

The Heritage Paths Project



Begun in 2007, the Heritage Paths project aims to identify as many old paths and tracks across Scotland as possible, to research those paths and to promote them. The project classifies Heritage Paths as old paths or roads that have been used for a specific purpose. These include a wide range of types of path - Roman roads, medieval roads, coffin, kirk and pilgrimage routes, drove roads and other trade routes, and military roads, along with many other types of route.

This ScotWays-funded and volunteer-led project aims to raise awareness of this part of Scotland's cultural heritage and to secure the long-term future of these paths through people's increased appreciation of their historic and recreational value.

The Heritage Paths website www.heritagepaths.co.uk contains details of over 400 historic routes. The project's volunteers are always pleased to receive further information about the history or accessibility of any of these old routes.



Bermuda, Earnscleugh Water

Scottish Hill Tracks book

With 344 routes, *Scottish Hill Tracks* is a unique resource for walkers, cyclists, riders and runners wishing to explore the network of paths, old roads and rights of way which criss-cross Scotland's hill country from the Borders to Caithness. A number of these routes cross the Lammermuirs and form the basis for the network shown on this map.

About Scotways



The Scottish Rights of Way and Access Society (ScotWays) is a charity dating from 1845, which has as its objectives: "The preservation, defence, restoration and acquisition, for the public benefit, of public rights of access in Scotland, including public rights of way and related amenity".

ScotWays' reputation was made in the 19th century by fighting and winning some major legal battles in defence of public access. In the 1880s, the Society erected the first of its well-known green signs on paths in the Cairngorms and the Pentland Hills. It now has signs on many rights of way and other valued routes throughout Scotland

Nowadays, ScotWays achieves much by negotiation and mediation, rather than confrontation, but it continues to be recognised for its expertise on legal issues. The Society maintains the National Catalogue of Rights of Way (CROW) and responds to over a thousand access enquiries every year. ScotWays has also combined its history and knowledge of paths to create the Heritage Paths project.

Join Us

ScotWays' continued work is made possible through membership subscriptions and donations. If you would like to support our work please visit www.scotways.com or contact the ScotWays office.



Enjoy Scotland's outdoors responsibly

- Take responsibility for your own actions
- Respect the interests of other people
- Care for the environment.



KNOW THE CODE BEFORE YOU GO

outdooraccess-scotland.scot

Our free leaflet, *Public Access in Scotland – Know Your Rights* gives a brief overview of the law on access to the outdoors in Scotland – where you can go, what you can do. To get a copy, send an SAE to ScotWays or download from our website.

For more detailed information to the law on access rights and rights of way in Scotland see: *The ScotWays Guide to the Law of Access to Land in Scotland*, by Malcolm M. Combe, published in 2018. Available from ScotWays for £20 (plus P&P).

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This leaflet was funded by ScotWays. The original project was also funded by East Lothian Council, Scottish Borders Council and Gifford Community Council, with support from Lammermuirs Moorland Group and Lammermuir Community Council. Many thanks to all the land owners and land managers who contributed their time and energy – the support of those living and working in the Lammermuirs is especially appreciated. Last, but not least, thank you to the many volunteers who contributed to the project – surveying routes and auditing signposts, sharing photos and simply letting us know their favourite spots in these lovely hills.

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Paths In & Around The Lammermuirs

Scottish Rights of Way & Access Society



A Guide to a Special Landscape

Exploring The Lammermuirs



The Lammermuirs is an under-appreciated yet stunning area of high moorland traversed by the boundary between East Lothian and the Scottish Borders. Although the area lies within easy reach of Edinburgh and the busy coast of East Lothian and Berwickshire, its charms are largely hidden from the modern road network and it is easily overlooked.

Attractions include impressive hill forts at White Castle and Addinston, woodland walks through Pressmennan Woods and the Yester Estate, and riverside walks such as those along the Dye Water and the River Tyne. Reservoirs provide opportunity for fishing and sailing - Whiteadder is known to be visited by osprey!

Meikle Says Law is East Lothian's highest point – and its shoulder is Berwickshire's too. It boasts its own trig point, though Lammer Law's pillar is probably more visited; for trig baggers, there are at least 25 more pillars to find. There is no shortage of geocaches either. If hill-bagging is your thing, there are three Marilyns – Meikle Says Law, Spartleton and Darrington Great Law.

The Southern Upland Way crosses the Lammermuirs. Designated one of Scotland's Great Trails, it was Scotland's first coast to coast long-distance walking route. One of its best known and loved viewpoints is from Twin Law Cairns, an incredible vantage point from which to cast your eyes over the moorlands of the Lammermuirs, and beyond to the Eildon Hills and the Cheviots. There are many wonderful routes and sites to visit in the Lammermuirs, so we hope that this map inspires you to explore.

Images: Cover - View from Twinlaw Cairns © Eleisha Fahy.
Bermuda, © Neil Mackay
All other images © Eleisha Fahy.

The Lammermuirs Project



An extensive network of routes can be seen on old maps of the Lammermuirs. In recognition of their recreational and cultural value, ScotWays has produced this map to promote public access to an area now considered remote by many. The Lammermuirs project also aims to improve the signposting of routes, so ScotWays volunteers have been auditing, repairing and replacing existing signs and noting potential locations for new signage. Signposting is an ongoing part of ScotWays work, so updates and suggestions continue to be very welcome.

The most famous old route across the Lammermuirs is the Herring Road. It is thought to have been predominantly in use during the 18th and 19th centuries when the herring industry was strong, but records of the inland trade in fish go further back. In places V-shaped gouges may indicate repeated passage of heavily laden carts or packhorses over soft ground. The route was used by fishwives carrying huge creels of herring from Dunbar to the markets in Lauder, and by folk travelling to Dunbar to get a stock of salted fish for the winter. The Herring Road's recorded alignment has varied over time, so the signposted line long promoted by ScotWays is just one suggested variant.

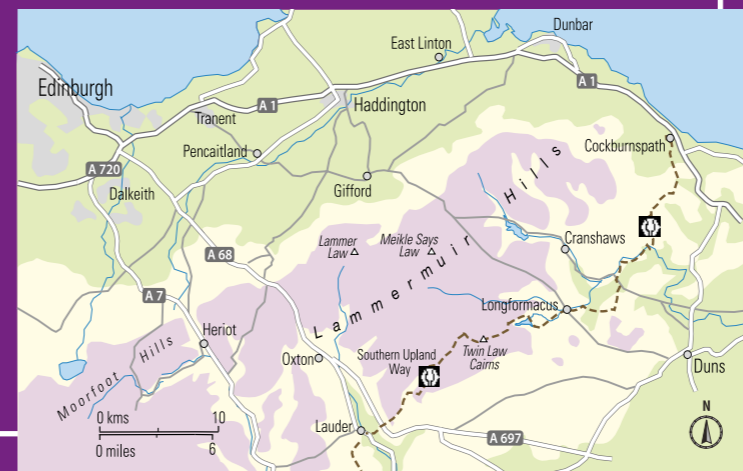
Roy's Military Survey of Scotland (1747-1755) shows a route labelled as Muir Road from Lauder to Dunbar. This is another herring road which lies to the west of the main promoted route. Although in places it is less distinct on the ground, it repays perseverance. Occasional small stones appear to mark the way and it passes near the site of the Shiel Inn beside the Dye Water, surely at one time a place of welcome refuge.

A possible medieval road runs between Haddington and Lauderdale. It ascends from Longyester and bypasses Lammer Law on its east side to reach Tollishill. An old road to Duns runs from the Monynut Forest to Ellemford. Most enigmatic of all is Crachoctrestrete, a possible Roman Road, in the east of the project area.



Lammer Law track ascending Crib Law

Using these historic routes, promoted trails, rights of way and other local paths, there is a great network of routes to explore in the Lammermuirs. Through this project, ScotWays has tried to improve the accessibility of the routes shown on the map. Despite this, some of the paths still await signposting improvement or pass over very faintly-tracked moorland, so can be challenging to find and walk. Anyone interested in using the routes shown should consult a modern Ordnance Survey map. More detailed route description information may be available from the Heritage Paths website, www.heritagepaths.co.uk, or in our book *Scottish Hill Tracks*.



Further Reading and Other Information



Maps and leaflets

Descriptions and maps for many routes in the area can be found at: www.visiteastlothian.org/activities-walking.asp
www.walkscottishborders.com

Websites

www.southernuplandway.gov.uk | www.johnmuirway.org
www.heritagepaths.co.uk | www.oldroadsofscotland.com

The Whiteadder Water study area stretches from Garvald to Duns. Find out about its archaeology, art, ballads and stories using the interactive map.

www.whiteadder.aocarchaeology.com

Books

To Follow the Dogs and Carry the Stick – Bob Jaffray (2015)
Glimpses into the Past in Lammermuir – John Hutton Browne (1892, reprinted 1998)
Scottish Hill Tracks – Scottish Rights of Way and Access Society (2011) – more information overleaf

Responsible Access

Please keep your dog under close control or on a short lead during the bird nesting season (usually April to July) to prevent disturbance.

Grouse shooting takes place in the hills between 12 August and 10 December, with most shoots occurring during the earlier part of the season. Be aware of the possibility of shooting and take advice on alternative routes. Avoid crossing land where a shoot is taking place until it is safe to do so.

A live firing range is located in the western Lammermuirs. It is marked as a Danger Area on this map and by signage around its perimeter and on the approaches. When in use (circa 10 days, March to July), red flags are flown and access is restricted.

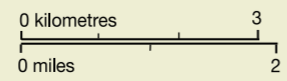
Paths in and around The Lammermuirs

Key to map symbols

- - - - - Heritage path
- - - - - Other path
- Indistinct path
- - - - - Tracks
- Berwickshire Coastal Path
- Southern Upland Way
- John Muir Way

Click on the Heritage Path name for more information

- Archaeological site/ place of interest
- Trig. pillar
- Viewpoint
- Wind turbines
- Woodland/plantation
- Refreshments
- Car parking
- Bus service; for timetables contact East Coast Buses, www.eastcoastbuses.co.uk OR Border Buses, www.borderbuses.co.uk



This map is intended to show the range of paths available in the Project area and is not suitable for detailed route finding. Please refer to the following maps for navigation: OS Landranger (1:50000) series 67,66. OS Explorer (1:25000) series 345, 346, 351
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