

**UK - Hadrian's Cycleway - 6 Days Cycling - Family Cycling Holiday - Self Guided**

Hadrian's Wall country is quite simply a cyclist's paradise with its stunning landscapes and sense of history, from the bloody border feuds of the Border Reivers to being home to Europe's largest surviving Roman monument, Hadrian's Wall. Built in AD122 under the orders of Emperor Hadrian, the wall stretched for 73 miles between the tidal Tyne at Newcastle in the east to the Solway Firth in the west, and was successful in controlling the northern frontier of the Roman Empire. In 1987 Hadrian's Wall was designated a World Heritage Site by UNESCO and is the most protected landscape anywhere in the United Kingdom and ranks alongside the pyramids in Egypt and the Taj Mahal in India.



Utilising the National Cycle Network, we cycle along the northern boundary of the Roman Empire, starting and finishing at either end of Hadrian's Wall. This wonderfully mellow cycling break follows in the footsteps of Roman soldiers, allowing you to experience some of the rich heritage that Cumbria and Northumberland have to offer, from cycling in open hill country, through peaceful river valleys and finishing at the North Sea in Tynemouth. The route passes through some of the most beautiful parts of England and skirts a number of fascinating Roman sites including Birdoswald Fort, Walltown Quarry, Great Chesters Fort, Vindolanda and Corstopitum at Corbridge.

Accommodation, transfers, luggage transfers and emergency back-up are all included in the price and we also provide detailed route notes and maps to enable you to do the route self guided.

Looking for a UK family cycling holiday on quiet roads, traffic free paths and National Cycle Network routes? Then Hadrian's Cycleway is the holiday for you. This trip can also be done over any number of days and also as a 4 day supported trip.

**Is This Holiday Suitable For Your Family?**

This trip is ideal for active families who cycle regularly and are looking for a cycling holiday with lots of fun and adventure to be had! The trip is place to place, so your children must be able to cycle the distances stated on the dossier. The terrain is mainly on cycle tracks and hilly in places with some cheeky climbs that may have you walking. There are also some small offroad and the occasional section that takes you alongside the main road so your children must be comfortable and safe cycling in this environment.

**The Highlights**

- Cycling next to Hadrian's Wall near Birdoswald
- Beating your parents up one of the cheeky Skedaddle climbs
- Seeing a live archaeological dig at Vindolanda
- Corbridge and sinking a well deserved pint of local ale – it's not all about the kids you know!!
- Seeing who'll be the first to spot the 'Blinking Eye' bridge in Newcastle
- Ice cream in Tynemouth and the sense of achievement having ridden from coast to coast as a family

**Holiday Summary**

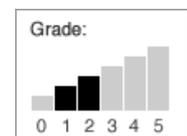
- Self guided
- Place to place
- 6 nights B&B – twin share basis
- 6 days biking
- Luggage transfers
- People transfer from start and from end
- Emergency Back-up
- Two people minimum

**Departures and Prices**

20% discount for children below the age of 18 who are travelling with 2 fully-paying passengers. Additional 20% discount for children sharing a triple or family room.

Available from April to September – Choose your preferred start date. Please contact Skedaddle on 0191 265 1110 or info@skedaddle.co.uk to check availability for your specific date."

<b>Duration:</b>	7 days
<b>Prices From:</b>	£570.00
<b>Optional</b>	
<b>Adult Bike Hire:</b>	£110.00
<b>Child Bike Hire:</b>	£90.00
<b>Child Tag-along:</b>	£90.00
<b>Child Trailer:</b>	£90.00
<b>Single room option - UK:</b>	£240.00
<b>Family Insurance - UK 10 Day:</b>	£41.00
<b>Sustrans Donation:</b>	£1.00
<b>Sustrans Donation:</b>	£5.00
<b>Sustrans Donation:</b>	£10.00
<b>Sustrans Donation:</b>	£20.00



## Summary of your Itinerary

Day	Description	Distance	Meals
1	Arrival into Newcastle	Non Cycling Day	
2	Bowness on Solway to Carlisle	14 Miles / 23 Kms Approx.	<b>B</b>
3	Carlisle to Lanercost	18 Miles / 29 Kms Approx.	<b>B</b>
4	Lanercost to Twice Brewed	19 Miles / 31 Kms Approx.	<b>B</b>
5	Twice Brewed to Corbridge	18 Miles / 29 Kms Approx.	<b>B</b>
6	Corbridge to Newburn	13 Miles / 21 Kms Approx.	<b>B</b>
7	Newburn to Tynemouth	19 Miles / 32 Kms Approx.	<b>B</b>

Meals: **B** = Breakfast **L** = Lunch **D** = Dinner

## What's Included

- A) Accommodation (shared twin rooms)
- B) Meals as per the itinerary (B=Breakfast, L=Lunch, D=Dinner)
- C) Detailed Skedaddle route notes
- D) Luggage transfer service
- E) Skedaddle Local Representative
- F) Emergency tool kit, pump, water bottles etc. (if hiring your bike from Skedaddle)

## Travel Options

If travelling by car your destination is Newcastle and you will be able to leave your car at or near the accommodation for the duration of the trip. At the end of the trip we will collect you and return you to your car. If travelling by train we ask that you arrive into and depart from Newcastle train station.

Please contact us for more detailed information on the specific schedules that we recommend for your holiday and check with us before booking your travel so that we can ensure it fits with the trip schedule.

## Terrain

Hadrian's Cycleway runs mainly on country lanes and quiet roads, interspersed with sections of traffic-free path, promenade and riverside path. The coastal sections at either end of the route are relatively flat, but there are a few steep, short hills in the central section.

## What's Not Included

- A) Personal clothing and equipment
- B) Travel insurance (available if required)
- C) Bar bills, telephone calls, souvenirs, etc.
- D) Bike & helmet hire (available if required)
- E) Travel or flight costs and charges for travelling with your bike (if applicable)
- F) Single room option (may be available if required)
- G) Entrance fees to cultural or historical sites and visitor centres
- H) Other optional activities

## Tour Grade : Grade 1 - 2

### Grade 0 ~ Mellow

For those looking for a very accessible cycling holiday or a really laidback break, mainly on the flat with some gentle slopes. Short distances of between 10-20 miles / 15-35 kms per day.

### Grade 1 ~ Easy

For the infrequent cyclists, routes with gentle slopes but avoiding any steep climbs. Distances of between 15-25 miles / 25-40 kms per day.

### Grade 2 ~ Gentle

For the frequent cyclists who exercise regularly. Routes will include some steeper cheeky climbs and distances of between 20-40 miles / 35-65 kms per day.

### Grade 3 ~ Moderate

For more experienced riders who cycle regularly. Includes some steep climbs and distances of between 25-50 miles / 40-80 kms per day.

## Suitable Age

Our family adventures are designed as fun for the whole family with under 18s supervised by their parent or guardian. We don't have a minimum age for any of our family holidays but it's important to us that you and your family choose the right holiday and we provide grades and advice which are based upon our experience. You know your family better than anyone else, so if you are new to cycling or are interested in joining this tour with younger children then please call us to chat about what possibilities are best for you.

## Itinerary

### Day 1

#### Arrival into Newcastle Non Cycling Day

Newcastle is our chosen rendezvous point for the Hadrian's Cycleway ride. With its excellent road, rail and air connections getting to Newcastle is easy. For those arriving by car, you will be able to leave your vehicle at your accommodation in Newcastle, or if the train is your preferred transport mode, you can either take a taxi from the station to your accommodation or it is just a short 10-15 minute walk away.



### Day 2

#### Bowness on Solway to Carlisle 14 Miles / 23 Kms Approx. B

After breakfast at your accommodation in Newcastle, we will meet you at your accommodation and transfer you to Bowness-on-Solway to begin your family cycling adventure. Bowness-on-Solway is the beginning of the Hadrian's Wall National Trail, and the village sits on the stunning Solway Firth (an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty). The views of Scotland from here are simply breathtaking. The area is also a haven for wildlife, so keep an eye out for wildfowl during this first part of the trip. Our first day's riding is a gentle introduction to the trip with a flat ride by the banks of the Solway Firth before skirting Carlisle. This thriving regional city is well worth a visit if time allows; it showcases some of the area's historic treasures in the Tuille House Museum and Art Gallery, and boasting Carlisle Castle, still welcoming visitors as it has done since Mary Queen of Scots and Bonnie Prince Charlie's Jacobites.

### Day 3

#### Carlisle to Lanercost 18 Miles / 29 Kms Approx. B

Leaving the bustling city of Carlisle behind, you will cycle along a section that follows the picturesque river Eden and with photo opportunities at every turn, make sure you have your camera ready! Gently undulating you will carry on passing through the villages of Warwick Bridge and Brampton before arriving at your destination, the pretty village of Lanercost with its hauntingly beautiful priory which was founded in 1165 by Augustinian canons.



### Day 4

#### Lanercost to Twice Brewed 19 Miles / 31 Kms Approx. B

Your cycling today starts with your first real uphill section of the ride...who in the family will be first up the hill? You then go directly past Birdoswald Roman Fort which stands high above a bend in the River Irthing, in one of the most picturesque settings on Hadrian's Wall. A Roman fort, turret and milecastle can all be seen on this excellent stretch of the Wall. With probably the best preserved defences of any Wall fort and best of all you'll be cycling right alongside it! This was an important base for some 1,000 Roman soldiers, succeeding an earlier fort of turf and timber. Passing the ruins of the 14th century Thirwall Castle, (built out of stone plundered from the wall), you will cross the Pennine watershed and gradually climb out of Greenhead before a welcome descent begins into the South Tyne Valley down into Haltwhistle, which is a great place to have a cuppa and sneaky piece of cake, before heading on to Bardon Mill. Once here you head back up the South Tyne Valley to a summit at Smith's Shield, before arriving at your accommodation at Twice Brewed.



### Day 5

#### Twice Brewed to Corbridge 18 Miles / 29 Kms Approx. B

After breakfast you start your day with an exhilarating descent to Vindolanda, a Roman frontier military and civilian site, and a must for those in search of Roman history and culture. Dating back to just before the Wall was constructed, the 2,000 writing tablets (discovered just a mere 30 years ago) form the earliest archive of written material in British history and are matched by similar tablets from the Eastern Frontier; it's a sort of 360-degree view of empire life. A slight detour towards Housesteads provides outstanding views over Vindolanda and classic Hadrian's Wall scenery. A cheeky climb takes you to Crindledykes, the highest point of the route (263 metres above sea level). You then drop towards Fourstones before passing through the market town of Hexham, towards the garrison town of Corbridge. Corbridge is a pretty village and has some great places to eat, which is just what's in order for you and the family after a day on the bike!!



## Day 6

### Corbridge to Newburn 13 Miles / 21 Kms Approx. B

After breakfast you might wish to check out Corbridge's Roman site. It's a more leisurely start today as all the major climbs are now behind you! On leaving Corbridge there is a relatively steep initial section, but this is soon forgotten as you whiz down into the valley floor and cycle towards Prudhoe.

Your scenic route will see you passing through the pretty villages of Ovingham and Wylam, where you may wish to check out Robert Stevenson's Cottage – it's a small cottage so don't rocket past!! After criss-crossing the River Tyne, continue along an old wagonway towards Newburn following the banks of the Tyne.



## Day 7

### Newburn to Tynemouth 19 Miles / 32 Kms Approx. B

All the ups and downs are now behind you and you can take your time cycling on your final day of cycling.

As you get closer to Newcastle it's time to count the bridges along the River Tyne. This includes the "blinking eye" Millennium Bridge which you will cycle past, and spans the river from Newcastle on the North bank to Gateshead on the South bank where the Baltic Centre for Contemporary Arts and Sage concert hall dominate the skyline. The Cycle Hub is situated on the route just after this and is the perfect place for a well earned cuppa and a slice of delicious hub-made cake.

It's dedicated to the cyclist and also the home of Saddle Skedaddle so why not come and say hello? Not far to the end now as you head into the heart of the shipbuilding area of the Tyne. On passing Wallsend – literally the "Wall's end", keep an eye out for Segedunum Roman Fort Museum if you fancy a little more Roman history to end your Hadrian's Wall experience. Look out for the viewing platform in the shape of a Roman Centurian's helmet!! Continuing along close to the river we soon reach the Fish Quays of North Shields, where you'll find a bustling little harbour and be able to sample some of the finest fish and chips in the North East. You are now at the mouth of the Tyne and a few more pedal turns lead to your final destination, Tynemouth. Time to celebrate your achievement – ice creams all round? Our Skedaddle representative will then collect you from Tynemouth and whisk you back to your car or to the train station / airport.



We always do our best to stick to this itinerary but please be aware that we can't guarantee to follow this schedule exactly. Very occasionally events that are out of our control mean we have to make some changes, but we'll ensure you still have a great time!

## Our Guides

The local representative will:

- Conduct a welcome meeting
- Talk you through your route maps for the trip
- Provide you with information relating to events in the area during your holiday
- Transfer your luggage
- Be available should you have any problems during your trip
- Collect any hire bikes at the end of trip

## Accommodation

As with all of our holidays we aim to use accommodation which showcases the style and hospitality of the area you are visiting.

In the UK we use small, good quality family friendly B&B accommodation or small hotels and Inns. Our trips are operated on a twin share basis with some accommodation providing large family rooms (subject to availability).

## Food

All breakfasts are included in the holiday cost. Packed lunches may be provided upon request by the accommodation (payable locally) and evening meals may be taken at the accommodation or in restaurants and pubs nearby.

## Vehicle Support

There is no vehicle support on this tour, however your luggage will be transferred between your accommodation.

## Bike Hire



If you don't own a suitable bike or would prefer to avoid bringing your own we have bikes available to hire. Adult bikes are typically hybrid bikes with semi slick tyres and a relaxed riding position. Electric bikes for adults are also available on selected holidays, please contact us for more details.

We have a number of trailers / bikes suitable for children including:

- Baby and child seats (12mths to 5 years)
- Child Trailers (Baby to 5 years)
- Tag-along (4 years to 9 years)
- Childrens' bikes – 20inch / 24 inch wheels (7 to 11 years)

If you do decide to hire we will include a helmet and all necessary spares for the trip. Please request helmets when making your booking.

Adult hire bikes come with pannier racks, emergency repair kit including spare inner tubes, bike pump and bike lock. Pannier bags are also available upon request.

## Travelling With Your Bike

If travelling by air the vast majority of airlines will charge you to transport your bike and it will also need to be properly packaged for transport. Please contact your airline for specific details.

If travelling by train, the majority of rail operators will carry your bike free of charge. Spaces are often limited but can sometimes be booked in advance. For further information specific to your journey go to:  
[http://www.nationalrail.co.uk/passenger\\_services/cyclists.html](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk/passenger_services/cyclists.html)

## Equipment

We provide everything except a bike (although you are able to hire these), personal equipment and clothing. If you are taking your own bike, it is imperative that it is in good mechanical order. If you are not mechanically minded, we advise you to take your bike to a local bicycle dealer for a service. Details of which spares you should take will be included in the Information Pack sent with your booking confirmation.

You will need to bring your own accessories including helmet, gloves and hydration pack / bottles for drinking water. It is also a good idea to bring shoes suitable for walking along with your cycling shoes, a light but waterproof rain jacket and a fleece / warmer layer for mornings and evenings.

While riding with Skedaddle it is compulsory that you wear a helmet. If you don't have a helmet or don't intend to bring your own we may, subject to availability, be able to provide one on request. You will not be permitted to ride unless you wear a helmet.

## Your Destination



This family friendly cycle route stretches the length of Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site in the North of England. Magnificent coastal views, breathtaking countryside, Roman forts and museums, inspiring modern attractions, quaint villages and attractive market towns, all set in a World Heritage Site; this cycle route has it all! You will ride through some of England's most dramatic and wild countryside where you can "get away from it all" and enjoy the freedom of cycling in this unspoilt area.

Hadrian's Cycleway, signed as National Route 72, can be cycled in either direction, though it is normally cycled west to east to take advantage of the prevailing winds.

## Personal Spending Money

With accommodation and breakfast included in the tour price, we suggest a generous £35.00 per person per day should be sufficient for your evening meals, lunches, snacks and drinks along the way. But of course this is dependent upon the size of your appetite!

Due to the remoteness of some of the locations it is better to arrive with cash, however these days most pubs and restaurants accept credit (Visa, MasterCard) or debit cards (Switch, Delta). Cash points are available in the main towns on route. Please note that American Express is not widely accepted in the UK.

## Baggage

Your allowable baggage is one main piece of luggage per person other than your bike. This bag should be preferably either a backpack / rucksack or 'sports bag' so as to assist in transportation, and weighing no more than 15kgs, and one small daypack. The daypack may be useful for carrying your additional outer-layer clothing and snacks while cycling. This will also be useful as your 'travel' bag for such items as cameras, sun cream, etc.

## Preparation and Training

In order to get the most out of your Skedaddle trip, you need to choose a holiday of the right grade and make sure you're prepared. The amount of preparation and training you need to do will depend on your own cycling experience, your level of fitness and the type and grade of holiday you are going on.

Please check that your children are of a suitable age for this tour and that you have read the grade description and information about the holidays at the end of the holiday description. Do feel free to contact us if you would like to talk this through in more detail.

## Weather

When cycling in the UK it's best to come prepared for sun and rain, warm and cold all in the same day – spring, summer and autumn.

Although there can be wide variations the monthly average temperature in the UK ranges from 9 degrees centigrade in April through to 17 degrees centigrade in July and then 11 degrees in October.

## Travel Insurance

If you are a non-UK resident it is a condition of our trip that you are covered by a medical and personal accident insurance policy that includes repatriation to your home country and cover for the biking activity. We can offer a policy for UK residents which fulfils all of our requirements and can be booked per trip or as annual cover.

Please contact us for more details. If you decide not to take the Skedaddle policy we will require details of your chosen policy including policy name, number and 24hr medical emergency telephone number for your insurance provider, before the start of your trip.

While travel insurance is not essential for UK residents for this holiday we suggest considering it to cover aspects such as cancellation. Please contact us for more details.

## The Skedaddle Approach

We're passionate about pedallin' and there is no better way to soak up a country, its culture, see its wildlife and its people, than by bike! Whether you're travelling in our small guided parties of around 6 – 15 people or riding self-guided with friends or family, our handpicked destinations and a flexible approach ensure you'll have a wonderful holiday!

'Fun', 'friendly', 'professional', and 'personal', are words that are used time and time again by our customers. Going that extra mile for our customers isn't an obligation – it's just what we do, 'nowt's a bother'. Skedaddle holidays are designed to relax and recharge, challenge, thrill, exhilarate and chill-out. We are able to cater for all levels of experience and fitness. If you're young or old, man or woman, a super fit experienced rider or a relative novice, we have a holiday for you!

Our holidays provide great cycling in magnificent destinations. Whatever your passion, whether off-road, road or leisure cycling, small group or self-guided. We take great care of all those who travel with us. Whether going alone, or with friends or family, all enjoy the Skedaddle experience.

We recognise our responsibility to the people and places we visit. Our philosophy is ensuring that your holiday can have a positive impact on the places you visit. Developing our approach to how we run our holidays is an ongoing process. To let us know your thoughts on our approach, please email us at [info@skedaddle.co.uk](mailto:info@skedaddle.co.uk) or call us in the office on +44 (0)191 265 1110



### Protection

The Association of Bonded Travel Organisers Trust Limited (ABTOT) provides financial protection under the Package Travel, Package Holidays and Package Tours Regulations 1992 for Saddle Skedaddle, and in the event of their insolvency, protection is provided for the following:

- 1) non-flight packages commencing in and returning to the UK;
- 2) non-flight packages commencing and returning to a country other than the UK; and
- 3) flight inclusive packages that commence outside of the UK, which are sold to customers outside of the UK.

1, 2 and 3 provides for a refund in the event you have not yet travelled. 1 and 3 provides for repatriation. Please note that bookings made outside the UK are only protected by ABTOT when purchased directly with Saddle Skedaddle.

Saddle Skedaddle Ltd is a Member of ABTA with membership number Y6297.

ABTA and ABTA Members help holidaymakers to get the most from their travel and assist them when things do not go according to plan. We are obliged to maintain a high standard of service to you by ABTA's Code of Conduct. The travel arrangements you buy from us aren't covered by ABTA's scheme of financial protection. For further information about ABTA, the Code of Conduct and the arbitration scheme available to you if you have a complaint, contact ABTA, 30 Park Street, London SE1 9EQ. Tel: 020 3117 0500 or [www.abta.com](http://www.abta.com)



**We hope to see you on one of our holidays soon, please call us to chat through any queries, to check availability or book.**

Saddle Skedaddle Limited, The Cycle Hub, Quayside, Newcastle Upon Tyne, NE6 1BU  
Company Reg.No 3719782 VAT Reg. No. 809 2556 19



### How to Book

Before you book we recommend that you carefully read the trip notes, itinerary and our booking conditions.

To book your place on this holiday we suggest contacting us to check availability on the specific date you are interested in.

You can make a booking on our website [www.skedaddle.co.uk](http://www.skedaddle.co.uk) If you have made a booking with us before you can use your online account or we can send you a booking form by email or in the post.

On booking, a non-refundable deposit of £200 per person is payable. If you book less than 28 days before departure full payment is due on booking.

### How to Pay

You can pay online as part of the booking process, by credit/debit card over the telephone, by cheque or by bank transfer (contact us for details [info@skedaddle.co.uk](mailto:info@skedaddle.co.uk)).

The balance for this holiday is due 28 days prior to departure. If you have previously made a payment by card we will take your balance, and any surcharges, from the same card when this falls due. If you would prefer to pay via an alternative method please let us know. You can also log into your My Account and make a payment online at any point.

Please note, although there is no additional charge for using debit cards, there will be an additional 1.5% charge if paying by credit card or 2.5% if paying with American Express.

### Confirmation

On receipt of your booking, we will send you by email acknowledgement of your booking.

Along with the confirmation, we will send pre-departure information about your holiday with Saddle Skedaddle, including health and medical considerations, suggested reading, and also general information about the country, climate, people, etc. Access all this information by logging into the My Account area of our website, [www.skedaddle.co.uk](http://www.skedaddle.co.uk)