

Alternative return to Kelso from Roxburgh This route can be shortened to 15 miles (24 km) and a bit of hill climbing eliminated if you're prepared to engage with traffic on the A699: Carry straight on in Roxburgh village at 5 then turn right at the next junction to join the yellow trail (qv).

7 at the top of the hill. Turn left to rejoin the outward route, which is followed back to Kelso.
 distance before climbing up past Ladyng Farm to a T junction
 then right at the far end (care required). The road drops for a short road leading up to Helton and the A698. Turn left through the village Remount on the east bank and bear right under the viaduct onto a minor

which shares the viaduct piers.
 Roxburgh Viaduct. Dismount and push your bike over the footbridge deteriorating into a rough track) which leads down to the west end of Turn sharp right at the far end of the village 5 into a lane (soon

the abutments of two long demolished railway bridges.
 Continue straight on into the village immediately after passing between is taken 4. A long gradual ascent and then descent lead to Roxburgh.
 and woods to meet the Nisbet to Roxburgh road, where a right turn The road meanders alongside the River Teviot then between fields

suspension bridge (see front illustration).
 fast and fairly busy road Turn left after just 200yds and cross Kalemouth but the route goes right with a cycle lane giving some security on this Turn left here to visit the Teviot Smokery and Water Garden (tearoom),

and reach a T junction with the A698.
 a long descent to the Kale Water valley and a crossroads 3. Turn right

The north edge of the forest is reached in 3/4 mile and the road starts north-west with the Eldon Hills prominent in clear conditions.
 Bowmont Forest. This road runs along a ridge giving good views to the

with the B6436 just past Wester Softlaw. Turn left, then first right 2 for mile onto a minor road. Cross the B6352 and continue to a T junction Turn right at Easter Softlaw 1 onto the B6396 and bear left after 1/2

Bowmont Forest & Roxburgh - 18 1/2 m / 30km
 1/4 miles, quite steeply to start with, but easing after about 1/2 mile.

under the bypass. This road climbs for most of the next
 turn right here then right again for Easter Softlaw immediately on passing end of the bridge turn right onto a path leading down to the B6350;

Turn right onto the shared use path over Kelso new bridge. At the south
 consideration for pedestrians.

bypass. For much of its length it is a fairly narrow path, so please show due
 follows the river bank before climbing up to a junction with Kelso
 Turn left out of Mayfield car park onto Mayfield Riverside Walk. This

All routes from Kelso



Kelso

Local Cycling Trails

Local Cycling Trails

Three colour coded, signed routes starting from the Mayfield public car park (located on the north bank of the Tweed between the old and new bridges in Kelso), are both described and illustrated on the map overleaf. These mostly use quiet unclassified or B class roads, although the yellow trail uses two miles of relatively busy A class road as a return route into the town.

In order to avoid busier and faster roads, the trails all head south of the River Tweed. The landscape is very pleasant - rolling agricultural countryside interspersed with mixed woodland and no lack of peace and quiet. If the adjective 'rolling' suggests that the trails involves some hill climbing, then this is certainly the case - however there is a reward in the form of many fine views and exhilarating downhill runs.

Unfortunately, it's not possible to recommend a short trail (5 to 10 miles) wholly on quiet roads starting in Kelso. For anyone looking for this type of route and either able to transport bikes on a car or staying in Town Yetholm, two routes are described starting from this village - there is plenty of space for parking around the green at the north end of the High Street. Also, part of the green trail could be ridden as a shorter circuit starting at the car park in Bowmont Forest.



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 Scotland's leading short break destination

Turn right here and cross the river. This marks the start of a 1 1/2 miles long climb up to the north edge of Bowmont Forest after which the going is easy for the remainder of the trail. Turn left at a T junction with the B6436 some 3/4 mile past the forest, then right in a short distance 6a. Continue straight across the B6352 and bear right at the next junction to reach Easter Softlaw, where a left turn will take you back to Kelso on the outward route.

wide valley of the Kale Water until reaching a crossroads 50.
 Continue on the B6401 for 3 1/2 miles beyond Morebattle along the Morebattle (teas, coffees and lunches available at the Temple Hall Inn).
 Stay on the B6401 (now following red triangle symbols) at 4 towards

Morebattle Extension

Kelso bypass.
 short climb out of the dip at Lurdenlaw and from the B6350 up to

Turn right off the B6352 and climb up to the summit south of Lurdenlaw.
 Thereafter the return to Kelso involves little exertion, except for the

crossroads on the B6352 6, where the outward route is joined.
 extensive views to the west. Turn right at a T junction and then left at the and white signpost 5. This road climbs quite steeply at first but gives

Kelso and in 3/4 mile make another right turn at a traditional black perched on top of a grassy mound. Turn right onto the B6436 towards
 Approaching the next T junction Linton Kirk is seen straight ahead, bridge 4 towards Linton.

left for the next 3 miles. Take a right turn just before a hump backed
 is maintained with the foothills of the Cheviots close at hand on the
 Keep straight on to leave the village in the direction of Morebattle
 along the B6401. Despite the B classification, it's not busy and interest

Yetholm where teas, coffees etc. can be obtained.
 hotels on the south side of the High Street and 1/2 mile away in Kirk
 reached. Bear left at the next junction into the High Street. There are

Pass Cherrytrees and turn right towards Town Yetholm, which is soon
 the minor road is quieter and gives better views.
 branches off to the left 3. Both this and the B6352 lead to Yetholm

Drop down to a T junction with the B6352 and turn left towards
 Yetholm with the Cheviot Hills now in view. This road continues to
 a narrow dell. On emerging from this, a minor road

turn 2 and the summit is reached.
 a sharp left-hand bend on the steepest part of the climb, take a right
 by a mile long climb, steep in part, past Lurdenlaw Farm. Not far past

The going is easy at first but a sharp dip to cross a burn is followed
 Turn left at Easter Softlaw 1 onto the B6396 then right after 1/2 mile.
 - 20 1/2 m / 33km

Town Yetholm & Linton

Routes from Town Yetholm

Yetholm Loch - 5 1/2 m / 9km

Leave the village in the direction of Morebattle along the B6401. Despite the B classification, it's not busy and interest is maintained with the foothills of the Cheviots close at hand on the left.

After 2 miles, turn right at Primside Farm onto a minor road 1. This climbs at first past the farm but then levels out and contours along the hillside for some distance. Yetholm Loch comes into view on the right and the road then climbs up to Lochside, followed by a short, sharp descent.

Just where the road levels out, a gate on the right gives access to Yetholm Loch Wildlife Reserve. This Scottish Wildlife Trust reserve is well worth the short walk down to it - it's good for water birds and one of the best places in the Borders to see otters (the best times to see them are at dawn and dusk). You could combine the ride with a ranger led evening otter watch - see the 'Out and About in the Scottish Borders' booklet produced by Scottish Borders Council.

Turn left onto the B6352 2 but leave it again after a short distance, by turning right. This road gives good views of the hills south of Yetholm. Pass Cherrytrees and turn right towards Town Yetholm, which is soon reached. Bear left at the next junction to reach the High Street and your starting point.

Bowmont Water Valley - up to 14m / 22 1/2 km

Head west out of Town Yetholm along the B6401 towards Morebattle. After 1 1/4 miles turn left near Primsidemill onto the no through road signposted 'Belford on Bowmont, Sourhope, Cocklawfoot'.

Follow this delightful lane into the hills (but with little climbing on the ride itself) for anything up to 7 miles from Yetholm. There are some good picnic spots after 5 miles.

It is suggested that you go as far as the fork where Sourhope is signposted to the left and Cocklawfoot to the right. The tarmac continues for a mile beyond this fork but the views do not get any better as you are mainly surrounded by forest.

Key to symbols

Route information:

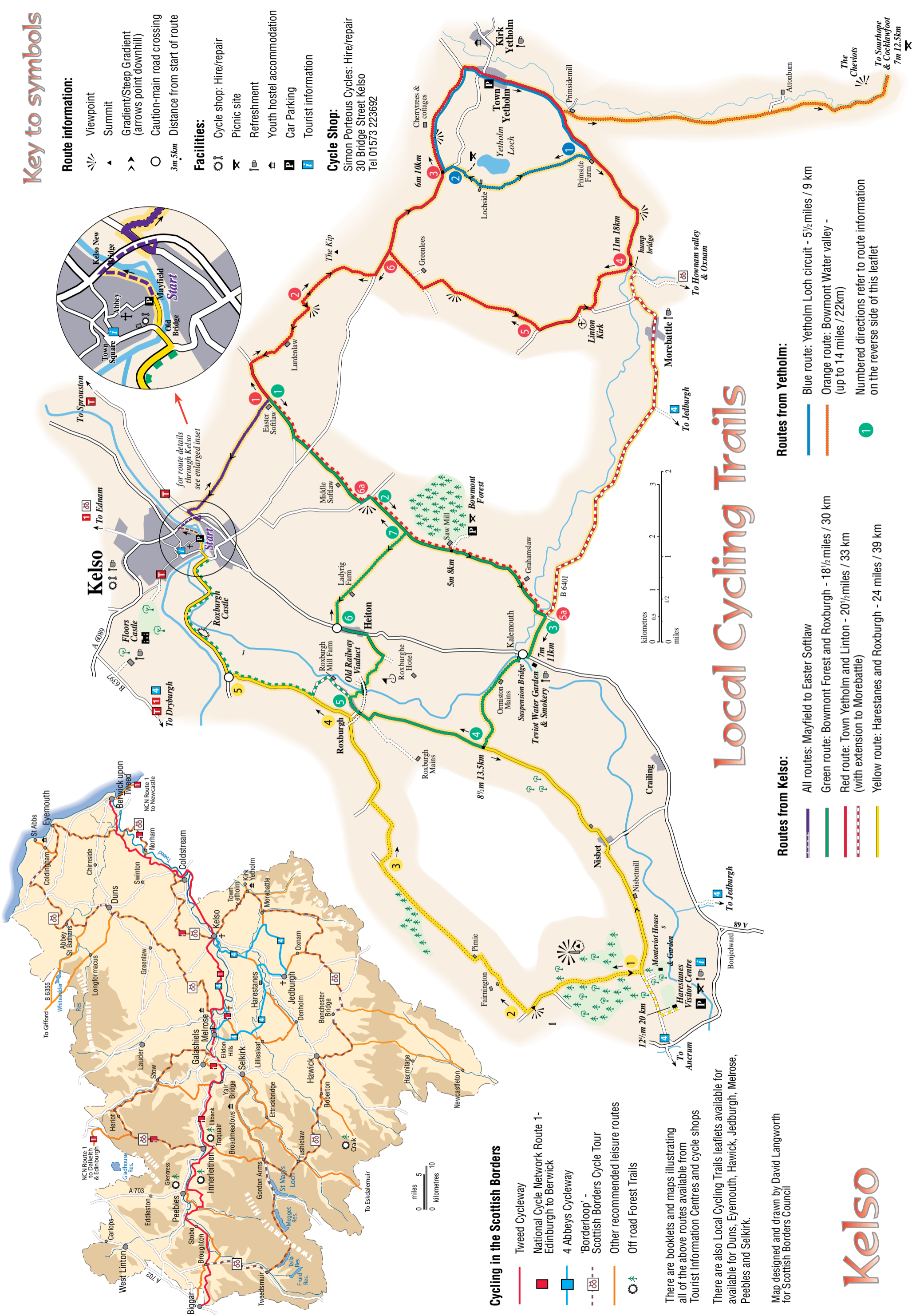
- Viewpoint
- Summit
- Gradient/Steep Gradient (arrows point downhill)
- Caution-main road crossing
- 3m 5km Distance from start of route

Facilities:

- Cycle shop: Hire/repair
- Picnic site
- Refreshment
- Youth hostel accommodation
- Car Parking
- Tourist information

Cycle Shop:

Simon Porteous Cycles: Hire/repair
30 Bridge Street Kelso
Tel 01573 223692



Local Cycling Trails

Routes from Kelso:

- All routes: Mayfield to Easter-Softlaw
- Green route: Bowmont Forest and Roxburgh - 18½ miles / 30 km
- Red route: Town Yetholm and Linton - 20½ miles / 33 km (with extension to Morebattle)
- Yellow route: Harestones and Roxburgh - 24 miles / 39 km

Routes from Yetholm:

- Blue route: Yetholm Loch circuit - 5½ miles / 9 km
- Orange route: Bowmont Water valley - (up to 14 miles / 22km)
- Numbered directions refer to route information on the reverse side of this leaflet

Cycling in the Scottish Borders

- Tweed Cycleway
- National Cycle Network Route 1 - Edinburgh to Berwick
- 4 Abbeys Cycleway
- 'Borderloop' - Scottish Borders Cycle Tour
- Other recommended leisure routes
- Off road Forest Trails

There are booklets and maps illustrating all of the above routes available from Tourist Information Centres and cycle shops

There are also Local Cycling Trails leaflets available for all of the above routes available from Tourist Information Centres and cycle shops

Map designed and drawn by David Langworth for Scottish Borders Council

