Kirkandrews on Esk

Here on the northern frontier of the Roman Empire, still in England, (the border between Scotland and England starts upriver of the church) is an unexpectedly elegant Grade II* Georgian church in a parkland setting, unusually on a north-south axis. This is the Debatable Land of the English/Scottish Border whose history and that of its reiving clans belies the peacefulness of the location.

Nearby are the Kirkandrews and Gilnockie pele towers, evidence of the lawless region. Near the A7 is the old Waverly railway line, the Scotsdyke station still clearly visible.

Just beyond the churchyard is a suspension bridge constructed in 1877 to replace the ferry used to bring worshipers across the river to church. There is a footpath along the river to Longtown.

To enjoy the interior telephone 01228 791466 or 013573 80421

GR NY 391 719 CA6 5NF

facebook Friends of Kirkandrews-upon-Esk Church

The Knowe Church, Bewcastle

This beautiful little church is where many of the descendants of the border reivers have worshiped for centuries. It replaced an earlier Presbyteryan chapel nearby, built by the congregation because they were "dissatisfied by the method of worship in the parish church." The official registers date its founding to 1788.

The first minister corrected a published account of the inhabitants, saying, "We lie, no doubt, at a distance from the polished part of the county, and like all people in similar situations may be behind others in point of civilisation. No part of the county has made greater advances than we have done for several years. For four years last I have not witnessed a single example of a woman going without stockings or shoes. As for cattle, beef, mutton, pork, butter etc we can dispute with any parish in the county."

See our farming exhibition; learn how the people of the fells make their living. Sit and absorb the peace here.

GR NY 533 779 CA6 6PG
To Kirkandrews on Esk 16 miles
St Cuthbert's, Bewcastle

A holiday from Eildonswell, Host of the Journey's follow the Hadrian's Way
St Cuthbert, Bewcastle 1 miles
CA 67 TPL www.bewcastle.co.uk/glimpses
Open daily during daylight hours

St Mary Magdalene, Gilsland

You might choose to drive/cycle or walk from one town to another, discovering rich history and natural beauty.