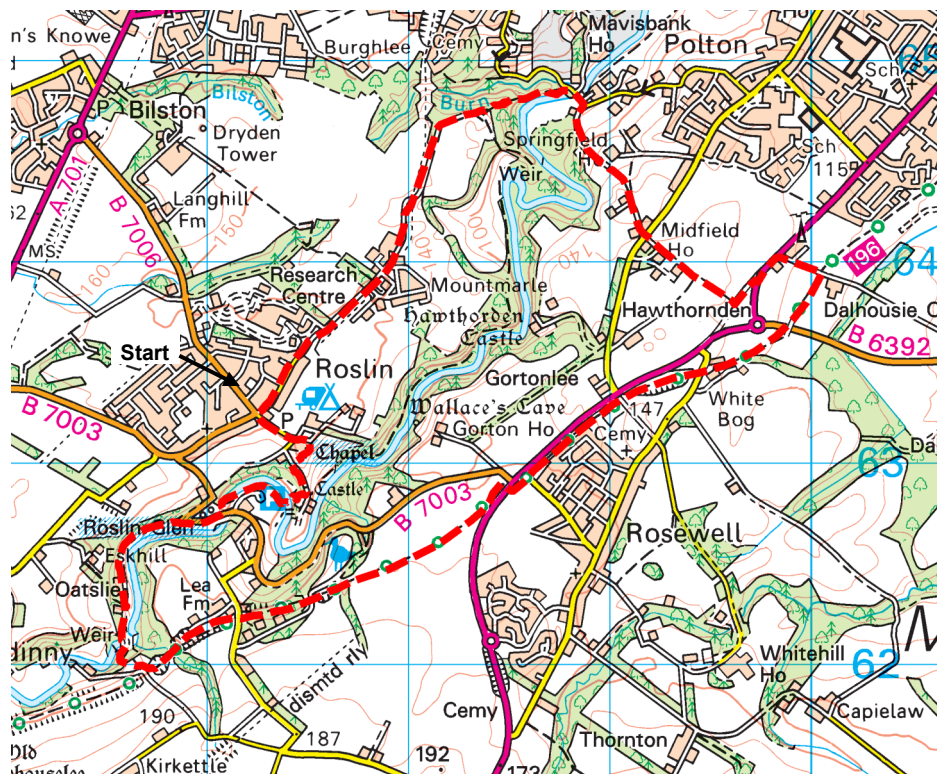


# Out and about in *Midlothian*



## Introduction

**This moderately energetic walk starts with big views across Midlothian's farmland before descending to the river North Esk and Springfield Mill nature reserve. Then up an old track to another old railway line before rejoining the North Esk in Roslin Glen and its old gunpowder mills. Finish beside Roslin Chapel.**

## Route Details

Walk along Manse Road, crossing an old railway bridge, to Battle of Roslin monument (1303). Just beyond at a cottage, continue on farm track to left side of the cycleway and metal hoop. This track becomes a path past fields then down through trees.

At a Y-fork take the insignificant path (right) signed Polton ¼ mile. This path

briefly becomes narrow with steep drops on both sides then down to reach a narrow road.

Turn right along road CARE!, crossing North Esk by a bridge, enter site of Springfield Mill- a former paper mill- which is now managed by Midlothian Council. Look around this small nature reserve.

Leave the site, turn right, and right again onto a rough track signed Poltonhall.



Roslin Chapel



Scots Pine  
Poltonhall

## Key Points of Interest

Springfield Mill nature reserve

Roslin Glen had a gunpowder factory from Napoleonic Wars until 1950s.

Roslin Castle (private)  
and Roslin Chapel  
(visitor centre)



This becomes a narrow path, between high banks called "The Cast"; this climbs quite steeply for ½ mile to reach a road.

Cross the road onto a field margin grass path signed Poltonhall Sports Complex to reach a redundant bit of road. Turn left and on reaching the new road, cross to the pavement and continue past the first house then turn right signed Dalhousie Chesters.

At the cycleway, turn right signed Penicuik, an old railway line to Penicuik and Peebles. Follow this cycleway for 2½ miles, crossing a minor road then busy main road on the way. Continue ½ mile past a small disused station (Rosslyn Castle Station) to a display board for Roslin Glen. Ascend the steps to a viewpoint overlooking the Pentlands.

Descend by the path into Roslin Glen, crossing the Esk, and continue down the glen to the entrance gates. Cross the road with CARE, continue down the pavement to re-cross the river North Esk. Immediately after the road bridge turn left onto a riverside path then downstream to a bridge.

Cross the bridge and climb the steep path to join the entrance drive to Roslin Castle. (Note: the castle is in private ownership; the bridge leading to it has very low parapets, with a sheer 70 foot drop: CARE!)

Turn left up the road. After 150 metres (just before small iron gates on right), turn right up a grassy path to a viewpoint and Roslin Chapel. Circle round below it to the right. Return to Roslin along the road (Chapel Loan).

## Walk

Roslin Rosewell circular

Distance: 7 miles / 11.3 km

Ascent: 700 ft / 210 m

Time: 3¼ hours

Terrain –

• Some tarmac • Good earth paths • Steep descent / Ascent • Grassy field margins • ground •

Map: No 66 Edinburgh

Start point:

Corner of Main St and Manse Rd, Roslin

Gr: NT 273 633

For Sat Nav users:

Lat: N 55.85743  
Long: W 03.16154

Public transport: Yes

Car Parking: Yes

Refreshments: Yes

Route: John Pope (ed. Ian Brown)

Photos: Ian Brown