

Points of interest

See pages 26-27 in the booklet for full details.

A Hartside view



On a clear day the view across the Eden Valley from Hartside is stunning

B Ancient road

C Ricker Gill Bridge



The recently restored stone bridge crossing Ricker Gill

D Shepherd's bothy



The remains of a shepherd's bothy

E Selah Bridge

F Unthank



Unthank - buildings made out of the local red sandstone are common throughout the Eden Valley



Route 5: Hartside

A dramatic ride from the Pennine escarpment down into the Eden Valley and back up to the top again!

Fact file

- Length: 11km (7 miles)
- Off-road: 75%
- Ascent: 458m (1,501ft)
- Terrain: Starts with a steep descent and finishes with a steep climb. Stony tracks, tarmac and grassy tracks
- Start: Car park at Hartside Top Café (NY 646 418)
- OS maps: Explorer OL31/Landranger 86
- This route is promoted as a horse riding and a mountain biking trail. Please ride carefully and be aware of other users, including walkers

Climbing back up to Hartside Top

Funded by:



This trail has been upgraded by the North Pennines AONB Partnership in collaboration with Cumbria County Council's Countryside Access Team.

Key

- L – left
- R – right
- TL – turn left
- TR – turn right
- SA – straight ahead
- SP – signposted
- Xrds – crossroads
- Tj – T-junction

Directions

- 1 Leave the car park on the downhill track adjacent to the road
- 2 With care, cross the main road
- 3 SA down a steep, rutted and rocky track. Take care – this section is quite difficult and can be very slippery when wet
- 4 Cross Ricker Gill Bridge. There is a stone mounting block here – for horse riders
- 5 When you reach the road TR. SA over a bridge and then immediately TL following a public byway SP Five Lane Ends
- 6 At Five Lane Ends turn second L
- 7 TR – SP Unthank
- 8 TR over the bridge

- 9 At junction TL (SP Alston 9¼ miles) or as an optional extra TR and follow National Cycle Route 68 to Melmerby for the Village Bakery and Shepherds Inn
- 10 At the sharp R bend go SA (leaving the Alston road) – SP Public Way Twotop Bridge
- 11 SA at Xrds, cross the main road with care. Continue following the Public Way – SP Hartside
- 12 At the bend leave the tarmac, go through the gate – SP Public Way. Follow the track, bearing L, back to Hartside. Be careful it's steep, grassy and rutted in places
- 13 Go through the gate, cross the field and through another gate. TL immediately and continue ahead with the wall on your L. Go through a further gate into the car park

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