

## Bedrule

The short diversion to Bedrule Kirk is worth taking. There has been a place of worship here, in its peaceful setting, for many centuries. The present cruciform building dates from 1804, and has superb modern stained glass windows. A mound nearby marks the site of Bedrule Castle, the 16th century seat of the Tumbulls. The walk crosses the 18th century Bedrule Bridge over the Rule Water - a name said to mean 'roaring', which is appropriate when the water is in spate.

## Denholm

The attractive village of Denholm is centred on its large Green and the monument to John Leyden, poet and oriental scholar. Born in 1775, Leyden exhibited an amazing facility for language, and eventually mastered or had some knowledge of several dozen. He spent part of his life in the Far East, and died in far distant Batavia in 1811.

At the south-west corner of the Green is the Text House, with its enigmatic four-part inscription "Tak Tent in Time, Ere Time be Tint, All was Others, All will be Others". Denholm was the birthplace of Sir James Murray (1837-1915), who became editor of the New English Dictionary in 1879 and devoted most of the rest of his life to this massive work.

## Hawick

Set in bonnie Teviotdale, Hawick has long held a reputation for the production of fine textiles, and in former times there were many mills along the banks of the Teviot and its tributary streams, notably the Slitrig. Hawick-born folk are known as Teries from the town's motto 'Ye Teribus y Teriodin', which is thought to derive from an ancient rallying call used in battle.

You will find this motto carved on the plinth of the famous Horse Statue at the junction of the roads from Selkirk and Jedburgh. From here the long High Street, busy with shops, heads south to the Tourist Information Centre and museum located in the historic Drumlanrig's Tower.

There are many fine buildings of historical interest in Hawick and a Town Trail leaflet describing them is available. The beautiful Wilton Lodge Park is beside the Teviot, and has superb flower beds which regularly win awards for the town. There is another museum here.



SCOTTISH  
OUTDOOR ACCESS CODE

### Know the Code before you go...

Enjoy Scotland's outdoors - responsibly!

Enjoy Scotland's outdoors! Everyone has the right to be on most land and inland water for recreation, education and for going from place to place providing they act responsibly. These access rights and responsibilities are explained in the Scottish Outdoor Access Code. The key things are:

#### When you're **in the outdoors:**

- take personal responsibility for your own actions and act safely;
- respect people's privacy and peace of mind;
- help land managers and others to work safely and effectively;
- care for your environment and take your litter home;
- keep your dog under proper control;
- take extra care if you're organising an event or running a business.

#### When you're **managing the outdoors:**

- respect access rights;
- act reasonably when asking people to avoid land management operations;
- work with your local authority and other bodies to help integrate access and land management;
- respect rights of way and customary access;

Find out more by visiting

[www.outdooraccess-scotland.com](http://www.outdooraccess-scotland.com) or phoning your local Scottish Natural Heritage office.



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If you encounter any problems on your walk please contact Scottish Borders Council Ranger Service on 01835 830281 or email: [rangers@scotborders.gov.uk](mailto:rangers@scotborders.gov.uk)

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# Borders Abbeys Way

WALKING ROUTE

Jedburgh to Hawick



21km/13miles



The Borders Abbeys Way is a route linking the four great ruined Borders Abbeys in Kelso, Jedburgh, Melrose and Dryburgh; and also including the towns of Hawick and Selkirk.

The full route is approximately 104km/65 miles in length.

The route has been opened in stages, and this leaflet describes the second stage to be opened, between Jedburgh and Hawick, which was completed in Spring 2000. The route is waymarked throughout, in both directions, with an 'AW' symbol denoting 'Abbeys Way'.

Leaflets are also available for the other four stages

- Hawick to Selkirk
- Selkirk to Melrose
- Melrose to Kelso via Dryburgh
- Kelso to Jedburgh

Please note that this is a route especially suitable for walkers and, due to steps, stiles and kissing gates, other users may not be able to use some parts of it. The Borders Abbeys Way should not be confused with the Four Abbeys Cycle Route, also linking the Borders Abbeys, which opened in spring 1998. You will see signs for the Four Abbeys Cycle Route at various points along the route of the Borders Abbeys Way path: the cycling signs are blue and are clearly marked with a cycle symbol.

## Maps

The section described here is covered by OS Landranger maps 79 and 80 and OS Explorer maps OL 16 and 338.

## Car Parking

There are car parks at Murray's Green, Jedburgh, next to the Tourist Information Centre and bus station, and at Teviotdale Leisure Centre, Hawick. There is also a large car park at the Common Haugh on Victoria Road, Hawick.

Roadside parking is usually possible in Denholm, but please use consideration and do not block accesses.

## Tourist Information

There are Tourist Information Centres at Murray's Green in Jedburgh (open all year) and Drumlanrig's Tower, Tower Knowe, Hawick (open April to October). These centres can supply information and assistance on accommodation, travel, visitor attractions and activities in the Scottish Borders area.

Alternatively, contact VisitScotland Borders Information Service tel: 0870 608 0404 or email: [bordersinfo@visitscotland.com](mailto:bordersinfo@visitscotland.com). For accommodation bookings tel: 0845 2255 121. For information on all there is to see and do in the Scottish Borders click on [www.visitscotland.com](http://www.visitscotland.com).



## Buses

Service 20 between Jedburgh and Hawick (operated jointly by First Edinburgh and Buskers), runs 14 times a day Monday to Friday, 11 times on Saturday, and 4 times on Sunday. For timetable details contact: Traveline on 0870 6082608 ([www.traveline.org.uk](http://www.traveline.org.uk)) ask at the bus stance in Jedburgh or Hawick, or any Tourist Information Centre.

## Toilets

There are public toilets at Murray's Green, Jedburgh, at the Common Haugh car park, Victoria Road, Hawick and in the Teviotdale Leisure Centre, Hawick.

## Walking in the Scottish Borders

Pick up a free copy of **Walking in the Scottish Borders**. This booklet contains information to help you make the most of walking in the Borders. This and many other walking publications are available at Tourist Information Centres throughout the Borders or tel: 0870 608 0404 to order a copy.

A week-long **Festival of Walking** is organised in the Borders in early September each year. Inaugurated in 1995, the Festival has become established in the Borders events calendar and is enjoyed by walkers from all over the UK and beyond. For more information, see contact details under 'Tourist Information'





# Jedburgh to Hawick

This is a mixed route, with a fairly steady climb from Jedburgh town centre and later a steep section up the side of Merlin Wood onto the side of Black Law. There follows a gradual descent through mainly agricultural land to the village of Denholm and into Teviotdale where the route follows the north bank of the River Teviot into Hawick.

From **Jedburgh Abbey**, pass along Abbey Place to the Square. Turn left into Castlegate and go uphill to the **Castle Gaol**. At the Gaol (now a museum), bear left into Gala Hill and go downhill until the road ends. Turn left over the small footbridge and join the track on the other side.

Pass **Todlaw House** on the left and follow the narrow tarmac road to a junction. Turn right uphill on a rough track.

Eventually, after a number of bends, the track meets the old road (now a track) from Jedburgh to Swinnie at a T-junction. Turn left onto this track, and continue to follow it over a series of stiles to the second coniferous plantation at **Merlin Dean**.

At the plantation, turn right as signed. After crossing the footbridge, climb up the hill, keeping close to the plantation. At the end of the plantation, turn left through the hunt gate and continue along the top of the wood and through a second hunt gate. Turn immediately right here through yet another hunt gate and onto the open hillside with the radio masts and the summit of **Black Law** on the right.

Bearing slightly left and away from the fence on the right, follow the waymark posts on the hillside. After crossing the brow, the distinctive shape of Rubers Law appears ahead and to the left. Continue downhill towards the right side of the small wood known as **Blacklaw Strip**, and after crossing the stile, go down the side of the wood.

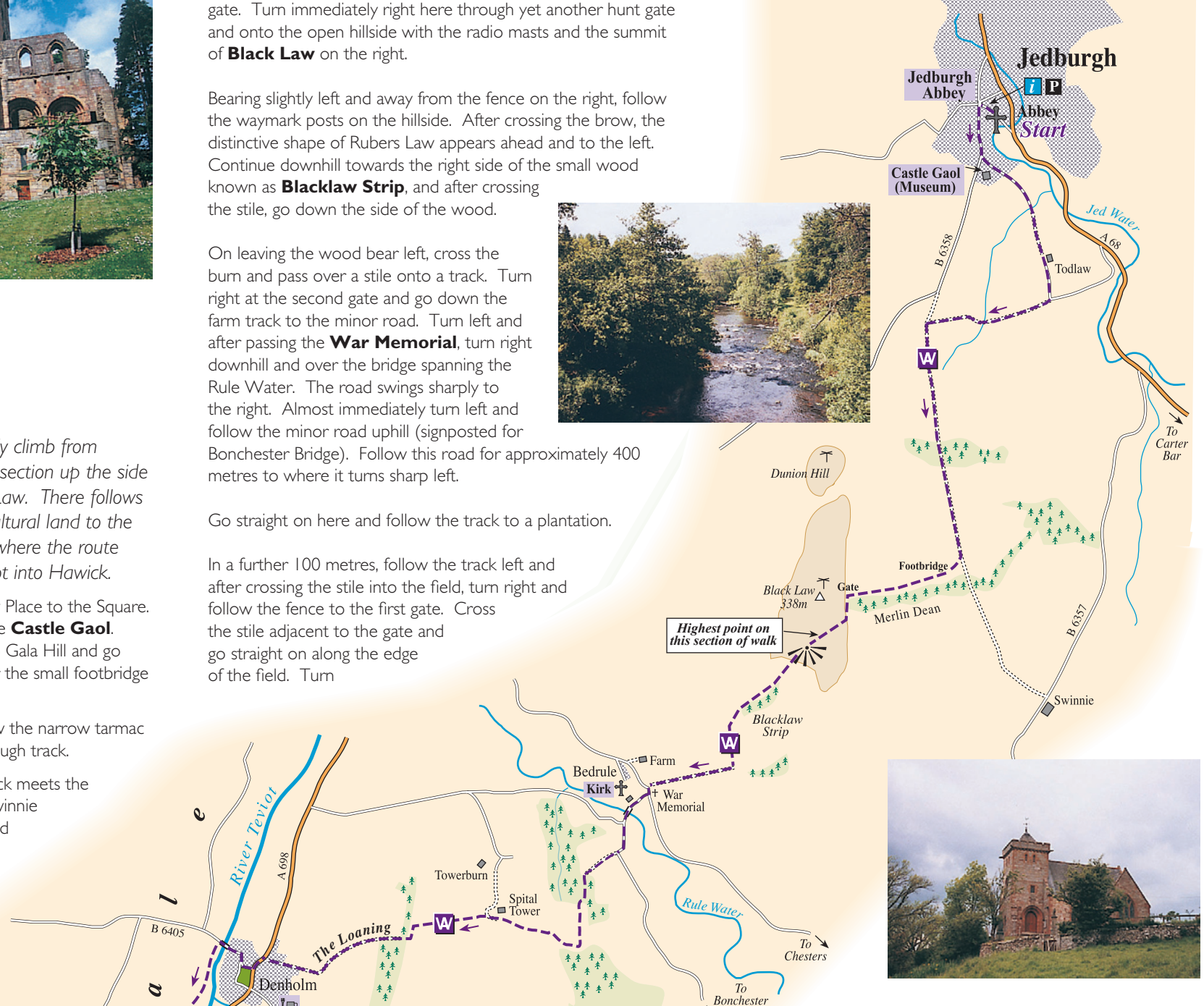
On leaving the wood bear left, cross the bum and pass over a stile onto a track. Turn right at the second gate and go down the farm track to the minor road. Turn left and after passing the **War Memorial**, turn right downhill and over the bridge spanning the Rule Water. The road swings sharply to the right. Almost immediately turn left and follow the minor road uphill (signposted for Bonchester Bridge). Follow this road for approximately 400 metres to where it turns sharp left.

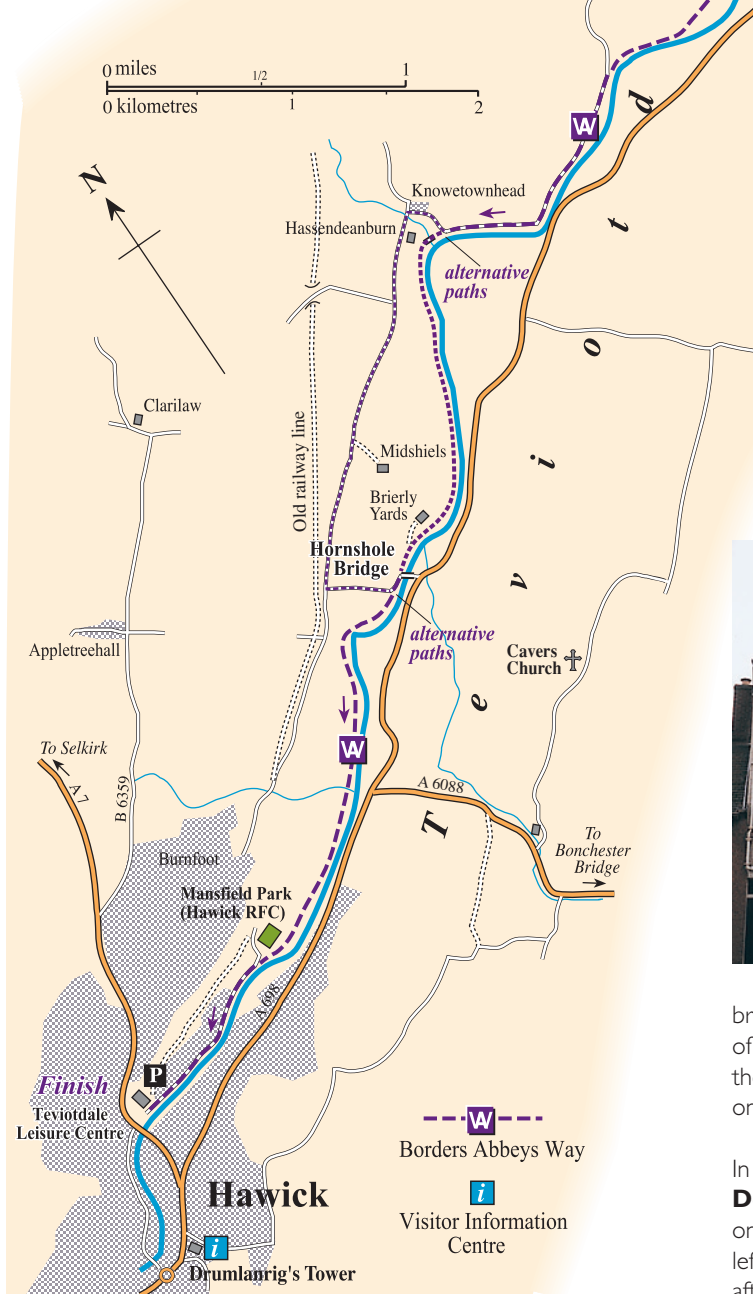
Go straight on here and follow the track to a plantation.

In a further 100 metres, follow the track left and after crossing the stile into the field, turn right and follow the fence to the first gate. Cross the stile adjacent to the gate and go straight on along the edge of the field. Turn



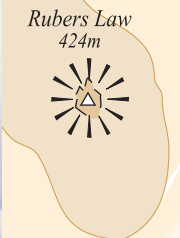
## The Borders Abbeys Way Jedburgh to Hawick 21km/13miles





**From the top:**

Jedburgh Abbey	The Leyden Monument, Denholm
The Rule Water at Bedrule	The Text House, Denholm
Bedrule Church	The Horse Statue, Hawick



left at the edge of the field and follow the wall to a gate. After passing through the gate, go across the field, and after crossing a ladder stile and then a small burn, join the track leading towards the buildings at **Spital Tower**.

When the track swings right, cross the stile on the left and follow the fence to another stile. Turn left over the small bridge and proceed up the left side of the fields. At the top of the hill, turn left and continue along the side of the wood to the first gate on the right. Go through the gate and cross a stile onto the track known locally as **The Loaning**.

In about a kilometre you reach the A698 Hawick/Kelso road in **Denholm**. Turn left then first right, keeping the Village Green on your left. Follow the road round to the right and then turn left, to cross the bridge spanning the River Teviot. Immediately after crossing the bridge, turn left onto the path on the north bank of the Teviot. Follow the path which runs along the floodbank, then for a short distance on to the track on the right.

On returning to the floodbank and after crossing two stiles, go up wooden steps and follow the edge of the field along the top of the bank before dropping down onto the minor road.

Turn onto the road and follow it for approximately 1.5km to the cottage at **Knowetown**. The Borders Abbeys Way ends here and starts again at Hornshole Bridge. You can reach Hornshole Bridge in two ways. Either follow the riverside path by leaving the road (yellow arrow), crossing the footbridge over Hassendean Burn and following the riverbank path, or follow the road as shown on the map.

Please be scrupulous about respecting the privacy of owners if using the riverside path. On reaching **Hornshole Bridge** by either route, steps take you back onto the riverbank for a pleasant journey of about 1km to the point where the Boonraw Burn joins the Teviot.

Continue straight on along the track which eventually joins the road that leads into Mansfield Road. With the river still on the left, continue along Mansfield Road and before reaching the traffic lights, take the last turning on the right which leads uphill to the **Teviotdale Leisure Centre** and the end of this section of the Borders Abbeys Ways. The old railway line is an attractive alternative route for the last 1km of the section. To get there turn right at the roundabout by Mansfield Park and climb the steps in the tunnel ahead of you. After the steps turn left to follow the old railway towards the Teviotdale Leisure Centre.

