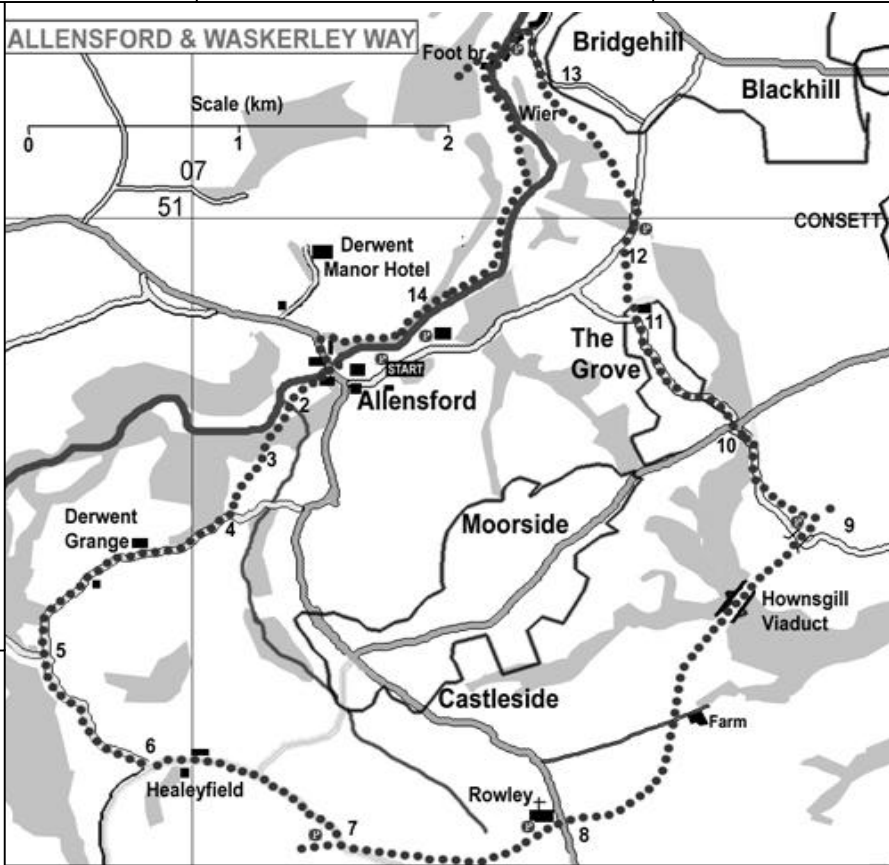


14 (700m) Near the top of the rise the path forks, you go left following the path with the wood down to your left and fields on your right, a wire fence runs alongside your right hand. Soon after leaving the fields' edge and entering a small wood, you cross a narrow stone footbridge, a further 50m brings you to the A68 at Allensford Mill Farm. Turn left and follow the pavement next to the A68 back to your parking area.

13 (1700m) Turn left down this steep minor road. After 200m turn sharp left at the bottom of the hill, follow the Parking signpost. Pass the car park on your right to reach a foot bridge. Cross the Derwent footbridge and turn left to follow the riverside path. House on your right. Follow this riverside path for another 1500m, when reaching the end of a field the path rises and veers right, away from the river.

12 (1km) Turn right to follow the pavement for 160m, when the pavement ends cross the road and walk 40m further on, along the grass verge to the f/p sign pointing left. Follow this path down through the copse, passing a stile after 125m, following a hedge on your left. Next stile after 175m. Keep straight on, wood on your left, hedge on your right. Keep on this path until you reach a minor tarmac road, after another 500m.

Start (290m) From the car park nearest to the A68, go to the right (behind) the building on the corner of the road junction, to leave the picnic area by a small gate next to a phone box. Cross the A68 to a f/p signed between a cottage and large house. Go through the kissing gate following the path ahead. After 190m follow the path round to the left just before reaching the pipeline marker 137. 50m further cross the footbridge with the waterfall behind.



11 (300m) Cross the stile and follow the path ahead down and across the field. Exit the field to join the roadside footpath – Pemberton Road.

10 (850m) Walk down the street named 'Taylors Terrace'. Follow this for 350m when the road bends right, now 'Priestmans Avenue'. Continue along Priestmans Ave for 350m until you reach a mini roundabout. Cross straight over this to a minor road and after 150m you reach a stile on your left opposite a house on your right.

2 (400m) Take the path going up to the left. It becomes less steep after 50m but beware of the vertical crag down to your right. The path continues to rise gently to exit the wood via a stile.

9 (600m) Following the Derwent walk signs, you reach a minor road after 250m. Turn right to walk along the road. After another 200m take the left fork to meet the main road. Cross and go slightly right.

3 (260m) Keep straight on following the hedgerow on your left. As the hedge ends (170m) follow the wood's edge on your right, going through a gate onto a tarmac road.

Walks in an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
Allensford / Shotley Bridge / Waskerley Way
Time: 3 - 4 hours **Distance:** 12.1km (7.5 miles) **Map:** Explorer 307
Start / Finish: Parking at Allensford picnic area. Next to the A68.
Description: A lovely walk through woodland, quiet country lanes, cycleway and riverside. With panoramic views of the Derwent Valley and North Pennine moors for much of the way. This substantial route is also a good 'poor weather option', utilising track, road and good footpaths, never too remote, but very much a country walk. **NB.** If you are afraid of heights the walk across Hownsgill Viaduct (120feet high), though broad, safe and well fenced, may not be to your liking.

4 (1km) Follow this very minor road to the right, going through a series of gates, passing Derwent Grange farm after 300m, and another house on your left, before eventually reaching a road junction. Ignore all f/p signs and stay on the road.

5 (800m) Turn left at the junction, going up this minor road, passing Springwell Farm to your right, until you reach the junction with a 2 lane road.

6 (1100m) Turn left along the road signposted 'Castleside ¾ Consett 3 ½'. Walk on the roadside for 450m until the road curves sharp left. Take the side road straight ahead signposted 'Rowley 1 ½'. Stay on this road for another 650m until you reach the Waskerley Way/Whitehall signpost. Turn left onto good track signposted 'Consett 3 / S/land 27'. This is part of the C to C cycle route.

7 (1100m) Follow this track to Rowley picnic area and past, to the A68, where you cross to stay on the Waskerley Way.

8 (2km) After 900m cross the farm road and keep straight on. A further 500m brings you to Hownsgill Viaduct, 40m high and 150m long. 150m after the viaduct the path forks, take the left fork through a small underpass. After 300m you reach the iron furnace ladle. Turn left in front of it.