

Refreshments and things to see along the way in Ford

St Michael & All Angels' Church

Lady Waterford Hall

Horseshoe Forge Antiques
& Rare Books

The Old Dairy Antiques
(closed Mon/Tues)

Ford Village Shop, Post Office,
Tearoom & Cycle Hire

*NB Ford Castle & grounds is not
open to the public*

www.ford-and-etal.co.uk

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This leaflet is intended as a guide only. Please refer to **OS Explorer Map 339 (Kelso, Coldstream & Lower Tweed Valley)** for full map details including local footpaths & bridleways (available from Heatherslaw Gift Shop).

If you discover any of the directions need amending or updating, please inform the **Visitor Centre** at Heatherslaw by email: tourism@ford-and-etal.co.uk

Public toilets are located at:

- **Visitor Centre, Heatherslaw**
- **Etal Castle car park**
- **Ford Village**

Open daily, April – November

*Please keep the countryside tidy
and take your rubbish home.*

The Flat Countryside Cycle Tour



Cycling Route No. 3 via Ford & Kimmerston

Distance: 7½ miles (12 km)

Grade: Medium with a steep hill



- 1 Leave Ford Village and turn left on to the B6353.
- 2 Climb up the hill out of Ford Village then continue for 1.5km.
- 3 Turn right, signposted Kimmerston/Ford Moss Nature Reserve.
- 4 Ford Moss Nature Reserve is on your left after 600m. This is a lovely place to stop for a rest and a walk.
- 5 In 2.4km turn right at T-junction (unsigned).
- 6 In 500m turn right, signposted to Ford on Cycle Route 68.
- 7 In 3km turn right at T-junction, opposite Ford Church.
- 8 In 50m turn left into Ford Village.



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We'd love to see your photos!
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The Flat Countryside Cycle Tour



Ford Moss Nature Reserve

Ford Moss is composed of a deep layer of peat which has grown up over thousands of years. The wetter areas are home to precious sphagnum mosses, which play a vital role in the creation of peat bogs, in turn enabling carbon capture. Here you can also see a rich array of flora and fauna: snipe, red grouse, buzzards and kestrels are frequently seen. Deer and Exmoor ponies roam the reserve. The woodland is home to red squirrels and you may spot feeders (monitoring stations) in the trees.

There are also poignant reminders of the area's industrial past: an old engine house and chimney, as well as a long-abandoned mining hamlet. It is thought that coal mining may have started here as early as 1586, however, the first attempt to work Ford Colliery at depth was not until 1697. Water ingress was always a problem and the last coal was extracted in 1920, after which the mine was overwhelmed by a sudden inflow of bog slime. At one time there were numerous, towering spoil heaps, which children used to slide down on pit sleds. The spoil was later used to fill in the disused shafts and the cottages fell into ruin. Today wind turbines are sited nearby to provide renewable energy.

