

KIELDER

WATER & FOREST PARK

Your Great Outdoors

LEAVE YOUR CAR AT HOME...

Discover the environmentally friendly way to enjoy your great outdoors. Save your pennies too. Bus routes provide a cheaper, greener way to access 600 square kilometres of forest and 27 miles of beautiful shoreline.

ROUTE 880

Hexham to Bellingham and Kielder via Humshaugh

Mondays to Saturdays (times vary depending on the day - always check the timetable before you set off)

Hop onboard and get closer to the action.

Don't forget you can bring your mountain bike on the bus! (Timings based on leisurely cycling at around six minute a mile).

Saturday

Depart Hexham bus station on the 880 at **9:30am** and after a scenic journey you will arrive at Kielder Castle Visitor Centre at **10:50am**.

11am Begin your day by exploring the castle, the former hunting lodge of the Duke of Northumberland. It is now home to various exhibitions (including ospreys and red squirrels) and is also the hub for mountain biking. Enjoy the Minotaur Maze and children's play area.

If you haven't brought your own mountain bike there are two hire shops in Kielder with plenty of kit.

12pm collect your bikes and set off along the south shore of the Lakeside Way. You'll pass the beautiful Mirage artwork twinkling in the trees and cross the stunning and unique suspension bridge that spans the Lewisburn.

12:45pm arrive Leaplish Waterside Park - a great place to stop for lunch. Why not pop into the Kielder Water Birds of Prey Centre, play miniature golf, shop for souvenirs or try out the children's play area. Visit the red squirrel hide and see if you can spot one of the native mammals.

2pm set off along the south shore further to Tower Knowe Visitor Centre. You'll pass some more striking artworks along the way including Freya's Cabin. At Tower Knowe you can visit the Explore Centre and learn about the history of the area.

3:30pm depart Tower Knowe and just less than a mile away is Kielder Dam where you can stop and enjoy the views across the whole of Kielder Water.

From Kielder Dam back to Kielder Castle, the north shore route is 11 miles long. Give yourself time to cycle back and extra to stop and enjoy artworks such as The Wave Chamber, 55/02, Belvedere, the Janus Chairs and Silvas Capitalis, the forest head.

Depart Kielder Castle at **5:26pm** and you will arrive back at Hexham bus station by **6:53pm**.



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ROUTE 714

Gateshead to Kielder

Sundays and bank holidays (May bank holiday to mid October only)

Depart Gateshead Metro Interchange on the 714 at **10:25am** and after a scenic journey you will arrive at Tower Knowe Visitor Centre at **12:22pm** - a great place to check out the area's rich history.

Why not have coffee or lunch at Café on the water overlooking northern Europe's biggest man-made lake. Visit the interactive exhibition at the Explore Centre and shop for souvenirs, fishing tackle and outdoor wear. Try a fishing starter pack and see what you can catch.

2:14pm depart Tower Knowe and head to Leaplish Waterside Park where you will have an hour to pop into the Kielder Water Birds of Prey Centre and check out a bird demonstration, play miniature golf, shop for souvenirs or try out the children's play area. Visit the red squirrel hide and see if you can spot one of the native mammals.



3:22pm depart Leaplish and make your way to Kielder Castle Visitor Centre, just ten minutes by bus further down the road.

Here you can explore Kielder Castle, the former hunting lodge of the Duke of Northumberland. It is now home to various exhibitions (including ospreys and red squirrels) and is also the hub for mountain biking. Enjoy the Minotaur Maze and children's play area. There is time to grab a coffee at the Duke's Pantry before boarding the bus for your return journey at **4:30pm**.

You will arrive back at Gateshead Metro Interchange by **6:35pm**.

