

Bounded on the north and south by the Scottish and Yorkshire borders and on the east and west by the North Sea and the Pennines, Northumbria is made up of Northumberland, Durham and a number of relatively new unitary authorities.

North of Newcastle is a wildly beautiful coastline of rolling dunes and springy turf punctuated by fishing harbours and modest resorts, and guarded by impressive castles like massive Warkworth near the mouth of the Coquet, fortress home of the fighting Percys. Beyond, on the Great North Road and the threshold of Scotland is Berwick, its old quarter on the north bank of the Tweed contained within the massive ramparts. Offshore is Holy Island, dominated by its castle and melancholy priory ruins, and the Farne Islands, with their colonies of grey seals. Holy Island is linked to the mainland by a mile-long causeway uncovered at low tide, and there are boats to the Farnes from Seahouses.

Inland, from the natural barrier of the Pennine Fells in the south to the rolling Cheviots in the north, is wild and remote country laced by the dales or valleys of Wear, Coquet, Tees and Tyne and bisected by Hadrian's Wall, northernmost frontier of the Roman Empire, begun by order of Emperor Hadrian in AD 122, which formed a continuous frontier across England from Wallsend to Bowness on Solway until abandoned in 383. A convenient centre for exploring the wall and the national park to the north of it is Hexham, near the important Roman sites of Housesteads and Corbridge. Linking Heddon on the Wall and Greenhead is the old military road B6318, which runs on or beside the wall at many points.

Main features of the national park are the Border Forest around Kielder, the beautiful river valleys and the Pennine Way, a route for walkers which passes through Once Brewed, Bellingham and Byrness to cross the Scottish border. Another ancient road which can be followed by walkers is the Devil's Causeway north of Hexham. Otterburn, famed for its

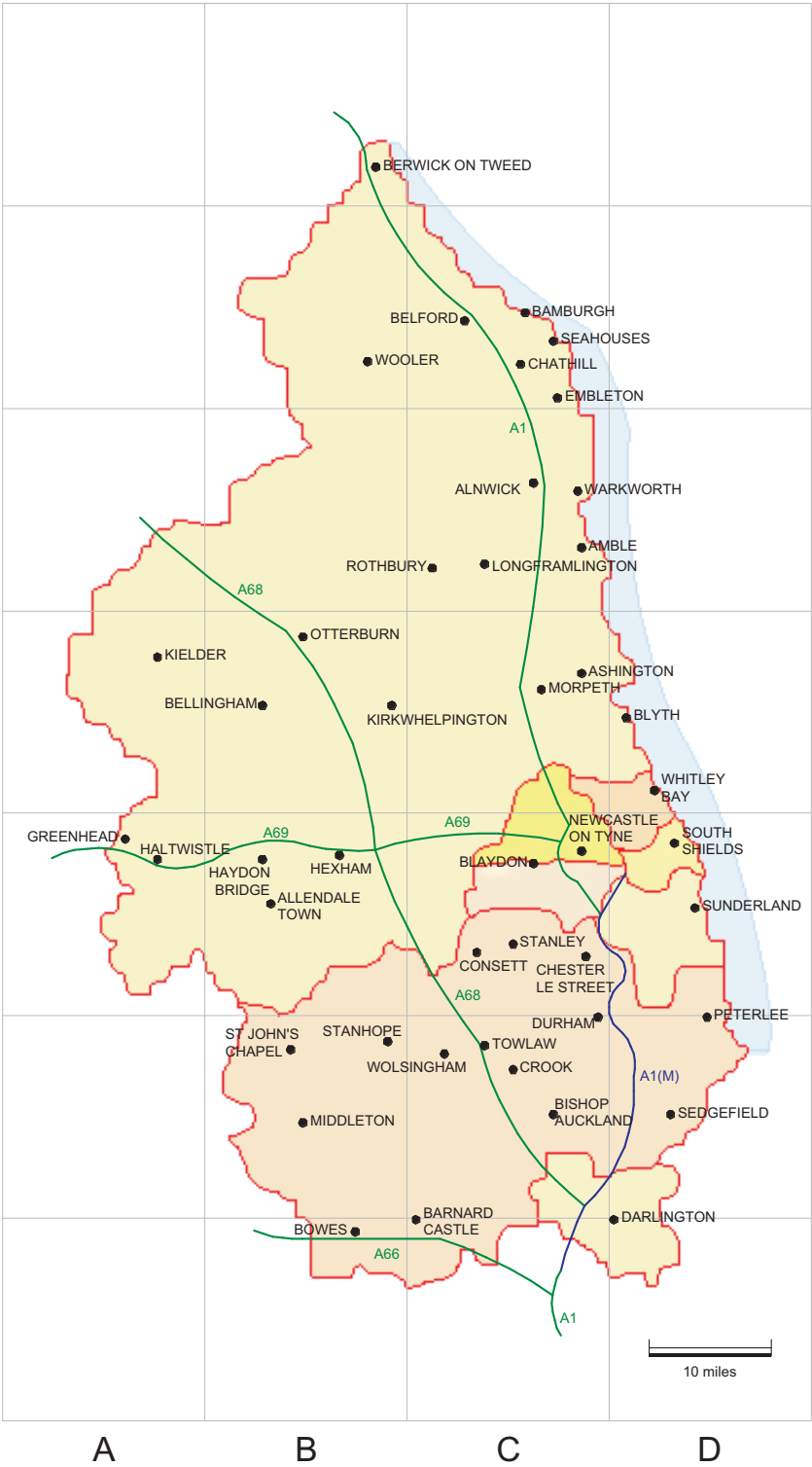


tweed and as the site of the battle in 1388 between the Percys of England and the Douglasses of Scotland, is well placed as a touring centre.

One of the newest sights in the region is Kielder Reservoir, the largest man-made lake in Europe, with plenty of scope for recreation.

Other sights include the fortresses of Alnwick, Bamburgh, Staindrop, Dunstanburgh and Raby, the churches of Escomb, Bywell and Hexham, the great cathedral of Durham and the ancient priory of Finchale. Three important museums are the Beamish near Stanley in Durham, the Grace Darling at Bamburgh and the Trailside Centre at Kielder.

Campsites, not numerous in Northumbria, exist in the national park, along the Northumbrian coast and at each of the main tourist centres.



KEY TO SYMBOLS

	shop		gas supplies		winter storage for caravans
	restaurant		chemical disposal point		parking obligatory
	bar		payphone		no dogs
	takeaway food		swimming pool		caravan hire
	off licence		games area		bungalow hire
	laundrette		children's playground		facilities for disabled
	mains electric hook-ups		TV		shaded

CONSETT, Co. Durham**Map C5**

EC Wed MD Fri, Sat SEE moors, Roman baths at Ebchester 2m N

✕ Knitsley Mill, Knitsley Mill DH8 9EL ☎01207 581642

✕ Bellamys near bus station ☎01207 503654

Allensford Park Camping Site, Allensford, Castleside DH8 9BA *Secluded riverside location in Derwent valley* ☎01207 505572 OS map 88/082504 2½m SW of Consett off A68 (Tow Law-Hexham) Open Mar-Oct 30 pitches (50 static) Level grass, sheltered www.snootyfoxresorts.co.uk

Byreside Caravan Site, Hamsterley NE17 7RT ☎01207 560280 Fax 01207 560280 OS map 88/124562 3m NE of Consett off B6310 (Rowlands Gill) at Medomsley Open all year—booking advisable 31 pitches 2 acres part level, grass and hard standing £8.00-£10.00*

Manor Park Caravan Site, Broadmeadows, Castleside DH8 9HD ☎01207 501000/503706 Fax 01207 599779 OS map 88/104461 3½m S of Consett off A68 (Tow Law) via Castleside Railway: Durham 14m Open May-Sep 30 pitches (10 static) Part level grass, sheltered fishing nearby (no cards)

COTHERSTONE—see Barnard Castle**CRAMLINGTON—see Morpeth**

CB Motors
Unit 16, South Nelson Industrial Estate
Cramlington NE23 1WF
Tel: 01670 735532

www.dieselpowertuning.co.uk

**CRASTER—see Embleton****DARLINGTON****Map D7**

EC Wed MD Mon, Thurs, Sat SEE North Road rail museum, St Cuthbert's church

✕ Bridgewater Arms, Winston DL2 3RN ☎01325 730302

✕ Cricketers, Parkgate ☎01325 384444

Newbus Grange, Neasham DL2 1PE ☎01325 720973 OS map 93/320097 5m SE of Darlington off A167 (Northallerton) Open Mar-Dec 20 pitches (130 static) Level grass £16.00-£20.00* inc elec & awning

Winston Caravan Park, Winston on Tees DL2 3RH *Small family-run site with plenty of places to visit* ☎01325 730228 Fax 01325 730228 Prop: Mrs MJ Willetts OS map 92/140168 5½m E of Barnard Castle on A67 (Darlington) Railway: Darlington 10m E Open Mar-Oct 10 pitches (11 static) 2 acres level grass and hard standing, sheltered river bathing £11.00-£14.00* (no cards) m.willetts@ic24.net www.touristnetuk.com/ne/winston

DURHAM, Co. Durham**Map C6**

EC Wed MD Sat SEE Cathedral, Norman castle, Gulbenkian Museum of Oriental Art

✕ Gala Theatre ☎0191 384 3720

✕ Three Tuns, New Elvet ☎01913 864326

Finchale Abbey (Priory) Caravan Park, Finchale Priory DH1 5SH ☎0191 386 6528 OS map 88/295468 4m N of Durham off A167 (Chester le Street) and Newton Hall/Brasside road, beside river Wear Open all year—adv booking 80 pitches (100 static) 6 acres level grass and hard standing, sheltered ✕ (café) fishing on-site (most cards) godricawatson@hotmail.com www.finchaleabbey.co.uk

