

Northumbria

June 1 & September 13 - 7 nights each - **NEW TOUR FOR 2010!**

YOUR HOLIDAY AT A GLANCE

Guest Houses : Based :
Rye Hill Farm - 4 **Near Slaley,**
star guest **south east of**
accommodation **Hexham**
in a beautiful
rural location
affording big
views and set
amidst 30 acres
of grounds



Prices
£1095
per
person
All
rooms
en-
suite



Train
 Meeting :
From
Newcastle

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Itinerary

We are very excited to be able to restore Northumberland and County Durham to the Byway schedule for 2010 - we have been away too long from this beautiful part of Britain that features such fabulous 'big sky' scenery and a wonderful lack of tourists! This is another area that many will say they have passed through - heading to Scotland - but very few have explored! So join our Byway adventure for 2010. As with all our 'new' tours we will research with great care to make the very most of our time in these wonderful counties so the temptation to commit here and now too exactly to an itinerary, is once more, going to be resisted! To give you a flavour of our ideas though we **may** well include **some** of the following: Close to hand we will have the lovely Abbey village of Blanchland, the Derwent Reservoir and both Corbridge and Hexham with its beautiful abbey. We are also very close to the central, and perhaps most exciting part, of Hadrian's Wall, between Lanercost and Chesters Fort so expect a day exploring here either side of the unique and strikingly beautiful geological formation of the Whin Sill

with visits perhaps to Birdoswald, or Vindolanda, The Army Museum or to Houssteads. To the south of Rye Hill lie the beautiful Weardale and Teesdale and the majestic power of High and Low Force waterfalls along with the remarkable treasures of



View to the north from Rye Hill Farm!

The Bowes Museum. To our north are the huge open spaces and splendid river valleys of the Northumberland National Park and The Cheviots laced with several wonderful grand houses and gardens such as extraordinary Craggside, Wallington, Belsay Hall with its atmospheric quarry garden, and the 'tucked away' and timelessly beautiful setting of Brinkburn Priory. Of course, we also intend to add some splendid small gardens to our itinerary to fit the seasons of our tours and to join those of the larger houses mentioned. This area also provides towns and villages of great charm and interest such as Rothbury and

the classic 'Border Reiver era' defensible village of Elsdon with its fine example of a Pele Tower, just one of several examples of unusual buildings constructed during that lawless time as the inhabitants strove to defend what was theirs (and steal what wasn't!). The wilds of Kielder Water and the fringes of the Scottish Borders are also comfortably in range. The magnificence of Durham Cathedral and the sublime tiny Saxon church at Escomb are also close at hand along with the famous outdoor Museum at Beamish. A little further afield is the Percy stronghold of Alnwick Castle with its famed restored Gardens and the peaceful coastal village of Alnmouth. Rye Hill Farm will provide us with a very comfortable base and great food! The big story in Northumbria is always the incredibly beautiful and empty expanses of landscape that constantly surround you, the sheer magnitude of scenery and sky, forming the backdrop to our week's touring seen of course from the finest of the 'Byways' that we know already or will discover for you! An exciting week lies in prospect!