

## PATH INFORMATION

-  The first two and a half kilometres of the route from Aberlady follows the road-side pavement past Aberlady Bay.
  -  The next one and a half kilometres of the route to Gullane follows a surfaced path and farm tracks.
  -  Through Gullane the route follows pavements for 2 kilometres to Archerfield.
  -  The two kilometre section through Archerfield to Dirleton follows level tracks
  -  From Dirleton the route follows grass paths and tracks for four kilometres to the end of Abbotsford Road in North Berwick. Some of this section also runs along the side of a golf course.
- When walking here please keep to the path, keep dogs under close control and try not to disturb play.
-  The John Muir Way mostly follows pavements for the three kilometres through North Berwick.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

For further information about the John Muir Way from Helensburgh to Dunbar visit: [www.johnmuirway.org](http://www.johnmuirway.org)

## PUBLIC TRANSPORT

 There are various points along the way where public transport can be used to return to your start point or take you on to other locations. Details are available from the Traveline on 0871 200 22 33 or visit: [www.traveline.info](http://www.traveline.info)

## SCOTTISH OUTDOOR ACCESS CODE

Know the Code before you go ...  
Enjoy Scotland's outdoors – responsibly!

Everyone has the right to be on most land and inland water providing they act responsibly. Your access rights and responsibilities are explained fully in the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.

Whether you're in the outdoors or managing the outdoors, the key things are to:

- take responsibility for your own actions;
- respect the interests of other people;
- care for the environment.

Find out more by visiting:  
[www.outdooraccess-scotland.com](http://www.outdooraccess-scotland.com)  
or phoning your local Scottish Natural Heritage office.



## JOHN MUIR

John Muir, who is often acknowledged as being the 'father' of the modern conservation movement was born in Dunbar.



Visit John Muir's Birthplace at 126 High Street, Dunbar. Open Monday – Saturday 10am – 5pm; Sunday from 1pm – 5pm (closed Monday and Tuesday from October – March). There is an interactive visitor centre with regular events and children's activities. For details please visit [www.jmbt.org.uk](http://www.jmbt.org.uk)

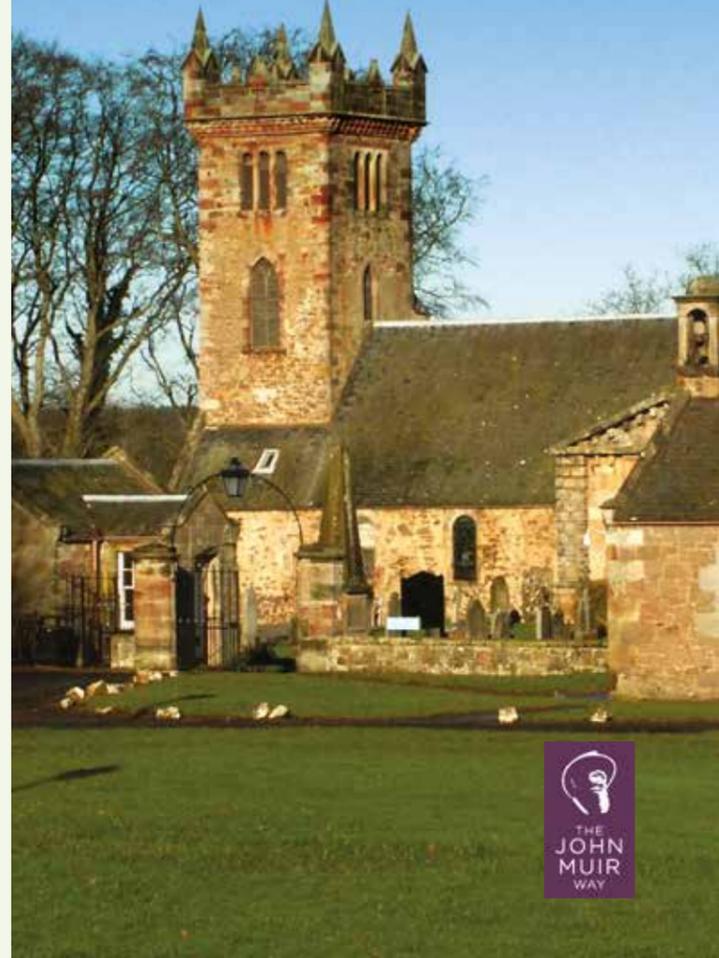
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# THE JOHN MUIR WAY

in East Lothian



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## ABERLADY TO NORTH BERWICK



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RIGHT: PINE CONE  
BACKGROUND: FIDRA

### The John Muir Way in East Lothian Aberlady to North Berwick

East Lothian has a very distinct and varied landscape. The coastline features sandy beaches, cliffs, harbours and castles whilst inland much of the landscape has been shaped by agriculture.

Much of the East Lothian coast is recognised nationally and internationally for wildfowl and waders such as curlew and redshank. In recognition of its importance it has been designated as part of the Firth of Forth Site of Special Scientific Interest.

The John Muir Way is a long-distance route stretching 215 kilometres from Helensburgh in Argyll and Bute to Dunbar here in East Lothian. The route passes many historical and industrial heritage sites and links in with many other local paths, so small sections can be tackled on their own or as part of a circular route.

This leaflet describes what can be seen on the section of the route between Aberlady and North Berwick, a total distance of fifteen kilometres. The route is signposted by green fingerposts as illustrated above.

Once past Aberlady Bay this section of the route moves inland slightly with views of castles, woodland and coastal grassland. Take your time, enjoy the great views, stay a while and seek out the many fascinating places along the John Muir Way that have helped shape the county.

Printable copies of this and other leaflets are available on our web site [www.visiteastlothian.org](http://www.visiteastlothian.org). Also any comments or suggestions you have about the John Muir Way can be left on the web site [www.johnmuirway.org](http://www.johnmuirway.org) Further information about the John Muir Way in East Lothian can be obtained by phoning 01620 827419.

## 1 Aberlady

The attractive village of Aberlady was the "Port of Haddington" from 1633 until the bay silted up in the 1800s. The tower on Aberlady Parish Church was built in the 1400s on the site of an even earlier church. Outside the church the "Loupin'-on-stone" and mercat cross are reminders of the past trading status of the village.



RINGLET BUTTERFLY

## 2 Luffness House

The John Muir Way passes the magnificent gates to this private house. There has been a house, or castle on this site since the 12th century.

## 3 Gullane

Gullane is right in the heart of golf country. The ruined Old Church of St Andrew dates from the 1100s. It was abandoned in 1612 after being inundated by sand on several occasions. It is well worth diverting off the John Muir Way to visit Gullane Bay, which is one of the best beaches in East Lothian.

## 4 Archerfield House

Dating from 1733, Archerfield House was built for the Nisbet family, who moved there from Dirleton Castle. It later fell into disrepair and from the 1960s was used as a grain store for many years. It has recently been rebuilt to its former glory as a private house.

## 5 Dirleton

Dirleton is regarded as one of the most picturesque villages in Scotland, with its large village green, 16th century church, castle and traditional cottages.

## 6 Dirleton Castle

Originally dating from the 13th century, Dirleton Castle has a long and interesting history. It has been destroyed, extended and rebuilt several times. Now in the hands of Historic Scotland the castle and gardens are well worth a visit.

## 7 Yellowcraig

Yellowcraig is a popular beach and grassland area. There is a great view of the coast from the top of the Craig in the woodland. It is thought that the island of Fidra (off Yellowcraig) was the inspiration for Robert Louis Stevenson's Treasure Island.



DIRLETON CASTLE

## 8 North Berwick

North Berwick has existed since at least 1250, although the area has been inhabited for over 2000 years. The name means "North Barley Farmstead". The town was once famous for its fishing industry and after the railway line opened it became a popular tourist destination.



NORTH BERWICK

### Wildlife

This section of the John Muir Way offers many opportunities to see wildlife. The coastal sections of the route are ideal for viewing sea birds such as gannets, oystercatchers and eider duck. During the winter months flocks of greylag and pink-footed geese can sometimes be seen flying over, or grazing in the fields of winter cereals next to the inland sections of the John Muir Way. The woodland and hedgerows offer food and shelter to many smaller birds, while brown hares and roe deer are often spotted in the fields and woodland edges. The coastal grasslands at Gullane and Yellowcraig are home to a great variety of wild flowers and butterflies in the spring and summer.

