



ELECTRIC Ettrick
E-BIKE HIRE



The best way to explore
the Ettrick & Yarrow Valleys



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How to book

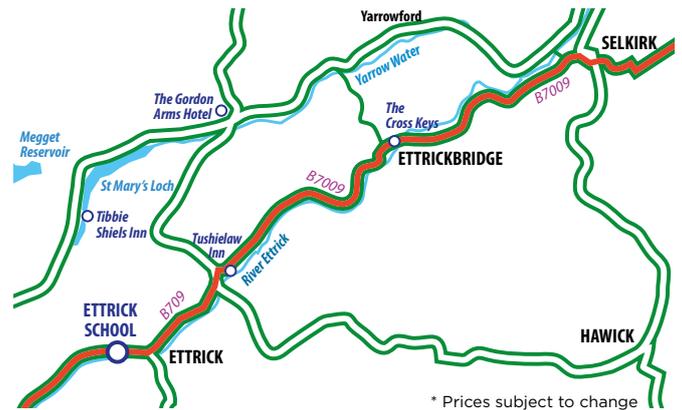
Our all-terrain electric mountain bikes are available for hire either half day/3 hours (£15) or full day/6 hours (£30)*. Riders must be aged 14 years of age or over. Hire includes a high visibility waistcoat and helmet.

Electric Ettrick is run by the Ettrick and Yarrow Community Development Company.

Email: bikes@ettrickandyarrow.org.uk

Phone: 01750 62210 or 07483 404663

Location: Ettrick School, Ettrick TD7 5JA



* Prices subject to change



Experience the fun of an electric bike

Our "Cube" all terrain e-Bikes have plenty of power for steep hills or rough ground. You still pedal but at the click of a button you can move into Eco, Tour, Sport or Turbo mode depending on how much help your legs require. You choose, and with 9 gears as well as the battery, you only work as hard or as little as you want.

With an impressive range, our electric bikes are the perfect way to explore the quiet valley roads or, if you are feeling adventurous, take to the forest roads that wind into the hills and link across the Ettrick and Yarrow Valleys.

Route maps can be provided.



Ettrick and Yarrow Valleys - there to be enjoyed

Cycling is an excellent way to explore the quiet splendour of these scenic valleys. Travelling along roads, tracks and byways that have been in use for hundreds of years is a joy.

Experience the tranquil beauty of wide-open spaces, moorland slopes and rolling hills. Hear the music of the water from sparkling streams and meandering rivers. Breathe deeply to enjoy the freshest of fresh air. Enjoy the stunning views as our electric bikes take you high into the hills and closer to nature.

The roads have little traffic but you might find yourself in the occasional sheep jam. Look out for a variety of bird life such as herons, ravens and oyster catchers. Listen for the haunting calls of curlew and buzzard. You might also catch a rare glimpse of the more solitary inhabitants; roe deer, mountain hare and red squirrel.

You can explore tower houses built in the feuding days of the Reivers, bronze age settlements and standing stones from more ancient times. You'll find every place name has a story or ballad attached. Tales of daring, tragedy, love or 'other worldly' encounters are around every corner. The exhibition dedicated to the writer, James Hogg, is also based in old Ettrick Primary School.



Suggested Routes

Please note that all distances, timings etc shown are approximate. Don't forget to check opening times for refreshment stops.



1: St Mary's Loch

Our base at Ettrick School is ideally placed for a wonderful ride to this famous beauty spot. Either stay on the public road all the way to the Loch via Tushielaw Inn and the Gordon Arms Hotel or leave the public road at the top of Berrybush and follow the old road through the forest via the Devil's Elbow and the old 'Captain's Road' down to Tibbie Shiels and the seasonal Glen Café on the far shore. You can come back either way or drop all the way down into Ettrick on forest roads from Berrybush following signs for the Captains Road and arriving back on the public road close to the Honey Cottage Caravan Park. We recommend going uphill on tarmac where possible for an easier ride to start.

Routes are signed and a map can be provided. Both routes are possible within 3 hours.



3: Enchanted Ettrick

From Ettrick School you can go further up the valley for 6 miles on the very quiet tarmac road which ends at Potburn Farm. This is a lovely scenic run on a very gentle incline beside the Ettrick Water.

If you want to continue beyond Potburn follow the forest road to the Over Phawhope Bothy - former home of Will O'Phaup, grandfather of James Hogg and the last man in Ettrick to converse with the faeries...

Riding downstream from Ettrick School will bring you to the lovely village of Ettrickbridge (13 miles) where you'll find refreshments at the Cross Keys Inn. From there you can continue on the public road towards Selkirk to visit the beautiful grounds of Bowhill House with its traffic free woodland roads.



2: Eskdale Explorer

Meander along this lovely route following the sparkling Tima Water to the boundary with Dumfries and Galloway and then drop down into Eskdalemuir. It's ideal for a visit to the Samye-Ling Tibetan Monastery, the largest Buddhist temple in Europe with lovely grounds to explore, as well as a tearoom and shop. Another mile or so farther and you will find the Old School Café which also offers refreshments. A few miles further will bring you to the Eskdale Prehistoric Trail.

This easy route for half a day (25 miles round trip) is all on tarmac roads. If you want to add a bit of off-road interest, leave the public road at Tima Loch and take a detour up the forest road into the hills. On a clear day you can see the Solway Firth. Watch out for forest operations and heed any warning signs.



4: Two Valleys

Ettrick and Yarrow are spread along two rivers valleys and linked by two mountain passes. These two main crossings (known as the top and bottom Swire) provide several options for working out circular routes.

If you want to test your 'turbo' mode, try the bottom swire near Ettrickbridge. This unclassified road offers spectacular views as it links over to Yarrow. Whilst this route is fairly challenging with a long steady climb it is known by local cyclists as one of the best hill-climbs in the Scottish Borders.

Refreshments may be found at the Gordon Arms in Yarrow or in Ettrickbridge. Alternatively, a little closer to Selkirk you will find the Philiphaugh Estate and the Waterwheel Café.

