

Walltown & Thirlwall Castle Walk

Those following Hadrian's Wall from the west get their first appreciation of its awesome scale at Walltown. Perversely, a century of quarrying the whin sill dolerite has added drama to the scene by creating an abrupt high cliff at the end on the crag. Exploring not only one of the most rugged sections of the wall, this 8-mile (with 1,020ft of ascent) **BLACK** route takes in Great Chesters fort (Aesica built in AD 128), Thirlwell Castle (built in 1306), Low Old Shields (the oldest settlement in the area) before returning to Walltown via Carvoran (a Stanegate Fort which older than Hadrian's Wall). Meet at Walltown Quarry, Glenwhelt Bank, Haltwhistle, CA8 7HF.

