

St Ann's – Millhousebridge – Hoddom

Distance

St Ann's – Lockerbie 20km (12½ miles)

Lockerbie – Hoddom 14km (9 miles)

Source

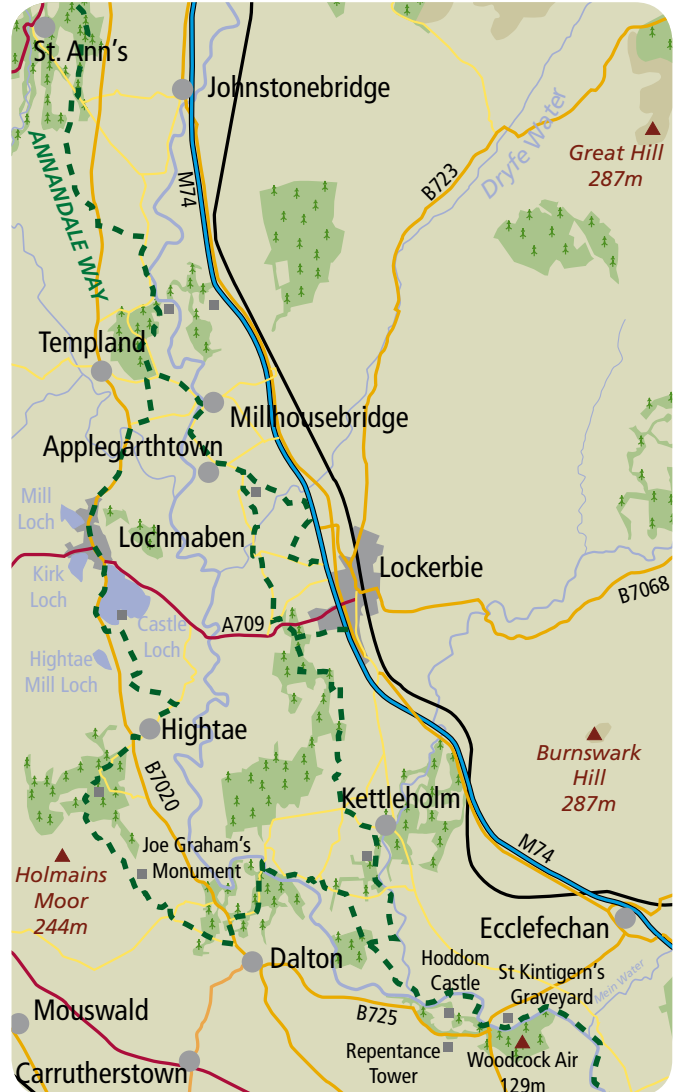
From the A701 one mile north of St Ann's (OS Map 322 GR072, 953) head up through Hazelbank Plantation, down to Blackburn Cottage and over fields past Greenbeck and Heathfield farms. A series of minor roads, paths through pastureland, and plantation bring you past Lochbrow, through Spedlin's Flow and Corncockle to the road between Templand and Millhousebridge. Turn left here, following the 'Lockerbie' sign, to Millhousebridge down the banks of the Annan. If, stopping in Lockerbie turn left after Applegarthtown leaving the Annandale Way, walking along quiet roads into the town. If you're carrying on turn right along the road through Gallaberry Plantation across Dryfe Water, along quiet roads to Lockerbie Memorial Garden. Here is a second opportunity to enter Lockerbie along the A709.

Continuing south, cross the main road through the plantation that makes up Eskrigg Nature Reserve. Follow on through Pilmur, Southfield along a minor road, drop towards Kettleholm where you turn right walking with the Water of Milk to your left and through the plantation past Milkbank Kennels. Carry on to Broom where a sharp right will see you rejoin the westward loop of the Annandale Way. Go through Brocklerigg Farm, just before the Milk joins the Annan and follow the river until opposite Hoddom Castle, crossing on the Mainholm footbridge, either for the castle or Hoddom Bridge on the B723. (OS Map 322 GR164,727).

to sea



You may wish to walk this section in two days, with a break in Lockerbie



...High Up; joyful as giants, Far off the Solway

Firth shone like a crescent moon... Lockerbie Academy



From Hoddom Bridge on the B723 (OS Map 322 GR164,727), follow a path along the south bank of the Annan, crossing at Mainholm footbridge and onto Brocklerigg Farm. About 1km north of the farm take the easterly loop of the Annandale Way, signposted 'Lockerbie'. Soon you will have the Water of Milk to your right as you make your way north past Milkbank Kennels, Southfield, Firpark and on into the Eskrigg Nature Reserve. There are three opportunities to divert into Lockerbie, the first of these is in the Nature Reserve, a second along the A7009 and the final one after Gallaberry plantation.

If you ignore the Lockerbie diversions, you will cross the main road at the Memorial Gardens and follow minor roads over Dryfe Water, through Gallaberry and onto along the banks of the Annan into Millhousebridge. About 1km later, you rejoin the western loop of the Annandale Way. Out of these lowlands formed by the junction of the Annan and Kinnel Water, a series of minor roads, paths through pastureland, and plantation tracks gently lead you towards the uplands, firstly through Corncockle Plantation and Spedlin's Flow, then past Lochbrow and over the fields of Heathfield, before heading up through Hazelbank Plantation and finally emerging on the A701 one mile north of St Ann's. (OS Map GR322 072, 953)



Tracing the river along its path like a palm reader following the lifelines on an open, eager hand • Lockerbie Academy

A lingering taste of bad bread?

The lanes around Templand were once filled, dyke-to-dyke, with the heads of men walking to and from work at Corncockle Quarry. They transported the sandstone by rail, crossing the Annan on a now-rickety bridge just north of the infamous Spedlin's Tower. Perhaps the Quarry was named for the purple flower once abundant in cornfields but unwelcome because they made bread bitter-tasting or even poisonous.

The Templand area still murmurs with the terrible haunting of Spedlin's Tower and the Jardine Family by miller, James Porteus (c 1650). He was confined in the dungeon of the Tower by a forgetful Sir Alexander, where he accidentally starved to death. But not before he had chewed off his own hands. His crime? Some say he was imprisoned for baking bad bread

Lockerbie Academy.



Route diversion

A welcome to Lockerbie

We would love to invite you to Lockerbie. There's a lot to do, from places to get refreshments to places to get your energy back. Why not go for a delicious ice cream? Or if it's raining, visit our local library. We have two Church of Scotland and one Catholic Church, with friendly ministers. We also have a memorial for all the people that died tragically in the Lockerbie air disaster on the 21st December 1988.

We hope you enjoy your time on the walk.

Lockerbie Academy

The Jardines were early pioneers in Queensland Australia. In 1865 John Jardine named an 'Annan' River there. It is also a fishing destination, but unlike the Scottish Annan, has crocodiles.

Jardines of Applegarth moved to Spedlin's tower C15.

Applegarth a village on a C8-11 monastic site with a church and the Jardine burial enclosure.

Applegarthtown church
and graveyard.

Millhousebridge was built in 1814 as an estate village for Jardine Hall.

Steven's Croft biomass plant, largest in Scotland. Can power 70,000 homes.

Dryfe Sands – the last great battle between Border families Maxwell and Johnstone, 1593.

Minsca
wind farm.

Confluence
of Annan and
Kinnel Water.

Lockerbie
Dairy or 'the
cheesie'.

Ladyward Roman Fort and Torwood marching camp. In the invasion of 79AD, they walked 15-25 miles a day and built temporary fortified camp at the end of each day's march. Tougher footwear was developed for Scottish conditions.

Eskrigg nature reserve managed by Lockerbie Wildlife Trust, is on the site of an old curling pond.

Burnswark Hill - an iron age fort and Roman camp where there may have been a siege in the conquest of Scotland.

St Mungo's graveyard ('Mungo' a familiar name for Kentigern).

One of many placenames in Annandale which include 'holm' – ('Meadow beside a river')
70% of land use in the Annan catchment is agricultural, much of it used for cattle grazing.

Birthplace of
Victorian essayist
& historian
Thomas Carlyle.

Every call, whistle and hoot. Runs like a river through my head. • Lockerbie Academy



Collect some objects which could have magic qualities (collecting may be in the form of sketching or a few words if the objects are too big to move!). Ask 'what if...?' e.g. What if leaves contain secret messages? What if a leaf floats downstream to Annan and a fisherman 'reads' it?

I rush across the stones,
Flicking up water.
Suddenly I come to flat
And struggle to make it across.
I'm downhill again,
Feeling the wind through my droplets,
Rushing, rushing from Moffat.

Down by Lochmaben,
Passing Lockerbie
Gliding through Annan.
I rise upwards,
As other waters join me
in my quest for freedom.
Then I sink back down again,
While the cattle drink from me.

I keep on swishing through the hills,
The light fading now and then,
As the stone crawls overhead,
When the people build bridges
to get across me.

I'm nearing the end of my life.
I was born in the Moffat hills but
I'm heading for the Solway,
Down to the firth.

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