

Out and about in *Midlothian*



Route details– Red line on map marks route.

Start from Vogrie House and follow a path (signposted Alderdean/Tyne Valley) 200m to crossroads. Follow sign (Middle Walk) downhill with steps (100m) to junction with Middle Walk. Turn right and continue down steps 100m and over slab causeway to junction with River Tyne. Do not cross the bridge, but turn right upstream (signposted Crichton 1.3m) to a bridge (100m). Cross bridge and head up steps, turning right through woods to a grassy track. Proceed along path about 1.5km through limestone working to arrive at tarmac Colegate road. Turn right on for 100m and, just before the bridge, turn left onto path (circular sign with green arrow) through woods and up a steep bank to a stile (100m). Proceed along path on hillside lined by beeches passing two kissing gates and up steps – from here you can see Crichton Castle to the south - to Crichton Kirk. From Crichton Kirk head south along broad track to Crichton Castle (500m), then onto grassy track 150m past stables on the left, and descend steep track 100m to burn. Cross plank bridge and continue along track for 100m to another burn and cross bridge with ropes. From here onwards the walk frequently goes through fields used by farm animals, sheep, horses and cattle, even bulls. Here dogs should be kept on a short lead as per the Countryside Code. Then head upstream through alders for 100 m where a stob with Scotways waymarker (WM) points out a path across the meadow and up a steep slope. Cross a renewed stile and continue through bracken to the top of the slope, and then on the right

Introduction

A walk through a landscape dominated by historic castles and the dramatic evidence of erupting volcanoes over 300 million years ago, glaciers, and the mining of coal and lime.



side of a barbed wire fence into woodland. Continue through wood for 250 m through a kissing gate, then in the same direction through some gates (follow WMs) to Waverley railway line. Cross over bridge and follow the right-hand fence on the far side down to another kissing gate (50m). The faint path follows an old hedge on your left, heading upwards and over the high stile ahead. Then head up to the top of the steep slope and continue along the brow of the hill with views of Borthwick Castle and the Pentland hills. Continue in the same direction following the faint track as it gently descends along the ridge towards a couple of WMs and veer left to the corner of the wood ahead. At the corner of the field beside a straining post it is easy to get over the fence into the woods (WM). Descend the narrow path to WM (50 m), then turn right onto good path down through woods. At foot of hill double back to the left towards Gore Water and walk downstream through a kissing gate to a tarred road and bridge. Turn right down the road and keep the left at 2 junctions until you reach a flat bridge over Gore Water (200m). Here you can see and visit Borthwick Castle, or turn right along the Gore Way on the north bank of the Gore all the way through fields and gates to the outskirts of Gorebridge and proceed

For information on the geology of this walk go to

<http://www.edinburghgeolsoc.org/downloads/GeologyWalk-Crichton.pdf>

To EDIT [http:// www. midlothian.gov.uk/](http://www.midlothian.gov.uk/)

Key Points of Interest

Vogrie Country Park

Crichton and Borthwick Castles

The Gore Valley

Panorama of extinct volcanoes

to railway station (3.5 km). Then go north up Main Street to junction with Hunter Square (200m), then onto road and track past (500m) to junction with Barleyknowe Road. Turn left and then right onto track (Signposted Camp Wood ¼ mile). Proceed uphill along track to T-junction and double bend (1 km). Turn right along tarmac road for 50 m and then on to the track (Signposted Newlandrig 2.6 km), which continues uphill through scrubland and woods for 1km to corner of Camp Wood (below) with metal gate. Turn right downhill (Signposted Newlandrig) along wood for 500 m. Turn left at end and arrive at metal gate after 100m. Turn right and continue downhill 900 m along wood and fence for 900 m to road junction with brick buildings on right. Continue downhill on track (signposted Newlandrig ½ mile) to arrive in village on B6372. Turn left for a few metres up main road, then right and through gate onto track through wood parallel to B6372 to Vogrie Park (1 km). Follow signs to Vogrie House (500m).



Walk

Crichton circular walk from Vogrie via Crichton, Borthwick and Gorebridge

Distance: 8miles / 15km

Ascent: 1043ft/ 318 m

Time: 4 hours

Terrain : Mainly rough tracks and paths,

OS Map: No 66 Edinburgh

Start point: Vogrie Country Park.

Grid ref: NT 375 631

Alternative Start Point .
Gorebridge Station
Grid ref: NT345612

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