



Responsible visiting

Respect everyone and share the space, co-operating with people working in the countryside. Follow local signs and keep to marked paths.

Protect the environment, livestock and wildlife by keeping dogs under control, taking litter home and disposing of dog waste responsibly. Check the weather and enjoy the outdoors.

Always follow the countryside code.

Guide to walking

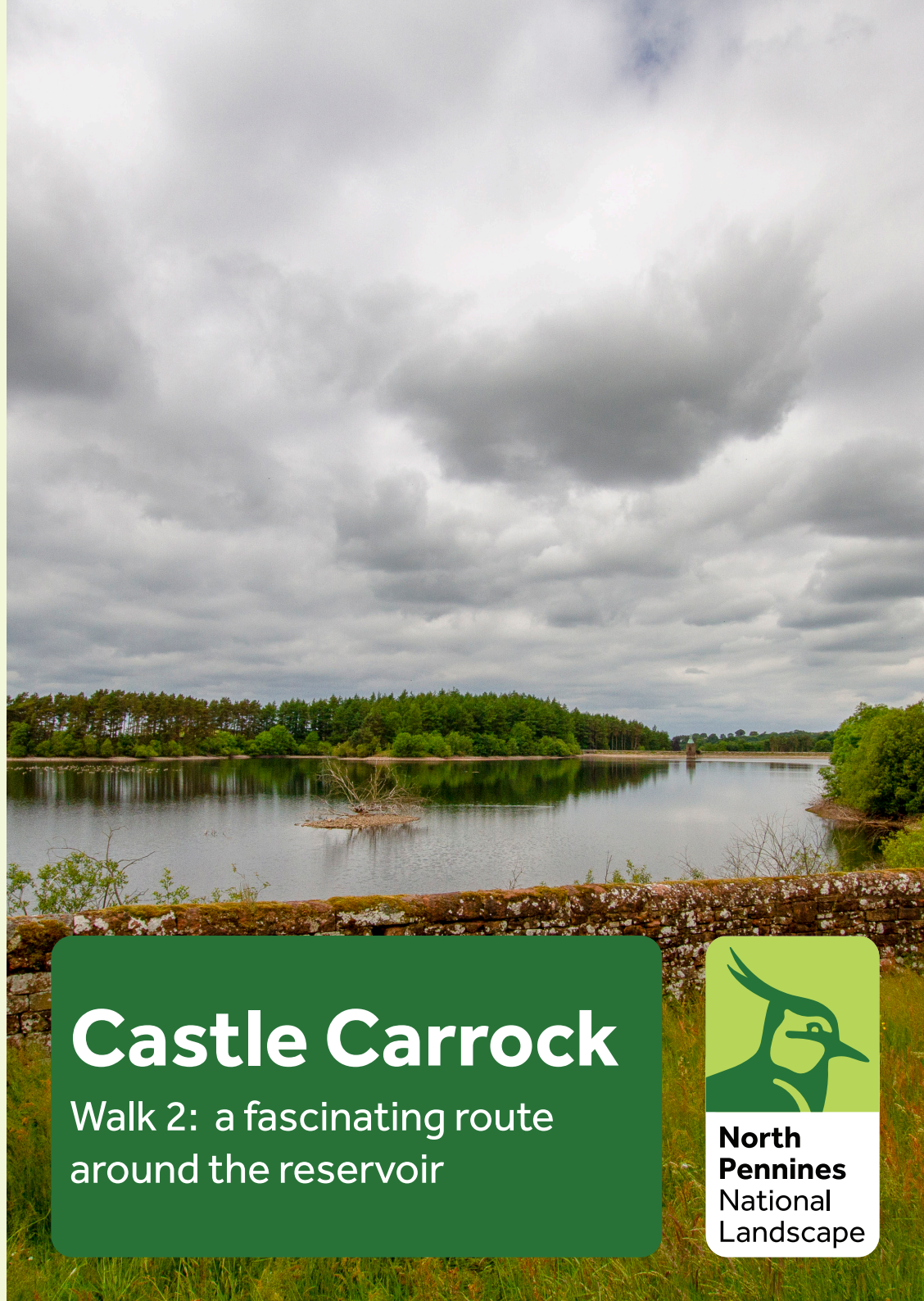
A short, easy walk, with easier access out-and-back, or circular route versions. Suitable for wheels and bikes. Drop-off at the pull-in next to the reservoir to avoid the incline from the village at the start.

About Fellfoot Forward

The Fellfoot Forward Landscape Partnership Scheme was led by the North Pennines National Landscape and funded by The National Lottery Heritage Fund.



northpennines.org.uk



Castle Carrock

Walk 2: a fascinating route around the reservoir



North Pennines National Landscape



North Pennines National Landscape



Made possible with
Heritage Fund

Our series of six slow trails are designed to encourage you to connect with the landscape. Take a rest and listen to the sounds that make these places so special, slow your steps and relax, or reflect on the people that have come before.

Start point: Duke of Cumberland pub, Castle Carrock

W3W: ///durations.tower.magic

Postcode: CA8 9LU

Elevation gain: 61 ft (whole walk)

Distance: 2.3 miles (easier access route)

Time: approximately 1hr

Rating: easy and accessible

Parking: on street parking is available at the pub

Mobility support: the pub does not have accessible toilets, but they do have an access ramp into the pub upon request

1 Castle Carrock village green

Start the walk at 'The Marr', the charming triangular green. Close by is St Peter's Church, open to the public, and opposite is the Watson Institute, the village hall built in 1897. Follow the lane, passing The Duke of Cumberland pub, on your left. After approximately 450m, turn right through a gate onto the track to the water works.

2 Water treatment plant

Carlisle Corporation gave approval for the building of Castle Carrock reservoir to provide clean water to the expanding populations of Carlisle and surrounding villages. Work began in 1903 and the reservoir was officially opened on 22 July 1909.

Water from Old Water and New Water, tributaries of the River Gelt, is collected high up in Geltsdale and piped down to the reservoir via gravity. The amount of water taken is monitored at the metering house at Hynam Bridge so there is always enough flow in the River Gelt for brown trout, migratory salmon, and sea trout.

3 The Valve Tower (1908)

Parts of the water treatment plant are Victorian, including the charming water intake building, or 'Valve Tower'. It houses the valves that control the water leaving the reservoir.

The face of the dam wall is a grassy verge called the levy. Built with a wet puddle clay core, the levy was kneaded with a 'sheep's foot roller', the name attributed to the time when the clay was trampled into place by sheep. Men also helped to trample the clay. The levy wall is measured annually to check that it is not moving.

4 Mossy wall safari

Follow the tall reservoir wall which is home to a rich selection of mosses, lichens, ferns, other plants, and invertebrates.

At the southern end of the reservoir you have a clear view of the waterfowl resting on the water. In the murky depths below are eel, tench, spined loach, and chub.

5 Bird song

The reservoir is surrounded by woodland and upland fell. During the year you may hear cuckoos, woodpeckers, greylag geese, and buzzards.

The reservoir is a magnet for overwintering waterfowl. Sit on the bench overlooking the water, listen to the chattering of ducks, geese and gulls, and you might see red squirrels and roe deer.

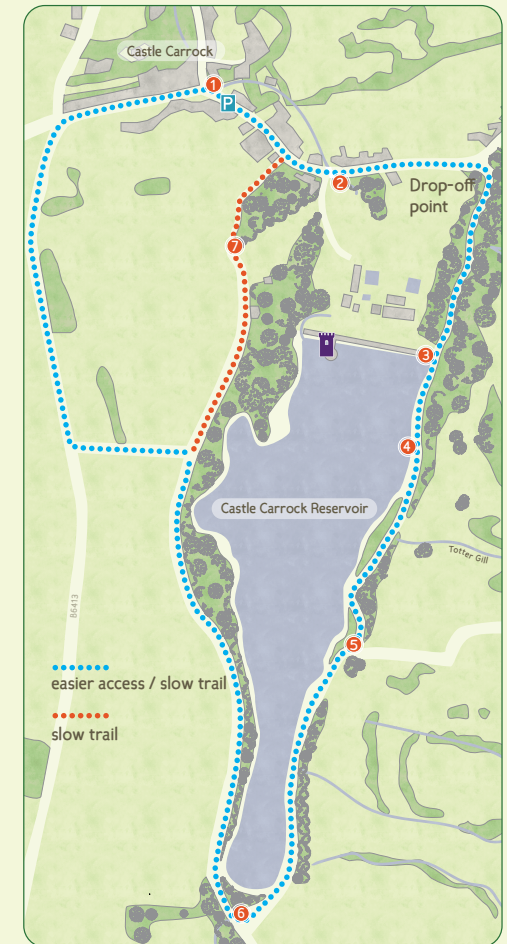
6 Point of no return

Head onwards to return via the circular route, following the quiet road around the southern end of the reservoir. Alternatively, turn around and retrace your steps back to the start.

The easier access circular option turns left along the lane and joins the main road into the village. Caution, the road is 60mph and has no footway.

7 The lonning

Here you encounter a lonning, or 'lonnin', a local word for a country lane. Continue straight along, back into the village but please note, it is steep and gets very muddy after wet weather.



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There were 12 pubs locally with a population of 700 residents.

Zinc workers staying in local 'Temperance Hotels' readily used the pubs.