

A longer tour and some other places to see with a Mary Queen of Scots connection:



Take a short drive (15 mins) to the market town of Peebles and just outside the town, above the Tweed, stands picturesque **Neidpath Castle**, seat of the Hays of Yester, visited by Mary in 1563, (see by appointment).

A visit to **Kelso** and **Floors Castle**, which has another Mary connection. From Traquair Kelso is a 45 minute drive. Taking the A7 to Galashiels and then onto St Boswells where you can stop for coffee or lunch in the awarding winning bookshop **Mainstreet Trading** which has a great café and excellent books on Scottish history. Continue onto Kelso and Floors Castle.

Here lies another Mary connection; before setting out for Jedburgh Mary had sought

advice from one of the local 'heidsmen', a ruffian called Walter Ker of Cessford, who was summoned to Edinburgh to 'consult upon sic things as shall be thair ado'. The original of the letter is held in the castle just outside Kelso, seat of Walter Ker's descendants, now Dukes of Roxburgh. The splendid castle and extensive gardens are open to the public: entry by admission (allow 1.5 hours).

