

High House Farm Walk

(not to scale)

Distances

- 1 to 7** approx 0.5 mile
- 7 to 8** approx 1.5 mile
- 8 to 12** approx 1 mile



approx 1.5 mile

1.3 miles

B6309
To Stamfordham

Whittle Dene Reservoir

Whittle Dene Reservoir

ROBIN HOOD PUB



B6318 Military Road

HADRIANS WALL FOOTPATH

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PUBLIC FOOTPATH

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B6309
To Stamfordham

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To Stamfordham

Glamping & Parking

High House Barn

Matfen High House Private

East Moorhouse Private

Sparrows' Letch Stream

Whittle Dene Stream

12

1

2

3

4

5

6

7

11

10

9

8

High House Farm Walk

- 1** **Head out the carpark and turn right down the farm drive.**
Our Grade 2 listed haybarn is on your right and you will pass the original farm yard pump on your left. The farmhouse on your right hand side is now in private hands. The buildings are all dated to 1843 when the farm was rebuilt by Mr John Clayton using the most modern designs available.
- 2** **Go through the gate into the front field, closing it behind**
This is our sheep field. Please keep all dogs on a lead! Head towards the ash tree directly in front of you at the bottom of the field. This tree overlooks the Sparrows' Letch stream. Can you see the swing? Head along the stream bank towards your right looking for the wooden bridge.
- 3** **Go across the stream and through the gate**
Please shut the gate behind you! This is a great spot for splashing in the stream. See if you can spot the minnows in the water, or the old milk cans hidden in the bank. The water is very clean and is great to play in on a summer's day.
- 4** **Walk up the footpath towards High House Farm wood**
This is called "Street Field" and is a direct path to Hadrian's Wall. We think this path has been here a very long time. On your left and right you will see our crop fields. We plant barley (for beer), wheat (for animal feed and bread) and oil seed rape (for oil). We harvest in September and plough and plant from November onwards.
- 5** **You are now in High House Farm wood**
The wood was planted after 1830 by George Angus (the farm estate manager) and is home to our Fairy Trail (please ask for additional leaflet). The wood is home to foxes, badgers, roe deer, rabbits, hares plus many birds including barn owls, small owls, buzzards, wood peckers and kestrel. The trees are a mix of ash, oak, sycamore and holly. Walk across the Whittle Dene stream on the small footbridge. This water feeds directly into the big Northumbrian Water reservoirs on the Military Road.
- 6** **Walk out of the wood and head towards your right**
You are now walking on another farmer's land. Please follow the footpath, which is on your right, next to the hedge (it might be slightly overgrown in the spring and summer). Please keep off any crops or plants. Head towards the Hadrian's Wall footpath and the Military Road.
- 7** **Turn left onto the Hadrian's Wall Footpath**
You are now walking next to Hadrian's Wall, on the official footpath. The B6318 is also called the Military Road, as it was built in 1746 by soldiers led by Field Marshall Wade, who was trying to suppress the Jacobites in the North. It is actually constructed on top of the original Roman Wall. You can see the Vallum (big ditch) on the other side of the road.
- 8** **Turn left onto the B6309. Please watch out for traffic!**
The reservoirs on your right are locally called "Whittle Dene Ponds" and are fed by our streams on our farm. Walk along this road, until you reach the Footpath sign pointing to your left.
- 9** **Turn left onto the public footpath**
This footpath takes you to East Moorhouse. Please stick to the track and keep all dogs on a lead.
- 10** **Walk over the narrow bridge**
Or splash directly through the watery ford! This stream is fed by Sparrow's Letch on our farm. There is often frog spawn and minnows to be found. Walk around East Moorhouse, carefully following the footpath signs.
- 11** **Turn left onto the road, closing the gate behind you.**
Walk up this road back to the farm, being careful of any passing traffic. You're almost there...
- 12** **You're home!**
Turn back onto the farm drive and into the carpark. Time for a refreshing cup of tea or pint of beer !