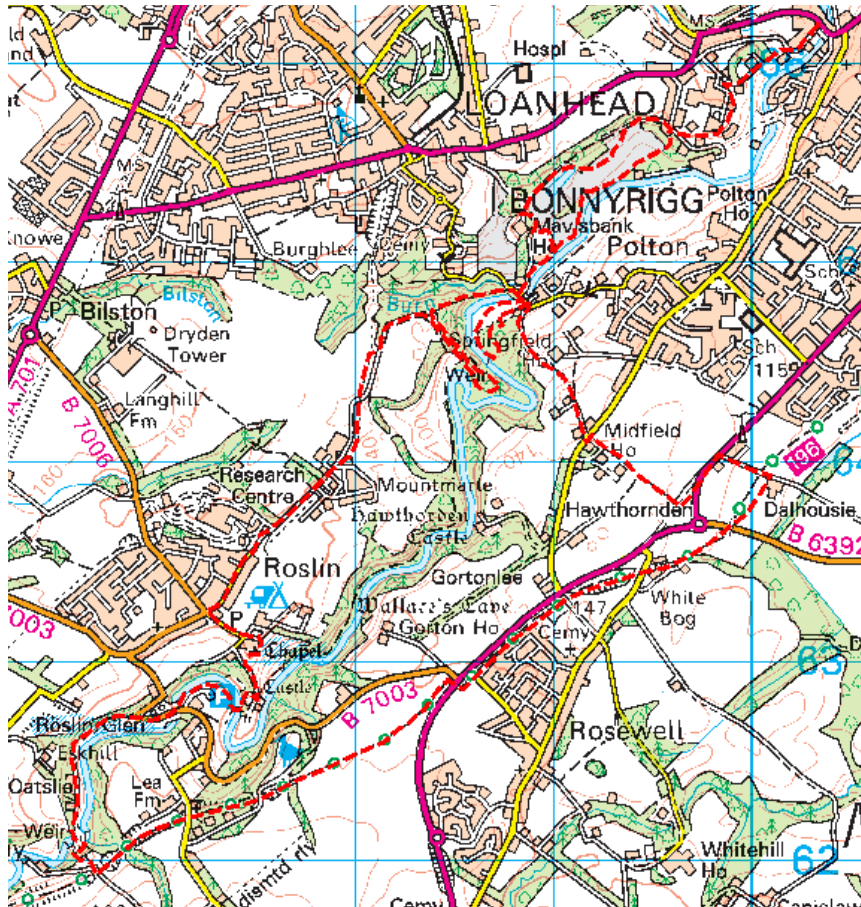


Out and about in *Midlothian*



Introduction

A lovely walk through the Esk Valley visiting historic designed landscapes, castles and wildlife watching sites.

Route Details

Start on School Green and head uphill on road to old school, now flats, on right. Turn left at path signed Polton 1 1/4 m. Follow until road and bear left on footpath, next to wall at Esk Tower.

Go through barriers and keep to main path. At next road turn right, past white box house (no16), ignoring the

signed route to Springfield Mill. Turn left once past house, go through gate and follow path downhill. Keep to one of the various small tracks on the middle high ground. It can be boggy in places. Aim to head to the right of the walled garden in the distance and keep to the right of the ponds up ahead.

Mavisbank House is dead ahead of the main ponds, reached by going through gate and up vehicle track. Upon leaving the house, turn right, downhill on vehicle track to walled garden. Turn left at sign to riverside

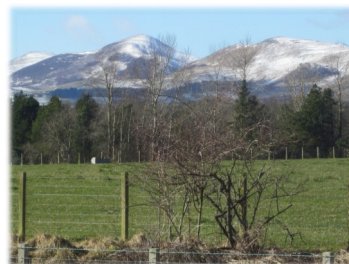


Roslin Chapel

path. Turn right upstream at information board and at road turn left to car park for Springfield Mill. Visit this site, using info board map for circular route.

On exiting turn left and re-cross river, heading uphill to sign on left. Follow up path, taking easier route to left of steps. Follow the crest of the steep ground, taking care of drop on either side. Continue ahead, following signs to Roslin. At the next 3 fingered sign, take a detour & explore Hewan Wood. See the information board for round trip to Maidens Castle. Now return to main path following signs to Roslin.

DO NOT attempt the river path, as this is blocked by fallen trees and steep, high, muddy bank sides. Follow the vehicle track to 3 large trees on right and veer right onto cycle path, also where track begins to descend. Head left, cross bridge and continue to Roslin Chapel, passing the site of the Battle of Roslin, following signs to and from village. Pass to the left and circumnavigate the chapel, going through a small kissing gate to a viewpoint. Veer left on grassy path, downhill to



Pentland Hills

Key Points of Interest

- Mavisbank Policies and House
- Hewan Wood and Maidens Castle
- Springfield Mill Wildlife Site
- Roslin Glen, Chapel and Castle

track and turn left to Roslin Castle. After a short detour to view, taking care over the high sided bridge, go down steps to river and cross bridge. Head right along river paths to road bridge and head right, uphill to bend.



Mavisbank House

Cross and go straight ahead on track to weir and ahead, up steps to meet the disused railway path. Turn left to Rosewell. At small car park head right, cross road and then keep on railway, crossing road bridge to Dalhousie Chesters.

Turn left on farm road and left onto Rosewell Road. Follow pavement for 150m before crossing & heading to old road. After 100m turn right, keeping to right of hedge line. At woodland corner, go through gap in hedge and head diagonally for tarmac drive.

At the roadside, cross, turn right then left, before bus stop, on track, then path downhill to Springfield Mill. From here you head back along the river path on the right, after the bridge.

Follow this back to the road and re-trace your steps on the high path, back to Lasswade Village.

Walk

North Esk Valley Circular

Distance: 12.5miles / 18.5km

Ascent: ft / m n/a

Time: 6 1/2hours

Terrain—Rough tracks • Off path • Low level • Muddy • Quiet roads •

OS Map: No 66 Edinburgh

Start point: Lasswade Village, School Green

Gr: NT 303 661

For Sat Nav users:

Lat: N 55.88331
Long: W 3.19494

Public transport: Yes

Car Parking: Yes

Refreshments: Yes

Routes: Midlothian Ranger Service

Photos: Midlothian Ranger Service