



The red kite bus to return to Winlaton Mill, connecting to a footpath to Lintford. Here walkers can catch Kite Trail then joins the Derwent Walk Railway Path before to Trail access on steep slopes. From Rowlands Gill the Red would not be able to access the bus stops at Lintford due the walk, particularly for wheelchair users who Here you can catch the Red kite bus to return to the start of is the option to access the National Trust's Gillside Estate. The Trail continues through Rowlands Gill village where there return to the region.

the first pair of kites to breed in North East England after their and pushchairs. Here the Trail passes the 2006 nesting site of user routes on well-surfaced paths, accessible to wheelchairs Walk Country Park. The majority of this stage follows multi- For the first 7.5 km (4 miles), the Trail follows the River Derwent

Rowlands Gill

Stage One - Winlaton Mill to Lintford, via

stages over two days or as a longer walk in one day. markers (in both directions) and can be walked either in two (OS grid ref: NZ186609). It is identified by Red Kite Trail way- Derwenthaugh Park car park at Winlaton Mill on the A694

The Red Kite Trail is a circular route starting and finishing at Derwenthaugh Park car park at Winlaton Mill on the A694 (OS grid ref: NZ186609). It is identified by Red Kite Trail way- markers (in both directions) and can be walked either in two stages over two days or as a longer walk in one day.



The Red Kite Trail - a basic guide

Red Kite Trail



An 18 kilometre (11 mile) circular walking route through the beautiful countryside of the lower Derwent Valley in Gateshead and County Durham, where there are many opportunities to see magnificent red kites and a variety of other wildlife.



www.gateshead.gov.uk

Local Wildlife

A detailed Trail guide is available as a download from www.northernkites.org.uk/redkite trail

Trail at the car park. Park where way-markers guide walkers back to the start of the Thornley Woodlands Centre before rejoining Derwenthaugh to the A694 where it crosses into woodland. It passes the From Barlow the Trail continues on public footpaths back best places to see kites.

The Trail then loops north to Barlow village, one of the Spen Banks Wood, which is often used as a winter roost by the from Lintford through Chopwell Woodland Park and on to surfaces, stiles and steep slopes are common. The Trail heads continues on a network of rights of way where rougher The second stage of the Trail, a 10.5 km (7 mile) stretch,

Barlow

Stage Two - Lintford to Winlaton Mill, via



Directions to the Red Kite Trail

The Red Kite Trail starts at Derwenthaugh Park car park at Winlaton Mill

By road... Take the A694 from the A1 just west of MetroCentre on the outskirts of Gateshead.

By public transport... Catch Go North East's 'Red Kite' bus (services 45,46,46a) from Newcastle's Eldon Square Interchange, Central Station (for mainline rail connections) or from the MetroCentre Interchange (nearest local train station). For bus information visit www.simplygo.com or telephone Traveline 0870 6082608. For train information visit www.nationalrail.co.uk or telephone 08457 484950.

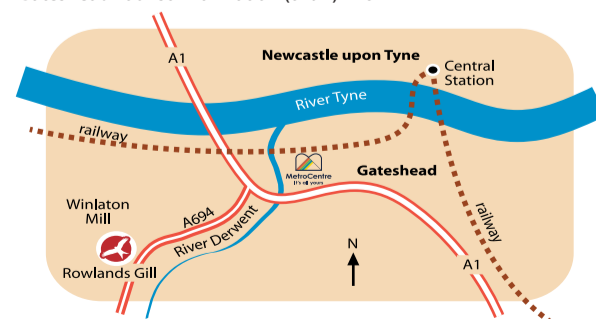
By bike... The Red Kite Trail through the Derwent Walk Country Park is part of Sustrans' C2C long distance cycle route. This connects with Keelman's Way, Consett and Sunderland Railway Path, Derwent Walk Railway Path, Waskerley Way Railway Path and Lanchester Valley Railway Path.

Red Kite Trail Contacts

Red Kite Trail and Kite Information:
Northern Kites Project (0191) 496 1555

Rights of Way Issues:
Gateshead Council Rights of Way Officer (0191) 433 3141,
Gateshead Countryside Team (01207) 545 212
(for Derwenthaugh Park and Derwent Walk Country Park)
Durham Co Council Rights of Way (0191) 383 3239 &
Durham Co Council Countryside Rangers (0191) 383 3594
(for Derwent Walk Railway Path)

Local Tourist Information:
Gateshead Tourist Information (0191) 478 4222



Kite photographs courtesy of Ray Wilby (front), Ian Forrest (inside), Gerry Whitlow (map)



A range of visitor facilities such as toilets, pubs and information centres are located along the Red Kite Trail. These are highlighted on the Trail map overleaf. For local accommodation please contact Gateshead Tourist Information on (0191) 478 4222.

- Protect plants and animals and take your litter home.
- Horse riders give way to walkers
- Cyclists slow down and give way to walkers and horse riders
- Follow paths and use gates, stiles or gaps in field boundaries when provided
- Leave gates and property as you find them or follow instructions on the sign
- particular care near livestock
- Keep dogs under close control at all times and take countryside
- Show consideration and respect for other users of the

While following the Trail please obey the Countryside Code: No motor vehicles.

Permissive - Access is granted and specified by the landowner. vehicles.

Bridleway - Pedestrians, horses and cycles only. No motor allowed. No motor vehicles.

Footpath - Pedestrians only. Cycles and horse riders are not These include:

access to different users.

The Red Kite Trail travels along many rights of way that allow

Visitor Information

One of the valley's other defining features is the 40 metre tall Column of Liberty in the Gillside Estate. This was the ancestral home of the Bowes Lyons family built by George Bowes in 1750. The National Trust now manages the Estate.

Derwent Walk Country Park. Nine Arches Viaduct, which is now a central feature of the The railway crossed the River Derwent on the magnificent the construction of the Derwent Valley Railway (1867 to 1962), dominated by the mining industry, which was supported by Much of the lower Derwent Valley has historically been

Local History and Heritage

The Red Kite Trail

The lower Derwent Valley has a beautiful mixture of mature woodlands, wetlands and open countryside through which the Red Kite Trail meanders. The Trail, at just over 18 km (11 miles), can be walked over two days and guides visitors through this ideal kite country. It provides many opportunities to see red kites and a variety of other wildlife, as well as passing areas of important historical and heritage interest.



Red Kites

Red kites are magnificent birds of prey. They are easy to spot with their wingspan of just under two metres, colourful plumage and distinctive forked tails. Kites mainly feed on carrion but will also take some live prey, such as worms and beetles. Their incredible agility in flight makes them a pleasure to watch.

Kites Return to the Region

During the 1800's and 1900's red kites disappeared from much of the UK due to human persecution. In 2004 the Northern Kites Project began to return the kites to North East England, after an absence of over 170 years. This partnership project released 94 kites in Gateshead's lower Derwent Valley between 2004 and 2006. It was in the last year of releases that kites began to breed once again in the region.



