

Information

Tourist Information Centres

If you want to find out more about any of the places of interest along the Irvine & Kilwinning New Town Trail, contact:

The Ayrshire & Arran Tourist Board

Telephone 01292 678100

www.ayrshire-arran.com

Other Walking and Cycle Routes in and around North Ayrshire

For information and guides to other walking and cycle routes in and around North Ayrshire, contact:

Eglinton Country Park Visitor Centre

Telephone 01294 551776

www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk

Other information on paths can be found on:

Ayrshire Paths

www.ayrshirepaths.org.uk

Paths for All Partnership

Telephone 01259 218888

www.pathsforall.org.uk



**NORTH AYRSHIRE
COUNCIL**



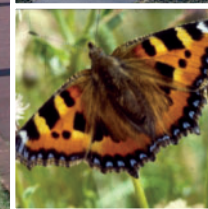
Printed on environmentally friendly paper

Irvine and Kilwinning

NEW TOWN TRAIL



Part of the National Cycle Network



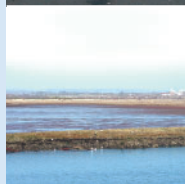
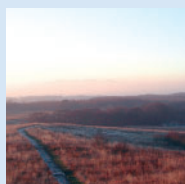
**Pedestrian &
Cycle Trail Map
and Guide**



Route Information



Safety Advice



Irvine and Kilwinning New Town Trail is a circular pedestrian and cycle route, some 12 miles (19 Kilometres) in length. The Trail follows the main river valleys and provides traffic-free transport links between communities as well as attractive local recreational opportunities for walkers and cyclists.

The route links Irvine town centre, Kilwinning, Eglinton Country Park, residential areas as well as local leisure facilities and workplace locations.

The Trail also provides links with an extensive network of local paths and tracks as well as linking into two National Cycle Network (NCN) routes; running from Glasgow to Carlisle and between Kilmarnock and the Isle of Arran and onto the Mull of Kintyre.

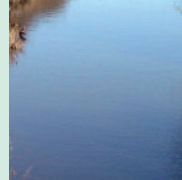
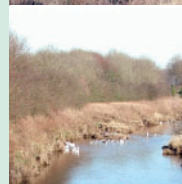
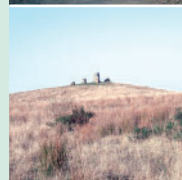
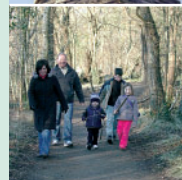
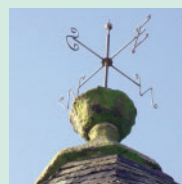
Walking & Cycling on the Trail

The Trail is on well-surfaced paths or tracks that are suitable for able pedestrians and less able people.

Some parts of the route are shared with cyclists, particularly those sections that are the same as the National Cycle Network; these are identified on the accompanying route maps.

Always have regard for your own safety and the safety of others.

Before setting off, please read the pedestrian advice and notes on cycle safety and signs on the following pages.



Pedestrian Advice

To maximise your enjoyment of the Trail ensure that you:

▶ Wear comfortable footwear

▶ Carry adequate clothing

▶ Be aware of other users on the route, particularly cyclists who may be approaching from behind

Cycle Safety

Observe the following few simple safety precautions:

▶ Wear a helmet

▶ Ensure that your cycle is roadworthy

▶ Observe signs and notices along the route

▶ Be courteous to other Trail users, especially young or elderly pedestrians

Signs

The illustrations below indicate the main signs you are likely to encounter along the route.



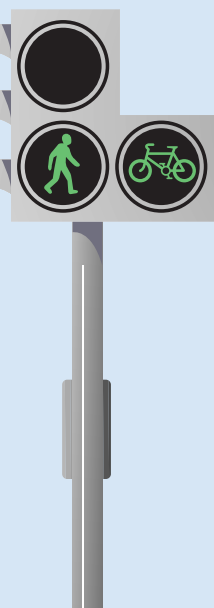
New Town Trail
Marker Posts



National Cycle Route
Signing



Route recommended
for Pedal Cyclists



Toucan Crossing



Cyclists Dismount

Using the maps

Planning your journey

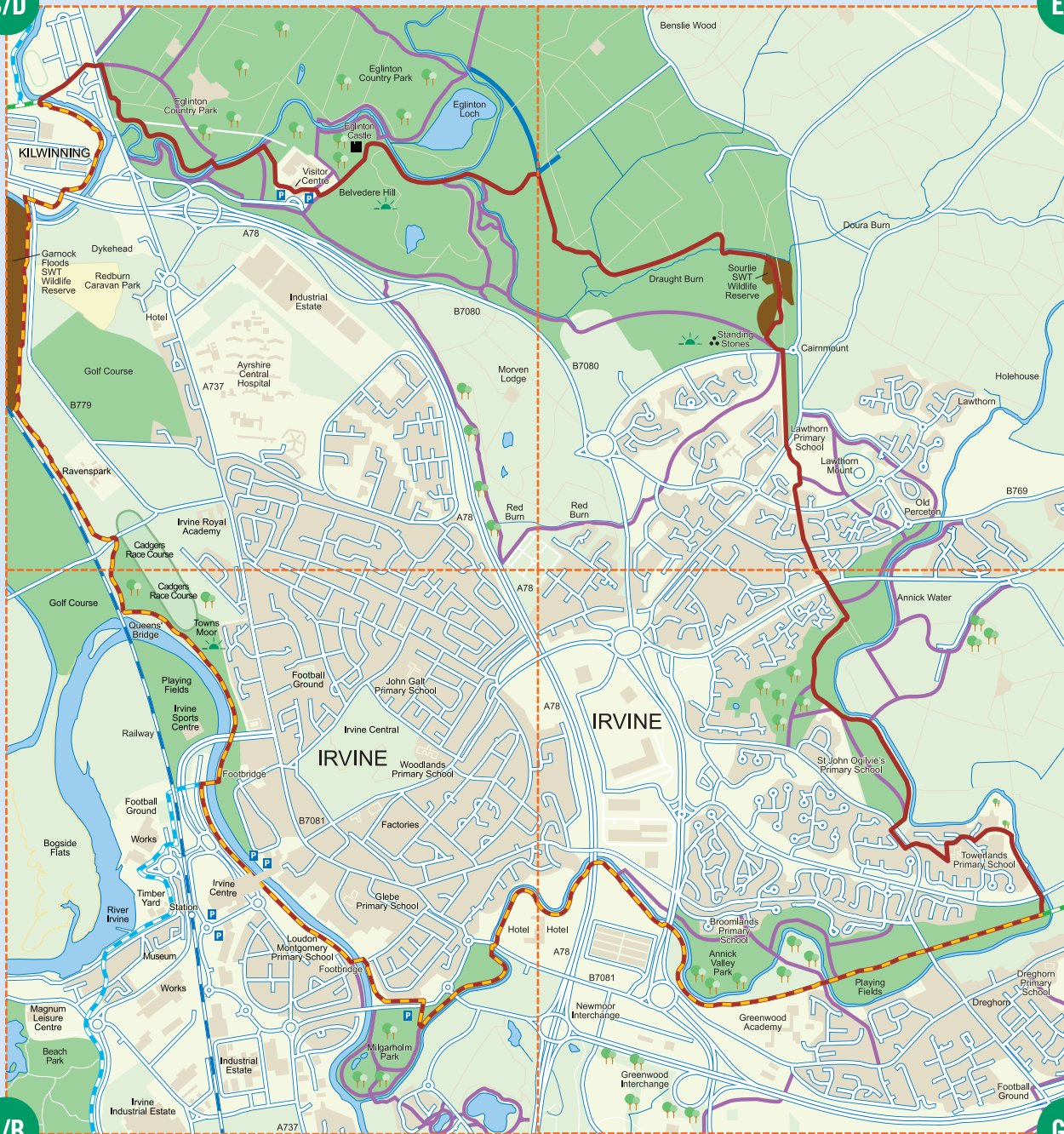
The Irvine and Kilwinning New Town Trail is approximately 12 miles long (19 kilometres) and is predominantly flat along its length. The overview map on pages 6 and 7 shows the general line of the route. Maps A to H give more detailed information, including notes that will help you complete your journey safely.

Key to symbols used on the Route Maps

-  New Town Trail
-  New Town Trail/National Cycle Network Shared Sections
-  Other Routes
-  Road
-  Railway, with Station
-  River
-  Park or Recreation Area
-  Built-up Area
-  Car Parking
-  Viewpoint
-  Scottish Wildlife Trust Reserve

C/D

E/F



A/B

G/H



C

D

Toucan crossing

NCN 7
to PaisleyNCN 73
to Ardrossan

KILWINNING

Road-cross
when safeGarnock
Floods
SWT
Wildlife
Reserve

Dykehead

Redburn
Caravan Park

Hotel

Golf Course

B779

Ravenspark

Road-cross
when safe

10

Cadgers
Race CourseIrvine Royal
Academy

A78

Industrial
Estate

A737

Ayrshire
Central
HospitalCyclists dismount
through Visitor
Centre AreaVisitor
Centre

Belvedere Hill

Eglinton
CastleEglinton
Country ParkEglinton
Country ParkEglinton
Loch

B7080

Morven
LodgeRed
Burn

11



Eglinton Castle

E

F

Benslie Wood



Standing Stones

Doura Burn

Draught Burn

Sourlie
SWT
Wildlife
Reserve



Standing
Stones

Cairnmount

B7080

Holehouse

Lawthorn

Lawthorn
Primary
School

Lawthorn
Mount

Old
Perceton

B769

Red
Burn

12

13

G

H

IRVINE

A78

Annick Water

St John Ogilvie's
Primary SchoolBus Lane -
cross when safeRoad -
cross when safeBus Lane -
cross when safeTowerlands
Primary SchoolBus Lane -
cross when safeNCN 73
to Kilmarnock

Hotel

A78

B7081

Broomlands
Primary SchoolAnnick Valley
ParkPlaying
FieldsGreenwood
AcademyNewmoor
InterchangeGreenwood
InterchangeDreghorn
Primary SchoolFootball
Ground

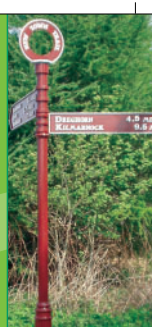
14

15

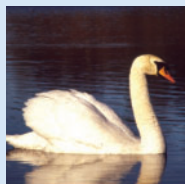
Along the Route



Along the Route



Sights and Features



- ▶ Bird watching at Garnock Floods – the route passes this popular birdwatching location.



- ▶ Enjoy seeing the wild flowers and butterflies on the Town Moor.



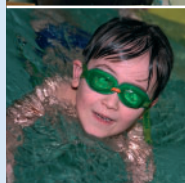
- ▶ Visit the Powder House: part of the local history of the area.



- ▶ Look out for views of Irvine's churches from around the route.



- ▶ View Kilwinning Abbey from the route.



- ▶ Discover the Maritime Museum and Magnum Leisure Centre.

- ▶ Call in to the Eglinton Park Visitor Centre: visit the Castle and Gardens.

- ▶ Other things to look out for are the stunning views of Arran and the local rivers.

Eglinton Country Park

The Trail runs for some 3 miles (5 kilometres) through Eglinton Country Park. The park offers numerous opportunities and facilities for leisure and recreation.

Within the Park you can take a quiet walk through the woods, around the loch or along the River Lugton in the gardens looking out for a variety of trees, flowers, birds or insect life.

Bring along a picnic and relax on the castle lawn or near the Visitor Centre whilst the children enjoy the play areas.

If you want to explore Eglinton by bike, a good network of suitable paths exists within the park.

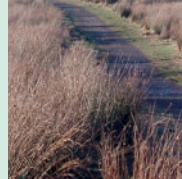
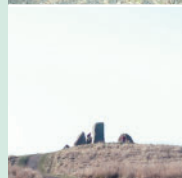
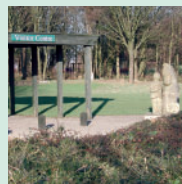
Coarse angling is available at Eglinton Loch and there is a bridleway system for horse riders. Permits are required for both, and can be obtained at the Visitor Centre.

Discover the story of Eglinton Estate, site of the famous Eglinton Tournament.

The Visitor Centre is the starting point for finding out what's on; including Ranger led walks and activities.

Irvine

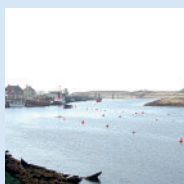
Irvine is the principal town and commercial centre of North Ayrshire. A royal burgh since 1372, the town has a rich maritime heritage.



Along the Route



Information



It functioned as the chief port for Glasgow until the 18th century when the River Clyde was deepened and Port Glasgow was developed.

Historical connections include Mary Queen of Scots who is celebrated annually with the week-long Marymass Festival in August.

Robert Burns lived in Glasgow Vennel in Irvine and the town was the birthplace of author John Gait and the poet James Montgomery.

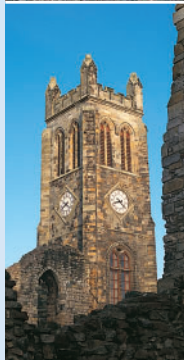
One of Scotland's five new towns in the 1960s, today the town is a diverse mixture of old and new architectural styles, with excellent shopping and commercial facilities.

Irvine has an array of leisure facilities and developments including the Magnum Leisure Centre and the Scottish Maritime Museum.

Kilwinning

With a history stretching back almost 1400 years Kilwinning is dominated by the remains of the 12th century abbey and this landmark is the most outstanding feature of the local skyline.

Kilwinning was home to the poet Robert Service, known as the Bard of the Yukon, who is revered in Canada in the same way that Scots remember Robert Burns.



National Cycle Network

The National Cycle Network is a major project that has developed 10,000 miles of high quality, signposted cycle routes.

North Ayrshire has two national cycle routes running through its Area. National cycle route 7 runs roughly north to south through North Ayrshire, close to many of the area's major settlements. Whilst national cycle route 73 runs east from Irvine to link to Kilmarnock in East Ayrshire as well as west to Ardrossan, Arran and onto the Mull of Kintyre. For more information contact:

Sustrans

Telephone 0131 624 7660

www.sustrans.org.uk

Car Parking

Car parking is available at Eglinton Park as well as other locations around the route. The maps identify where cars may be parked.

Rail Services

Train services are frequent and are available a short distance from the New Town Trail route. Contact:

Scotrail

Telephone 0845 7484950

www.scotrail.co.uk

Bicycles are carried free on all Strathclyde Passenger Transport supported rail services. Booking is not required, but cyclist's co-operation is requested in avoiding travelling at peak periods where possible.

Bus Services

The Trail is well served by local bus services. Contact:

Traveline Scotland

Telephone 0870 6082608

Strathclyde Passenger Transport

www.spt.co.uk