

# Out and about in *Midlothian*



## Introduction

A walk taking in three of Midlothian's great Estates that follow the River Tyne

## Route Details

Head to Vogrie House, by following the signs or checking the map at the information board in the car park. Vogrie House was completed in 1876 and has a Latin inscription above the front door, which translates as 'What I would not do for my country'. Whilst facing the front door, head right and around the conservatory to take a path signed Tyne Valley, ahead. At the next junction turn right & follow signs to Alderdean, crossing a bridge and descending to the River Tyne. Do not cross the bridge in the village of Ford.

You are leaving Vogrie Estate at the stile crossing, where the path is to the left of a fence and continues through a gate and woodlands to the village. Turn right at the



Oxenford Castle by R. Adam

road and then having crossed the bridge, turn immediately left on a grassy track, with a fence on the right. Follow the river, passing under Lothian Bridge, heading upslope to cross the marshy section of watercress, before descending back to the Tyne. The river path gently rises to meet the road, where you head for the Lions Gates of Preston Hall Estate.



Lothian Bridge, Pathhead by Telford

Follow the driveway and take the first left fork, then bear left to the holly hedge and walled garden. Pass through the two metal gates to take a look. It is wonderful inside. Retrace your steps and head back along the driveway, taking in glimpses of the house up to your left. At the gates, follow the wall on your right and before crossing the road bridge, take the track immediately to the right, heading downhill to a gate. Cross and walk along the open valley floor, until the bridge to the right of the castle is in view. Head to its right and cross a small metal stile. Continue up the driveway straight ahead, keeping Oxenford Castle on the left,

following way out signs. To your left is a wonderful red wood lined avenue. Straight ahead is the beautiful graveyard and Cranston Kirk, which is a lovely spot to sit and have a cuppa.

## Key Points of Interest

**Vogrie House**, occupied by the Dewar family until 1923 when it became a hospital

**Preston Hall**, completed in 1800, is owned by the Callandar Family

**Oxenford Castle**, completed in 1782 is owned by the Dalrymple Family

Head back to the driveway, turn right and follow way out signs to main road, which you cross to take the B6372 ahead. Once past the livery & stables, take the first track to the right, uphill to a hedge dividing two fields. Follow the left track, keeping the hedge on your right, around to a woodland with a mast to your left.



Lions Gate at Preston Hall Entrance

Head on the track to the right of the woodland to Edgehead and Sunnybrook Cottage. Turn left and head downhill until the last house and a road on your right. This is before the farm with a red roof. Head along the road until a sign on the left to Dewarton. Once in the village, cross the road and turn right, then left into Vogrie Country Park. The path to the right returns you to the car park and ahead will take you back to Vogrie House.

## Walk

Vogrie, Preston Hall, Oxenford & Cranston Kirk

Distance: 8 miles / 13km

Ascent: ft / m

Time: 3 1/2 hours

Terrain—Rough tracks • Off path • Quiet roads • Main road

OS Map: No 66 Edinburgh

Start point: Vogrie Country Park

Gr: NT 375 631

For Sat Nav users:

Lat: 49°49'42.26"N  
Long: 007°31'02.19"W

Public transport: No

Car Parking: Yes

Refreshments: Seasonal

Routes: Midlothian Ranger Service

Photos: Midlothian Ranger Service