

# The Otterburn Ranges

## Open ACCESS AREA

### ② Mountain Refuge Circuit

(purple route on map)

A circular walk with classic Cheviot and border country views. Distance approx. 16km (10 miles)

**Start:** Park at Buckham's Bridge. Grid ref NT824107. Walk left along the road to Blindburn 0.5km. Turn left through the gate and up the hill for 2km to Yearning Law.

Follow the bridleway for 2km to the Mountain Refuge Hut. Follow the border ridge for 5km NE over Lamb Hill, Beefstand Hill, Mozie Law to The Street.

Go S down The Street for 4km until paths cross at Hinside Knowe. After the gate, follow the fence down the hill to the stile.

Aim for Carlcroft, the farm in the trees up the valley, 1km away.

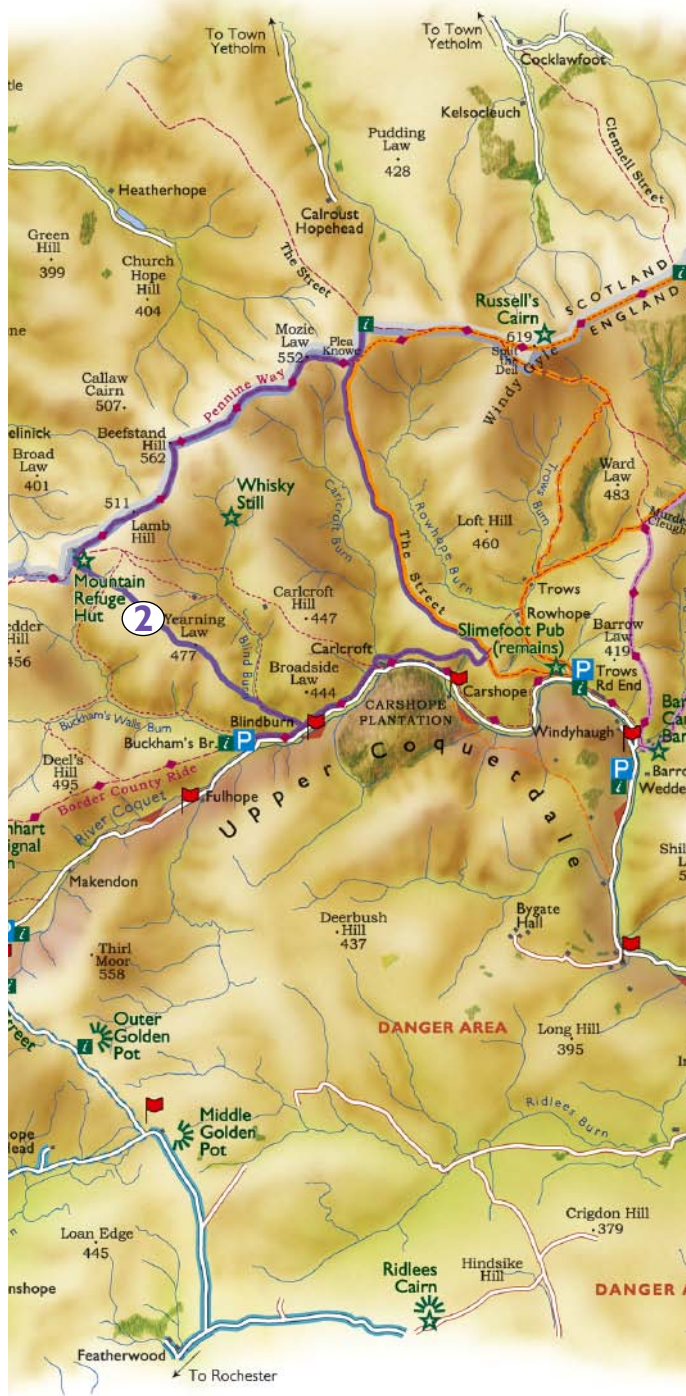
At Carlcroft cross the footbridge to the farm and follow the track to rejoin the road for 1km back to the car park.

### Whisky in the jar

In the 1800s whisky smugglers stole their way down the drove roads that crossed the border ridge. Excise-men would patrol the hills stopping and searching carts and travellers for contraband liquor.

Smugglers like Black Rory then turned to making their own whisky by Coquetdale's fast flowing streams. You can trace the remains of these stills to this day.

Around 400 million years ago volcanoes flung out lava and ash which weathered to form the distinctive whale-back hills of the Open Access Area north of the river Coquet. Walk or ride in these hills and imagine them as smoky heaps of cooling rock!



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