



## Stone Stile

**Start/Finish:** Allendale Caravan Park on the B6295 between Allendale and Catton (Grid ref: NY 833567)

**Walking distance:** 4km ( 2.5 miles)

**Public transport:** There is a regular bus service from Hexham to Allenheads that stops in Allendale. For further information call Traveline on 0870 608 2 608

**Parking:** Park along the B6295 between the Caravan Park and Allenmill bridge

**Facilities:** Toilets, cafes, pubs and places to stay in Allendale

**Terrain:** There are some hills, stiles and paths may be muddy

⚠ There are many walls to cross on this walk. Dry stone walls are made without cement or mortar. Locally they are made from sandstone and limestone and are an important landscape feature in the North Pennines. Most of the walls in this area were built in the 18th and 19th centuries. If properly maintained they will last for many more centuries.



This circular walk takes you along the River East Allen before turning towards Catton village and then onto the edge of the moorland. In spring and summer there are many different birds to see. The walk is on Rights of Way with many stiles to cross. This is one in a series of three walks.

The North Pennines Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) was designated in 1988. At almost 2,000 square kilometres it is the second largest of the 41 AONBs. Large areas are internationally recognised for their important wildlife. It is also Britain's first European Geopark and a UNESCO Global Geopark which highlights the global significance of its landscape and geology.

North Pennines AONB Partnership  
Tel: 01388 528801  
Website: [www.northpennines.org.uk](http://www.northpennines.org.uk)



### Allendale Caravan Park

A small family run static caravan park in the North Pennines AONB

01434-683362

[www.allendale-holidays.co.uk](http://www.allendale-holidays.co.uk)

We can provide the information contained in this publication in large print, different formats and other languages on request. Call 01388 528801 for details.

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Route 3

## Stone Stile



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#### Route description

- 1 From Allendale caravan park entrance turn right to reach the Allenmill bridge. From the north side of Allenmill bridge follow the public bridleway signposted to Catton.
- 2 After 0.5km the bridleway becomes a tarmac road. Turn left and go over a stile to follow the footpath signposted to Catton.
- 3 Go over the wooden bridge and follow the path uphill. Cross the stile over the wall and head diagonally left across the field to reach a wooden field gate between two houses.
- 4 Go through the gate and walk straight ahead towards the phone box, to cross the main road through Catton. Continue straight on following the footpath sign to Stone Stile.
- 5 At the end of the track go through a metal field gate. Continue straight on and through another metal field gate and cross a wooden stile over a wall, followed by another stile over a wall.
- 6 Turn right. Walk downhill next to the wall and then over the wooden bridge and the stone stile (to the left). Head uphill following the stream on your right. Turn right to go through a metal field gate and then through another gate. Head up the field towards the farm buildings. Cross the stile over the wall, then head diagonally left across the field towards the metal gate.
- 7 Cross the road and go through the wooden field gate. Head diagonally left to cross a stile over a wall. Continue straight ahead, following a wall on your right, and over another stile. Head uphill to meet another stile over a wall.
- 8 Cross the stile and turn right on the tarmac road. After approx. 50m turn right onto the footpath signposted to Housty. Go straight downhill keeping above and to the left of a gully. Just before the farm buildings take the stile over a wall on the right (to avoid a wet area). Turn left and cross another stile over a wall at the farm.



**Key**

- Walk route
- - - Other Public Rights of Way

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- 9 Skirt around the farmhouse and cross the stone stile. Head downhill and cross the wooden stile to the right of the houses. Follow the lane to the B road. Cross over and continue downhill to reach another B road. The Caravan Park is opposite.

#### ↘ Catton Burn

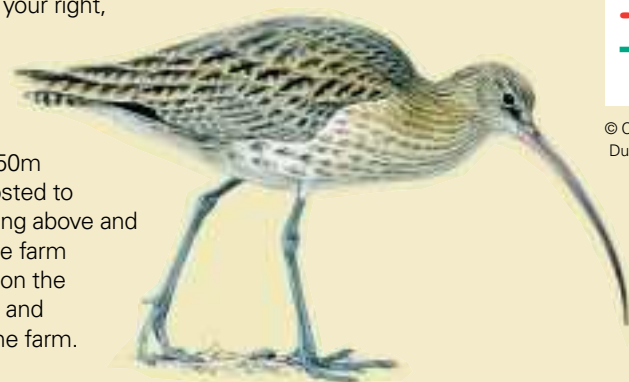
**A** Rushy pastures, such as the fields here, are a speciality of the North Pennines. They provide ideal nesting ground for waders such as curlew, lapwing, oystercatcher and redshank.



#### ↗ Rushy pasture

**B** Take in the spectacular view across the East Allen Valley from the seat by the forestry plantation. This part of the walk is on the edge of the moorland. Many of the North Pennines moorlands are carefully managed for red grouse. They also support meadow pipit, merlin, short-eared owl and golden plover.

↖ In spring you can see lapwings in their aerobic display flights.



↖ With its down curved beak and bubbling song, the curlew is one of the most distinctive birds of early summer in the North Pennines.

