

footpaths, quiet roads and easy cycling access

1

South Tyne Trail

to Haltwhistle

The Source via Alston

Walk or cycle from

to Haltwhistle

2

Footpaths

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Footpaths

WELCOME TO THE SOUTH TYNE TRAIL

THIS 22¼ MILE (36.5 KM) WALKING AND CYCLING ROUTE is set in the North Pennine hills. From wild moorland with the wind in your hair, to riverside meadows with the sun on your face, it is a journey of great contrasts.

THE ROUTE flows with the river, from The Source downstream to Haltwhistle where transport links are good. Walkers or cyclists may choose to reverse this direction.

EASY GOING ACCESS, suitable for pushchairs and wheelchairs, is available on much of the route between Alston and Haltwhistle (see map).

ROUTE DESCRIPTION is in blue beside the map.

GETTING TO THE SOURCE

From Alston take the road through Garrigill. Continue south for another two miles until the tarmac finishes at a cattle-grid soon after Hill House Farm. Motorists must leave their cars here. **Please park with care so as not to obstruct farm traffic.** The higher track is a bridleway. You may follow it on foot, cycle or horse. Another two miles bring you to The Source (see panel 1)

B - G CYCLISTS

Follow tarmac road straight on then continue on road through Garrigill and Leadgate to Alston

golden plovers

black grouse

THE SOURCE

A

A - B WALKERS AND CYCLISTS

The waymarked track follows the infant South Tyne. You will be surprised how quickly this trickle grows into a rushing, rocky stream. Keep your eyes open for mining remains. At B there is a modern cattle shed and an old lead smelt mill – its flue runs underground close to Allen's Cleugh.

B - C WALKERS

Turn right off the track at the Mill and follow the waymarkers and curve to the left towards the valley. This is a permitted path generously donated for use by the landowner. **YOU ARE IN SHEEP COUNTRY. Dogs must be kept on leads.** Path passes Dorthgill Waterfall (beware of steep drop).

C - D WALKERS

The route joins the public footpath at Sir John's Mine. Follow the waymarkers past Tynehead then along valley bottom to Ash Gill. Excellent for wildflowers in spring and early summer.

D * WALKERS

Short diversion to the dramatic Ash Gill waterfalls. From Ashgill Force the water tumbles over several smaller falls en route to the South Tyne Valley.

E - F WALKERS

Follow road north through Garrigill village. Where the road swings left uphill take the signposted Pennine Way.

F - G WALKERS

Follow the well-marked Pennine Way to Alston. The Trail enters a charming pastoral 'Dales' landscape, deceptive to think that here it is over 300m (1000ft) high.

Scale

0 kilometres 1 km 0 miles 1 mile

KEY

SOUTH TYNE TRAIL

footpath

cycle trail

OTHER RIGHTS OF WAY

public footpaths

public bridleways

Pennine Way

telephone

parking

THE SOURCE

A

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public bridleways

Pennine Way

telephone

parking

1

The Source to Alston

9½ miles 15.5 km approx.

curlews

The Source by Gilbert Ward

early purple orchid

bird's-eye primrose

Far from the Tyne's scaffold of bridges, this is a wild and lonely landscape. In spring, the haunting call of curlew and golden plover echoes round this story street. Many other birds own these moors - merlin, peregrine, black grouse and dunlin are but some of the notable species that are conserved here in the Moorhouse Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI). The area also has international designations for geological and botanical importance as well as for birds.

2

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