Thanks to

The Clyde Walkway is a partnership venture based on co-operation and agreement. North Lanarkshire, South Lanarkshire and Glasgow City Councils would like to acknowledge the help and support of the many agencies and organisations involved in its development, management and promotion, including: Scottish Enterprise, Scottish Natural Heritage, The Big Lottery, Sustrans, The Forestry Commission, The Paths for All Partnership, Strathclyde European Partnership, Scottish Power, Scottish Wildlife Trust, VisitScotland, The Glasgow & Clyde Valley Green Network Partnership. We would also like to thank, in particular, the many individual landowners along the route who have given their support and co-operation to the project.
The Clyde Walkway

Crossford to Falls of Clyde, New Lanark

In short...

From Crossford village in the heart of the Clyde valley the Clyde Walkway runs for 8 miles, through orchard country and spectacular wooded gorges, to New Lanark UNESCO World Heritage Village and the natural wonder of the Falls of Clyde.

Route description and features of interest

If you are joining the Clyde Walkway at Crossford village the route starts at the entrance to the Valley International Park visitor and garden centre, access to which is on the right-hand side of the B7056 Braidwood Road immediately adjacent to Crossford Bridge. The path follows the riverbank through woodland to a suspension footbridge across the river. Alternatively you can gain access to the Clyde Walkway by walking along the Clyde Valley Tourist Route, A72 Lanark Road, towards Lanark, for approximately 500 metres from the centre of the village and cross the river at the car park on the left hand side of the road, by way of Carfin Footbridge. The Victorian wrought iron suspension footbridge was built as part of the Carfin Estate which once occupied the northern bank of the river at this point.
Little now remains of the estate buildings other than the stables and walled garden which now form part of the visitor and garden centre. From the footbridge the route continues upstream on a well defined path through woodland and alongside fields to **Stonebyres Hydro-Power Station** 42, the first of two electricity generating stations built in 1927 to harness the power of the Clyde. At 21 metres **Stonebyres Linn** 43 is the first natural barrier to migrating salmon and sea trout on the Clyde and prevents fish reaching the waters of the upper Clyde. At this point a pleasant diversion can be made through the village of Nemphlar to the A73 and the visually stunning **Cartland Bridge** 44. Built in 1822 it is one of Scotland’s most elegant structures and best kept secrets. Designed by the famous engineer Thomas Telford, the bridge rises 39 metres above the bed of the Mouse Water and is reputed to be the highest road bridge in Scotland.

From the bridge a link paths provides access to the spectacular Cartland Craig’s and Cleghorn Glen woodlands 45 which form part of the Clyde Valley Woodlands National Nature Reserve. From the reserve there are link routes back to Lanark.

Beyond Stonebyres Falls the Clyde Walkway continues along the north bank of the river for a short distance before crossing to the opposite bank by way of the bridge at the power station weir. The route continues along the tarmac weir access road before rejoining the A72 at Kirkfieldbank village. Continue through the village on the roadside pavement before re-crossing the river at **Clydesholm Bridge** 45 which was built between 1695 and 1699. From the bridge the route continues upstream past the water treatment works and then uphill onto the single track St Patrick’s Road. Continue along the tarmac road past St Patrick’s Well for approximately 400 metres before turning right into **Castlebank Park** 46.
Stonebyre’s Falls

River Clyde, above Bonnington Linn

Clyde Gorge, near New Lanark
St Patrick’s Lane which is on the left hand side of the road just before the entrance to the park provides pedestrian access to the A73 and Lanark town centre. The historic burgh has many features of interests including being the location for the meeting of the first Scots parliament in 978 and later in 1297 was where William Wallace is reputed to have ‘first drawn sword to free his native land’.

*The bus and train interchange is located on Bannatyne Street at the top of the High Street.*

In front of Castlebank House the Walkway once again descends back to the banks of the Clyde by way of a steep zigzag path through Beech woodland and continues across Braxfield Burn and through conifer plantation woods at **Braxfield Park**.

The path then ascends a steep flight of steps, crosses a footbridge and passes a cliff top viewing platform giving spectacular views of the Clyde and New Lanark village before emerging onto New Lanark Road.

From New Lanark Road the Walkway descends into the village square where there are a variety of visitor amenities and facilities. Although the village was established by David Dale and Richard Arkwright in 1785, it was because of Robert Owen’s management between 1800 -1825 and his enlightenment vision of social and economic reform that New Lanark is today designated a World Heritage Site. At the height of it’s productive period New Lanark was Scotland’s largest water powered cotton mill with 2,500 people living and working in the village. Today New Lanark is a beautifully restored 18th century industrial village set in a magnificent landscape.
New Lanark from viewing platform on the Clyde Walkway

Carfin Bridge, Crossford
After the power station the route continues through the woodland to Corra Linn at 28 metres the largest of the Falls of Clyde. For centuries the waterfalls and spectacular gorge scenery have attracted and inspired many well known literary, artistic and historical figures including William Wordsworth, Robert Burns, Sir Walter Scott, JMW Turner and William Wallace.

The Walkway continues as far as the weir above Bonnington Linn, the last of the four Falls of Clyde. At this point the route can either be retraced back to New Lanark, or alternatively a circular route can be followed downstream along the opposite bank of the river (cross to the opposite bank by way of the weir bridge), through the Corehouse estate and past the ruinous Corra Castle to Kirkfieldbank where the Clyde Walkway can once again be rejoined at Clydesholm Bridge.

The Walkway continues through the village past the Scottish Wildlife Trust Visitor Centre and on to the Falls of Clyde Nature Reserve. The reserve which is a constituent part of the Clyde Valley Woodlands National Nature Reserve is being managed to protect the rich diversity of plants and wildlife it contains. The route continues past Bonnington Hydro-Power Station, the second of the two power stations along the route. Scottish Power has a number of ‘open days’ throughout the year when the unimpeded flow of the river is allowed to cascade over the Falls and the impressive spectacle of the river in full spate can be experienced.

It is also still a living community with many of the local residents continuing to work in the village. There are regular bus services between Lanark and New Lanark. Alternatively from the end of Caithness Row follow “The Beeches” right of way turning left onto Hyndford Road (A73) to return to Lanark.
Bonnington Linn, Falls of Clyde
Everyone has the right to be on most land and inland water providing they act responsibly. Your access rights and responsibilities are explained fully in the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.

When you are in the outdoors
• take personal responsibility for you own actions and act safely;
• respect peoples privacy and peace of mind;
• help land managers to work safely and effectively;
• care for the environment and take you’re litter home;
• keep you dog under proper control;
• take extra care if you are organizing an event or running a business

For further information visit [www.outdooraccess-scotland.com](http://www.outdooraccess-scotland.com) or phone 01738 444177 for a free copy of the full code.
Responsibility

Follow the Scottish Outdoor Access Code by acting in a courteous and responsible manner and avoid damaging or disturbing the natural heritage of the area. Please respect the fact that much of the land through which the Clyde Walkway passes is privately owned and is a working landscape.

⚠ Some sections of the Clyde Walkway pass close to or through areas of natural hazard such as cliffs, deep and fast flowing water, steeply sloping and uneven ground. Please keep to the path and ensure that children and dogs are kept under close control.

Stay safe and enjoy your visit.

For more information or if you want this information in a different format or language, please phone 01698 543421 or email simon.pilpel@southlanarkshire.gov.uk
the basics

Maps:
Ordnance Survey
Explorer Series No343:
Motherwell and Coatbridge
No335: Lanark and Tinto Hills
Ordnance Survey
Landranger Series No72:
Upper Clyde Valley, Biggar and Lanark

Length:
13 km / 8 miles

Start:
Crossford

Finish:
Falls of Clyde, New Lanark

Where to get on:
Public transport:
Bus route linking Crossford with Lanark Lanark Railway Station

Car:
Crossford, Kirkfieldbank, Nemphlar, Castlebank Park, New Lanark

Users:
The following user information is indicative of the facilities available either on or close to the route of the Clyde Walkway. Please phone the relevant Access Officer for more detailed local information.

Foot:
Crossford - Falls of Clyde, New Lanark

Wheelchair:
Falls of Clyde (part of only)
Please phone Scottish Wildlife Trust - Phone: 01555 665262

Key to symbols

Clyde Walkway
Link Route
Non-vehicular Link Route
Cycleways
Cycleable Sections of Route
Bridleways
Access for All
Railway Stations
Craignethan Castle
www.historic-scotland.gov.uk
Phone: 01555 860364

First Glasgow Travel
www.firstgroup.com
Phone: 0141423 6600

Glasgow and the Clyde Valley Greenspace Trust
www.greenspace.org.uk

New Lanark Conservation Trust
Phone: 01555 661345

Scotrail
www.scotrail.co.uk
Phone: 08457 48 49 50

South Lanarkshire Council (Access Officer)
www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk
Phone: 01698 543421

South Lanarkshire Countryside Ranger Service (Chatelherault Country Park)
Phone: 01698 426213

SWT Falls of Clyde Nature Reserve
Visitor Centre, Dyeworks, New Lanark ML11 9DB
www.swt.org.uk
Phone: 01555 665244

Travel Line Scotland
www.travelinescotland.com
Phone: 0871 200 22 33

United Clyde Angling Association
Phone: 01698 382479

Visit Lanarkshire
www.visitlanarkshire.com

VisitScotland, Lanark Information Centre
www.visitscotland.com
Phone: 01555 661661

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