the opposite riverbank all the while following signs for the Pennine Way.

4 At Bleagate walk through the farmyard before again continuing through numerous dry stone walled fields towards Alston.

5 Pass through a wicker gate and follow the well-made path alongside the woodland.

6 At this point the route follows the Pennine Way as signposted down the steps to the impressive Brewery Bridge, which again crosses the River South Tyne. Cross the bridge and take the footpath on the opposite side of the river signposted Leadgate Road.

Alternatively, you can take a break from the walk and have a look around Alston with its many cafes and pubs, rejoining the walk at your leisure.

7 Turn left along the Leadgate road for 2km, passing through Leadgate and descending down the road to Blackburn Bridge.

8 Cross the bridge and turn left through the small gate and along the side of the Black Burn, signposted Footpath.

9 At the bridge take the path signed Footpath Garrigill. Follow the footpath through riverside vegetation and fields until you return to the footbridge crossed earlier (3). From here, retrace your steps back to Garrigill.

---

**Garrigill round**

Start Garrigill (grid ref NY 744415)

Distance 13.5 km (8.5 miles)

Height Gain 192 m (2270 ft)

Terrain Tracks, minor roads, fields and some narrow and rocky riverside paths, which can be slippery when wet. Many stone stiles.

Time 3.5 hours


How to get there Bus to Alston from Carlisle and Greenhead

---

Map reproduced from Ordnance Survey digital map data © Crown Copyright 2007 All rights reserved Licence number 200032673 © Natural England 2007
Try a Trail...

Garrigill round
13.5 km (8.5 miles) – easy circular walk

This is an easy circular afternoon walk along the banks of the River South Tyne between the small village of Garrigill and the market town of Alston in the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

The area is rich in mineral, and in particular lead deposits, and mining over the centuries has heavily influenced the landscape.

At its peak Garrigill was home to 1000 people mainly employed in the lead mining industry. Now its population is around 200. The village name was originally Gerard’s Gill (gill being the Norse word for a steep sided valley).

Alston was another lead mining town with links to the Quaker movement. It is said to be the highest market town in the country at about 300m (1000 ft) above sea level, and also the most remote, being 32 km from the nearest town.

From every direction it is approached over a broad, heather-clad Pennine landscape designated as the North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Alston has a steep cobbled main street with a distinctive market cross, and many stone buildings dating from the 17th century. It is a bustling town, with a reputation for delicious locally made specialities such as Cumberland Mustard and Alston Cheese.

Route profile

www.nationaltrail.co.uk/pennineway