



# paths

around Duns



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*Duns from Duns Law*

## **Introduction**

*This booklet describes 10 routes in the Duns area, most of which have links into the town centre. The routes are especially suitable for walkers. Other users may not be able to use all parts of the routes where there are steps or stiles. Two of the routes are in the settlement of Abbey St Bathans and there is also a link through to Gavinton and Fogo along pleasant minor roads. There are a variety of routes ranging from a short educational stroll in the wooded public park, to walks around ponds and estate woodlands, to long hikes over the moors and hills. Each route has a summary containing distance, time taken and terrain. This information will allow you to choose the most suitable route at a quick glance. Further information is available from Tourist Information Centres around the Borders. Duns lies on the edge of the Merse with the Lammermuirs rising in the north and the Cheviot Hills to the south. Therefore, many of the walks are low level. The surrounding countryside does have a pleasant feel and even from the relatively low hill of Duns Law, the views reach for many miles. We hope that you enjoy these routes and do not encounter any difficulties en route. However, if you do come across a problem whilst on these routes, please report it to the Scottish Borders Council Access Officer on 01835 825060.*

## **Duns**

The name Duns possibly derives from the Gaelic Dun, fort or hilltop. Alternatively it may come from the Anglo-Saxon for a low hill with a flat summit. Being only 17km from the border between Scotland and England, many armies have passed through Duns. One notable incident occurred in the mid 1600s when covenanting armies encamped on Duns Law. Evidence of their stay can be seen today. As Duns is not built by a river, the industry that came to many border towns powered by water did not come to Duns. Consequently, there are no large mill buildings. Agriculture remains the main industry of Duns parish creating a maze of hedgerows and dry stane dykes when viewed from Duns Law.

## **Abbey St Bathans**

Abbey St Bathans lies in the foothills of the Lammermuirs at a height of 500 to 900ft (155 to 275m) above sea level. The settlement has the sensation of being a secluded valley accentuated by the narrow roads which lead there. The Whiteadder Water runs through Abbey St Bathans and is crossed by the Southern Upland Way long distance route that terminates in the east at Cockburnspath, 16km north of Abbey St Bathans. There is evidence of early Christian settlers from the 6th century. Associations with the early Christian Saint Bathan or Bothan led Cistercian nuns to settle here in the 12th century.

## **General Advice**

Before setting off, particularly on longer walks, always check the weather forecast and prepare yourself accordingly, but remember that weather conditions can change rapidly. Remember that hot weather, causing sunburn and/ or dehydration, can be just as debilitating as rain or snow. Always carry adequate cover for your body in all conditions. On longer hill walks you should always wear

or carry good waterproofs, proper walking boots, windproof clothing, and take food and drink with you. These provisions may not be necessary on the shorter, low level walks, but a light waterproof and refreshments are still worth taking, just in case. When out on the hills, a map and compass should be carried to aid navigation.

### Take great care when walking on country roads.

- **Pavements or paths** should be used if provided
- **If there is no pavement or path**, walk on the right-hand side of the road so that you can see oncoming traffic. You should take extra care and be prepared to walk in single file, especially on narrow roads or in poor light, keep close to the side of the road. It may be safer to cross the road well before a sharp right-hand bend so that oncoming traffic has a better chance of seeing you. Cross back after the bend
- **Help other road users to see you.** Wear or carry something light coloured, bright or fluorescent in poor daylight conditions.

## Access in Scotland

The Land Reform (Scotland) Act 2003 and the Scottish Outdoor Access Code came into effect in February 2005. The Land Reform (Scotland) Act establishes a statutory right of responsible access to land and inland waters for outdoor recreation, crossing land, and some educational and commercial purposes. The Scottish Outdoor Access Code gives detailed guidance on your responsibilities when exercising access rights and if you are managing land and water. The Act sets out where and when access rights apply. The Code defines how access rights should be exercised responsibly.



## Know the Code before you go... Enjoy Scotland's outdoors - responsibly!

Enjoy Scotland's outdoors! Everyone has the right to be on most land and inland water for recreation, education and for going from place to place providing they act responsibly. These access rights and responsibilities are explained in the Scottish Outdoor Access Code. The key things are:

### When you're in the outdoors:

- *take personal responsibility for your own actions and act safely*
- *respect people's privacy and peace of mind*
- *help land managers and others to work safely and effectively*
- *care for your environment and take your litter home*
- *keep your dog under proper control*
- *take extra care if you're organising an event or running a business.*

### When you're managing the outdoors:

- *respect access rights*
- *act reasonably when asking people to avoid land management operations*
- *work with your local authority and other bodies to help integrate access and land management*
- *respect rights of way and customary access.*

Find out more by visiting [www.outdooraccess-scotland.com](http://www.outdooraccess-scotland.com) or by telephoning your local Scottish Natural Heritage office.

## Livestock

The routes in this booklet pass through livestock farming areas. Please remember that the farmer's livelihood may depend on the rearing and sale of livestock, and always act responsibly. Dogs can be a particular concern for farmers during lambing time (March - May) and when cows are calving (spring and autumn). Dogs therefore, should not be taken into fields where there are young livestock. This includes all young livestock such as lambs, calves and foals. In more open countryside where lambs are present, keep your dog on a short lead. Disturbance at this time can separate young livestock from their mothers leaving them cold, hungry and exposed to predators. Dogs should not be taken into fields of cattle when they have calves, as the cows see a dog as a threat and may attack it and you. Go into a neighbouring field or onto adjacent land. There is the possibility of encountering lambs and calves on routes 2, 4, 6, 8, 9 and 10. During the bird breeding season (April - June) keep your dog under close control or on a short lead, in ground nesting areas. Without a dog, if you walk quietly through livestock areas, keeping a safe distance from stock and watching them carefully, you should experience little or no difficulty. Please leave gates as you find them and ensure that if you have to open a gate, you close it securely behind you. Thank you for your cooperation, which will help to ensure that these routes are available for those who follow in your footsteps in future years.

## Toilet Facilities

The public toilets in Duns are situated in Briery Baulk (off South Street).

## Waymarking and Maps

The routes are waymarked with the distinctive yellow and darkgreen 'Duns Paths' or 'Abbey St Bathans' discs. Paths



*Duns Parish Church*

## Health Warning!

Germs from animals can cause serious human illness.

Stay safe from diseases when out in the countryside by:

- a. Washing hands with soap water (or use wet wipes) after visiting the toilet, after activities, touching animals and before handling, cooking and eating food
- b. Taking care to avoid spreading animal faeces on footwear
- c. Avoiding camping or having a picnic on land which has recently been used for grazing animals
- d. Not drinking untreated water from rivers, streams and lochs
- e. Avoiding tick bites, cover legs when walking through long vegetation

Contact the Public Health Department for more information 01896 82 5560

follow sections of the Southern Upland Way (see below) so the discs may not be used here. Ordnance Survey Landranger 1:50 000, sheet 67 or Explorer 1:25 000, sheet 346 maps should be used in conjunction with this booklet, especially on long routes, so that users can identify the hills and other points of interest, as these are too numerous to include within this booklet.

## Other Routes



**The Southern Upland Way** is Britain's first official coast to coast long distance path. It runs 340km (212 miles) across southern Scotland, from Portpatrick on the south-western coast to Cockburnspath on the eastern coast.



*Edin's Hall Broch*

### Route 1

#### Hen Poo and Colonel's Walk on Duns Castle Estate

**Start and finish:** Market Square, Duns  
NT785539

**Length:** 7km/4.5 miles

**Time:** 2 - 3 hours

**Terrain:** estate roads, tracks and woodland paths, pavements, timber footbridge.

Duns Castle was erected in the 14th century by King Robert the Bruce's nephew, the Earl of Moray, and has been the seat of the Hay family since 1696. Each generation of the family has enlarged and embellished the original tower transforming it into the castle that we see today.

There are two established routes through the castle policies, Colonel's Walk and Hen Poo. This route follows both these paths. The Scottish Wildlife Trust manages the area that comprises the nature reserve. The reserve consists of two man-made ponds, Hen Poo and Mill Dam. The ponds are surrounded by attractive mature woodland of native

## walkit

**Walk it** is the Paths to Health Project in Scottish Borders and aims to encourage people to take up walking as part of a healthier lifestyle. Our walks are usually short and easy, though the routes can sometimes involve rough paths and low level gradients. You will find the Walk it logo on routes 1, 4 (divided into two separate walks), 5, 6, and 7 (1km circular walk in Fogo). We have chosen these walks for their length and gentle gradients. For information, telephone the Project Coordinator on 01835 825060.

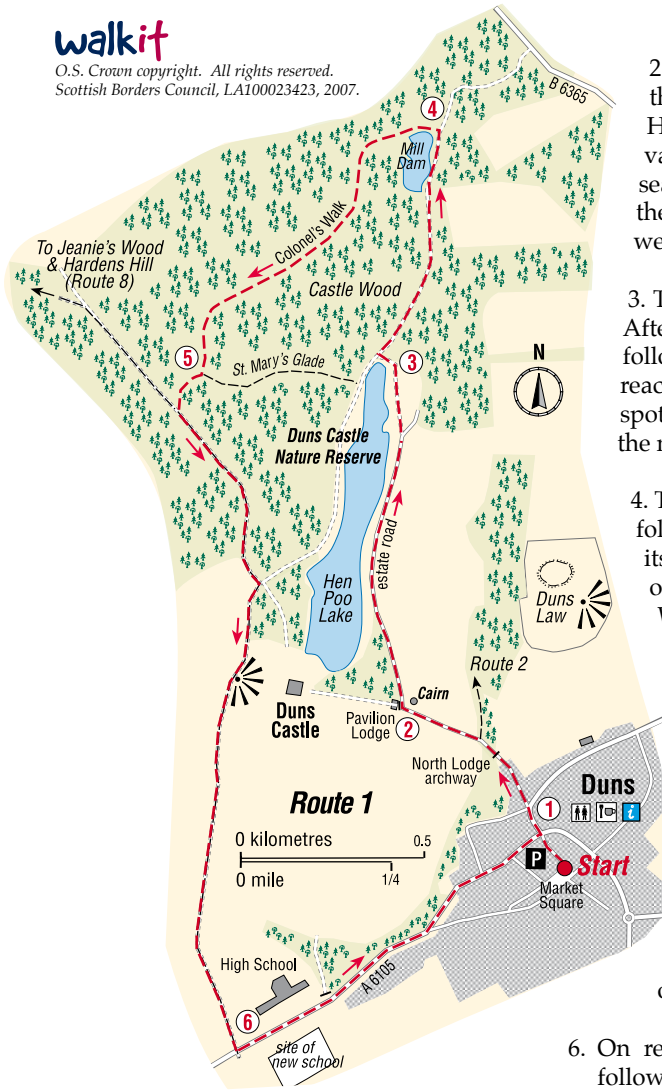


*Hen Poo*

and introduced hardwoods. Despite being shallow and subject to algal blooms, yellow water-lilies adorn much of the surface of the Hen Poo. Mill Dam, which is smaller, was formerly used to power the estate sawmill. The wetland areas provide feeding and breeding grounds for wildfowl, and Mill Dam also supports populations of common and palmate newt. The woodland has been intensively managed and is full of wildlife, from birds to butterflies, moths to mammals and some beautiful and rare plants.



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1. From Market Square head up Castle Street and enter Duns Castle Estate through the North Lodge archway at the top of the street. Follow the estate road around for 300m until you reach a cairn erected to John Duns Scotus. He was one of the most influential theologians and philosophers of the middle ages. The word 'dunce' comes from his name.

2. Turn right at this cairn to follow the estate road as it bends towards Hen Poo Lake. The pond offers a variety of interest throughout the seasons. The water body enhances the landscape and has created a wetland rich in biodiversity.

3. Turn left at the far end of Hen Poo. After a short distance turn right and follow the path for 0.5km until you reach Mill Dam. This is a very peaceful spot. Take time to sit down and enjoy the nature around you.

4. Turn left shortly past Mill Dam and follow the pleasant path that winds its way through the mixed woodland of Castle Wood (also known as Wadderley Park), to bring you to the junction for St Mary's Glade.

5. The waymarked route goes around to the right. If you wish to walk through St Mary's Glade you take a left at this junction. After 100m turn left to follow a track back to the main road into Duns. The path will meet up with the same track that leads you out of the estate. Look out for an excellent view of Duns Castle from this track.

6. On reaching the A6105 turn left, and follow the pavement back into Duns Town Centre.



Pavilion Lodge, Duns Castle Estate

Route 2

**Duns Law**

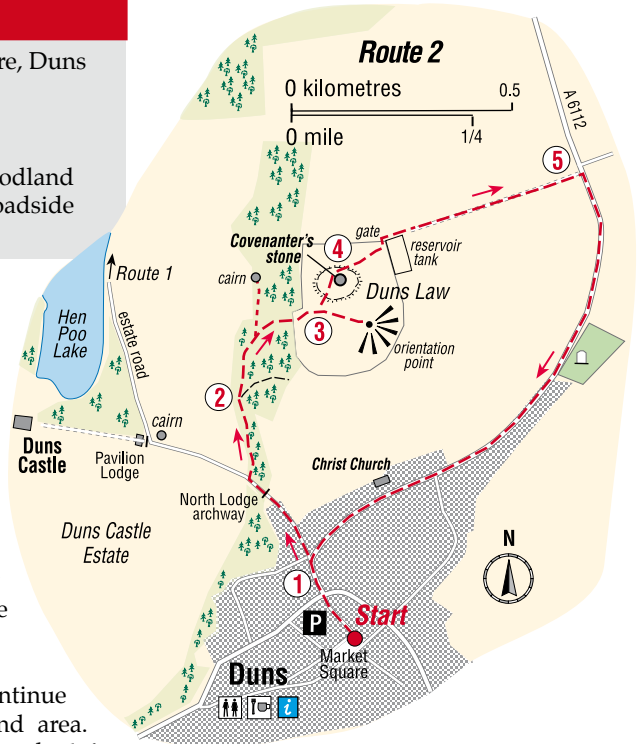
**Start and finish:** Market Square, Duns NT785539

**Length:** 3km/ 2 miles

**Time:** 1 - 1 hour 30 minutes

**Terrain:** steps, estate road, woodland path, open field, farm track, roadside footpaths

1. From Market Square head up Castle Street and enter Duns Castle Estate through North Lodge archway at the top of Castle Street. After 50m turn right to take the steps leading up to Duns Law Fort and the Covenanter's Stone. Follow this woodland path for 200m enjoying the views out west over Duns Castle Estate to the landscape beyond.
2. After 200m bear right and continue uphill through the woodland area. You can take a short detour to the left, part way up, which leads you to a cairn which marks what was believed to be the original site of Duns town. To continue to Duns Law follow the path as it continues uphill. After another 100m you will reach the edge of the woodland where a gate leads you out onto the hill.
3. Go through this gate onto the open hill. To continue up to the Covenanter's Stone go in the direction of NNE. The summit is crowned by the low defensive banks of an Iron Age settlement, which may have given rise to a tradition that the original town of Duns stood on the hill. During the First Bishop's War of 1639, a Scottish army under General Leslie occupied the site. They left behind an



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unfinished square fortification known as the "Covenanter's Redoubt". Inside the enclosure is a recumbent boulder known as the "Covenanter's Stone" on which the standard of the National Covenant was reputedly raised.

You may wish to visit the orientation point which can be found on the south side of the hill. The seat and plaque was built as a millennium project that was led by people in the community.

4. To descend the hill from the fort, head to the far right (north east) corner of the field. Go through the gate and turn right with the covered reservoir tank on your

right. Go through the next gate ahead of you and follow the track down to the road.

- At the bottom of the track turn right and use the pavement to take you back into Duns. Look out for Christ Church which is part of the Duns Town Trail. The church was erected in 1857 by Mr Hay of Duns Castle based upon a Romanesque style church which he had seen on the banks of the Rhine whilst on a sketching holiday.



Aerial view of Duns Law Fort

### Route 3

#### Manderston Circular

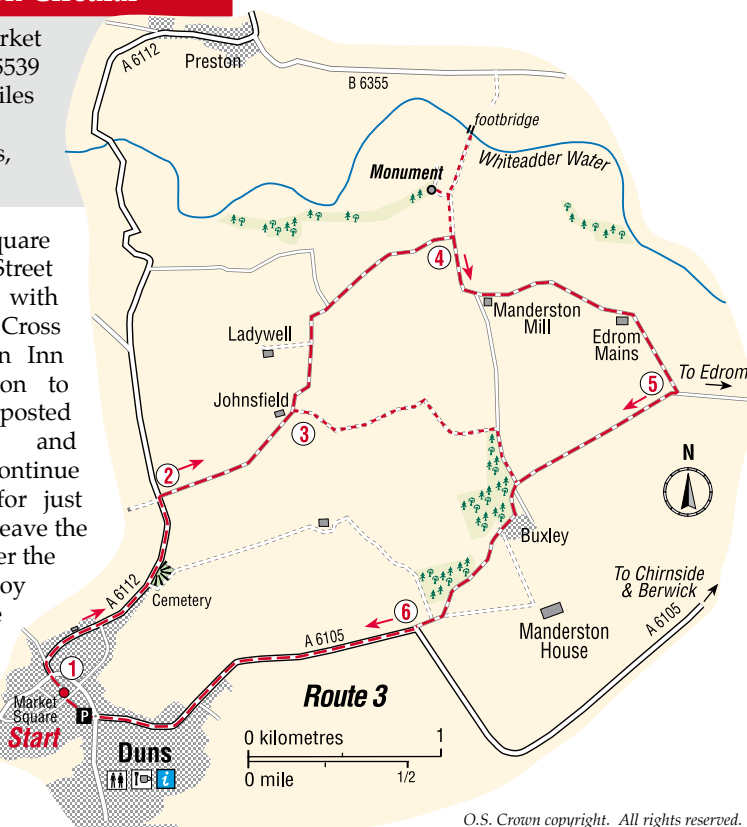
**Start and finish:** Market Square, Duns NT785539

**Length:** 9.5km/ 6 miles

**Time:** 3 - 4 hours

**Terrain:** minor roads, tracks

- From Market Square head up Castle Street to the junction with Newtown Street. Cross opposite the Horn Inn and turn right on to the A6112, signposted to Grantshouse and Cranshaws. Continue along this road for just over 1km. As you leave the town look right over the cemetery to enjoy the view over the Merse.
- Take the right turn that is signposted for Johnsfield and Broomhouse. Go





downhill for about 0.8km where you will see a track leading off to the right. This track may be used to shorten your walk. You will reach Duns in just less than 4km if this route is chosen.

3. If you are taking the full route continue past the track junction. As you pass a minor road that turns off to the left, continue straight on following the road sign for Chirnside. Follow the road for 1km until you reach the next junction.
4. Although the waymarked route turns right at this junction, you may wish to visit the De la Bastie Monument. To visit this site turn left. The distance to the monument and back to the junction is only 0.6km. This memorial pillar stands just outside the gates of the former mansion house of Broomhouse (now demolished) and is erected to Roger de la Bastie. De la Bastie, a French knight, was appointed as warden of the Eastern Marches by James V's regent, the Duke of Albany, after the capture and beheading of the former warden, the Earl of Home. The Homes retaliated by chasing De la Bastie and beheading him before he could cross the ford over Whiteadder Water, where it flows past Broomhouse. You may also continue on to the river from here.

If you wish to continue along the route turn right ignoring the left turn to the monument and follow the road to the right. The road turns sharp left just before some cottages. Just after the cottages you reach Manderston Mill. The M on the sign denotes that this is part of Manderston Estate. The road that goes off to the right here provides another shortcut to Buxley, bypassing Edrom Mains. To follow the whole route, continue on the road passing Edrom Mains.



*Romanesque revival detail on Manderston building*

5. At the next junction turn right onto a very straight road which has a long climb uphill. At the top of the hill you will come to Manderston Cricket Club grounds, opposite the road from Manderston Mill. Continue past Buxley which has some interesting historic buildings and was built as the "Home" farm for Manderston House. Manderston House was originally built in the Georgian period, circa. 1809. However, the house was extensively remodelled and modernised in Edwardian times and comprises 109 rooms and is surrounded by 56 acres of formal gardens. It was the setting for Channel 4's *The Edwardian Country House* which chronicled what life would have been like for a family and their servants. Keep on this road until you reach the junction with the A6105.
6. Go straight ahead along the A6105 following the narrow path that runs along the edge of the road. Please take care here as the traffic can be fast moving along the Duns to Berwick road. Continue on into Duns and cross over the roundabout to Murray Street following this street to return to Market Square.

Route 4

Old Railway

**Start and finish:** Market Square, Duns  
NT785539

**Length:** 6.5km/ 4 miles

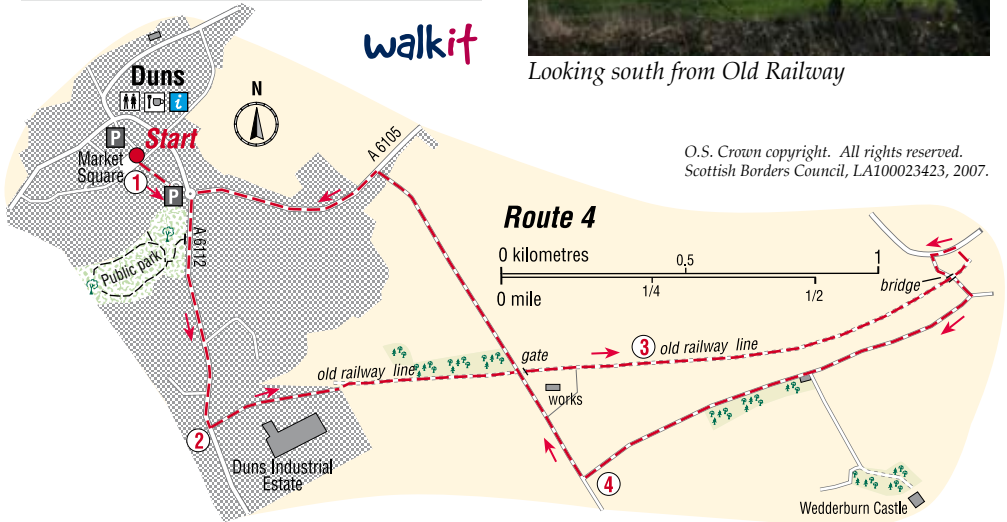
**Time:** 2 - 3 hours

**Terrain:** minor roads, tracks, well surfaced paths, no signposting



Looking south from Old Railway

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1. From Market Square head down Murray Street to meet the A6112 at the roundabout. Turn right on to the A6112. If you are walking use the pavement on the right hand side. You will pass the public park on your right, then you will pass Trinity Park on your left and just before the industrial estate you will pass Station Avenue on your right.
2. After a short distance turn left into the industrial estate. Follow the road through until it comes to an end and the path on the old railway begins. This line was opened in August 1849 as a branch route of the East Coast main line, between Reston and Duns. The line was extended

- to join the main Hawick to Edinburgh line in 1865, however, this service ended after devastating floods in 1948 when the line west of Duns was closed. The section to Reston was closed almost 20 years later in 1966. After a further 1km the path crosses a road before continuing on the other side. Cross the road with care and go through the gate opposite to continue following the old railway path.
3. Continue along the old railway for 1.2km until you are on the old railway bridge. Walk over the bridge and through the trees exiting the field through the gate just off to your left. Turn left, keeping to the grass verge, and then turn left down

the road signposted for Whitelaw. Cross underneath the railway bridge. Turn right, after only 120m, into the straight road going past Wedderburn Castle. Follow this road for 1.2km until you reach a T-junction.

4. Turn right at this junction where there is a welcome seat. Follow the road gently uphill for 1km and turn left onto the A6105 (Bridgend). There is a pavement for pedestrians here, all the way back to the roundabout. Cross over to Murray Street to return to Market Square.

Route 5

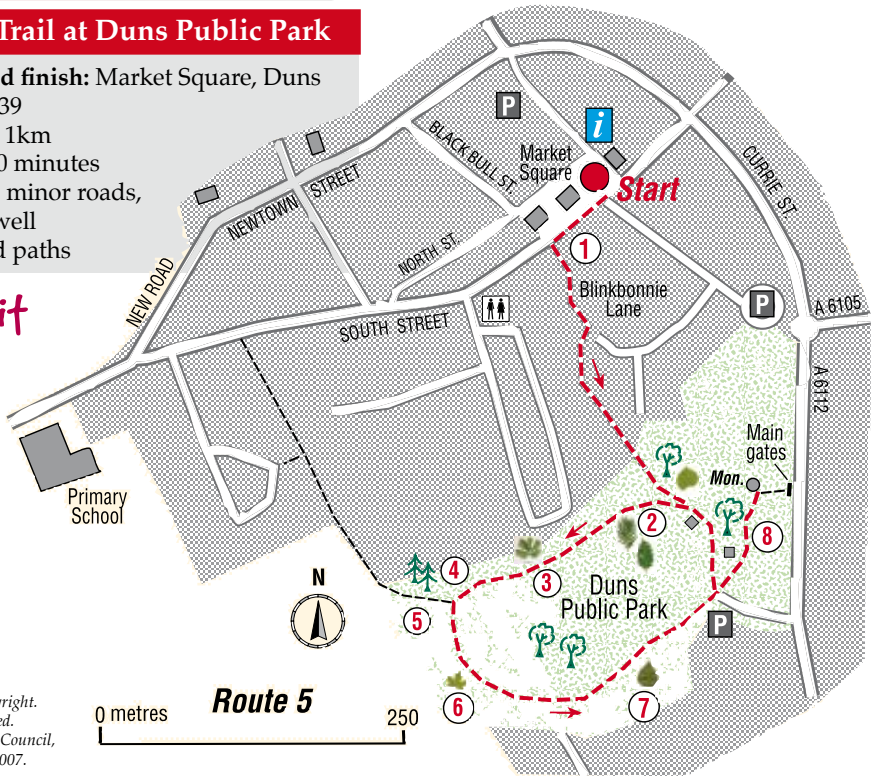
**Tree Trail at Duns Public Park**

**Start and finish:** Market Square, Duns NT785539

**Length:** 1km

**Time:** 30 minutes

**Terrain:** minor roads, tracks, well surfaced paths



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This walk was set up with help from Duns Primary School. The artwork that you see on page 13 was produced by some of the pupils. The route is suitable for easy access as it follows a level tarmac path.

with heart shaped leaves and red buds. There are also sycamore trees which are a type of maple. If you find a sycamore seed, you could throw it in the air and watch it twirl down like a helicopter.

1. From Market Square turn on to South Street and after 50m turn left into Blinkbonnie Lane. At the end of Blinkbonnie Lane look out for lime trees

2. With the main grass area of the park to your left, follow the tarmac path around the park. Look out for evergreen yew trees. There are some Irish yew



with pointed tops. There are also some different types of holly trees. Look out for one with yellow berries. Further round the trail look out for a holly with variegated leaves, the leaves have a white edge. Both holly and yew have male and female trees. The male trees do not bear berries.

3. Look out for conkers under the horse chestnut trees. If you look at the branches you may see a horse shoe mark where last year's leaf has been. Another way of identifying this tree is that the buds are very sticky.

4. Look out for a weeping ash tree. Ash trees have black buds. To the right of the ash, look for the Sitka spruce. This tree has sharp needles and the branches look blue green from below. Sitka spruce is commonly grown in forests throughout Scotland for timber and paper. This tree originates from Sitka in Alaska.
5. Bear left, keeping on the main tarmac path. In the wet area on your right are alder, grey willow and downy birch planted in Tree Week 2005 to form a wet woodland area. The Local Biodiversity Action Plan Urban Habitat Working Group was assisted by the council's Parks and Open Spaces section, Duns Community Council and the Lanark Lodge day centre. In November 2006, most of the Primary 3 class in Duns Primary School were taller than these planted trees.
6. In this area between the hawthorn hedge and the path are some ash, lime, sycamore and field maple trees. In the hedge is the



*Duns Public Park in Autumn*



Entrance to Duns Public Park

base of an elm tree. Small elm branches have grown back after Dutch elm disease has killed the main trunk of the tree.

7. Silver birch can be seen with its silvery white bark. Other trees to spot include gean (wild cherry), flowering cherry, whitebeam, and crab apple.
8. Continue past the set of gates on your right and enter an open area with bench seats. This area is full of colourful trees and is worth investigating.

There are evergreen cypress trees which have scale like leaves on flattened twigs. Walk up to the main gates by the war memorial and the John Duns Scotus statue. Look around this area for more trees including lime, beech, copper beech, willow, poplar, nootka cypress, and oak. How many different trees did you count in the park?

### Health facts...

- Walking 30 minutes a day can reduce the risk of Coronary Heart Disease, Stroke, Colon and Bowel cancer by up to 40%.
- Walking for 30 minutes a day on level ground at a brisk pace allows you to burn around 140 calories.
- A brisk pace means walking fast enough to warm up.
- Walking is a great way to help you quit smoking.
- Regular exercise helps to reduce stress.



John Duns Scotus statue



Route 6

**Clockmill Circular**

**Start and finish:** Market Square, Duns NT785539

**Length:** 4km / 2.5 miles

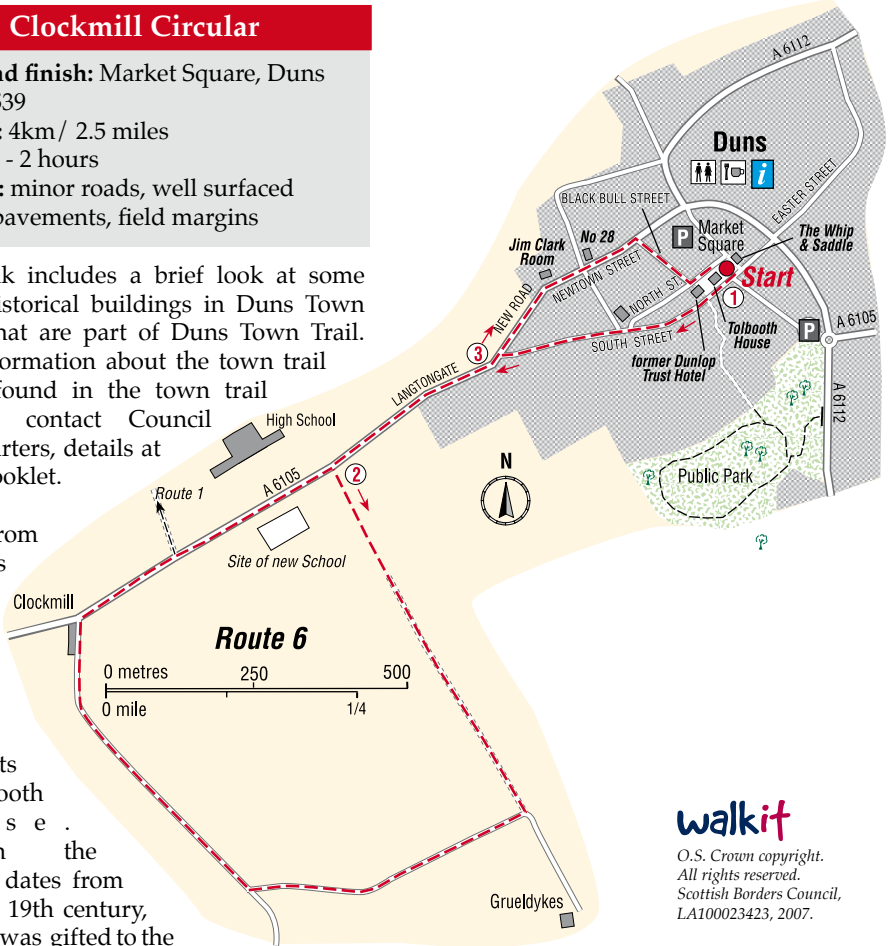
**Time:** 1 - 2 hours

**Terrain:** minor roads, well surfaced paths, pavements, field margins

This walk includes a brief look at some of the historical buildings in Duns Town Centre that are part of Duns Town Trail. More information about the town trail can be found in the town trail booklets; contact Council Headquarters, details at end of booklet.

Start from Duns Market Square. On the west side of the square sits the Tolbooth House.

Although the building dates from the early 19th century, the clock was gifted to the town from the Rotary Club in 1976. Also of interest is the plaque which commemorates the 500th anniversary of the town's Burgh of Barony status, awarded in 1490. On the corner of Castle Street in the square is The Whip & Saddle. Although a simple building dating from 1824, you can observe the chamfered corner on the ground floor. This architectural detail was to allow horse drawn vehicles easier passage.



walkit

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1. From Market Square head along South Street. The former Dunlop Trust Hotel sits between the square and this street built in the late 19th century as a temperance hotel. The temperance movement advocated the moderation of alcohol consumption. Continue along South Street into Langstongate.

2. After 0.7km turn left towards Grueldykes. Turn right where the track meets the road. After 0.5km turn right at a T-junction, after a further 0.5km, turn right back towards the town centre.
3. As you approach the Y-junction at the edge of the town centre you may wish to return along New Road, on the left hand side of the junction. This leads into Newtown Street. The first building of interest is the Jim Clark Room a museum which houses his trophies. Although born in Fife, he spent most of his life in Berwickshire and was awarded the Freedom of the Burgh of Duns in recognition of being two times World Motor Racing Champion in the sixties. Next you can look out for 28 Newtown



*Whip & Saddle*

Street which is reputedly the oldest house in Duns. The building dates from the 18th century. Return to the Market Square by turning right along Black Bull Street.

## Route 7

### Gavinton and Fogo

**Start and finish:** Market Square, Duns NT785539

**Length:** 7km (14km return trip)/ 4.5 miles (9 miles)

**Time:** 3 - 4 hours

**Terrain:** minor roads, well surfaced paths, timber footbridges (can be avoided)

1. From Market Square head along North Street and continue along Langtongate. At the end of this street turn left on to Langtongate. Stay on Langtongate for 0.85km taking the left turn up to Gavinton after Berwickshire High School.
2. Follow this road for 1.4km up to a junction. (If the ford is unable to be crossed on foot return along the road for a short distance and take the path over the footbridges.) Turn right to follow a road lined on one side by a mature

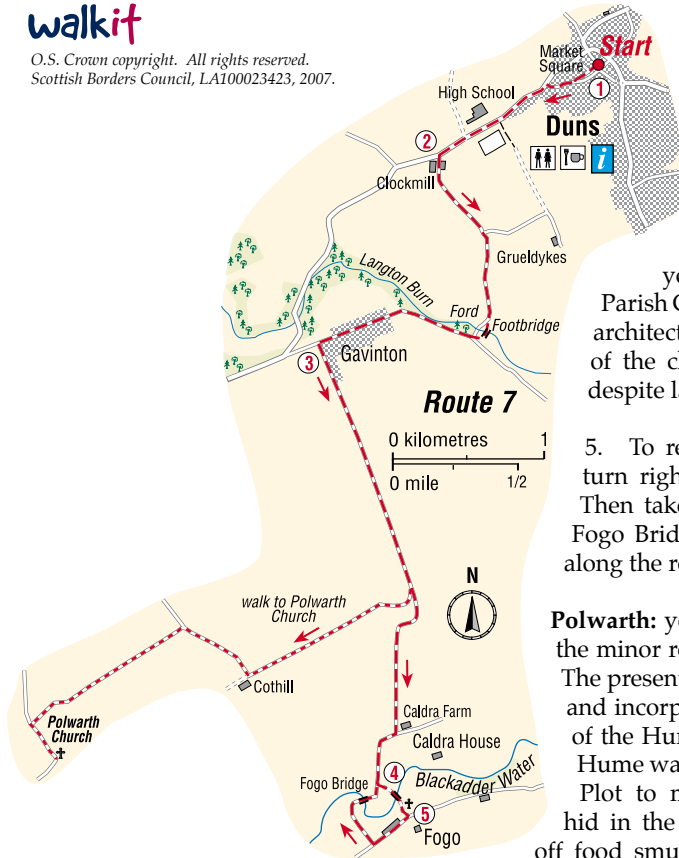


*Aerial view of Gavinton*

woodland. Continue into the settlement of Gavinton. Gavinton is an early example of development by an improving landlord. In 1760, David Gavin, laird of Langton Estate, laid out a new settlement where his tenants could develop their cottage industries (principally weaving). Although this sounds forward looking, it is worth noting that his tenants had little choice but to move as he demolished the original hamlet of Langton which was visible from the windows of Langton House.



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3. At the end of the village turn left to follow the minor road to Fogo. You will pass the Butter Well on the left hand side. Country folklore tells us that there were dangers associated with May Day like a malicious neighbour practising witchcraft to stop the butter from coming. To prevent this from happening, one ritual was to take the first water out of the neighbour's well on this day. The well may also have been used as a place to leave a good luck offering of butter to the fairies when they passed. Continue along the road to Fogo for 3km.

4. Turn left down a lane. The lane is a haven for butterflies on warm sunny days. This will lead you to the river and over a timber bridge. The community have created wildlife interpretation boards and picnic spots to enhance your visit. You will pass Fogo Parish Church which is considered an architectural treasure retaining much of the character of the 17th century, despite later additions.

5. To return to Gavinton and Duns turn right when you reach the road. Then take first right to continue over Fogo Bridge and to retrace your steps along the road to Gavinton.

**Polwarth:** you may also wish to walk on the minor roads to see Polwarth Church. The present building was erected in 1703 and incorporates an earlier family vault of the Hume family. In 1683 Sir Patrick Hume was implicated in the Rye House Plot to murder King Charles II and hid in the vault for four weeks, living off food smuggled to him by his faithful daughter, Grizel.



Fogo Parish Church



## Route 8

**Black Hill and Burnhouses**

**Start and finish:** Smiffy Hole on the Longformacus Road NT740541

**Length:** 20km/ 12.5 miles

**Time:** 5 - 7 hours

**Terrain:** tracks, field margins, woodland paths, minor roads



*Looking south over Burnhouses*

This is a long route that requires the user to have experience of using maps. There is varied terrain around the route and this makes an interesting day out. You will pass through several working farms so please act responsibly. Birkenside Dean may not be ideal for horse riders therefore an alternative route is shown on the map.

Although there is a link from Duns Castle Estate shown on the map, the route described here begins from Snuffly Hole on Hardens Hill.

1. Go through the gate to the left of the parking area and follow the track up Hardens Hill. (This first section follows a right of way that stretches to Ellemford Bridge. You will note that the waymarkers have a Scotways disc until you reach the Southern Upland Way markers after leaving Black Hill). Continue to follow the track up to the masts.
2. After the masts turn left, and follow the line of the raised earth bank keeping the fence line on your left. After 1km, drop downhill and head towards the windmills. Take care if there are winter conditions because ice can fly off the blades. Follow the track through the wind farm.
3. When you reach a cattle grid, turn right without crossing it. Turn left through a field gate at the corner of the fence line.

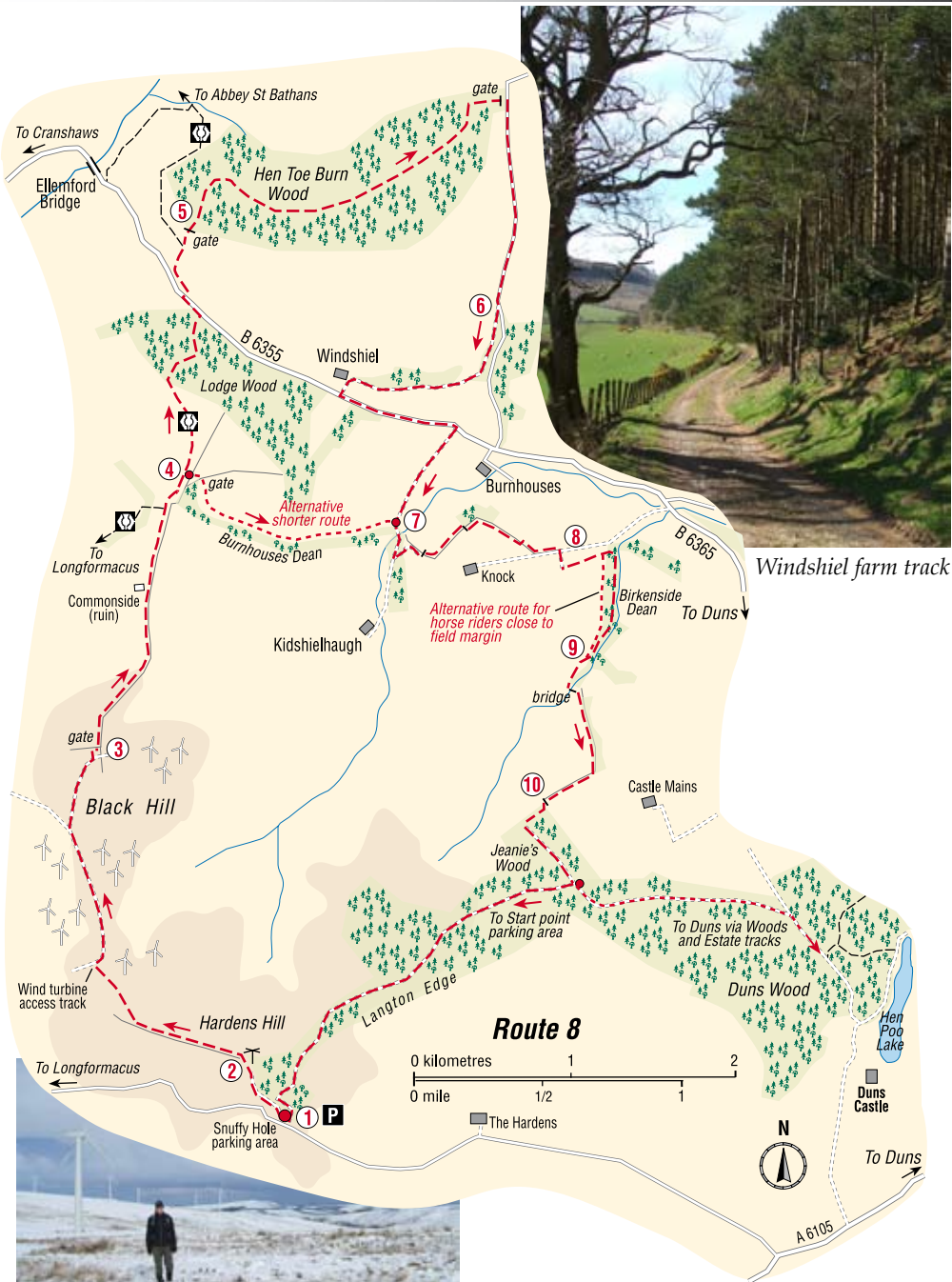
Follow the fence line keeping it on your right until you reach a stile. Cross over the stile then cross over the next stile a short distance away. You will now follow a fenced path for 0.5km until you reach the Southern Upland Way. Follow the Southern Upland Way for a short distance.

4. At this junction you have a choice to follow a shorter route through Burnhouses back to your starting point or you may continue on the full route that crosses through Hen Toe Burn Wood.

**Short route:** Turn right into Burnhouses and follow the field margin downhill through four gateways. Go through the fifth gate and turn right onto the track to reach point 7.

**Long route:** Continue to follow the Southern Upland Way for 2km until you reach the corner of Hen Toe Burn Wood.

5. Go through the gate and follow the woodland track that veers to the left. Follow the track as it turns to the right after 400m. Continue on this track for 2.2km until you reach the other side of the wood. Go through the gate and turn right onto the road. Follow the road for 1.2km until you reach the track to Windshiel Farm.



Black Hill windfarm

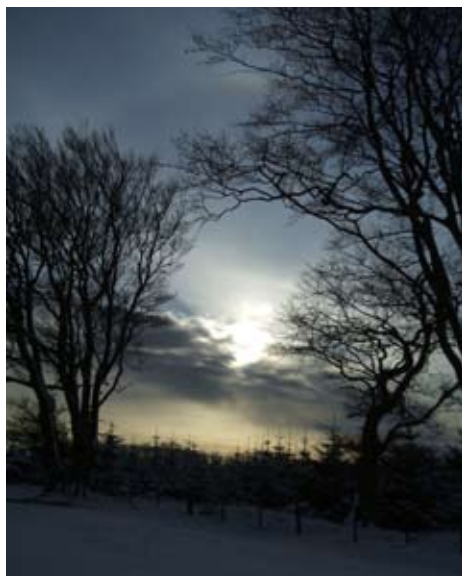
6. Turn right onto this farm track and follow the track for 1.5km until it reaches the road. Turn left onto the road and follow the road for 0.7km until you reach the right turn for Kidshielhaugh. Follow this track for 1km.
7. **At this point the shorter route meets the longer route.** After a short distance take a sharp left onto a short section of track that leads up to the fields. Go through the gate at the top of the track. Then go through the gate ahead of you and turn right to head uphill along the field margin, keeping the fence on your right. When you reach a gate, go through and follow the field margin around, keeping the boundary on your left. Go through a further two gates.
8. You will now cross over the road to The Knock and go downhill for a short distance on a concrete track. At the bottom of the dip turn left and uphill into the field. Follow the field margin to the corner. You will enter Birkenside Dean at this point. This woodland was replanted by the family who own The Knock. Some of the replanting of native trees was grant aided by the Forestry Commission Scotland. Follow the woodland path. Take care not to trample on wild flowers from May to August.
9. Leave the woodland through two hunt gates; you are crossing over a passage that allows stock from the field to drink from the stream. Turn left around the corner of the woodland and go through the next gate which takes you into Castle Mains. Walk straight ahead for a short distance, avoiding the old sheep dip, then turn left to cross a stream in the dip. Veer left at the other side. When you reach the field boundary follow this uphill for 0.5km, keeping the fence on your left. Go through a gate and go to the corner of the



*Beeches on Castle Mains*

next field. Turn right and go uphill until you reach the corner of Jeanie's Wood.

10. Enter Jeanie's Wood and turn right 150m along the track. After 0.5km you will reach a junction. To return to Snuffy Hole turn right; to follow Duns Castle Estate track to Duns, go straight on. Snuffy Hole is reached 2.7km along this woodland track.



*Leaving the Southern Upland Way*

Route 9

**Abbey St Bathans  
and Ellemford Bridge**

**Start and finish:** Riverside Car Park,  
Abbey St Bathans NT762619

**Length:** 10km/ 6 miles

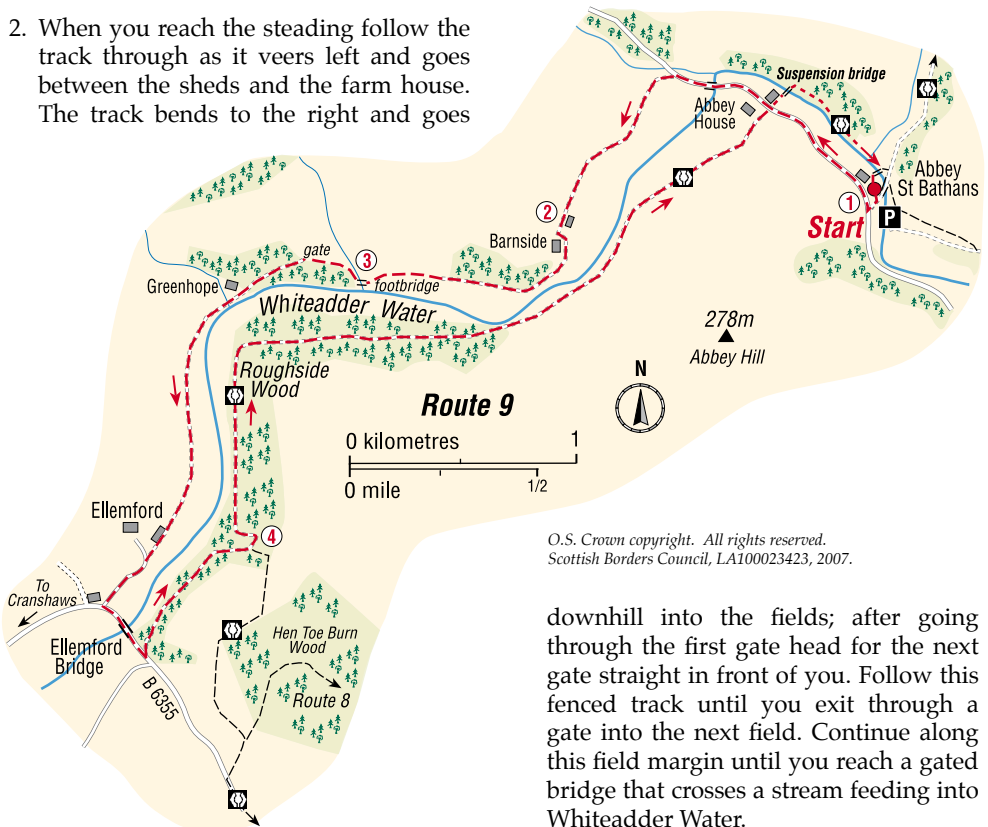
**Time:** 3 - 4 hours

**Terrain:** tracks, field margins, woodland  
paths, minor roads



Looking west along Whiteadder Water

1. From the riverside car park head back to the road and turn right. Follow the road for just over 1km until you reach the track to Barnside. Turn left onto the track and follow it for 0.8km.
2. When you reach the steading follow the track through as it veers left and goes between the sheds and the farm house. The track bends to the right and goes



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downhill into the fields; after going through the first gate head for the next gate straight in front of you. Follow this fenced track until you exit through a gate into the next field. Continue along this field margin until you reach a gated bridge that crosses a stream feeding into Whiteadder Water.

3. At the other side of the bridge go through the small gate in the dyke. Then turn right and go through the gate ahead of you. Then turn left and follow the field margin until you reach the gate into the woodland. Enter the woodland through this gate and follow the track down to the other side passing in front of Greenhope Cottage. Continue to follow the track for 1.2km until you reach the main road. Turn left onto the road and after 200m turn left up a forestry track. After 0.8km you will meet the Southern Upland Way.
4. Turn left onto the Southern Upland Way and follow this through the woodland and along the river until you meet the road. You may either follow the road right until you reach the riverside car park or continue on the Southern Upland Way. If you choose the latter you will cross over the road, cross the bridge and then turn right. Follow the river for 0.5km and then cross the footbridge on your right that takes you back into the riverside car park.

## Route 10

### Edin's Hall Broch

**Start and finish:** Riverside Car Park, Abbey St Bathans NT762619

**Length:** 9km / 5.5 miles

**Time:** 3 - 4 hours

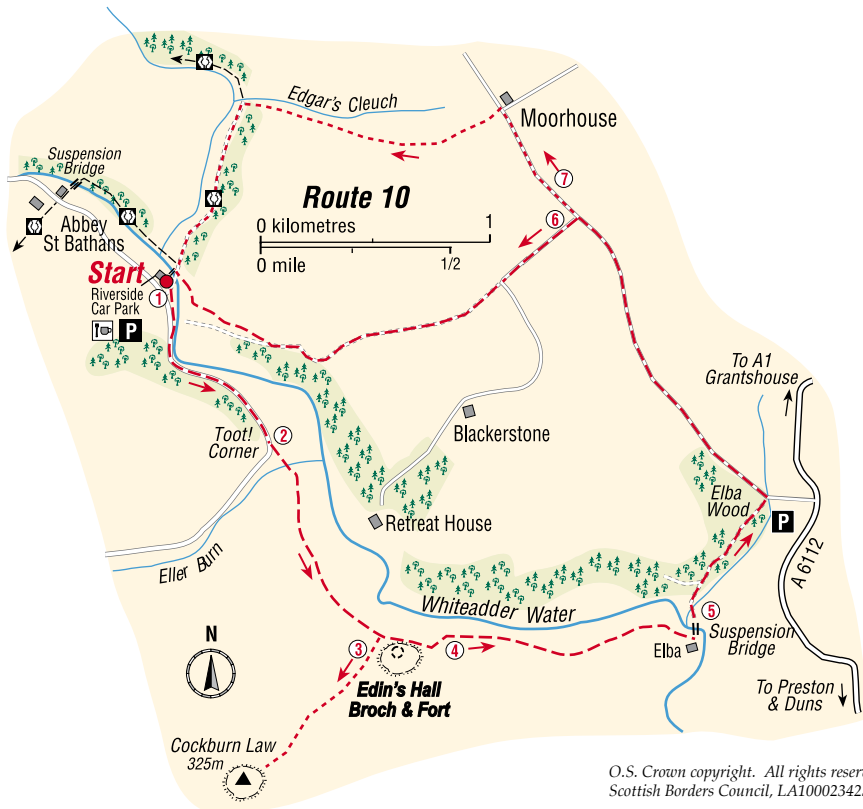
**Terrain:** tracks, field margins, woodland paths, minor roads

1. Follow the path downstream from the car park, between the river and the road, following the riverside path for 250m before joining the Duns Road. Alternatively follow the road. After 0.5km you will reach 'Toot Corner'.
2. At 'Toot Corner' - white diamond shaped sign on a pole - turn left and follow the path down the steep slope to Eller Burn. Cross the burn and turn left. After a short distance follow the path as it sweeps round to the right and traverses moorland. After 1km the broch is reached. The original Iron Age settlement at Edin's Hall was enclosed by defensive earthworks around 500BC. This fort was replaced after a few centuries by a large stone broch, or circular tower and a series of stone walled houses in banked enclosures.



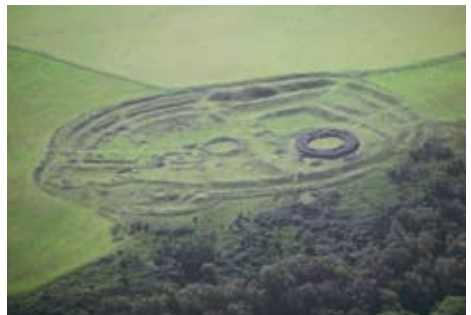
*Abbey St Bathans Church*

3. If you feel energetic it is worth making the ascent to Cockburns Law where you will see the remains of an Iron Age Fort some 2500 years old.
4. From the broch you head downhill to follow the path to Elba Footbridge. The footbridge was refurbished in October 1994 by 6 HQ Squadron, a Royal Engineer Unit. The bridge makes a dramatic crossing over a gorge through which Whiteadder Water flows. This gorge contains some of the oldest surviving woodland in the Borders and the hill slopes nearby were once mined for copper.



5. After crossing the bridge follow the track through the woods. When you reach the public road turn left uphill, following the road for 2km until you reach a left turn signed for Blakerstone.
6. Turn left and follow the Blakerstone road for just over 0.5km continue on the track straight ahead for 1.5km. Before reaching the river, cross the stile on your right to follow the path uphill, eventually coming out near the ford and footbridge at the riverside car park.
7. Alternatively, you can continue to Moorhouse. Do not turn left off the road towards Blakerstone but continue on the road for another 0.5km. Turn left off the

road at Moorhouse and follow the field track for just over 1km until you reach the Southern Upland Way. Turn left onto the Southern Upland Way and follow the track for 0.8km to return to the bridge that crosses to the riverside car park.



Aerial view of Edin's Hall Broch

## Acknowledgements

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### VisitScotland Borders

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Selkirk, TD7 5DT.  
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Accommodation Bookings:  
Tel: 0845 2255 121  
Email: [bordersinfo@visitscotland.com](mailto:bordersinfo@visitscotland.com)  
[www.visitscottishborders.com](http://www.visitscottishborders.com)

### Scottish Borders

#### Tourist Information Centres

##### *Open All Year*

Kelso, Jedburgh, Peebles and Melrose.

##### *Open April to End October*

Eyemouth, Hawick and Selkirk.

For Information: Tel: 0870 608 0404

### Scottish Natural Heritage *(Information on Scottish Outdoor Access Code)*

Lothian & Borders Area Office  
Tel: 01896 756652  
[www.outdooraccess-scotland.com](http://www.outdooraccess-scotland.com)

### Traveline

*(for public transport information)*

Tel: 0871 200 2233  
[www.traveline.org.uk](http://www.traveline.org.uk)

### Scottish Borders Council

[www.scotborders.gov.uk](http://www.scotborders.gov.uk)

### Access Officer,

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### Countryside Ranger Service

Harestanes, Ancrum, Jedburgh, TD8 6UQ.  
Tel: 01835 830281  
Email: [rangers@scotborders.gov.uk](mailto:rangers@scotborders.gov.uk)

### Other websites

For further information on walking in Scotland, visit: [www.walkingwild.com](http://www.walkingwild.com)  
The Southern Upland Way website is at: [www.dumgal.gov.uk/southernuplandway](http://www.dumgal.gov.uk/southernuplandway)

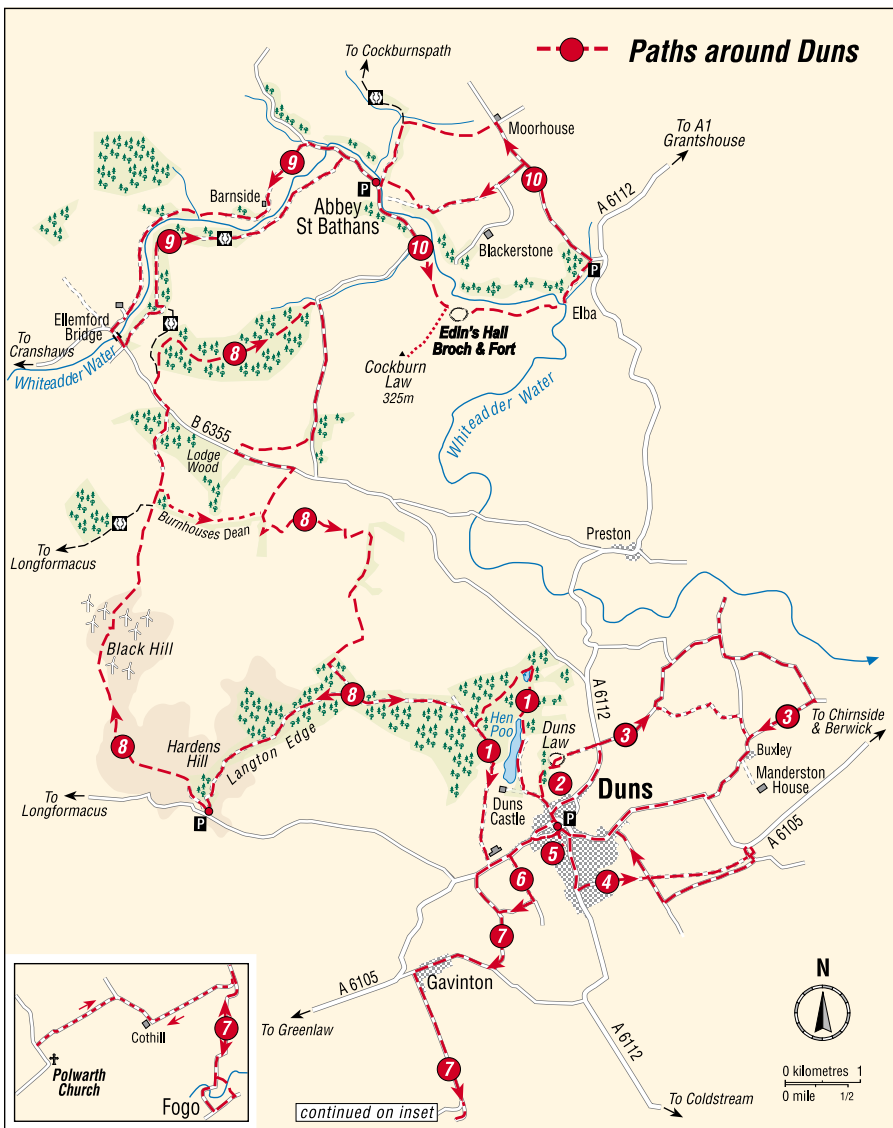
### Mountain Rescue Team - Scottish Borders

It is considered best practice to alert the MRT to all incidents where a casualty is located on a hill, moor, upland or other countryside, or missing on such ground even if the Ambulance Service has been requested.

To call the MRT to such incidents the following procedure should be followed:

1. Dial 999
2. Ask for Police
3. Tell the Police that you require Mountain Rescue

Tell the Police why and where you require the MRT.



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