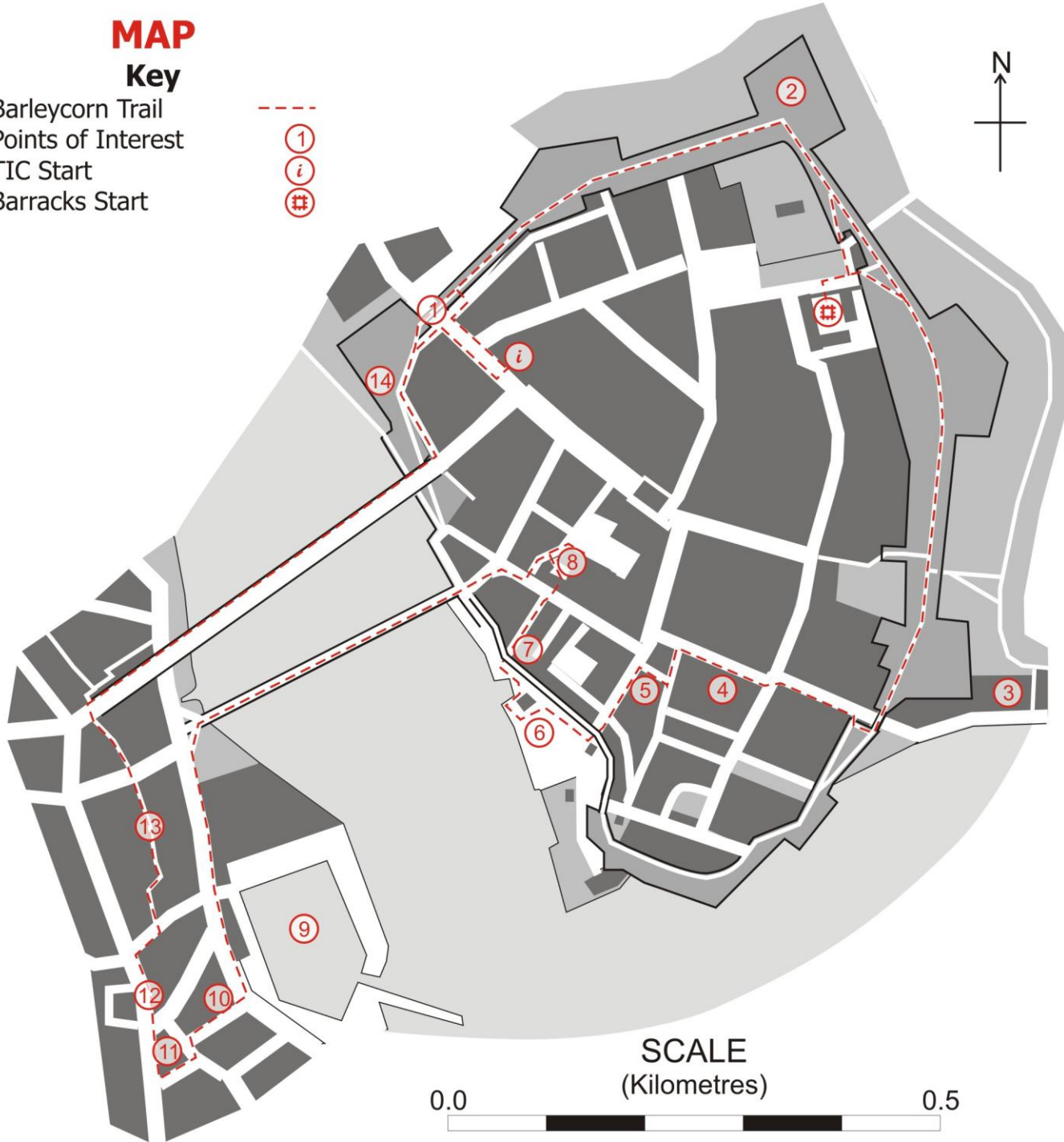


MAP

Key

- Barleycorn Trail
- Points of Interest
- TIC Start
- Barracks Start

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Slow Food®
Berwick-upon-Tweed

The Barleycorn Trail

Barley has been an important part of Berwick's economy for thousands of years.

In the Middle Ages, the Tweed valley was known as the "bread-basket of Scotland". Most of the grain was shipped out of Berwick, a trade that continues through the port today.

Although there are now no active breweries in the district, large quantities of barley from the local farms are malted in Tweedmouth and exported for brewing and whisky distilling.

This walking trail has been created to help you explore Berwick's barleycorn heritage.

The whole route can be walked easily within one and a half hours. This can be reduced to less than one hour by omitting the section that crosses the River into Tweedmouth.

You can start the trail either at the Tourist Information Centre in Marygate or at the Barracks.

Around the town you will see the symbol of a bear and a wych elm tree. This is a medieval play on the town's name which comes from the Old English bere-wic (pronounced "bear-wick"), meaning "barley-farm".



This leaflet has been designed as part of the Food Heritage of Berwick-upon-Tweed project, led by Slow Food Berwick-upon-Tweed

www.slowfoodberwick.org.uk

- ① **Start** at the Tourist Information Centre in Marygate.

Walk towards the Scotsgate arch turning right up the steps, then next left up some more steps onto the Ramparts. Turn left again to stand on the top of Scots Gate.

- ① **Marygate.** Look towards the 18th century Town Hall with its spire and clock. For a thousand years farmers brought in their produce to sell in the Charter Market that is still held twice-weekly in Marygate.

Retrace your steps along the ramparts and take the path to the top of Brass Bastion.

- ② **Brass Bastion.** Looking across the Golf Course you will see the medieval ridge and furrow of the Magdalene Fields where barley would have been grown during Berwick's period of prosperity in the 13th century.

Continue along the Ramparts to Cow Port.

- Ⓜ **Alternative Start** from the Barracks go onto the Ramparts and turn right.

Continue along the Ramparts, past the Gunpowder Magazine, then down the hill to an iron gate. Just before the gate, look to the left towards the Pier.

- ③ **Pier Road Maltings.** Note the building that has the distinctive pyramid-shaped vented roof of an old malt kiln.

Continue through the gate, turn right and walk along Ness Street, then cross the road into Silver Street.

- ④ **Border Brewery.** On the left is the site of the old Border Brewery. In 1894, the buildings were described as "a handsome suite of public and private chambers, well appointed throughout; and close by are sample rooms, beer stores, wine vaults and spirit stores besides extensive maltings." Vaux Brewery took over the company in 1934 and closed down the brewing side of operations. The buildings were used as a bottling plant until shortly after World War II.

Walk along Silver Street, then turn left into Foul Ford.

- ⑤ **The Old Corn Exchange** ahead of you was once the centre for grain trading. It opened in 1858. The curved slate roof was originally filled with glass so that dealers could check the grain using natural light. The building was also used for dances and meetings.

Turn right along the side of the Corn Exchange, then left into Sandgate. Note the building's impressive frontage. At the end of Sandgate go through the Shoregate arch onto the Quayside and turn right.

- ⑥ **Quayside.** Grain ships loaded here until Tweed Dock opened on the south side of the river in the 1870s. On your right, note the entrances to tunnels that connected the quayside with granaries behind the Walls.

At Sallyport turn right and pass through the Walls.

- ⑦ **Dewars Lane Granary.** To the right of the lane is a massive 18th century granary, shortly to be redeveloped into a youth hostel, bistro and exhibition space.

At the end of Sallyport cross Bridge Street and pass through a covered alley (Shoe Lane) into a courtyard.

- ⑧ **The Maltings.** In the 1980s the old maltings building in front of you was converted into a theatre. Note the windows indicating the levels of the old malting floors.

Continue into Eastern Lane.

Option 1 Turn right up the street to return to the town centre. You may wish to visit the Maltings The view from the Bistro is spectacular.

Option 2 To continue the trail turn left down Eastern Lane. Pass in front of the Barrels Ale House, cross the Old Bridge, then turn left and walk along Main Street, Tweedmouth until you reach the docks.

- ⑨ **Tweed Dock** on the south side of the river was opened in 1876 to cater for the large steamships of the day. A major part of the business of the port today is the shipping of grain, just as it was in the Middle Ages.

Continue along Main Street, bear left into Dock Road.

- ⑩ **Short's Flour Mill.** The impressive Victorian façade on the right hand side of the road was part of the H. O. Short & Son Ltd. flour mill. It was built in 1876, around the time when the Tweed Dock was opened. A building in the adjacent Mill Wharf development is topped with a stylised version of the mill's malt kiln roof.

Cross the road and walk up Mill Strand to the end.

- ⑪ **Tweedmouth Brewery.** In front of you is one of the oldest groups of brewery buildings in North East England. The complex comprises drying sheds, malt kiln and a 19th century building with a wagon entrance in the gable end on Brewery Lane. Fuller's 1799 'History of Berwick' mentions the Tweedmouth brewery of Sibbit, Dickson & Co., which became the Border Brewery Co.

Turn left into Brewery Lane then right up Brewery Bank, past the Angel Inn which was the "brewery tap". Turn right along Main Street with the main brewing buildings on your right. Continue along the main road as it becomes Prince Edward Road.

- ⑫ **Knowe Head.** When Prince Edward Road was built in 1923 it cut through the agricultural hamlet of Knowe Head. The site of the old farmstead is on your right.

Continue, turn right down Kiln Hill and turn left up some steps into Yard Heads.

- ⑬ **Yard Heads.** This narrow lane provided access to Tweedmouth's fields and fisheries.

Continue across Union Brae and back into Berwick over the Royal Tweed Bridge. Turn left at the Leaping Salmon along Bankhill. Just beyond Lady Jerningham's statue turn left and walk to the parapet wall under Megs Mount.

- ⑭ **Megs Mount.** Across the Tweed are the prominent silos of Simpson's Malt, known locally as the "Grain Cathedral".

Return to the road and on into Marygate.

If you started at the Barracks continue along the Ramparts, visiting points 1 and 2 along the way.