## Biggar to Peebles 22m/35km

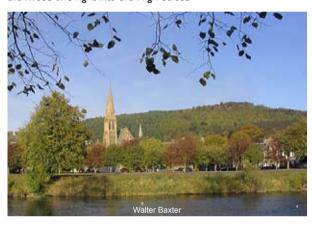
Although not strictly in the Tweed valley, the route starts in Biggar which is 10 miles (signed route) from the nearest railway station at Carstairs Junction. From the High Street follow Station Road south and cross the Biggar Water past Hartree House. After a short climb the road is then undulating to Broughton (facilities). (7mls / 11km).

\* An alternative route for the more adventurous follows a loop to the south of Goseland Hill along a remote and beautiful valley.

Turn left on to A701(main road) through the village then right along Dreva road. After a steady climb with excellent views south up the Tweed valley, descend past Dreva to join B712. To visit Dawyck Botanic Gardens (tearoom) turn right crossing the river. Otherwise continue for  $3\frac{1}{2}$  miles on a straight road through Stobo before going right on to a minor road leading to Lyne Station (15mls / 24km).

Turn right before the bridge, go under a disused railway bridge and follow the road, then a track and footpath to cross the Tweed on a narrow footbridge. Continue along a footpath to reach a farm track and then right by a cottage on to a road, which climbs away from the river past Haswelldykes to the junction at a disused farm (The Glack). Turn left downhill and then right to cross the Manor Water followed by cattle grid and picnic place by the river. This road then skirts the south side of Cademuir Hill to eventually descend into Peebles. Turn right at the bottom of Bonnington Road, left into Springhill Road and right into Kingsmeadows Road (B7062)\*.

\*To visit Peebles town centre go left here, crossing the bridge over the Tweed and right into the High Street.



#### Peebles to Melrose 25m/40km

Follow the south bank of the Tweed along the B7062 to Traquair. The gradients are generally easy along this road, apart from some moderate climbing around Kailzie Gardens and past Cardrona to the 'Bear Gates' at Traquair House (visitor facilities). At the 'T' junction by the war memorial in the village turn left on B709 and at the next junction continue straight on a narrow road.

\*To visit Innerleithen follow the 'B' road left over the river.

This is one of the most picturesque parts of the route following the south side of the Tweed Valley. Ignore turnings to Walkerburn on the left, and climb gradually through mixed woodland past Elibank and Ashiestiel before finally dropping down to cross the river over Ashiestiel Bridge\*. Turn right up to the main road and head east on the A707 for about 2 miles. Just before Yair bridge go left on B7060.

\* For an alternative off-road route, go right just before the bridge on to a broad track; then follow the path, rough in places, past Yair House, and through the farm to join the minor road to Yair Bridge. Cross the bridge and turn right.



Climb up the valley with fine views of the river below before dropping down to the Old Tweed Bridge. Bear right on to a new cyclepath beside the A7 and continue on access road past Boleside (picnic areas by river) towards Galafoot with views of Abbotsford (visitor facilities) on the opposite bank. At the mini roundabout go straight on up Winston Road and at the 'Sustrans' sculpture sign turn right\* on to the old railway path, crossing the Tweed by the Waverley Bridge.

\*For Galashiels turn left and follow the path by Gala Water into the town centre.

Continue to the end of the path, cross the road, passing the turfed roof building to a small carpark. Follow signs right, then left at main road and right, through Darnick on to High Cross Avenue and into Melrose past the Greenyards Rugby ground.

#### Melrose to Coldstream 28m/45km

Turn left out of Buccleuch Street past Melrose Abbey (visitor facilities) on the road to Newstead before the end of the village bear left on to a section of traffic-free, gated road. Go past the Trimontium stone (site of major Roman fort) and under Leaderfoot Viaduct to Old Drygrange Bridge. Cross the Tweed to join the road to Smailholm and after crossing the Leader Water climb steeply up for ½ mile before turning right on to a minor road. Continue climbing to eventually reach a summit at Scott's View (181m) with a superb panorama of the Tweed Valley and Eildon Hills. From there, drop down to Bemersyde (gardens open), past the path leading to Wallace's Statue and descend to join the road left to Clintmains.

\*To visit Dryburgh and the Abbey(visitor facilities) turn right here.

At the B6404 turn left for 2 miles. Note Smailholm Tower (visitor facilities) to your left standing isolated on a rocky outcrop. At the bend in the road turn right (take care) signposted Makerstoun and follow the zigzagging minor road for 4 miles passing the church and war memorial, before joining the B6397. Turn right and follow the Floors Castle estate walls to the main road (A6089) and go right again towards Kelso. At the mini roundabout continue straight on past the entrance gates to Floors Castle (visitor facilities) into Bowmont Street. Where the road turns left, take the cut through into Kelso town square.

Leave Kelso by Bridge Street and just before the bridge take the path down to follow the riverside walk round to reach the new bridge. Go right on to the shared use path and at the south end of the bridge take the path down to the B6350. Turn right and right again after passing under the by-pass. There is now a long steady climb, relieved by turning left through Windywalls farm, to reach the B6396. Go left and continue for 2 miles and when the road bears right go straight on a minor road for a long gentle descent past Wark Common, through East Learmonth village to reach the main road at Cornhill. Turn left to cross the Coldstream Bridge back into Scotland. The toll (marriage) house here used to be as famous as the one in Gretna. Go past the Monument before a sharp right turn (A 6112) at the police station.

\*To visit Coldstream and The Hirsel Country Park (visitor facilities) keep straight on into Coldstream High Street.

## Coldstream to Berwick 19m/31km

Leave Coldstream by the Duns road (A6112), and continue through Lennel for  $1^{1}\!\!/_{2}$  miles. At the crossroads turn right (B6437). The route now passes the large estates of Milne Graden and Ladykirk - note the classical West Lodge Gateway to Ladykirk House, adorned by the 'Percy Lion'. In Upsettlington go left and at the crossroads by the small Victorian Jubilee fountain turn right (B6470) over Norham Bridge into England.\*

In Norham, an historic border village, go left and follow signs for NCN Routel past the Castle (visitor facilities). After 2 miles turn sharp left before the disused railway bridge down to the river at Horncliffe (honey farm), and cross over the Union Suspension Bridge back into Scotland. At the junction turn right on B6461 for Berwick.

\* For an alternative route, go straight over the crossroads on the minor road to Ladykirk with its unusual stone built church and continue past Horndean to a 'T' junction with B6461 and turn right.

Go past the entrance to Paxton House (visitor facilities) and continue to the Al Berwick by-pass. Cross over with care and take the path alongside the main road to join a minor road and Castle Terrace leading into the town centre. Go past the railway station and follow signs on to Tweed Street and down to the river by the Royal Tweed Bridge and the finish of the

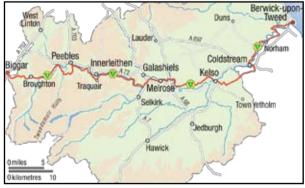


Visitor Information Centres can be found in Peebles, Melrose, Kelso and Berwick-upon-Tweed are open all year (reduced hours may operate in the winter months).

## **Tweed Cycle Route**

The Tweed Cycle Route (95miles / 152km) runs through the heart of the Scottish Borders with the River Tweed as its linking theme. Starting in Biggar surrounded by the rolling hills of the Southern Uplands, it is waymarked to avoid the busier main roads almost entirely, with many fine hill and forest views. The route passes through handsome towns along the way such as Peebles, Melrose, Kelso and Coldstream, to finish on the North Sea coast in Berwick-upon-Tweed.

Visitor highlights include the beautiful gardens at Dawyck and Kailzie, historic Traquair House and Neidpath Castle in the west, through the scenic Tweed Valley passing Abbotsford, the Eildon Hills, Leaderfoot Viaduct and Scott's View, to Floors Castle and Paxton House in the east. Carstairs Junction is the nearest rail head to the start and Berwick-upon-Tweed is on the East Coast Main Rail line at the finish. The route is shown on O.S. Landranger maps 72,73,74 and 75.



## Accommodation / Information:

Many accommodation providers in the area are members of the VisitScotland cyclist welcome scheme.

 $\label{lem:visitScotland} \begin{tabular}{ll} VisitScotland Borders Information Service Tel: 01835 863170 \\ or e-mail: bordersinfo@visitscotland.com \end{tabular}$ 

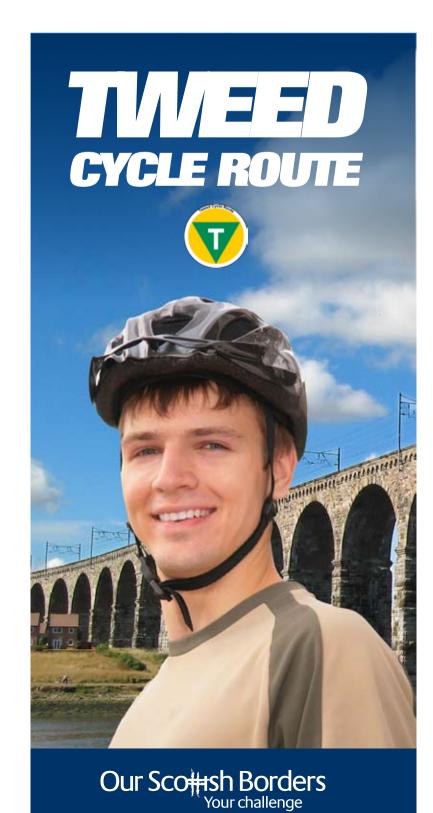
For accommodation bookings Tel: 0845 22 55 121 (booking fee will apply) For further information on the Scottish Borders visit: www.visitscottishborders.com

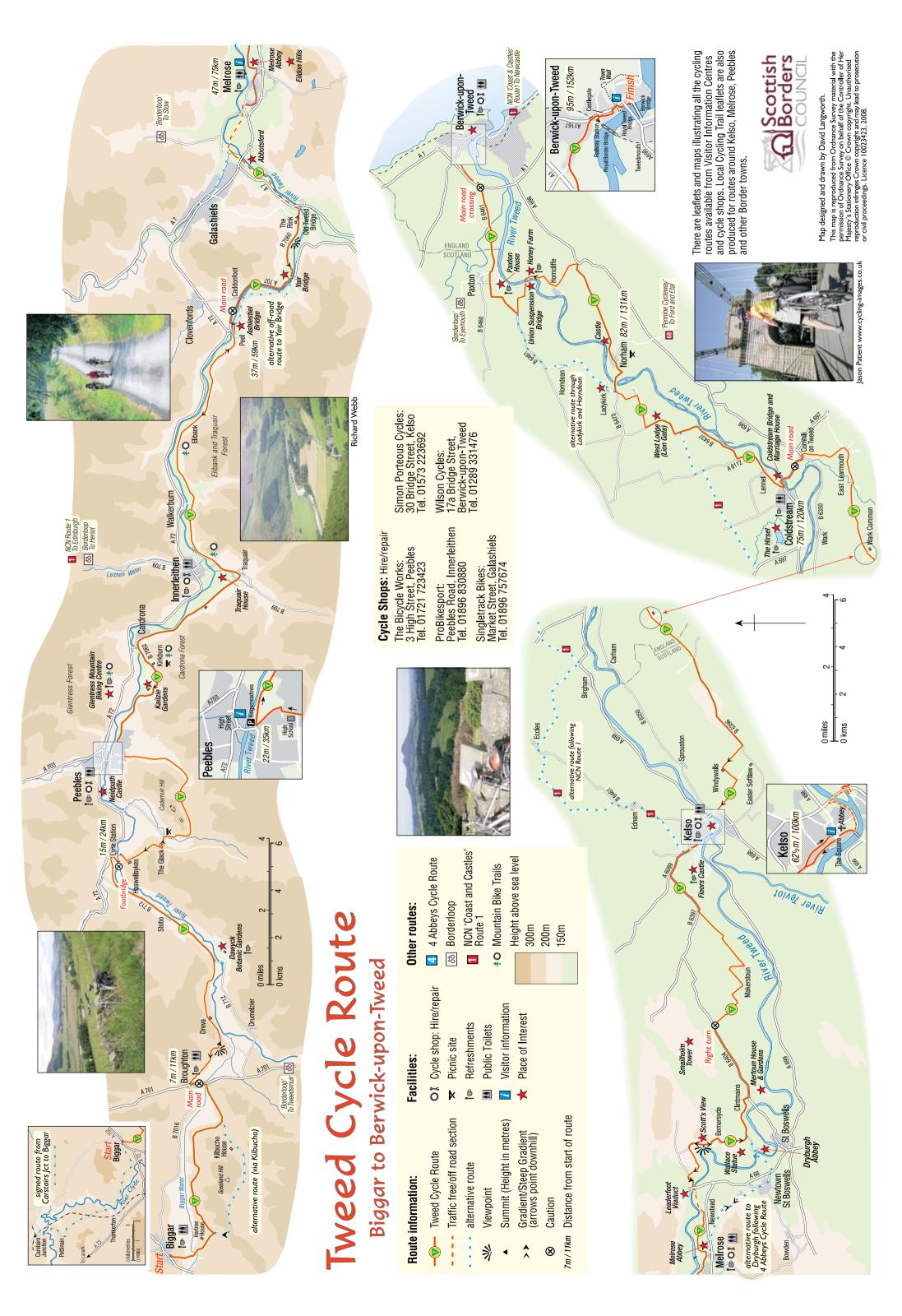
# **Acknowledgements**

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