Hadrian’s Wall C2C – Silloth to Tynemouth

Summary
Take between three and five days to experience Roman Britain along the entire length of Hadrian’s Wall, and take part in a coast to coast biking adventure with a difference. From the charming seaside town of Silloth on the Solway Coast to the historical headland at Tynemouth, this cycling trip explores the stunning Cumbrian coast, picturesque, bustling market towns and rolling Northumberland countryside.

Highlights
Visiting forts, turrets and watch towers along the Solway Firth coast
Exploring museums and defensive forts dotted along the length of Hadrian’s Wall
The incredible sense of achievement having completed a journey from coast to coast

Detailed 3-Day Itinerary

Day 1. Arrive in Newcastle and meet with our support team who’ll transport you and your bikes and bags over to Silloth and the starting point of your historical biking adventure.

Day 2. Silloth to Carlisle - 43 miles/69 km; 337 metres of ascent
Your journey begins in the coastal village of Silloth on the Solway Firth. Equipped with a set of comprehensive maps, detailed directions and some top tips from our expert guides, you’re ready to set off on your cycling journey. Your first day of biking has a gentle introduction, with cycle paths sticking to the picturesque Solway Firth coast and skirting around marshland reserves and mud flats as it winds its way north. You’ll get your first glimpse of Hadrian’s Wall at Bowness-on-Solway and pass many fascinating Roman historical sites on your way to Carlisle and your bed for the night.

Day 3. Carlisle to Hexham - 36 miles/58 km; 840 metres of ascent
Turrets, priories and Roman forts and camps litter your path east as you leave the Irish Sea far behind and head into the rolling Cumbrian countryside. You’ll pass through historical towns and villages as you follow the path of Hadrian’s Wall to Hexham, a lovely market town on the River Tyne and your stop for the night.

Day 5. Hexham to Tynemouth - 41 miles/67 km; 554 metres of ascent
Corbridge Roman Site is your first glimpse of Roman history today as the route leads you ever eastwards towards the North Sea. Traffic-free cycle paths follow the meandering River Tyne right through the heart of Newcastle - a great place to stop for a late lunch! From here it’s a leisurely twelve mile cycle to the historical castle and priory at the mouth of the River Tyne and your journey’s end.

Well done, you made it all the way from coast to coast along Hadrian’s Cycleway! We can meet you and transport you to where you need to be or we can arrange for you to stay the night in Tynemouth or Newcastle for a well-deserved celebratory night out!

Duration:
3, 4 or 5 days coast to coast cycling
3, 4 or 5 nights’ accommodation

Just let us know how many days you’d like to make your Hadrian’s Cycleway adventure last!

We can also arrange a longer tour beginning in Ravenglass on the Cumbrian coast.

Total Distance from Silloth to Tynemouth: 195 km or 121 miles

Includes:
- Comfortable accommodation
- Baggage transfers
- Comprehensive maps and gpx.files
- Vehicle back up (self-guided trips only)
- Phone support (independent trips)
- One way transfer from Tynemouth to Silloth either at the beginning or end of the trip

Available on request:
- Pick up and drop off from public transport links
- Bike and kit hire
- Accommodation in Newcastle at the end of the trip

Dates:
Self-guided and independent cycling trips are available between March and October for groups of 2 or more. Contact us with the dates you have in mind.

What bike?
Hadrian’s Cycleway can be ridden on a hybrid, road bike or mountain bike. See below for more details.

To make a booking or for more information:
Email us: info@trailbrakes.co.uk
Phone us: +44 (0)7922 653327 or +44 (0)141 6286676
Hadrian’s Wall C2C – Further Information

Accommodation and food
We use only tried and tested accommodation providers on our trips so that we know that you will receive an excellent level of service. They provide everything you could need after a long day in the saddle from bike storage to hot showers, hearty breakfasts and comfortable beds. Accommodation in bed and breakfasts and hotels are always on a bed and breakfast basis and trip prices are based on two people sharing a room, unless otherwise arranged. If you would prefer hostel or bunkhouse style accommodation, breakfast is not included although most hostels can provide meals at an additional charge. Hostels will often have cooking facilities so that you can prepare your own meals if you’d prefer. Wherever you stay you will be able to get an evening meal within walking distance. Lunches can usually be bought during the course of the day as you will be passing through towns or villages. It is advisable to carry plenty of snacks with you each day to keep the energy levels up! Check-in at your accommodation will ordinarily be between 4 pm and 9 pm. Please telephone your first night’s accommodation to let them know at what time you’re planning to arrive. If you require an early check-in, most accommodation providers will try to adapt to your requirements but please phone ahead to ensure that an early check-in is possible. Sole occupancy rooms are usually available in hotels or guest houses so please ask us if you’d prefer to have your own room. A single supplement of £25 per night will apply.

Clothing and kit
Northern England receives a generally mild climate all year round with the Gulf Stream passing our western coastline. The east is generally a bit drier but cooler than the west, however conditions can and do change quickly especially on higher and more exposed areas. It can rain at any time of year, sometimes all day and we often get four seasons in a day, so come prepared! A full kit list is available on our website (http://www.trailbrakes.co.uk/kit-list-equipment-recommendations). General climatic information for the Lake District is available here: http://www.lortonweather.co.uk/Analysis-2011.htm. Up-to-the-minute weather forecasts for specific regions of the UK are available at the met office website (http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/forecast/). It is advisable to bring a small back-pack with you on your trip, in which you can carry spare clothes, snacks and basic spares and tools that you might need during the course of a day on the bikes. Alternatively, if you’re hiring bikes, we can provide pannier bags at an additional cost in which to carry supplies for the day.

The route
Hadrian’s Wall C2C (also known as Hadrian’s Cycleway) is a well-used National Cycle Network route, along quiet country roads, purpose built cycle paths and disused railways. There are some short, steep climbs and some prolonged, easier gradient climbs along the route, but these are mainly on quite country roads. This trip, if completed in 3 days, has a Fitness Grading of 4 which means that you should have a good level of fitness from regularly taking part in cycling-based activities. You are comfortable riding for up to 5 hours per day along mostly gently undulating terrain but there may be the occasional short, steep climb.

What bike?
Hadrian’s Wall C2C route is perfect for hybrid or mountain bikes. It is a good idea to fit mountain bikes with semi-smooth tyres to make pedalling on the roads a bit easier. It is possible to complete the route on road bikes as well though there are unavoidable off-road sections as you approach Newcastle. These sections can be ridden on a road bike if care is taken. Please ask us if you need any further advice.

Bike hire
We can provide you with quality hybrid bikes which are a perfect option for the route. They have plenty of gears to help you make it up those steep climbs! Hire bikes are supplied with a spare inner tube, puncture repair kit, pump, lock, bottle holder and pannier rack. Pannier bags can also be provided by prior arrangement for an additional cost. If you need to hire a bike, please let us know at the time of booking and we will make sure that we get the right bike for you. Please check the bikes before you leave your starting location to ensure that they are in full working order and check with the person providing your bikes that the bike is set up correctly for you. Once you leave your starting location it may not be possible to exchange your bike, and, if you are taking part in an independent trip, any mechanical problems that you encounter during the course of your trip are your own responsibility.
Hire bikes are provided with comfortable touring-style saddles and standard flat pedals. You are welcome to bring your own saddle and/or clipless pedals to make your ride more comfortable. Please note that, if you're taking part in an independent trip, you may have to change your saddle and/or pedals yourself so please bring suitable tools (a pedal spanner and set of allen/hex keys) with you in order for you to do this.

Self-guided trips
Our self-guided cycling trips are designed to provide you with a completely hassle-free, truly enjoyable biking holiday experience. We will organise every aspect of your trip including quality accommodation, bag transfers each day, detailed information about the route, waterproof maps, pick up and drop off at locations convenient for your travel plans and full support from our friendly, knowledgeable back-up team in case of technical (or physical!) emergencies. We will provide a back-up vehicle full of spares and tools to carry your baggage between your accommodation each day. Our drivers are proficient bike mechanics so will be able to help you out with common technical problems. If the issue is a bit more serious, they will be able to take your bike to a local bike shop for some TLC. Their main aim is to keep you and your bike on the trails!

Independent trips
Our independent trips are designed for experienced cyclists who are comfortable carrying their own basic tools and spares along with them each day so that they can fix any minor technical issues encountered along the route. For our independent trips we will provide you with everything included in our self-guided trips except the back-up service. We will organise quality accommodation, bag transfers each day, detailed information about the route, waterproof maps, pick up and drop off at locations convenient for your travel plans and a detailed list of bike shops that are located along the route. Please note that baggage should be limited to one bag per person, not exceeding 20kg per bag. We will always be only a phone call away should you require any additional support so you'll never be truly on your own!

Transport and baggage transfers
We are always happy to help you to get to where you need to be as quickly and easily as possible. We can provide transfers from any local airport, train or bus station or ferry terminal to your accommodation at the beginning of your trip and back again at the end. Just let us know where and how you intend to arrive at your destination and we will arrange a pick-up for you. Please note that an extra charge may apply to cover fuel costs. We transport your bags between each night’s accommodation during your trip, leaving you free to carry a small day-pack containing some spare clothes, food and drink. Please note that baggage should be limited to one bag per person, not exceeding 20kg per bag.

Any questions?
If you’d like some further information or want to ask us anything at all about our biking trips please don’t hesitate to contact us on the details below:
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