



Hadrian's Wall
Heritage Ltd

PRESS RELEASE

Every footstep counts along Hadrian's Wall in the wet weather

Hadrian's Wall Heritage Ltd is asking people walking near Hadrian's Wall to take extra care in the current weather conditions to avoid damaging some of the sensitive archaeology.

Almost everywhere that people walk near the Wall is archeologically important, earthworks and masonry may be visible but a lot still lies buried beneath and alongside the paths. This month's heavy rainfalls have led to significant surface water which means the footpaths and the archaeology are more vulnerable to damage.

The risks are greatest along the popular Hadrian's Wall Path National Trail, which attracts thousands of walkers every year.

Hadrian's Wall Heritage Ltd is therefore asking visitors to follow five simple tips to protect the footpaths and the archaeology at this important World Heritage Site from erosion.

1. When walking on parts of the Trail which have a grass surface, if possible walk side by side rather than single file.

2. Please avoid walking on the lumps, bumps and grassy ridges because they could be archaeology.
3. Please avoid walking in worn lines in the grass.
4. Never climb up or walk on top of Hadrian's Wall.
5. Start and finish your walk along the Wall at different places, or follow a circular route. This way there will be half as much wear on the path next to the Wall.

David McGlade, Trail Manager for Hadrian's Wall Heritage Ltd, says: "The significant rainfall we have had means the footpaths are a lot wetter this summer than usual. We would really appreciate it if visitors could bear in mind the tips we have provided to help us maintain such an important historic site."

Hadrian's Wall Heritage Ltd was set up in 2006 to help look after, protect and conserve the World Heritage Site, as well as to enhance the quality of the visitor experience and increase the Wall's contribution to the local and regional economy through sustainable tourism.

For more information on the Hadrian's Wall Path including advice on how to avoid damage to the archaeology please visit www.nationaltrail.co.uk/hadrianswall

For more information on Hadrian's Wall in general please visit www.hadrians-wall.org or call 01434 322002.

ENDS

MEDIA CONTACTS: Paul Gardner or Louisa Malkin on 015394-42436.
louisa@ospreycommunications.co.uk

Notes to Editors

Photo Caption: Standing water on the National Trail at Hotbank (milecastle 38) in Northumberland National Park. The path is put under severe strain in these conditions but walkers can help by following the conservation tips.

1. Hadrian's Wall Heritage Ltd is a not for profit company with responsibility for the coordination, protection, development and marketing of the Hadrian's Wall World Heritage Site and the areas it passes through.
2. The organisation was set up in May 2006 in partnership with One NorthEast (One), the Northwest Regional Development Agency (NWDA), Natural England and English Heritage.
3. Hadrian's Wall Heritage works in partnership with a number of organisations. It brings together business and conservation, visitors and local communities in a uniquely focused way, with the overall aim of:
 - Creating jobs and enhancing the local economy
 - Attracting more visitors who will stay longer and spend more in the area
 - Creating a vibrant and sustainable visitor economy
 - Finding better ways to interpret and protect an internationally recognised monument
 - Making Hadrian's Wall a truly world-class destination