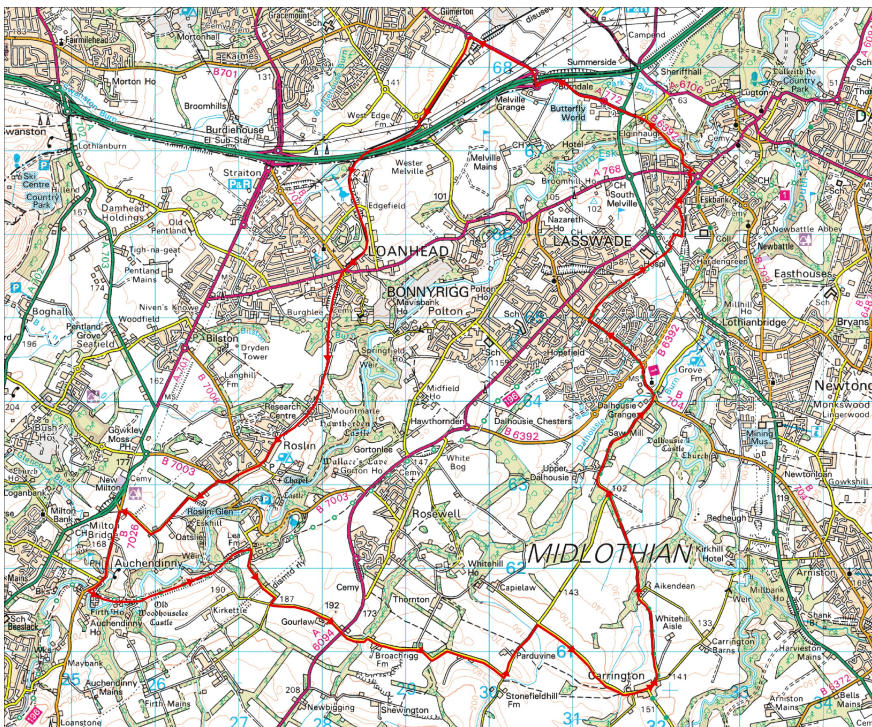


Out and about in *Midlothian*



Introduction

An introductory cycle to Midlothian taking in undulating countryside mainly along cycle paths and minor roads (see next page for larger map).

Route Details

If coming from Edinburgh start at the cycle ramp at the roundabout on the Lasswade Road just south of Gilmerton. (You can of course start at any point along the route if coming from elsewhere). Take the cycle path to Loanhead via Straiton Pond which is worth a look around.

Continue to the spectacular Bilston Viaduct and then after half a mile or so onto Manse Road in Roslin. Head straight through Roslin village until you reach a left turn signposted to Roslin Glen Country Park. Go past this turn and after 100m or so take the next road on your left. Follow the road past

the former sand quarry on your right for around 1 mile until you reach a junction at the main road to Auchendinny.



Bilston Viaduct

Turn left towards Auchendinny and after ¾ a mile or so you will reach a

Key Points of Interest

Bilston Viaduct

Dating from the late 19th century, this railway viaduct lies on the former Edinburgh, Loanhead and Roslin Railway which was opened in 1874.

Straiton Pond Nature Reserve

A former clay pit by Loanhead this small wildlife haven supports a variety of watery and woodland plant and animals

Whitehill Aisle

Built on the site of the former Carrington Parish Church dating from 1243, this burial ground consists of a mausoleum and 18th century gravestones.

set of traffic lights. Turn left downhill into the former Dalmore Mill

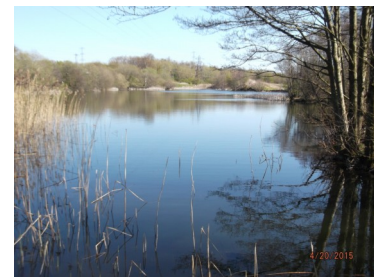
At the bottom of the hill turn left along the cycle path towards Roslin. Continue for around 1 mile until you reach the former Roslin Station just after going under a bridge. Dismount and go onto the old platform on your left.

Wheel the bike up a narrow path on to the road you just passed under. Turn left up the road and continue for around ½ mile until the first T-junction. Turn left here until you meet a crossroads. Go straight across at this junction and follow the road to Carrington. After 1½ miles turn left at a sharp bend and after a further ½ mile turn right and Carrington is a further 1½ miles away.

On arriving at Carrington go straight through the village and follow the road signs to Cockpen and Bonnyrigg. You may wish to visit Whitehill Aisle just outside Carrington.

Follow the road from Carrington for around three miles until you reach a crossroads near to Cockpen Church. Turn left and head towards Bonnyrigg. Pass through the roundabout at Cock-

pen Cemetery still heading into Bonnyrigg and after around ½ mile you will see signs for the cycle path leading to Dalkeith. Using the insert map on the next page navigate through Dalkeith until you are back on the Gilmerton Road. Use the cycle lanes to head north towards Edinburgh.



Straiton Pond

Go straight through the two roundabouts using a combination of cycle lanes and roadside cycle paths. Take care when crossing the roundabouts as these are busy junctions.

Cross over the City bypass and after around ½ mile turn left onto Gilmerton Station Road which will lead you back to the start point.

Cycle

Gilmerton-Carrington Circular

Distance: 18 miles / 29 km

Ascent: 620ft / 189m

Time: 2.5 hours

Terrain – Off road • Low level • Tarmac • Muddy • Minor roads • Main road

OS Map: No 66 Edinburgh

Start point: T-section at Gilmerton Station Road.

Gr: NT 29570 67962

For Sat Nav users:

Lat: 55.899607
Long: -3.1279133

Public transport: Yes

Car Parking: No, unless you wish to start the route at Loanhead station.

Refreshments: Yes
(Loanhead, Roslin, Bonnyrigg, Eskbank)

Routes: MC

Photos: JK

