

Enjoy a day exploring West Woodburn, Ridsdale, The Churches of St. Cuthbert and Bellingham

Welcome to Redesdale, a remote upland area in the wild heart of Northumberland that stretches all the way from the Scottish border at Carter Bar, to where the River Rede meets the River North Tyne at Redesmouth. This is an area rich in history, heritage and culture. Join us for the day to explore more of this unique landscape.

AM

The village of [West Woodburn](#) (NE48 2RX) has been a focal point for people visiting Redesdale since the Bronze Age. Start exploring the area from [The Bay Horse Inn](#) (NE48 2RX) and enjoy a gentle walk to the [Church of All Saints](#) (NE48 2SG). From here you can continue onto the village of [East Woodburn](#) before looping back to West Woodburn using the stepping stones at Townfoot, or join a five-mile circular walking route to the tiny medieval [St. Cuthbert's Church in Corsenside](#) (off the A68), one of three churches in Redesdale dedicated to the patron saint of the North of England.

There's also the [St Cuthbert's Three-Church Trail](#) linking all three churches in Elsdon, Corsenside and Bellingham. The 15 mile route, which begins in Elsdon (NE19 1AA), leads you through beautiful countryside and is especially popular around St. Cuthbert's Day on 4 September.

A series of walks that all begin from [Corsenside Parish Hall](#) (NE48 2SB) in West Woodburn will help you explore more of the surrounding area, including the village of [Ridsdale](#) (NE48 2TF) and the famous [Ridsdale Ironworks](#) (off the A68). Iron was mined, smelted and cast at Ridsdale Ironworks from 1836 to 1848, and later pig iron was produced for use in the construction of the High Level Bridge in Newcastle upon Tyne. Today, Ridsdale Ironworks is protected as a scheduled monument.

LUNCHTIME

[The Bay Horse Inn](#) (NE48 2RX) at West Woodburn is a traditional country pub that sits in the oldest part of the village. If you look above the door as you go in you'll see the date 1797 inscribed in the stone. Expect a warm welcome and some hearty dishes using the very best local produce.

PM

A short walk from The Bay Horse Inn, following the lane to East Woodburn, you'll find [Slate and Nature](#) (NE48 2SG); a family run business that uses reclaimed and environmentally friendly slate to make a range of handmade products, including bird and animal boxes, vases, candle holders and much more.

To the west of The Bay Horse Inn is the gallery of Northumberland artist, [Mary Ann Rogers](#) (NE48 2SE). Famous for her vibrant watercolour paintings depicting the wildlife and landscapes of the local area, Mary Ann sells original works, prints, greeting cards, stationery, throws, and more. Visit www.marogers.com for gallery opening times. Closeby is Low Cleugh Bastle, which is easily accessed by following the footpath that runs parallel to the Bellingham Road.

A short drive from West Woodburn is the historic market town of [Bellingham](#) (NE48 2BA), a popular destination for fishing, walking, cycling, and for visiting Hareshaw Linn Waterfall. [The Heritage Centre](#) (NE48 2DG) has a seasonal exhibition and events programme sharing stories of the North Tyne and Rede valleys.

