



# Royal Burgh of Lochmaben & District Community Council

working for the community

Castle Loch – Walk 6 - Distance 7.5 kilometres - About 2 hours 30 minutes

## Description:

From the Town Hall walk south along the High Street to the Church, cross the B7020 for Dalton & Annan and continue along the A709 Dumfries—Lockerbie Road, pass the War Memorial and Victory Park then take the minor road on the left, this quickly climbs up and over a bridge which crossed the former Lockerbie-Dumfries railway.

*The railway was originally part of the Caledonian Railway and was opened in 1863. Sadly the line was axed by Dr Beeching and closed in 1965. Milk was transported from Lochmaben to Edinburgh by rail to supply the Edinburgh Dumfriesshire Dairies. In the city, the deliveries were by horse-drawn floats or latterly electric float lorries.*

Follow this road enjoying a good view over Castle Loch to the west, you will pass Innerfield Farm on your left and at the 'T' junction at Halleaths turn right and follow the road to the A709 (take care crossing this busy road), cross and go through the gate where you will join Walk 1 near between Innerfield Burn and Kirkhirst Plantation.. From here you cross the edge of Lochside Plantation and follow the path into Kirkhirst Plantation (do not follow the former farm track).

As you leave the woods you rejoin Lochside Plantation following the field boundary west till you reach Valison Burn. At this point, you will find a well-maintained raised wooden walkway leading you through Castle Wood. Part way along is a branch to a Bird Hide.

Following the walkway to its end, you will find yourself at Lochmaben Castle. Note the ditches on either side of the track which offered protection to the Outer Ward of Lochmaben Castle. The castle is the best preserved Edwardian Peel in Scotland.

At the small car park, on the right, a visit to Lochmaben Castle is recommended by continuing on the road to the larger car park. (Opposite the small car park there is a "Robert the Bruce Trail" information board and another board, at the castle, describing its history).

To continue the walk follow the Castle access road past Castle Mains Farm to the end of the road where it joins the B7020 (take care crossing this road which can be busy with fast traffic), Castle Mains cottage should be on your right, cross and go straight up the footpath in the middle of the farmer's field, as you reach the top of the field follow the path to the edge of Marmeadow Plantation, from there bear left to the track at the edge of Ryemuir Burn and follow it to join the minor road at Marlake Bridge.

Turn right on the road and continue past the cemetery to the end of the road and a 'T' junction. Turn right here and, after passing a few houses on the left, reach the main A709 Lochmaben-Dumfries road. Cross the road here to the pavement and continue ahead via Dumfries Road, Halliday Terrace and Bruce Street to reach the Town Hall.

**Credits:** Paul Gow, Tom Russell and David Mair of the Lochmaben Initiative and Robert Togneri for editing and production



Start



End



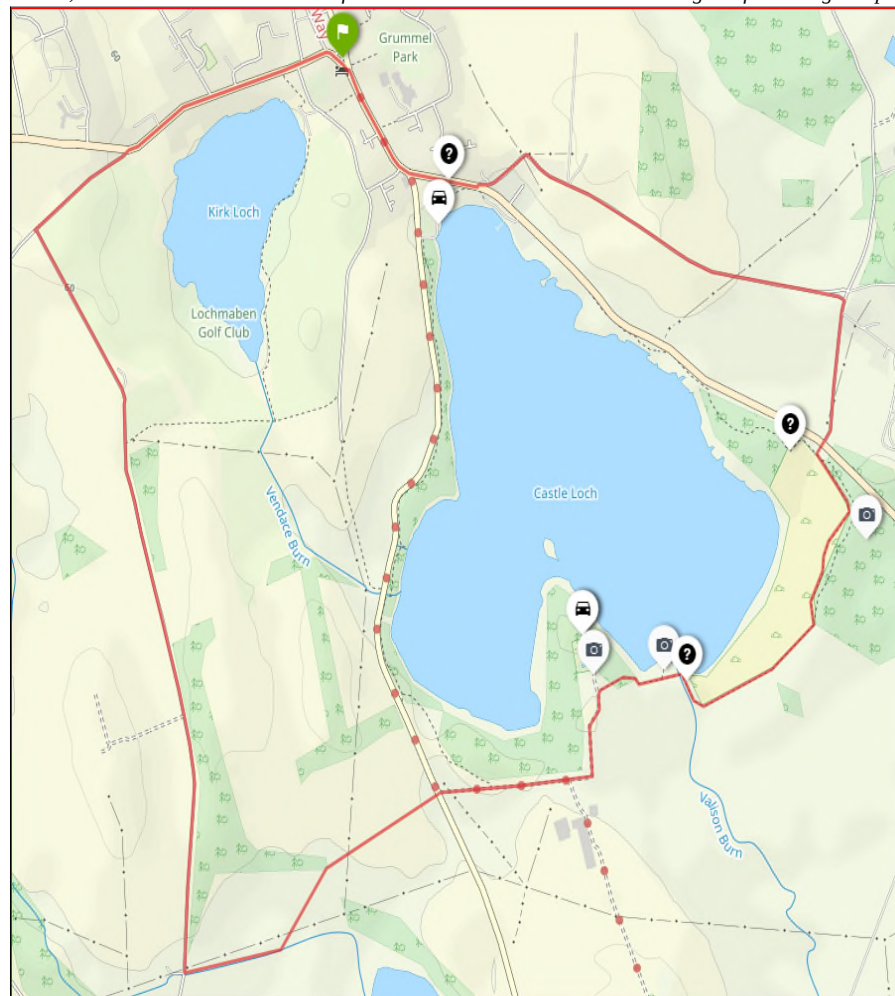
Trail direction



Access & Parking



Seat / Table



The QR Code on the left will take you to the Walks Page where you will find more information and an interactive map.

[www.lochmaben.org.uk](http://www.lochmaben.org.uk)

© Royal Burgh of Lochmaben & District Community Council