



20 NORTHUMBERLAND/BORDERS WINDY GYLE

▶ Distance: 9½ miles/15.3km ▶ Time: 5½ hours ▶ Grade: Challenging



PHOTO: TOM BAILEY

SEE FEATURE ON PAGE 62

Heading down the Street towards Barrowburn.

PLAN YOUR WALK



ROUTE

Start/parking Wedder Leap car park, NE65 7BP, grid ref NT866103

Is it for me? Exposed upland reaching heights of 2031ft/619m Paths are mostly clear but boggy sections are likely

Stiles None

PLANNING

Nearest town Alnwick/Jedburgh

Refreshments None

Public toilets None

Public transport No public transport to start

Maps OS Explorer OL16, Landranger 80, Harvey Superwalker Cheviot Hills



CHOSEN BY...

NICK HALLISSEY

Windy Gyle is the flagship in our

celebration of Border Peaks – hills whose summits straddle two nations. In this case it's England and Scotland. Most of the walk is in England (specifically Northumberland National Park), starting from the beautiful Coquetdale and climbing high into the Cheviot range to the tremendous viewpoint at Windy Gyle, whose summit is in Scotland. The route then dances along the border towards Mozie Law, before dropping back into England via the Black Braes and Swineside Law. The paths are clear and the views are unforgettable all the way.

1 Start

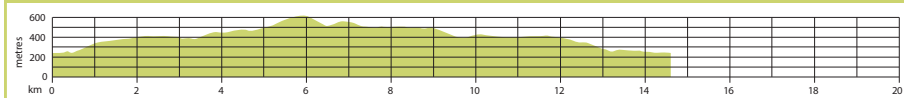
Exiting car park, turn L along lane. After 100 yards, turn R over footbridge across river Coquet. Go through gate and continue ahead with copse of trees L. Climb bank and turn L through gate. Continue with tumbledown wall L, passing through second gate and continuing to Barrowburn farm complex. Where boundary fence ends, turn sharp L through squeeze stile and pass around bunkhouse building.

2 ½ mile/0.5km

Head down the track, passing through a gate to reach farmhouse. Continue over ford/footbridge. Continue uphill on grassy track, passing barn L. Where track splits,

take the R (higher) fork up hillside. Continue steadily upwards on path for 1½ miles, skirting R of Barrow Law, to reach Murder Cleugh, scene of the murder of Isabella Sudden in 1610 (marked by cross and stone).

GRADIENT PROFILE



20 NORTHUMBERLAND/BORDERS
WINDY GYLE▶ OS Explorer map OL16 ▶ Buy maps at: ordnancesurvey.co.uk/shop**3** 2 miles/3.4km

Go through gate to emerge on crossing track. Turn R and follow track, but take first branching grassy track L heading directly northwards around the flanks of Ward Law (to L) and Little Ward Law (to R). Cross beck at Scotchman's Ford then, where path splits, take R fork climbing sharply up hillside. Go through gate then follow flagstoned path to Russell's Cairn, summit of Windy Gyle. (Welcome to Scotland.)

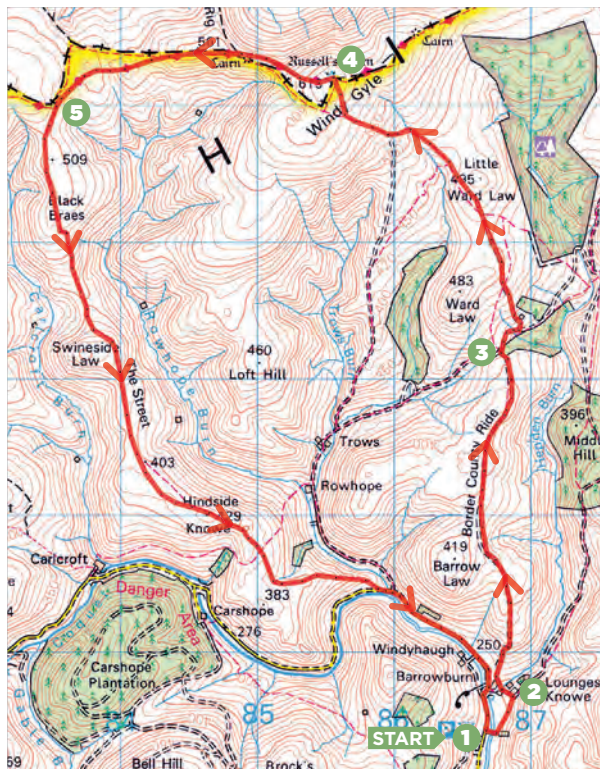
4 4 miles/6.4km

Turn L (west) on Pennine Way and descend bank to reach fenceline which now marks the border. At gate, you can choose which side of the border to walk, although the English side (L) is more well-trodden as it is the Pennine Way. (Do not turn R on path heading north to Windy Rig.) On reaching crossing fenceline at Plea Knowe, just before Pennine Way reaches Mozie Law, turn L with signpost: 'Public Bridleway The Street and Coquet Valley'.



PHOTO: TOM BAILEY

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**5** 5½ miles/8.6km

Continue ahead onto The Street, passing through farm gate and keeping fence L. Ignore branching tracks and pass through several gates as you cross the Black Braes and skirt L of Swineside Law. Keep close to fence L as branching tracks veer away R, descending over Hindsight Knowe. Further down, pass through fenceline and descend to road. Turn L on road. At road junction, continue ahead on the main

road bending R (heading south-east), eventually passing Barrowburn Farm and returning to Wedder Leap car park. **CW**

VIEW THE WALK ON OS MAPS ONLINE:
lfto.com/cwroutes

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



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DATE WALKED

TIME TAKEN

YOUR RATING