

Responsible Access

Enjoy Scotland's outdoors - responsibly!

Know the Code before you go ...

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.

Whether you're in the outdoors or managing the outdoors, the key things are to:

- take responsibility for your own actions;
- respect the interests of other people;
- care for the environment

Find out more by visiting www.outdooraccess-scotland.com or phoning Scottish Natural Heritage on (01738) 458545 for a copy of the full Code or a leaflet.



Please

- Take your litter home.
- Keep your dog under close control. Remove Dog dirt and dispose of it safely.
- Be aware that cattle can be dangerous. Don't take your dog into fields where there are calves or other young animals. Never let your dog worry or attack livestock.
- Expect to meet other people. Let farm traffic pass safely. Cycle or ride at a safe speed.

Useful information

Brechin Tourist Information Centre, Pictavia (weekends only during winter) 01356 623050

Brechin Townhouse Museum, 28 High Street 01356 625 536

Brechin Library, St Ninian's Square - 01356 622687

Pictavia Centre - 01356 626 241
www.pictavia.org.uk

Caledonian Railway, Park Road 01356 622992
www.caledonianrailway.co.uk

Traveline (Public Transport information):
Tel: 0871 200 22 33

www.visitcairngorms.com

www.angusahead.com

www.visitscotland.co.uk

Other Leaflets available: Forfar Path Network, Kirriemuir Path Network, Arbroath Path Network, Walking in Glen Clova and Glen Doll, Walking in Glen Esk, Cycling in the Angus Glens, ECAP Activity guide.

For further details contact:

For information on the leaflets and path networks in Angus please contact Angus Council.
ACCESSLine (all Council enquiries) 08452 777 778
e-mail: accessline@angus.gov.uk
or visit: www.angus.gov.uk

Acknowledgments

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The text of this leaflet can be made available in large print or Braille and in Chinese, Urdu, Hindi or Punjabi on request. Please contact our ACCESSLine on 08452 777 778 for information on this.



Paths To Health

Walking is an excellent way of helping you improve your health. It is the simplest and most natural form of exercise there is.

30 minutes brisk walking each day can make a big difference. You don't have to do this all at once; it could be two 15-minute walks.

What are the benefits of keeping active?

Taking regular exercise will not only make you feel better, it could also be a lifesaver.

Research has shown that exercise can help to:

- Lower stress levels and blood pressure
- Reduce the risk of heart disease and strokes
- Strengthen bones and muscles
- Maintain flexible joints
- Control weight

If you want to improve your fitness, why not try out some of the paths on the map. Try starting with short walks, and build up to longer walks as your fitness improves.

Paths For All

Wherever possible, obstructions such as stiles and steps have been avoided, to make the paths as accessible as possible.

Most of the paths are accessible to cyclists and horseriders as well as to walkers. In a few cases physical conditions make routes inaccessible or less suitable for cyclists or horseriders. In these cases walking, cycling or horseriding symbols have been used to recommend appropriate use.

All of the paths are signposted with green fingerposts, as are return routes to Brechin along public roads. Distances are given in miles.

Many of the paths have a hard, well-drained surface. Other more remote paths in the network may have a grassy surface or may be muddy, particularly where they are shared with farm vehicles. Appropriate footwear for wet or muddy conditions is recommended.



Brechin Path Network



Brechin Town Circuit

4 miles 2 hour walk

Brechin was formerly an important railway junction. The main line was closed to passengers in 1952 and the old Forfar line now makes a pleasant and straightforward walk around the northern edge of Brechin. This is locally known as the 'nature trail'. Part of the old Montrose line is still operated by volunteers of the Brechin Caledonian Railway who run steam trains to Bridge of Dun on Sundays throughout the summer.

This circuit follows the 'nature trail', then continues westwards through Dubton. It is possible to extend the walk by detouring through pleasant woodland to visit the Brechin Castle Centre and Pictavia, where the tourist information centre is also located.

You can complete this circuit with a wander through Brechin's historical town centre, and a visit to the Townhouse Museum, or to Brechin Cathedral with its unusual round tower, which may date back to the early 12th century.

Leuchland

2.5 miles 1.25 hour walk

An extensive network of tracks to the north and east of Brechin makes it easy to explore the surrounding countryside.

This route uses tracks around Drumachlie and Leuchland farms, and passes through the former site of Northton of Leuchland farm.

Near Leuchland you are rewarded with panoramic views over Brechin and surrounding farmland, to the Angus Glens beyond.



Trinity Circuit

7 miles 3.5 hour walk, 1 hour cycle ride

This longer circuit is ideal for off road cyclists or more ambitious walkers.

You will follow some of the old cattle raiks, or drove roads which radiate out from Trinity Muir Market Place, which is where Brechin's markets were once held. Cattle trysts were held here in years gone by, and an annual fair is still held here. The Muir is now a golf course.

The inner part of the circuit follows part of the Brechin Town Circuit along the former Forfar railway line.



Burghill Circuit

5.5 miles 2.75 hour walk

The south side of Brechin is bounded by the River South Esk, which once provided power for the towns mills.

Initially following the riverside from Brechin Bridge, this circuit links a number of paths and minor roads around the slopes of Burghill, on the southern side of the river.

Much of the route leads through pleasant woodland, with pockets of arable and pasture land. Parts of the route provide panoramic views over Brechin, or eastwards towards Montrose and Montrose Basin.



Maisondieu

3.5 miles 1.75 hour walk

This route uses another of the old cattle raiks which ran to Trinity Muir. The path follows north facing tree lined slopes through Maisondieu farm, with panoramic views across arable fields to the Angus Glens beyond.

The unmade path surface is ideal for walking and horseriding, but care should be taken during wet spells, when it may become muddy.

Other Paths

In addition to the listed routes we have signposted several other paths around the town. These have not been listed individually but are shown on the map.



The 'City' of Brechin sits in the north east corner of lowland Angus, alongside the river South Esk.

The town dates back to at least the tenth century, when King Kenneth II gave a royal grant to the church. The church was granted cathedral status around 1150, during the reign of King David, and a royal charter in 1641 confirmed the status of the town as a burgh.

The town started to expand with the coming of the industrial revolution, when Flax spinning and weaving became the towns major employer. These continued until the 1960's, reaching a peak in the 1880's when the town had 5 linen factories, a paper mill, 2 flax mills, 2 bleachfields, 2 distilleries, a brewery, 2 saw mills and 2 nurseries.

This trade provided opportunities for local entrepreneurs like Provost Thomas Molison. Despite losing an arm in a duel he ran his public affairs and several businesses with great energy, and even helped to put out a fire in his maltmill when the maltman neglected his duties in the local pub. Another famous son of Brechin is Sir Robert Watson-Watt, who invented Radar whilst trying to develop a system to track rain clouds.

This has made the largest single contribution to aviation safety.



Brechin Path Network

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