



BELLINGHAM

CAMPING AND CARAVANNING CLUB SITE



Pre-Arrival Guide

Bellingham Camping and Caravanning Club Site
Brownrigg, Bellingham, NE48 2JY.

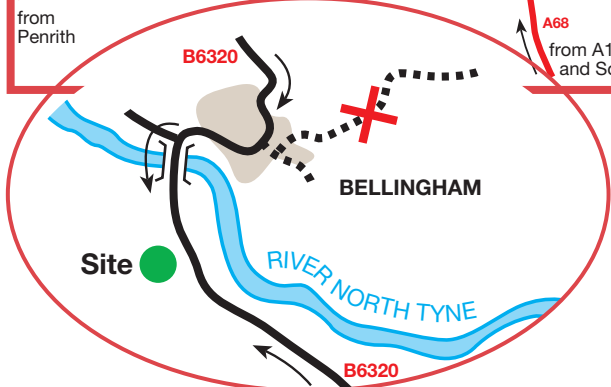
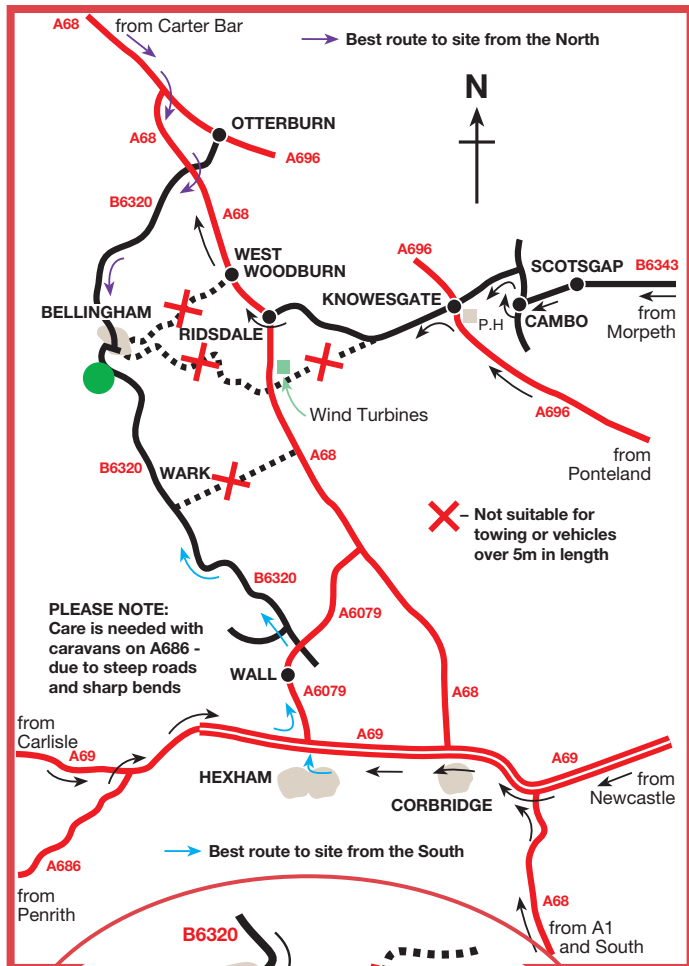
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FINDING US

Most SatNavs correctly identify the postcode: **NE48 2JY** (OS Grid Reference: **836826**) but can direct on inappropriate roads.

We are located 0.75 miles south of Bellingham village on the west side of the B6320 Chollerford to Otterburn road.



BEST APPROACHES

From Carlisle: Follow A69 eastbound until 2 miles from Hexham town centre (and one mile west from the turning to Hexham), then turn left (north) on the A6079 (Bellingham, Kielder Water). After 3 miles in total and 0.75 miles after the village of Wall, turn left (north) at a crossroads onto the B6320 (Bellingham, Kielder Water). Shortly afterwards, cross the River North Tyne at Chollerford and take the second exit on the roundabout. Bellingham is around 12 miles north on this road, around 5 miles north of the village of Wark. The campsite is on the left hand side of the road, just beyond a Bellingham local services sign.

From Newcastle: Follow A69 westbound until ca. 1 mile west of (i.e. beyond) the turning to Hexham**, then turn right (north) on the A6079 (Bellingham, Kielder Water). After 3 miles in total and 0.75 miles after the village of Wall, turn left (north) at a crossroads onto the B6320 (Bellingham, Kielder Water). Shortly afterwards, cross the River North Tyne at Chollerford and take the second exit on the roundabout. Bellingham is around 12 miles north on this road, around 5 miles north of the village of Wark. The campsite is on the left hand side of the road, just beyond a Bellingham local services sign.

From Jedburgh: Follow A68 southbound and turn right (southwest) on the B6320 (Bellingham, Hexham). Continue for around 6 miles to Bellingham village, do not turn off the road, but continue through the village, e.g. pass the Black Bull pub on the left, and cross the bridge over the River North Tyne. Continue beyond the bridge, without turning for around 600 yards. You will pass a chapel and row of crofters cottages on the left, the campsite is after these, on the right hand side of the road.

**Although Bellingham can be reached by using the A68 Corbridge to Jedburgh road, we strongly advise those driving large motorhomes (>5m) or towing caravans against using this section of the A68. There are numerous dangerous blind summits on the road north of Corbridge. Furthermore, the first 2 turnings to Bellingham going North on the A68 are not suitable for towing vehicles.

THE CAMPSITE



We are a 70 pitch rural site in the idyllic North Tyne valley, within the Northumberland National Park and the newly announced Dark Sky Preserve. We offer a range of pitch types on a predominantly open site, with silver birch, mixed deciduous and conifer trees offering shelter. The site offers views of the North Tyne valley, the Pennine hills and Callerhues Crag. The restful River North Tyne is 10 minutes walk from the site.

RECEPTION, SHOP AND TOURIST INFORMATION

Open: 8.30 – 11 am; 1 – 5.30 pm (9.00 - 10.45 am; 3.30 - 5.00 pm low season)

- Our shop has all the ingredients for a delicious, locally sourced breakfast of bacon and sausages, farm reared free range eggs, fresh locally baked bread, perhaps toasted and spread with local Tarsset marmalade.
- We aim to stock a good general range of groceries on site, including a range of tinned food, pasta, rice, cooking ingredients and sauces, a small selection of frozen food, milk and bread.
- We also stock camping essentials including gas cylinders and a range of camping/outdoor goods including a full range of local 1:50000 and 1:25000 Outdoor Leisure Ordnance Survey maps, airbeds, sleeping bags, and walking poles.
- We have a number of vouchers for various attractions and places to eat, please ask.



FACILITIES

- The toilets and showers, facilities for those with disability, dishwashing, laundry and chemical toilet disposal point ('green' non-formaldehyde chemicals only) are all located in the facilities block near to reception.
- A Motorhome Service Point is provided.
- A short dog walk runs around the lower perimeter and there are many good longer walks for your canine friends.
- Daily newspapers can be ordered from reception.
- Freezer blocks are available for hire from the shop/reception (50p to charity; £1 deposit).

TELEPHONES, TV, COMPUTERS AND INTERNET

- Mobile phone reception is network dependent; O2, EE/Orange are normally good, while Vodafone and 3 are poor (the signal improves heading east, e.g. GR 862846 on the W. Woodburn road).
- There is a public phone box on site and we are always willing to relay important messages from friends and relatives to guests.
- TV reception is generally good in most areas of the site: SSE horizontal, S vertical (nearby relay transmitter); Satellite (se/21°e).
- We offer free WiFi via self-registration online (one user per e-mail address).
- A computer with free internet access, printer (5p/ sheet) and scanner is available in reception.



WANSBECK HOUSE

Our camping refuge facility is perfect for our tent and pod campers, and groups wishing to get together for special occasions, especially in the colder months!

- Spacious and comfortable indoor meeting/living area
- Log-burning stove and under-floor heating
- Modern kitchen facilities with 2 ovens
- Dining space
- Washrooms for glampers (particularly in high season) and a family/disabled wet room.
- Satellite TV
- Large indoor games/activity room.
- Drying room



AROUND AND ABOUT IN BELLINGHAM

THE VILLAGE

- Bellingham (pronounced Bellin'jum'), a traditional but very busy Northumbrian village, is a 20 min stroll from the site (0.75 miles). Although small, Bellingham is the centre of a widely-spread community in the North Tyne and Redesdale valleys, and offers a surprising range of services and shops.
- Bellingham has a selection of small shops including: a newsagent/post office, a well-stocked supermarket (open until 10 pm), a general hardware store, a bakery, butchers, a greengrocers and a chemist.
- There are bank services at the Post Office and a cashpoint at the supermarket.
- There is a fuel garage in the village, though it is expensive.
- There is a medical practice in the village.
- The Tourist Information Centre, Heritage Centre (a small voluntary run museum) and Carriages café (a refurbished 1950's railway carriage) are located in the former Railway Station yard. The Heritage centre tells the violent history of the Borders; from the Reivers to the iron industry, railway and more, with artefacts from the local area.
- Hareshaw Linn waterfall is an easy two-hour walk from the village. The combination of the rushing burn, the stunning woodland with its rare lichens and fungi, and the opportunities to glimpse Red Squirrels and Roe Deer, deservedly makes this a popular destination with our guests.

EATING OUT

- The dog friendly Riverdale Hall Hotel (01434 220254) is a 10-minute walk from the site, with restaurant and bar food.
- In the village itself, the Cheviot Hotel and the Rose and Crown, three high quality cafes and a Chinese takeaway offer a surprisingly good selection.

PUBLIC TRANSPORT

- The Hexham-Bellingham hail-and-ride bus (680) will stop outside the site gate and connects to the bus service along Hadrian's Wall, the AD122 bus, making it possible to have a car-free trip to the Wall. There are no longer any bus services to Kielder.
- You can use a concessionary pass on all routes. Timetables are available in reception.

ACTIVITIES

Walking and Cycling Around Bellingham

- You can enjoy wonderful walks and cycle rides direct from the site; we are on the Pennine Way and at the intersection of a number of long distance cycling routes.
- We are pleased to advise guests and have a number of laminated walking and cycling guides that you may borrow.
- Walks from the site include those to Hareshaw Linn, The North Tyne Riverbank, Ealingham Rigg and Riding Wood.
- Cycle rides range from a short pedal to the ruined Dally Castle at idyllic Tasset, to longer on- and off-road circuits around the North Tyne valley and surrounding hills.
- Kielder Water and Forest Park, the Upper North Tyne valley, and Hadrian's Wall offer even more scope for walking and cycling. All are short drives from the site (25 mins) and are accessible by public transport.
- The local buses can carry cycles, allowing cycle-bus combinations; guests wishing to transport bikes are advised to book this service 24 hr in advance (01830 520609).

Fishing

- The River North Tyne (10 mins walk) is unarguably one of England's best salmon rivers. Permits for the local beats can be bought in the village. Large salmon, brown trout and sea trout are regularly caught by our guests.
- Kielder Water (25 mins by car) has over 2,000 acres of water to explore. With a fleet of 15 fully equipped motor boats, the huge lake offers exhilarating fishing for both enthusiast and competition anglers alike. Bank anglers are spoilt for choice when it comes to choosing a spot with access to around 20 miles of shoreline along the Lakeside Way.
- Fontburn Reservoir (40 mins by car) is a smaller water and has a reputation as being a friendly, family orientated fishery, offering top class fishing for fly and bait anglers alike.

Swimming

- Aside from wild swimming in the River North Tyne, you might think that we are some distance from a place to swim. It is true the coast is a decent drive away, but the swimming pool at the Riverdale Hall Hotel is close at hand – our "top tip" is to take advantage of their "free swim with a meal deal", so bring your swimming gear!

Golf

- Bellingham has an excellent undulating parkland 18-hole course, set in the stunning local scenery. It has an abundance of natural hazards to challenge golfers of all levels of ability. www.bellinghamgolfclub.com

EXPLORING FURTHER AFIELD

(driving times shown in brackets)

HISTORY AND ARCHAEOLOGY

- Hadrian's Wall (25 mins to Chesters) is close at hand; you can walk along the Pennine Way to the famous Housesteads Roman Fort. Chesters is the best preserved Roman cavalry fort in Britain, while the Roman Army museum is at Vindolanda. www.hadrians-wall.org

THE KIELDER WILDERNESS

- Kielder Water and Forest Park (20 mins to dam; 30 mins to Kielder Castle) is Northern Europe's largest man-made lake and England's largest forest. With 27 miles of good shoreline path to walk or cycle, art installations and several visitor venues including the Bird of Prey Centre, "Osprey-cams" and boat trips, it offers something for everyone. www.visitkielder.com

STUNNING NIGHT SKYS

- Kielder Observatory (40 mins) will take you closer to the stars; the area boasts the darkest skies in England and is now part of the Dark Sky Preserve. Booking is essential: www.kielderobservatory.org We also hold two Stargazing Camps on the site each year.

HISTORIC HEXHAM

- Hexham (30 mins) is a small market town with a rich history, a beautiful Abbey (built ca. 675 AD), gardens and an historic Gaol (14th century). There is also a new leisure centre, an indoor swimming pool, theatre, cinema and monthly farmer's markets on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of the month.

GREAT HOUSES AND CASTLES

- Include the famous Wallington (30 mins; National Trust), Belsay Castle (35 mins; English Heritage), Cragside (50 mins; National Trust), and Alnwick Castle and Gardens (1 hr 15 mins). Visitors to Wallington should also note that the birthplace of the great landscape architect, Capability Brown, is close by at Kirkharle.

MAGNIFICENT COASTLINE

- The coast is not too far and a beautiful drive from Bellingham. Perhaps start at the beaches of Cresswell (1 hr 15 mins) and then further north to Amble, Warkworth, Alnmouth and Dunstanburgh. The wildlife and stunning seascapes of the Farne Islands and the Bamburgh coastline can be viewed by boat from Seahouses. Finally, a longer drive takes you to the beautiful and atmospheric Holy Island and to Lindisfarne, the site where Christianity was introduced to northeast England in the 7th Century.



PACKAGE TRIPS

- For help with exploring Northumberland, the Bellingham Club Site organises 4 special packages each year. These packages include 4 nights camping (with electric), a wine reception, guided walks and a visit to one or more of the region's highlights (transport and entry fees all included). In 2017, packages include: Northumberland Gardens Tour (in May), Farne Islands Wildlife Tour (in mid-June) and Northumbria History Tour in late June. A 3 night package that includes a Falconry Experience trip is also on offer in July. Special events held on site include 2 popular Star Camps in March and December and a Halloween celebration on the last weekend of Oct half-term. See www.campingandcaravanningclub.co.uk/bellingham.

