

## Weardale Where we are & how to get here

By road: Weardale is in the North Pennines with the A1M to the eastern side and the M6 to the west. Appropriate feeder roads lead into Weardale.

By rail: The nearest mainline stations are Darlington, Durham and Newcastle to the east and Penrith and Carlisle to the west.

Tel 08457 484950 www.nationalrail.co.uk

By air: Both Newcastle and Durham Tees Valley international airports are close by.

For websearch or SATNAV purposes, centre your search on DL13 2FJ, OS Map NY996392



# The Weardale Museum and High House Chapel Scenic narrow gauge railway & Discovery Centre Alston, Cumbria, CA9 3JB Telephone: 01434 382628 www.south-tynedale-railway.org.uk Killhope: North of England Lead Mining Museum Explore underground Near Cowshill, Upper Weardale, Dt.13 1AR Telephone: 01434 382628 www.south-tynedale-railway.org.uk Killhope: North of England Lead Mining Museum Explore underground Near Cowshill, Upper Weardale, Dt.13 1AR Telephone: 01434 382628 www.south-tynedale-railway.org.uk Www.killhope.org.uk

#### A Warm Weardale Welcome

Lying high in the North Pennines, Weardale is a twenty mile ribbon of river and road bringing you along tranquil lanes, past tumbling rivers and waterfalls, through vibrant communities, over high moorland expanses and within touching distance of the rarest wildlife, all through a landscape forged by man's centuries' old battles with nature.

A great place to find out about the area is the Durham Dales Centre in Stanhope – with its tearooms, gift and craft shops it's perfect for a leisurely afternoon; or 10 minutes up the road to the Upper Weardale Visitor Information Points inside Chatterbox Café (St John's Chapel) or continue on to Killhope Lead Mining Museum (beyond Cowshill).

#### Enjoy the outdoors

Weardale is a special part of the North Pennines, a place where you can stretch your legs, spread your wings and explore one of our finest landscapes. This is perfect country for walking, cycling, horse riding, fishing, and wildlife watching. Whether you're looking for riverside wanders or more challenging routes you'll be spoilt for choice! You'll find traffic-free family cycling, mountain biking, woodland walks, the Gruffalo and Stick Man in the nearby Hamsterley Forest. Hire a bike in St John's Chapel and take on some of the country's toughest climbs - including the highest road across the Roof of England.

You can even enjoy a dip in the heated Weardale Open Air Swimming Pool in Stanhope, play a round at Crook Golf Club or strap on your skis and indulge in some winter sports at the Weardale Ski Club – snow permitting! Explore the countryside on the Weardale & South Tynedale Railways or return at Christmas to enjoy the Polar Express.

### Discover Weardale by bike or on foot.

For information and a range of downloadable routes visit:

www.explorenorthpennines.org.uk and www.exploreweardale.org.uk

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#### People and places

Weardale has a distinctive character, with attractive settlements to explore, such as Stanhope, Rookhope, Wolsingham and St. John's Chapel, while in nearby Derwentdale is the picturesque conservation village of Blanchland and the lovely hamlet of Hunstanworth.

The area's rich industrial heritage can be seen in the remains of our lead mining past, and you can see how the miners lived and worked on a visit to family-friendly

Killhope, the North of England Lead Mining Museum. Don't forget to stop off at the fascinating Weardale Museum in Ireshopeburn, where you can see the Weardale Tapestry and marvel at the historic High House Chapel. Enjoy 'Kynren' the epic tale of England played out as a pageant at Bishop Auckland's Eleven Arches.

A great way to get to grips with the rural way of life is to join the locals at one of the many agricultural shows in August and September.

#### **AGRICULTURAL SHOW DATES**

Weardale Show, St John's Chapel - Last weekend in August

Wolsingham Show, 1st weekend in September

Stanhope Show, 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend September



#### Plants and animals

Wildlife thrives in Weardale and the wider North Pennines - red squirrels (which can be seen on the squirrel trail at Killhope Museum), otters, black grouse and thousands of breeding wading birds can all be found here. In late spring and early summer our glorious traditional hay meadows are awash with colourful wildflowers whilst in August the moors burst into purple splendour as the heather blooms.

#### Beneath your feet ...

The rocks and landscapes of Weardale and the North Pennines have amazing stories to tell, of moving continents and tropical seas, of molten rock and ice sheets, of minerals and the men that mined them.

As well as being an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, the North Pennines is also a UNESCO Global Geopark – an accolade which officially recognises the area's world class geological heritage.





Kynren: An Epic Tale of England Open-air theatre at Bishop Auckland

Ride the Polar Express at Christmas

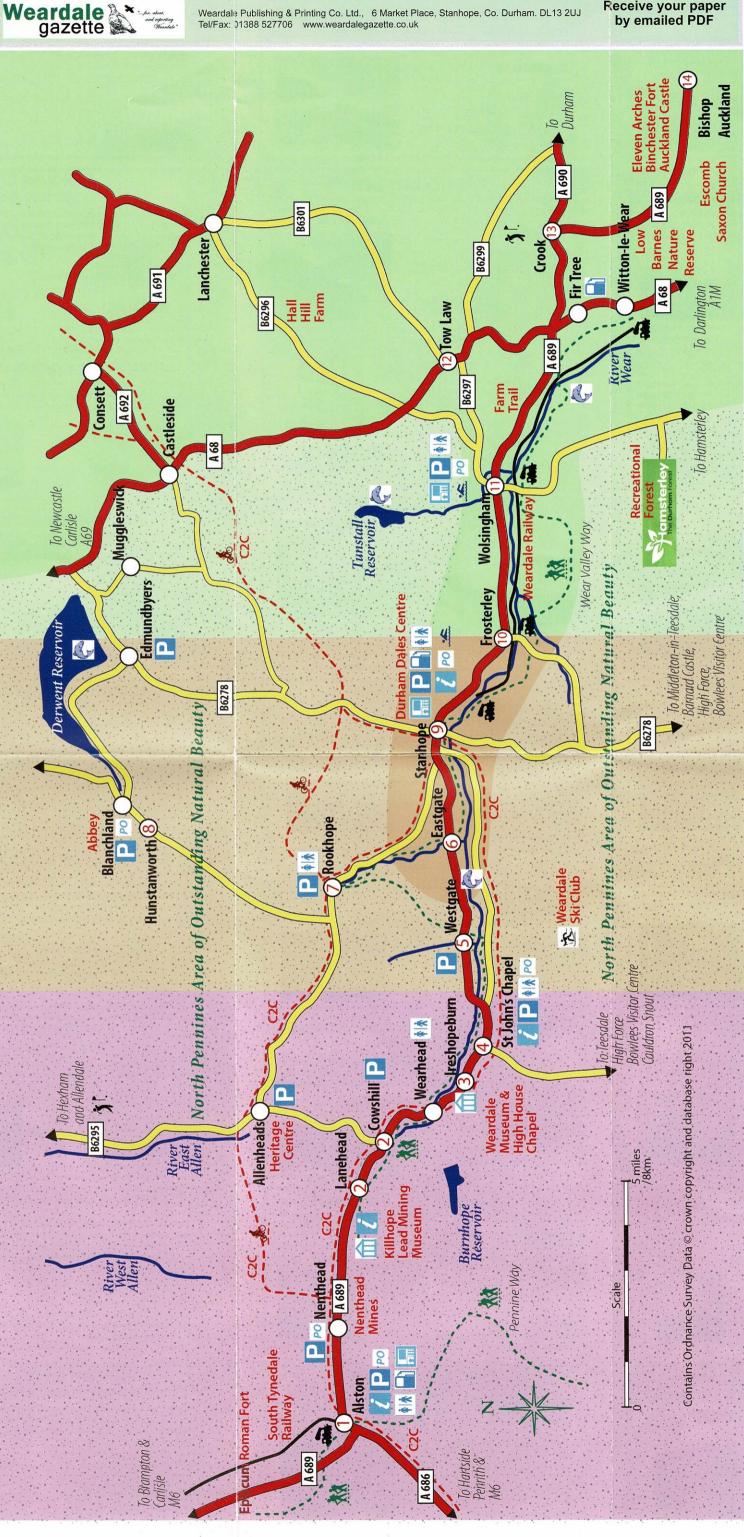
#### Stay awhile

One day won't be enough, so why not stay for several? You'll find a wide variety of accommodation to suit all tastes.



💩 recharge at one of our pubs, cafes or restaurants, or simply 💩 chill out and relax in our beautiful countryside 🕲 lie back and enjoy our 'inky search the forest for the Gruffalo and Stick Man, a ride on our heritage railways, e enjoy the epic tale of Kynren at our outdoor theatre, black dark skies – providing opportunities to see the stars and the Milky Way and perhaps even the Northern Lights if you're really lucky'. While you are here walks,

Cycle the highest road in England, swim in the open air pool at Stanhope, visit our outstanding museums, enjoy our Roof of England



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To find out more visit	www.discoverweardale.com	www.northpennines.org.uk	and	www.thisisdurham.com	

