



1. Eggleston Bridge Dates from about 1450 and once had a chapel at one end. **2. Fairy Cupboards** Small caves scoured out of the rocks after many years of erosion where it's said that fairies live. **3. Percy Mire Rock** Lord Percy of Cotherstone Castle perished when he rode off this crag whilst out hunting a stag. **4. Cotherstone Bridge** Constructed in 1932, it replaced a previous suspension bridge whose cables snapped whilst 40 people were on it, killing one.



5. Wishing Stones It is said that if you make a wish and then pass between the stones without touching them, your wish will come true. **6. County Bridge** Although much altered, the current bridge dates from around 1569 and used to connect Durham with Yorkshire - hence its name as it was on the County boundary. **7. The Castle** Built in 1112 by Bernard de Baihol, hence Bernard's Castle. Later, it came into the ownership of Richard III before Sir Henry Vane (The Elder) bought the Castle & surrounding estate in 1680. It still remains in the ownership of this family today.



The Teesdale Way is a 100-mile challenge walk, linking into the Pennine Way National Trail, the Yorkshire Wolds Way, the Tees Link, the Cleveland Way National Trail and the English Coastal Path. This leaflet concentrates on the lower Teesdale area in County Durham and offers three circular walks and one linear route to fully explore and discover this beautiful area of the North Pennines.



8. Bowes Museum Built for John Bowes and his French wife Josephine, the French Chateau-style museum took 23 years to complete. It now houses many fine art and other collections and the iconic "Silver Swan". **9. Abbey Bridge** Built in 1773 by JS Morrill, so he could access his Estate on the other side of the Tees. By the 19th Century, there were buildings on the southern end and the tolls were charged. The toll-keeper used to sell lemonade to passing travellers! **10. Meeting of the Waters** J M W Turner drew two sketches of this iconic place, one for the book, "The History of Richmondshire" in 1816 and then again in 1831 for Sir Walter Scott and his "Poetic Works".

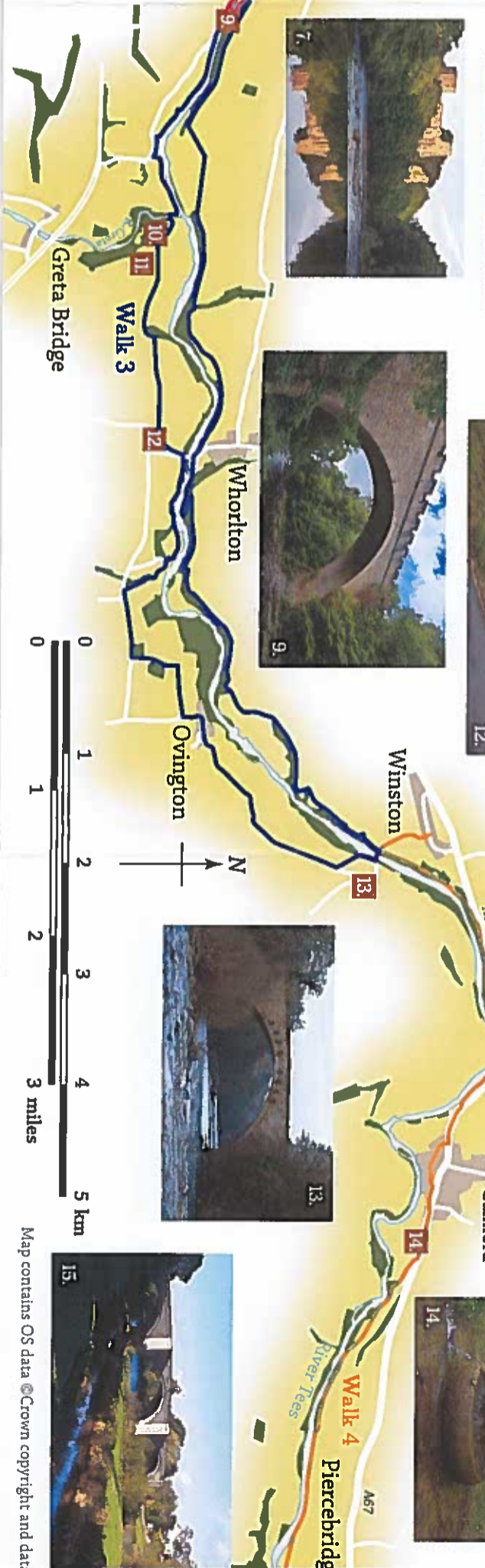
11. Northam Towers Now a private residence, it is a Grade I listed fortified courtyard house and pele tower dating from the late 14th century. It was the seat of William of Northam but he later sold it to Thomas de Rokeby, hence Rokeby Park. **12. Whorlton Bridge** This is the oldest narrow suspension road bridge in England and dates from 1831. The wrought-iron chains on its sides are still the originals. The old Toll House is still present on the Whorlton side of the river and a list of the tolls charged can still be seen.



Walk 1: 5.7 miles/9.5km
Eggleston Bridge to Cotherstone circular on both banks of the River Tees
Walk 2: 10.2 miles/17km
Cotherstone to Abbey Bridge via Barnard Castle circular on both banks of the River Tees
Walk 3: 11.7 miles/19.5km
Abbey Bridge to Winston via Whorlton circular on both banks of the River Tees

Walk 4: 4.8 miles/8km
Winston to Piercebridge linear route on the north bank of the River Tees only

13. Winston Bridge Once the longest single span bridge in England, it dates from 1762. Until the advent of the railway, it was an important link between the coalfields of South Durham and North Yorkshire. Designed by Sir Thomas Robinson of nearby Rokeby. **14. Gainford Spa** A sulphurous spring was discovered just outside the village in 1834. It became quite a popular attraction to people wanting to sample the water and its perceived health benefits. The current walkhead is an exact replica of the original Victorian one. **15. Piercebridge** There's been a bridge over the Tees at this location since the 13th Century and the crossing point has been the site of two battles; one in 1642 during the English Civil War and again in 1745 during the Jacobite Rebellion. A 3rd Century Roman bridge can still be seen just downstream.



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Richard Watson, 1833–1891
Lead miner, poet and entertainer – The Teesdale Poet

Richard Watson was born in Middleton-in-Teesdale, the son of a lead miner. When he was ten, his father fell ill so Richard left school and started working at the mine as a washer boy cleaning lead ore to support his family. As time passed, he began to compose verses about his workmates and later, he had his first poem published in the local weekly newspaper, the Teesdale Mercury.

One of Watson's most popular poems describes his love of Teesdale:

*I've wandered many a weary mile
And in strange countries been,
I've dwelt in towns and on wild moors
And curious sights I've seen;
But still my heart clings to the dale,
Where Tees rolls to the sea,
Compared with what I've seen I'll say,
The Teesdale Hills for me.*



Cotterstone Bridge

Further information:

This leaflet is only a guide to County Durham's section of the Teesdale Way and should not be used for navigation purposes. Full route details of this section can be found on Ordnance Survey maps OL31 North Pennines (Teesdale and Weardale) and 304 Darlington and Richmond (Egglescliffe and Gainford).



A more detailed guidebook for the whole of the route is available, written by Martin Collins and published by Cicerone, 'The Teesdale Way - from Dufton to the North Sea'.

Please note that the paths go over uneven ground, across different gradients and can be muddy all year round. Children should be supervised at all times and it is recommended that some sections should not be attempted when water levels are high. If you wish to, you enter the water at your own risk and please remember that in times of wet weather, water levels can rise quite suddenly. Appropriate footwear should be worn, care should be taken and the Countryside Code should be observed at all times.

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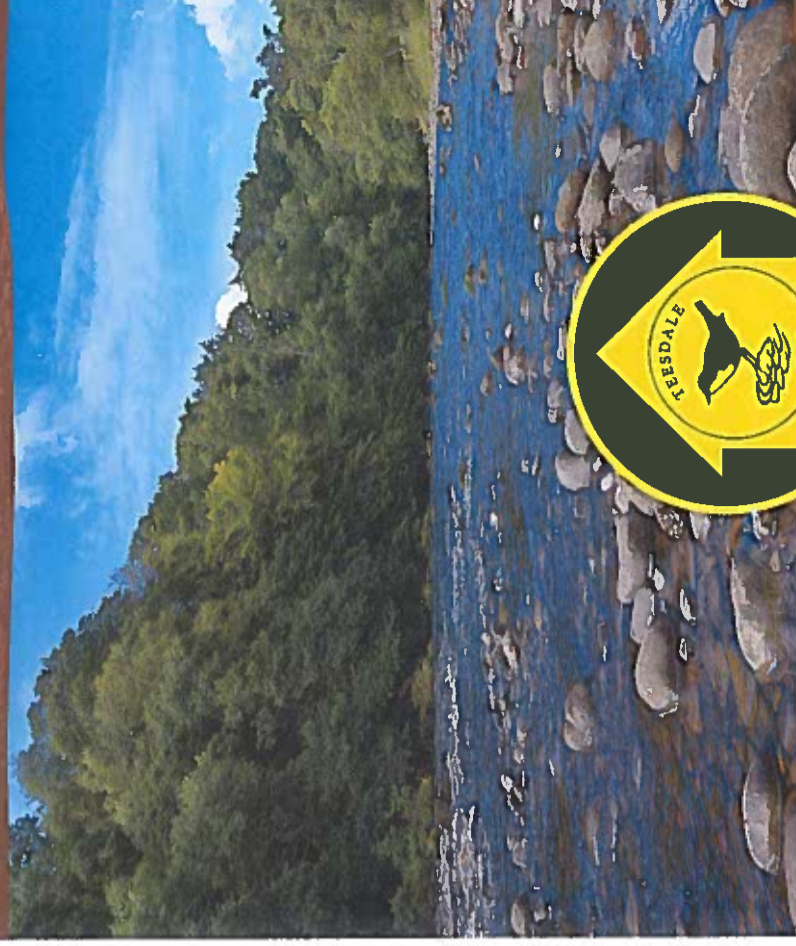


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Teesdale Way

Four walks between Eggleston and Pierceb



Three circular walks and one linear route along Teesdale Way, ranging from 5-12 miles/8-20k