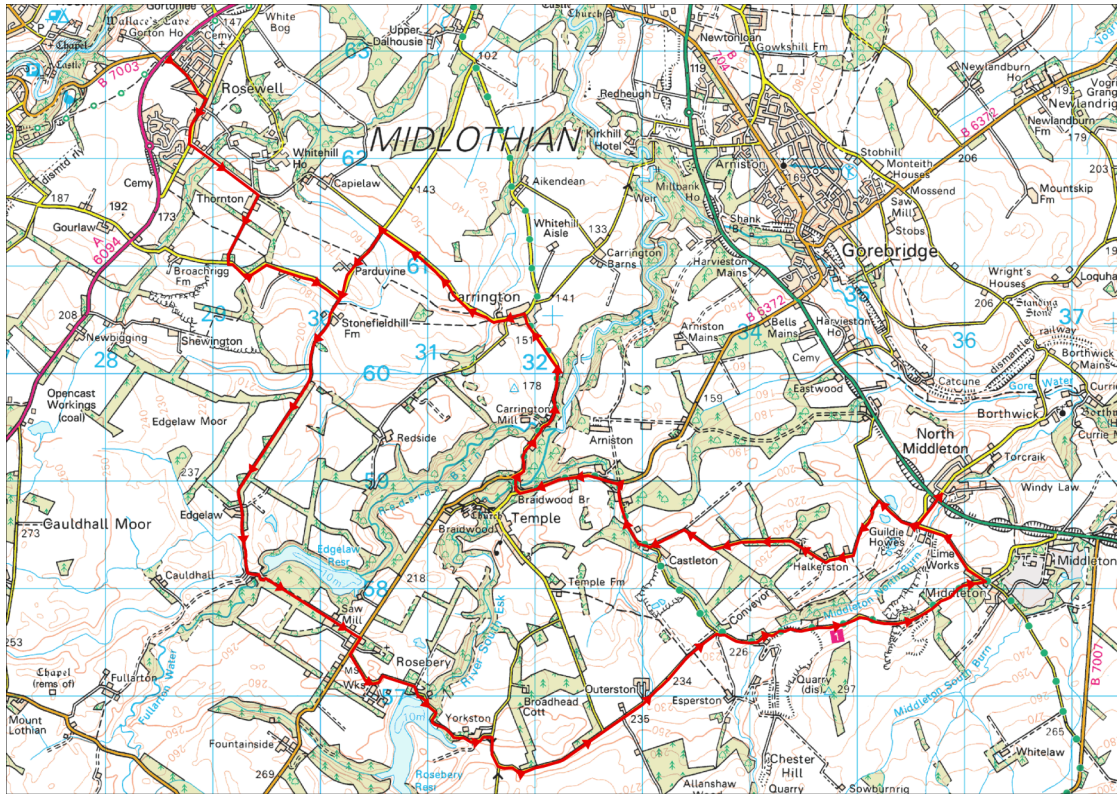


Out and about in *Midlothian*



Introduction

This is a cycle to save for a good day — it is quite hilly involving a steady climb to the edge of the Moorfoot Hills which is rewarded with fine views across the Lothians to the Pentland Hills. There are no convenient refreshment stops after the village of Rosewell at the start so you may wish to take a picnic.

Route details

Start at the car park and head into Rosewell Village. (The start point can be cycled from Edinburgh using National Cycle Route 1 and the Bonnyrigg to Penicuik Cycle Path—Route 196).

Once at the main village junction turn right. After 400m turn left on to a track to Thornton Farm then right at farm. At road junction turn left, then right at next junction for Stonefieldhill Farm.

After 2 miles, at bottom of a short descent, take a rough gated track on the left for Edgelaw Reservoir. (Short detour to view reservoir). The track (may be muddy) crosses a bridge and climbs steeply up, then continues level until it joins the B6372 at Roseberry. Turn right and almost immediately left to pass Roseberry Reservoir to Yorkston junction. Turn right down the hill, then *either* swing right-ish for an out-and-back detour to Gladhouse Reservoir (2 miles each way—lots of picnic

possibilities) or swing left and continue straight for almost 2 miles to Esperton junction.

Turn right (picnic spots on the left here) and after 1½ miles, at the cross-roads, turn left down the hill then, at the aggregates works, right for North Middleton. (Fork right onto the old road to reach the underpass for a safe crossing of the A7). Return to the aggregates works and turn right, then a sharp left up the hill to Halkerston. Poor road surface.

Key Points of Interest

Arniston House

A magnificent William Adam, Palladian style mansion house. Check opening times.

Gladhouse Reservoir

Former water supply reservoir which is now a site of Special Scientific Interest.

Temple Kirk

Likely to have been built by the Knights of St John soon after they succeeded the Templars in 1312.



Entrance Drive to Arniston House and grounds



Temple Kirk by the village of Temple

Possible picnic spots with a view on the scent to Castleton. At Castleton turn right and follow Sustrans Route 1 signs to Carrington (ie down to Arniston House gates, turn left for Braidwood Bridge. Left and left again to reach Carrington after a mile). In the village, leaving the Sustrans route, turn left and continue 1 mile to a cross-roads. Turn left, passing Parduvine then right at the next junction to rejoin your outward route by Thornton Farm.

Cycle

Moorfoot Edge

Distance: 20 miles / 32km

Ascent: 820ft / 250m

Time: 2hrs 30 mins (not including stops) based on 8mph

Terrain – Rough tracks • Tarmac • Minor Roads

OS Map: No 66 Edinburgh

Start point: Car Park at Rosewell on north side of Penicuik to Dalkeith Walkway

Grid Reference: NT 28577 62926

For Sat Nav users:

Lat: 55.854221
Long: -3.1424657

Public transport: N/A

Car Parking: Yes (at Rosewell)

Refreshments: No but at village of Rosewell there is a shop.

Routes: JC

Photos: JK