

9 Roslin Glen

Distance/Time	7.9km/3hrs approx.
Level of difficulty	Moderate to difficult
Type of path	Beaten earth, farm tracks and public road
Waymarking	None
Setting	Wooded river valley, farmland and village
Start and finish	Car Park at Roslin Country Park
Parking	Car park
Toilets	None
Public transport	Regular buses to Roslin from Edinburgh
Recommended usage	Pedestrian
Refreshments	Chapel and Roslin village



This walk forms a fascinating journey along the river North Esk from Roslin Country Park to Polton village and back to Roslin village. Roslin Glen is particularly scenic and steeped in history.

Leave the Roslin Country Park car park and spend a few minutes walking around the walls of Rosslyn Castle, which dates from 1304. Proceed north along the river valley where it is worth taking a small detour to visit the world famous Rosslyn Chapel. Built in the 15th century, it is famous for its incredibly ornate and beautiful stonework.

After visiting the Chapel, return to the main path and the majestic woodlands supporting a rich habitat for wildlife. Dippers can

be seen along the river banks and wood peckers in the trees. At dusk Daubenton's bats skim the water surface. Look carefully on the opposite bank of the river to spot Wallace's Cave. Walk further to Hawthornden Castle which is privately owned and now a retreat for writers (not open to the public). The path descends and rises to cross over a sand embankment which is famous for its sand martins. Then walk down into Polton village.

Turn left up the hill and go through the first gap in the wall into Bilston wood, to the viaduct and across open fields. Turn right at Montmarle monument commemorating the battle of Roslin in 1302 - one of the biggest battles between Scots and English. Turn left in to Kill Burn woods and you will pass a walled garden. Continue to the main road, turning left to Roslin and back to the car park.

