

North Pennine Birdwalks

Walk 5: Blanchland



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NORTH PENNINES
One of the
AONB family

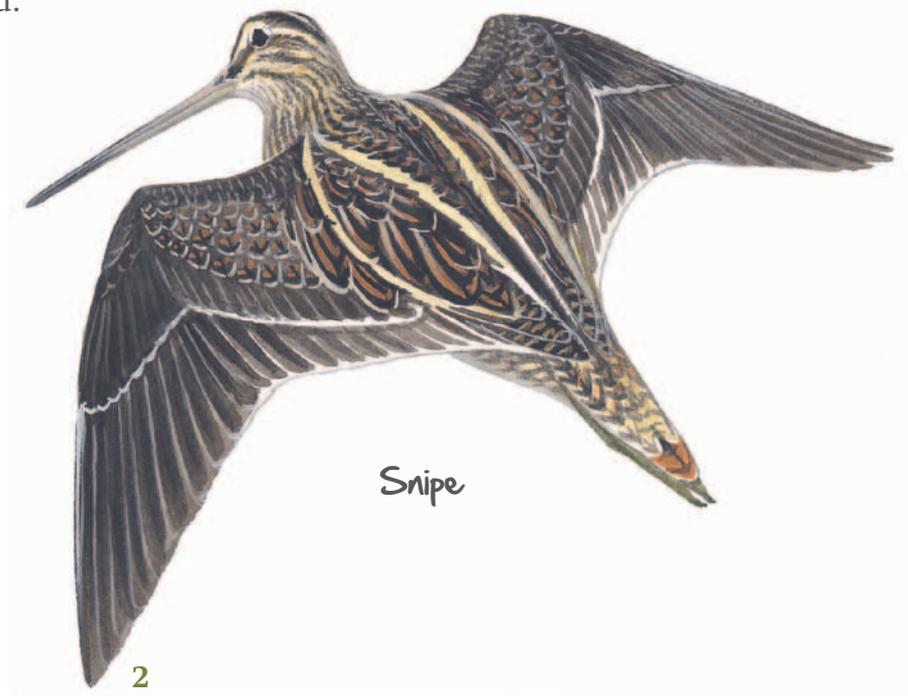
The Birdwatchers Code of Conduct

Birds are very vulnerable to disturbance, especially during the breeding season. It is all too easy to inadvertently harm a bird or its young while trying to watch them.

For example, if an adult bird is prevented from returning to its nest, eggs or chicks may quickly chill and die. Straying from a footpath towards a nest site may also leave a scent trail that a predator is later able to follow.

To ensure that you enjoy watching birds without harming them or their young, please always follow this code of conduct:

- The welfare of the birds must come first. Disturbance to birds and their habitats should be kept to a minimum.
- Keep to footpaths, especially during the bird breeding season (March – August).
- Avoid disturbing birds or keeping them away from their nests for even short periods especially in wet or cold weather.
- Do not try to find nests. **All birds, nests, eggs and young are protected by law and it is illegal to harm them.**
- Keep dogs on a short lead.
- Leave gates and property as you find them.
- Take your litter home with you.



Walk 5

Blanchland



Blanchland

This short walk from the attractive and historic village of Blanchland combines both woodland and river habitats. Birds such as coal tit, goldcrest and dipper are active throughout the year. During the breeding season, more elusive species such as the pied flycatcher and spotted flycatcher can also be seen. Blanchland is sited within the remains of a monastery founded by Premonstratensian Monks in the 12th century. The Lord Crewe Arms hotel was originally built as the Abbot's lodge, guest house and kitchens of the Abbey.

Keys

Easy Grade Walk

Suitable for most people: easy, comfortable walking, may be some stiles.

Medium Grade Walk

Typically a country walk with some hills, stiles and muddy paths.
Boots advised.

Hard Grade Walk

Hill walk. May have steep or strenuous climbs. Rough moorland.
Boots essential.

A guide is also provided to indicate the best times of year to see key bird species. This can be interpreted as follows:

BEST TIME TO VISIT



Please be aware that the weather can change rapidly in the North Pennines. Always carry suitable wet weather clothing with you and remember that visibility will be poor at higher altitudes in low cloud conditions.



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Front cover illustration and all bird illustrations are by Mike Langman. Other images are © Natural England/Charlie Hedley or © North Pennines AONB Partnership.



Information is correct at the time of production (Aug 2012). Every effort has been made to ensure that information is accurate. However, the AONB Partnership and its Staff Unit cannot be held responsible for errors or omissions. Please check critical information before travel. Inclusion is not a recommendation by the AONB Partnership and in itself is not necessarily a guarantee of quality.



North Pennines AONB Partnership, Weardale Business Centre, The Old Co-op Building, 1 Martin Street, Stanhope, Bishop Auckland, County Durham DL13 2UY.

Information Point



1:50,000 – Landranger 87
1:25,000 – Explorer 307



Public toilets, pub,
café and local shops
in Blanchland



2.5 km (1.5 miles)
Circular route



In Blanchland (NY965506)



Easy. Level route. Some exposed
tree roots. May be muddy



Visit www.northpennines.org.uk
for information on green places
to stay



Large car park in Blanchland
(NY964505)



Bus stop in Blanchland.
For information call Traveline
on 0871 200 22 33 or visit
www.travelinenortheast.info



Walk Directions

From the car park, walk back through the village and go through the archway. Continue towards the bridge and just before it turn right and then left, through a small opening in the stone wall. The path now follows the riverbank, crossing a small footbridge and then several stiles.

On reaching the road at Baybridge, turn left, cross the bridge and take the footpath leading off to the left opposite the county boundary sign.

Follow this path, keeping the river on your left. Where the path forks on the edge of Blanchland take the right path which meets the road above a house.

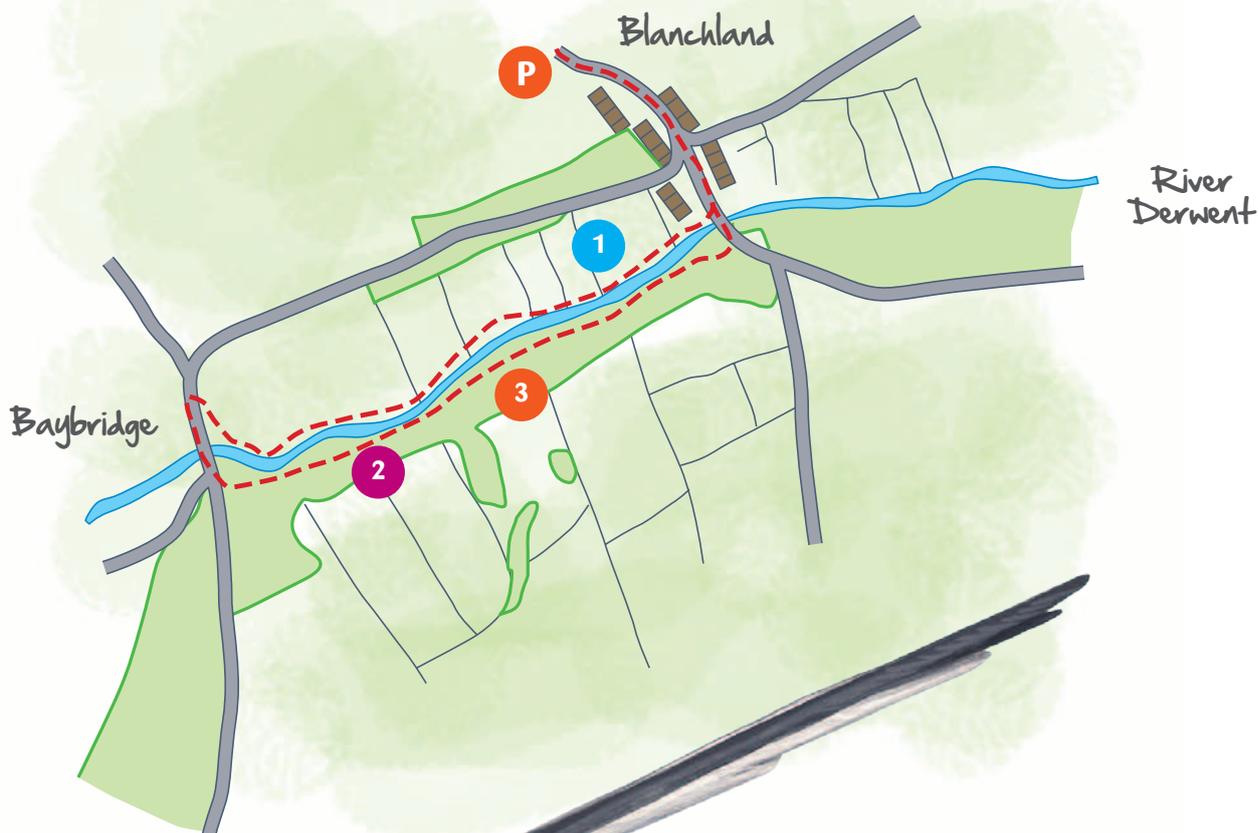
Turn left and return to Blanchland.



The River Derwent at Blanchland

Walk 5

Blanchland



Long-tailed tit

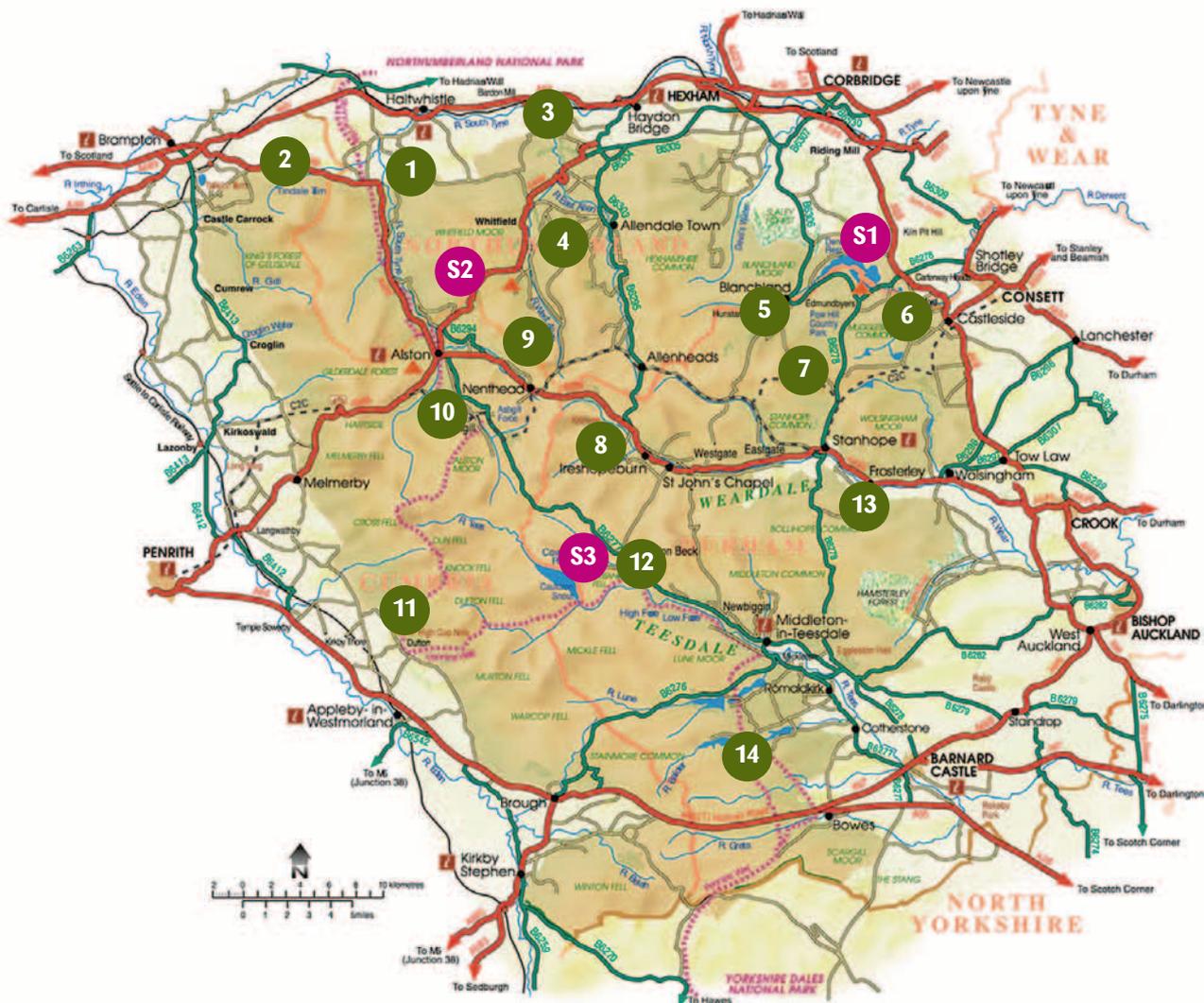
- 1 Dipper and grey wagtail can be watched foraging in and beside the river. Look closely to see the dipper's distinctive white eyelids.
- 2 Great spotted woodpecker, mistle thrush, long-tailed tit and siskin inhabit riverside woodland year round.
- 3 Watch out for red squirrels in woodland around Blanchland.

BEST TIME TO VISIT





Map of the North Pennines AONB showing location of Walks and Sites



- 1 Lambley and the South Tyne
- 2 Tindale Tarn
- 3 Allen Banks and Staward Gorge
- 4 Chimneys on Dryburn Moor
- 5 Blanchland
- 6 Derwent Gorge
- 7 Burnhope Head
- 8 Cowshill
- 9 Wellhope Moor
- 10 Garrigill
- 11 Dufton Pike
- 12 Upper Teesdale
- 13 Howdon Burn
- 14 Blackton Reservoir
- S1 Derwent Reservoir
- S2 Ouston Fell
- S3 Harwood Beck and Widdybank

NORTH PENNINES

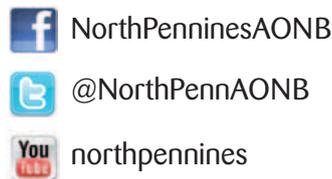
Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty



The North Pennines is one of England's most special places – a peaceful, unspoilt landscape with a rich history and vibrant natural beauty. In recognition of this it is designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The area is also a Global Geopark – an accolade endorsed by UNESCO.

This short (1.5 mile) circular walk from the attractive North Pennine settlement of Blanchland combines an experience of both woodland and river habitats.

North Pennines AONB Partnership
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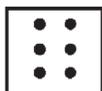


The AONB Partnership has a Green Tourism award for its corporate office

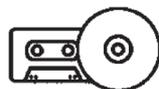


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