

**DISTANCE**

13.5 miles / 22km

ALTITUDE GAIN

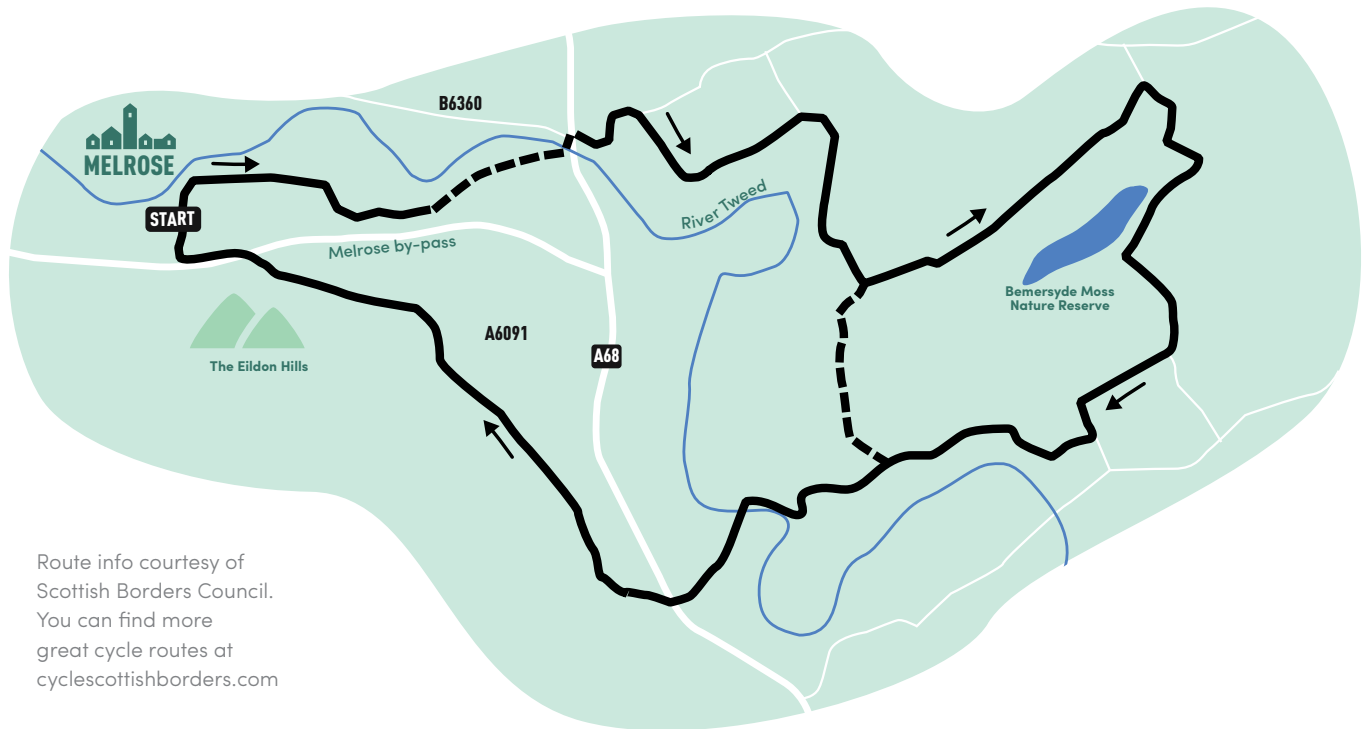
391m

LEVEL

Moderate.
Mostly low level
route or with some
climbing on paths
and/or public roads

START/FINISH

St. Dunstan's Park car park,
Melrose TD6 9LF
Grid ref NT 545 340



Route info courtesy of
Scottish Borders Council.
You can find more
great cycle routes at
cyclescottishborders.com

This route passes by Trimontium an outpost of the Roman Empire and the Leaderfoot Viaduct before climbing towards Scott's View, where you can pause and enjoy the view of the River Tweed as Sir Walter Scott used to. The route loops around Bemersyde Moss Nature Reserve before arriving in Dryburgh where you can pause to see the Abbey. Cross the River Tweed and head towards Newtown St Boswells before passing by the Rhymer's Stone and returning towards Melrose.

TURN RIGHT out of St. Dunstans Park onto the High Street, bear left into Buccleugh Street and turn left at the far end into Abbey Street . Melrose is then soon left behind on the pleasant hedge lined road to Newstead. Continue uphill through the village and at the far end, before reaching the bypass, bear left onto a section of traffic free, gated road .

GO PAST the Trimontium stone and down under the disused but restored Leaderfoot viaduct to the south end of Old Drygrange Bridge . Turn left onto the bridge, then right at the far end to join the road to Smailholm. A short descent to cross over the Leader Water is followed by a steep climb up the other side (this road is used by

cyclists may be happier pushing their bikes up this hill). After about a 1/4 mile of ascent, turn right onto a minor road , then right again at the next junction. Scott's View is reached in a further 1/2 mile, much of it uphill, but this does mark the end of any significant climbing for some miles, besides giving a superb view of the Eildon Hills. A drop and short rise lead to Bemersyde where the route takes a left turn . (to shorten the route by 3 1/2 miles and visit Wallace's Statue, take a right turn here).

HEAD EAST along the crest of a ridge (extensive views, particularly to the south and the distant Cheviot). Drop down to Third Farm, turn right at the 'T' junction and wind along easily graded

Bemersyde Moss Nature Reserve (on the right hand side slightly further on) to Clintmains.

TURN RIGHT towards Dryburgh on the B6356, which climbs initially, with the River Tweed and the Eildons coming into view again. Continue straight on at the next junction (the short cut comes in here on the right) and drop down to Dryburgh. The entrance to Dryburgh Abbey is straight on, for Melrose turn right then bear left at the end of this cul-de-sac onto a path leading to a suspension bridge crossing of the Tweed . A road on the far side leads to the A68 trunk road.