

Thanks to

The Clyde Walkway is a partnership venture based on co-operation and agreement. North Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire and Glasgow City Councils would like to acknowledge the help and support of the many agencies and organisations involved in its development, management and promotion, including: Scottish Enterprise, Scottish Natural Heritage, The Big Lottery, Sustrans, The Forestry Commission, The Paths for All Partnership, Strathclyde European Partnership, Scottish Power, Scottish Wildlife Trust, VisitScotland, The Glasgow & Clyde Valley Green Network Partnership. We would also like to thank, in particular, the many individual landowners along the route who have given their support and co-operation to the project.



Scottish Enterprise
Lanarkshire



LOTTERY FUNDED



The Clyde Walkway

Cambuslang
Bridge
to
Strathclyde
Country Park

a castle and woodland walk

The Clyde Walkway

Cambuslang Bridge to Strathclyde Country Park

In short...

This 8 mile part of the route starts at Cambuslang Bridge on the boundary between Glasgow City and South Lanarkshire and continues by way of Uddingston, Bothwell and Blantyre through to Strathclyde Country Park.

This section passes through a mixture of rural and urban areas marking the transition from town to country.


Route description and features of interest

From **Cambuslang or 'Orion' Bridge** ¹⁶, which can be reached from Cambuslang railway station via Bridge Street (A743), the Walkway follows the southern bank of the river along the Glasgow to Edinburgh National Cycle Route NCR No. 75.

At **Carmyle Viaduct** ¹⁷, which was built in 1897 and ceased operation in the late 1960's during the period of rail closures known as the 'Beeching cuts', the two routes separate with the cycle route running along the former railway line to the villages of Westburn and Newton. Newton railway station lies approximately 1 mile from Carmyle Viaduct and is accessible from the cycle route.

The Walkway follows the riverbank from the viaduct as a right of way, although the path at this point is not currently a constructed route, The Walkway continues upstream to the confluence of the Rotten Calder Water and River Clyde and then runs along the banks of the Rotten Calder, crossing the watercourse by way of 'The Miners Bridge' a metal footbridge once used by pit men working at the local coal mines. The route passes under the West Coast Main Line railway before emerging onto **Blantyre Farm Road** 18.

It is hoped that the section of path from Carmyle Viaduct to the Rotten Calder will be upgraded in the near future as part of the expansion plans for Newton village 'community growth area'.

 Please take care when crossing the busy Blantyre Farm Road (B758) before continuing along the Walkway to where it rejoins National Cycle Route No. 74 near Townfoot Farm.

The route continues back to the banks of the Clyde crossing the river by way of the aptly named '**Green Bridge**' 19 which lies adjacent to Uddingston Viaduct. Built in 1848 by the Caledonian Railway Company the viaduct is the first arched cast iron structure built in Scotland.

At this point the national cycle route and Clyde Walkway again separate with the cycle route continuing into Uddingston via the railway station, passing by the newly rebuilt Uddingston Grammar School.

The Walkway continues upstream along the banks of the Clyde to the 13th century **Bothwell Castle** 20 which although in a partially ruinous state, with its massively built towers and fortifications, remains one of the best examples of Scottish medieval architecture.



Bothwell Castle

The red sandstone from which the castle is built was quarried nearby and if you look carefully at the exposed rock face which lies adjacent to the path as it passes below the castle ramparts you may notice the carved inscription which indicates the level the river reached during the flood of 1782.

Along this section of the route there is a network of paths through the woodlands which link the Clyde Walkway to Bothwell.


A little over a mile beyond Bothwell Castle is the **David Livingston Memorial Bridge** [21](#), rebuilt in 2000, which gives access across the river to the to the **David Livingston Visitor Centre** [22](#), birthplace of the explorer and missionary.


The centre which is owned by the National Trust for Scotland is open throughout the year and offers a unique insight into the life and work of one of Scotland's great personalities and his contribution to the campaign to abolish the African slave trade.

From the visitor centre Blantyre railway station is a short walk along Station Road.

From the bridge the Walkway continues along the southern bank of the river passed Blantyre weir and fish ladder which allows migrating Salmon and Sea Trout to reach their spawning grounds upstream.

The route leaves the banks of the river and passes through an area of woodland behind houses before crossing an open grassy clearing, continue straight on until eventually reaching **Bothwell Viaduct** [23](#).

All that now remains of the viaduct, a further causality of the 1960's railway closures, are the massive stone piers that straddle the Clyde near Craighead. At this point the route again becomes very informal.  Negotiate the steep embankment and cross into the field at the foot of the slope, head uphill to join the estate road to the now demolished Craighead House.

Turn right and follow the track to where it joins the A725 East Kilbride Expressway and then left along the footway to **Bothwell Lido** . **Please Note:** Although development of the Craighead site will include the creation of a purpose built Clyde Walkway from Craighead Viaduct to Bothwell Lido at the time of going to press (March 09) due to current economic circumstances it is uncertain as to when this will be completed. In the meantime the site may be difficult to cross.

Alternative Route

For those wishing to avoid the Craighead section, the maps shows an alternative route between the David Livingston Centre and Bothwell Lido.

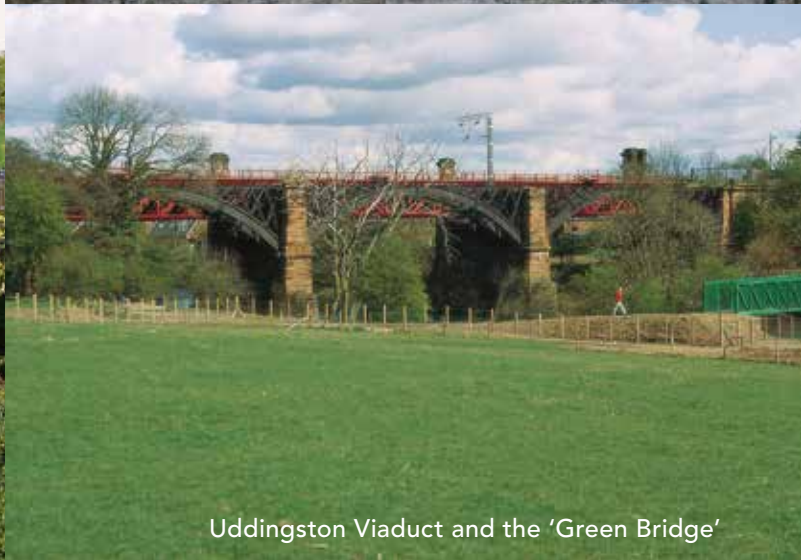
At the grassy clearing turn right and pass underneath the railway line on to John Street. After passing Stonefield Park and sports centre turn left onto Glasgow Road (cross the road at the traffic lights near the junction). Continue along Glasgow Road passing under the A725 East Kilbride Expressway. At the roundabout take the second exit onto Whistleberry Road and continue along the road (over the railway line) taking the first left which again passes under the East Kilbride Expressway and emerges near the entrance to the Craighead site. Rejoin the Clyde Walkway route on the footpath to Bothwell Lido.




David Livingstone Centre




David Livingstone Memorial Bridge




Uddingston Viaduct and the 'Green Bridge'

From Bothwell Lido the route then again crosses the river at **Bothwell Bridge** ²⁴,  take care when crossing the busy **Bothwell Road** (B7071) past the monument commemorating the battle of Bothwell Bridge in 1697. The route rejoins the riverbank by way of a flight of steps at the monument and passes under the A725 before skirting around the edge of the Raith Haugh Nature Reserve, part of the Hamilton Low Parks Site of Special Scientific Interest. The reserve contains one of Scotland's largest heronries with over 50 breeding pairs of Herons.

 Take care when crossing the very busy Raith Interchange (M74 junction 5) using the footways and pedestrian crossing points under the motorway. Enter the north end of **Strathclyde Country Park** ²⁵ past the Express Inn Hotel and car park before continuing along the southern bank of Strathclyde Loch towards the country park watersport centre.

Responsibility

Follow the Scottish Outdoor Access Code by acting in a courteous and responsible manner and avoid damaging or disturbing the natural heritage of the area. Please respect the fact that much of the land through which the Clyde Walkway passes is privately owned and is a working landscape.

 Some sections of the Clyde Walkway pass close to or through areas of natural hazard such as cliffs, deep and fast flowing water, steeply sloping and uneven ground. Please keep to the path and ensure that children and dogs are kept under close control.
Stay safe and enjoy your visit.

If you need this information in a another language or format, please contact us to discuss how we can best meet your needs.
Phone: 0303 123 1015
Email: equalities@southlanarkshire.gov.uk



Clyde Walkway at Cambuslang Bridge



Cycleroute Waymarker



SCOTTISH
OUTDOOR ACCESS CODE

KNOW THE CODE BEFORE YOU GO

outdooraccess-scotland.com

Everyone has the right to be on most land and inland water providing they act responsibly. Your access rights and responsibilities are explained fully in the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.

When you are in the outdoors

- take personal responsibility for you own actions and act safely;
- respect peoples privacy and peace of mind;
- help land managers to work safely and effectively;
- care for the environment and take you're litter home;
- keep you dog under proper control;
- take extra care if you are organizing an event or running a business

For more information visit

www.outdooraccess-scotland.com

where you can download the Scottish Outdoor Access Code ebook for your phone, Kindle, tablet or computer.

'The Carmyle Heron' by Andy Scott



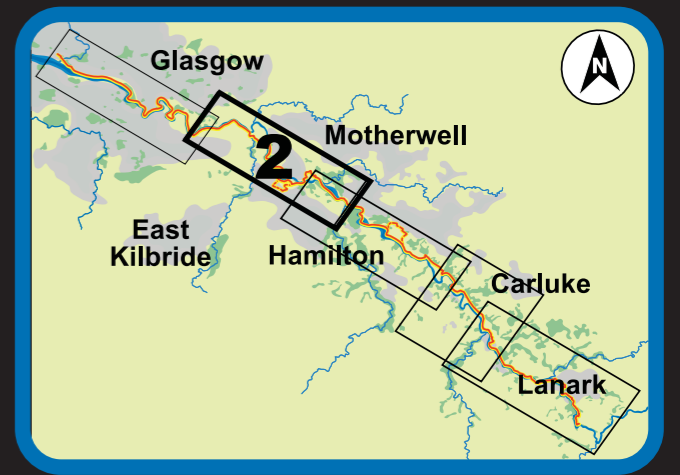
Bothwell Woods



Strathclyde Loch

The Clyde Walkway

Cambuslang Bridge to Strathclyde Country Park



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Key to symbols

Clyde Walkway	Alternative Route for Clyde Walkway	Cycleable Sections of Route	Motorway	Areas to be alert	Rowing Access
Link Route	Non-vehicular Link Route	Bridleways	A Road	Features of Interest	Pontoons
Cycleways	Access for All	Health Walk Schemes	B Road	Country/District Parks and Nature Reserves	Clyde Valley Woodland National Nature Reserve
			C Road/Minor Road	Car Park	Railway Stations

the basics



Maps:

Ordnance Survey Explorer Series No342: Glasgow No343: Motherwell and Coatbridge
Ordnance Survey Landranger Series No64: Glasgow, Motherwell and Airdrie



Length:

13 km / 8 miles

Start:

Cambuslang Bridge, Cambuslang

Finish:

Strathclyde Country Park, Motherwell

Where to get on:

Railway Stations:

Cambuslang, Newton, Uddingston and Blantyre

Car:

Bothwell Castle, David Livingstone Centre, Strathclyde Country Park

Users:

The following user information is indicative of the facilities available either on or close to the route of the Clyde Walkway. Please phone the relevant Access Officer for more detailed local information



Foot:

Cambuslang Bridge - Strathclyde Country Park



Bicycle:

Cambuslang Bridge - Uddingston, via Newton and Blantyreferme Road Strathclyde Country Park circular route



Wheelchair:

Cambuslang Bridge - Westburn Strathclyde Country Park circular route

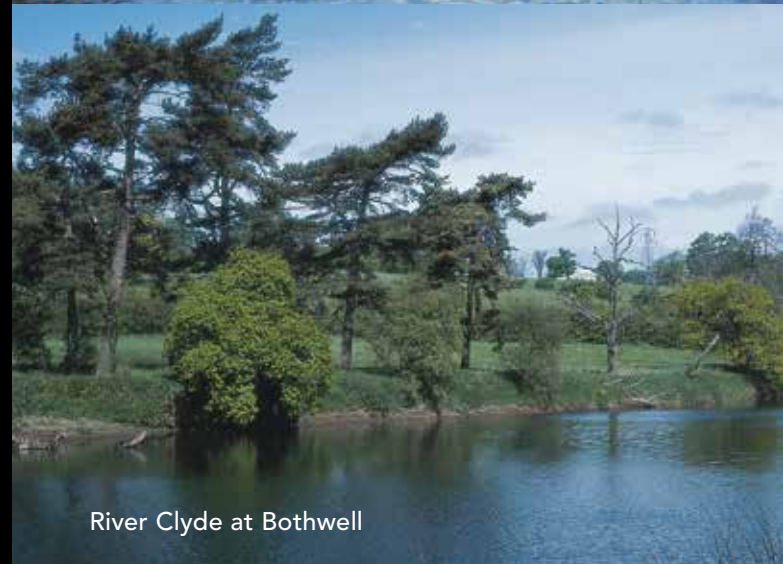


Horse:

Blantyreferme - Uddingston



Bothwell Bridge and the Battle of Bothwell Bridge (1679) monument



River Clyde at Bothwell



useful contacts

**Bothwell Castle,
Historic Scotland**
www.historic-scotland.gov.uk
Phone: 01698 816 894

**David Livingstone
Visitor Centre**
www.nts.org.uk
Phone: 0844 493 2207

First Glasgow travel
www.firstgroup.com
Phone: 0141 420 7600

**Mid Clyde
Angling Association**
Phone: 01698 892391
Email: midclydeblog@outlook.com

**North Lanarkshire Council
(Access staff)**
www.northlan.gov.uk
Phone: 01236 780636

Paths to Health
www.pathstohealth.org.uk
Phone: 01259 218855

Scotrail
www.scotrail.co.uk
Phone: 0344 811 0141

**South Lanarkshire
Ranger Services**
Phone: 01698 426 213 or
01355 236644

**South Lanarkshire Council
(Access staff)**
www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk
Phone: 0303 123 1020

**Strathclyde Country Park and
Ranger Service**
Phone: 01698 402060 or
01698 402090

Sustrans (NCR Nos 7, 74, 75)
www.sustrans.org.uk

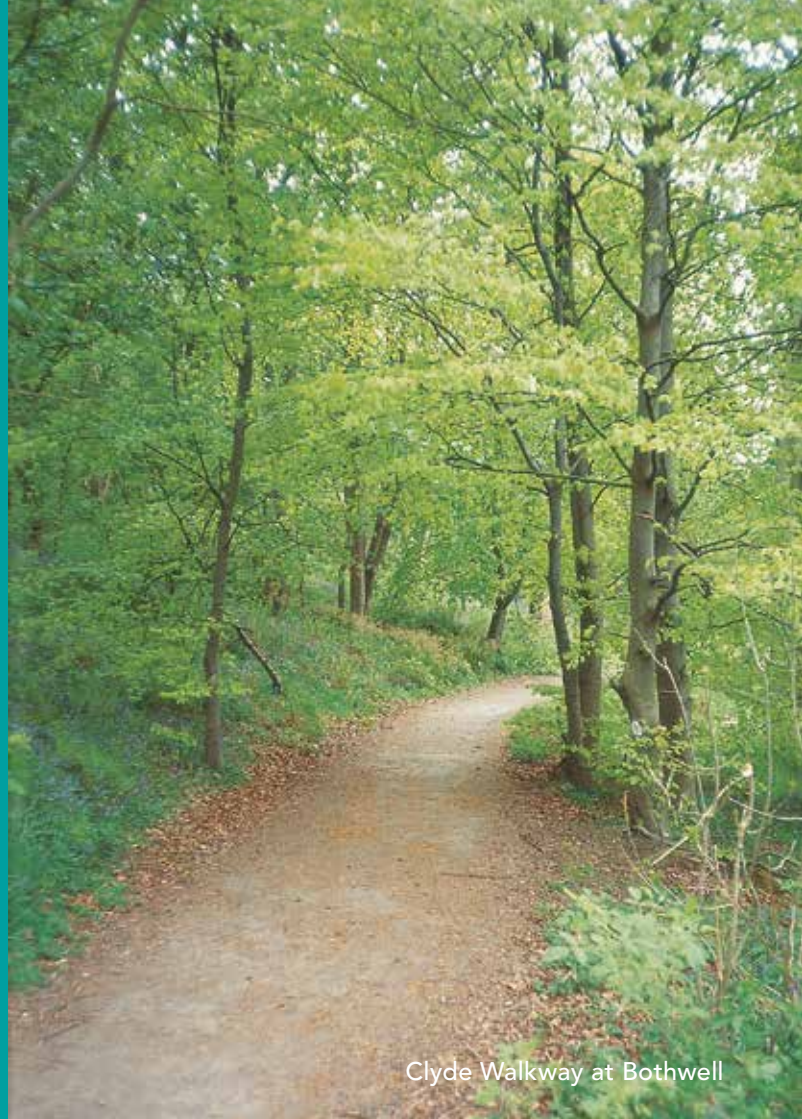
Travel Line Scotland
www.travelinescotland.com
Phone: 0871 200 22 33

**United Clyde
Angling Association**
www.ucapaltd.com
Phone: 01698 382479

Visit Lanarkshire
www.visitlanarkshire.com

**Visit Scotland, Lanark
Tourism Information Centre**
www.visitscotland.com
Phone: 01555 668249

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Clyde Walkway at Bothwell