

3 13km/ 8 MILES 5 HOURS MODERATE

Copper Snout and Clennell Street



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Alwinton, the last village as you travel towards the head of the River Coquet, lies on the route of an ancient drove road – Clennell Street. This walk takes you into the hills beyond the village and returns along Clennell Street. Take a picnic and be sure to choose a fine day – that way you'll enjoy the stunning views.

The walk

1 Start

From Alwinton National Park car park turn right onto the road and walk away from the village. Follow the road as it winds up the valley. After 1.6kms/ 1 mile a finger post marks the beginning of a bridleway on the right hand side (signed 'Shillmoor 1½' miles). Go through the gate and onto the bridleway.

2 1.6km/ 1 mile

Follow the bridleway as it climbs

steadily around the side of the hill, crosses a small burn, passes through two more gates and over a farm track. Ignore the farm track and continue straight ahead at this point.

3 2.5km/ 1.5 miles

After ¼ mile (0.4kms) the path drops steeply downhill towards valley bottom and crosses another burn, Passpeth Sike. The path then runs parallel to the River Coquet.

Look out for the round stell on the opposite bank. These dry-stone circular walls are built on sheltered parts of the hills where sheep can be gathered for attention during lambing or in severe weather. Most Northumbrian stells are circular, but some may be square or even cross shaped. The path crosses another burn (a sheltered picnic spot in windy weather) and continues until it meets a farm track.

4 3.5km/ 2.3 miles

The farm in front of you is Shillmoor. At the track turn right, away from the farm, and follow the route up the hill. From here to the forest at the top of the hill the footpath crosses part of the dry training area of the Otterburn Military Range.

Do not be surprised if you see troops training. There is no danger – just stay on the footpath. The path climbs steadily for 1.2 kms/ 0.7 mile to a stile. Cross the stile and continue up Copper Snout.

5 6.2km/ 3.8 miles

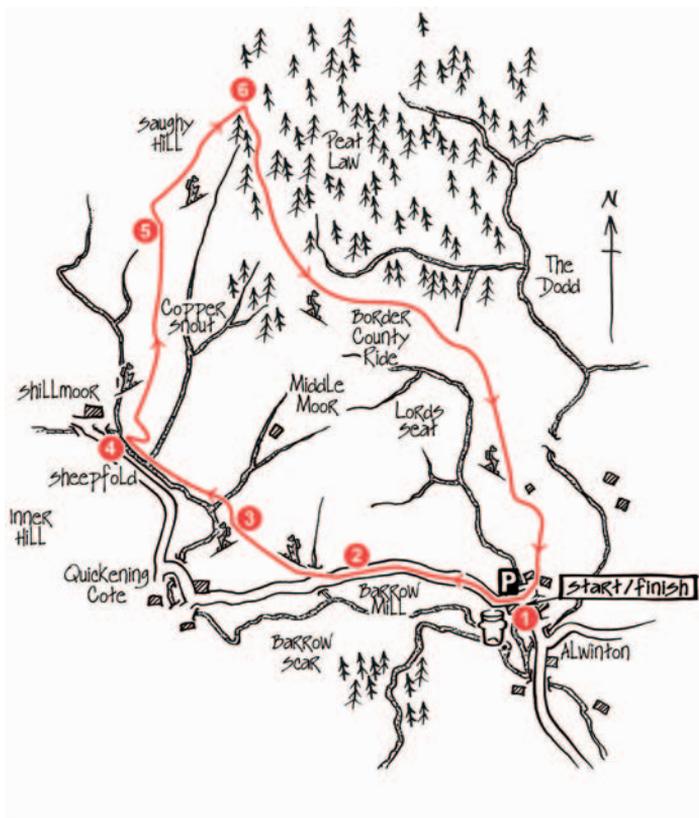
After 1km/ 0.6 mile a waymarked footpath leaves the track on the left (watch out for the grassy track). Take this path and follow it to a stile in front of another sheep stell. Climb the stile and

turn right, passing in front of the stell.

The path can become very boggy at this point. Continue to the next stile and follow the path across the moorland to the point where it meets the forest track.

6 7.7km/ 4.5 miles

Turn right onto the forest track and follow the route through a gate and between the trees. After a short distance (1km) the forest track bears round to the left and the bridleway continues down the hill (signed Border County Ride). Follow the bridleway – Clennell Street. This ancient road continues all the way back to Alwinton village. On re-entering the village turn right, cross the green and follow the road past the Rose & Thistle Inn back to the car park.

**IS THIS WALK FOR YOU?**

Terrain Farm track, moorland footpaths and quiet metalled road.

Stiles 3

Suitable for

Fit walkers

PLANNING

Start/parking Alwinton National Park car park, grid ref. NT 919064

Nearest town

Rothbury

Refreshments Teashop in Alwinton next to car park due to open April 2003 or Rose & Thistle Inn, Alwinton

Public toilets Alwinton car park

Public transport

For information on transport services to and from Alwinton contact National Park Visitor Centre, Rothbury Tel 01669 620887, Traveline, public transport information line Tel 0870 608 2 608 (national rate) or visit www.jplanner.org.uk

MAPS

OS Explorer OL16
The Cheviot Hills

● To order Ordnance Survey maps for this walk contact National Park Visitor Centre, Rothbury tel 01669 620887