

CARSLUITH TO KIRKMABRECK

Circular farmland and countryside walk

7km/4 miles

Allow 2½ hours

Roadside pavement, minor roads, grass path and track. Stone stile and field gates.

Moderate

Stout shoes or boots recommended

PARKING is available next to the Village Hall in Carsluith. This is situated approximately 2.5km/1 1/2 miles southeast of Creetown, just off the A75.

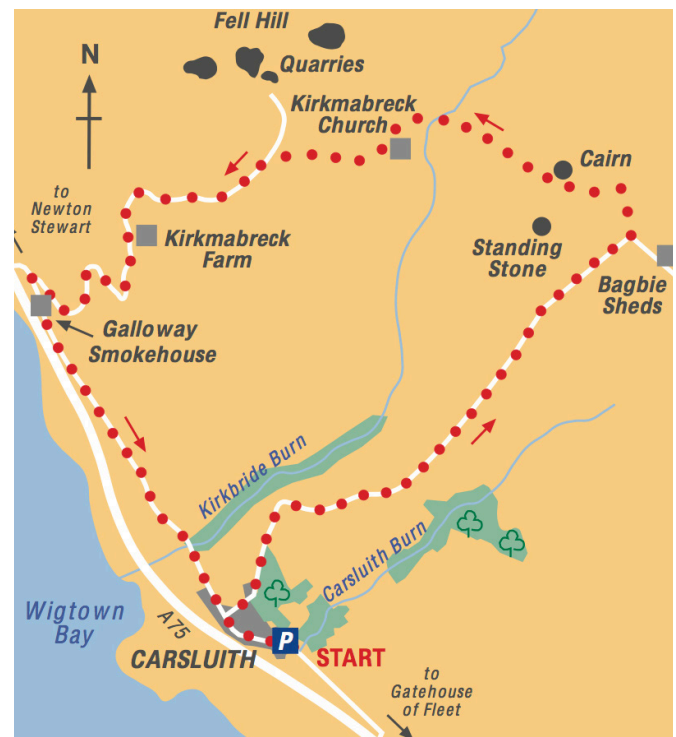
START From the parking bay, walk past the village hall then take the first road on the right, signed to Bagbie. This road heads steeply up hill to reach a bench. From here there are fabulous views over the Cree estuary to Wigtown and the Machars.

Continue along until you come to a sharp right hand bend just before Bagbie Sheds. Turn left here and cross the field towards a stile in the dyke. Turn left after this and, keeping close to the dyke, you will soon come to a grassed-over round cairn with unusually shaped stones at the entrance. Over the wall on the left you can see a standing stone on the skyline.

At the end of the field, join a track taking you to the old Kirkmabreck Churchyard. The churchyard includes memorial stones to some of the many seafarers who lived in the parish. It also includes two stones with the original name of Creetown inscribed on them – Ferrytown of Cree. The church is pre-Reformation and was the centre of the community which stood mostly in the field above the church. When the church was moved to Ferrytown of Cree in 1645 the inhabitants gradually vacated their cottages.

Continue past the churchyard, through the field gate then bear right and cross two fields to meet the road. Notice the quarries on Fell Hill that once supplied granite for famous buildings all over the world.

Turn left downhill to Kirkmabreck Farm. Pass through the farm steading and keep to the road until you eventually reach the old A75. As you journey downhill you can see the remains of stake nets used for catching the salmon for which this area is famous. Beside the stake nets is a large post which held targets for the Rifle Volunteers before World War I and at low tide you may see the remains of the firing points. Turn left to Carsluith, past the smokehouse, and in a short while you are back where you started.



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Leave gates as you find them - Keep dogs under close control at all times - Keep to paths across farmland - Take care on country roads
Use gates and stiles to cross fences, hedges and walls - Respect farm livestock, crops and machinery - Take your litter home with you
Protect wildlife, plants and trees - Guard against risk of fire - Make no unnecessary noise.