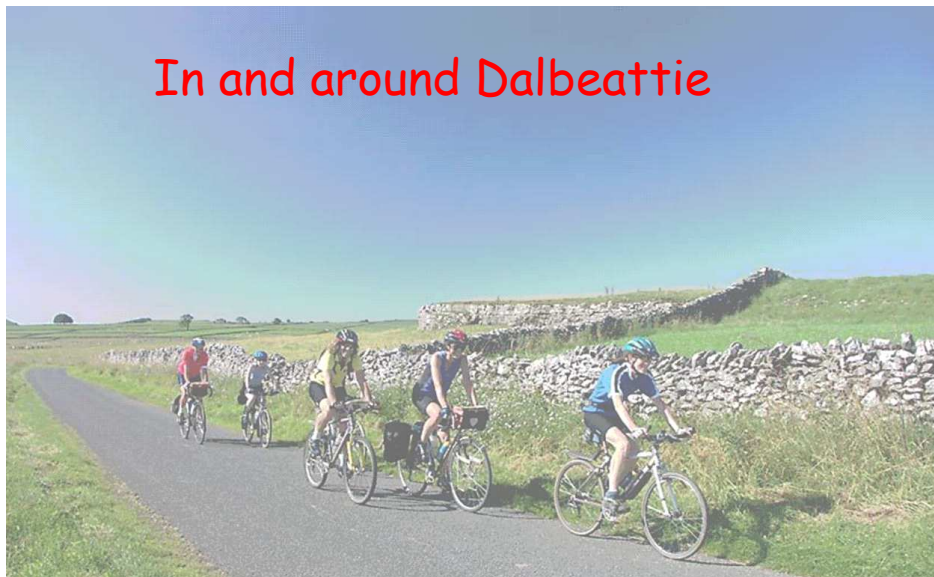


Cycling for All

Route
4

In and around Dalbeattie



Route 4 - Dalbeattie, Palnackie, Orchardton Tower,
Doach Wood, Gelston, Screel, Dalbeattie

18 miles (30 km) approx. (Shorter Option of 11 miles (17.7 km)), all on tarmac, approx. 300 feet (90 metres) total climb. Allow 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ - 3 hours to complete the route. Suitable for all types of bikes.

Starting from the Coach Parking on the main road to Dumfries (A711) adjacent to Colliston Park.

This is one of a series of circular cycle routes, centred on Dalbeattie, devised by CTC Dumfries and Galloway and published by Dalbeattie Community Initiative.



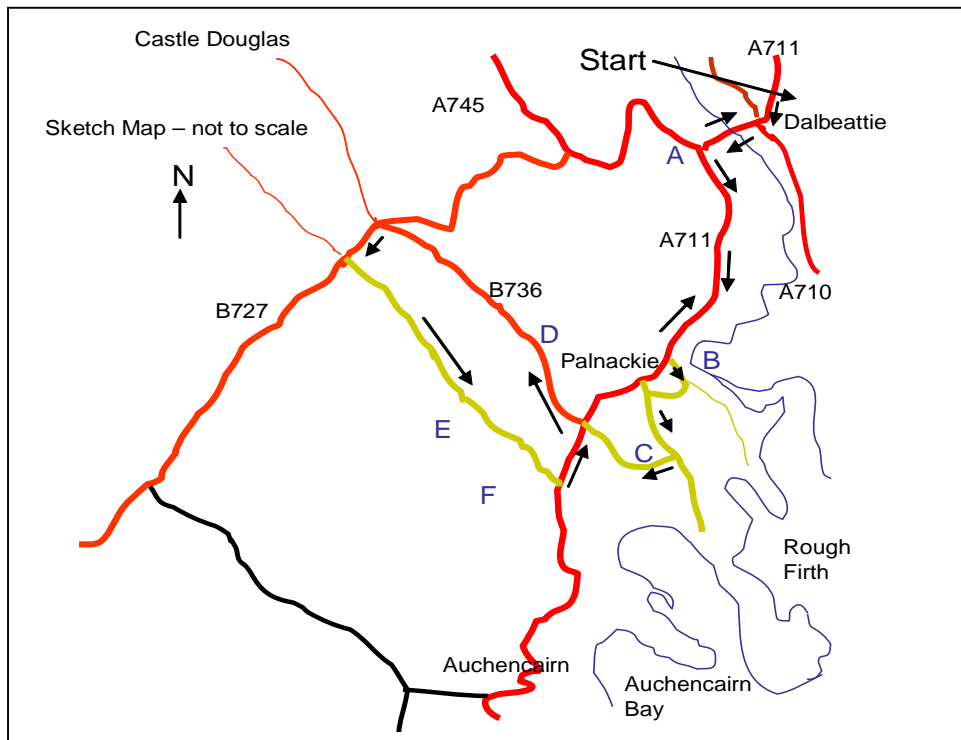
Ver 0.1 Sep 2005

Dalbeattie - the natural place to cycle

©Copyright Dalbeattie Community Initiative 2005



Page 1



Miles/Km from start	Route Description
0	Leave the Coach Parking, turning Left onto the main road (A711) towards Castle Douglas. Continue past the filling station and out of town towards the quarry. A
1.0m (1.6km)	Turn Left immediately after the traffic lights which control the bridge over the River Urr, signposted Palnackie, Auchencairn etc. Continue on the main road (A711) to Palnackie.
3.5m (5.6km)	Soon after the Palnackie sign turn Left into the village, then Left again at the cross-roads to the harbour. B .
3.8m (6.1km)	Return to the cross roads and continue straight ahead. If you want to visit North Glen Gallery, turn Left at the cross roads, signposted Glassworks. Even if you are not interested in the Gallery, it is in a lovely spot and worth a visit for the views. After your visit, retrace the route back to the cross roads, and turn Left .



Cycling for All in and around Dalbeattie

3.9m (6.3km)	Continue straight on, signposted 'School'; do not re-join the main road. There is bit of a hill up, then a nice downhill bit on the other side.
5.0m (8.0km)	Turn Right to Orchardton Tower. C
5.2m (8.4km)	When you can drag yourself away, continue on in the same direction.
6.1m (9.8km)	At the cross roads with the main road (A711), go carefully straight across, signposted Gelston.
	Option If you want to shorten the route, you can turn Right here instead and just follow the main road back to Dalbeattie. This reduces the total distance to about 11 miles.
7.6m (12.2km)	Look out for the Car Park for the Doach Wood on your right D and stop if you wish. In either case, continue on in the same direction (Gelston).
9.1m (14.6km)	Follow the road round to the Left , signposted Kirkcudbright B727.
9.6m (15.4km)	At the cross roads in Gelston, by the War Memorial, turn Left , signposted Auchencairn.
	Your reward for climbing the hill is a super view, followed by a long free wheel. Towards the bottom of the hill, look out for the entrance to Taliesin Community Woodland on the right E .
12.9m (20.8km)	When you get to the main road (A711), turn Left and just stay on the main road back to Dalbeattie.
17.6m (28.3km)	Turn Right at the traffic lights back over the River Urr, signposted Dalbeattie.
18.6m (29.9km)	Turn Right into the Coach Parking.
	Well Done !!!!

Capital letters in the Route Description refer to the Points of Interest noted on the back page and marked on the map opposite.



Points of Interest

A Craignair Quarry is a source of the famous Dalbeattie granite which was used in the building of many famous landmarks, including the Mersey Docks, the London Embankment, and the renowned Eddystone Lighthouse, as the granite is resistant to salt. First opened in about 1810, the quarry is still active, mainly for various grades of crushed granite.

B Palnackie harbour is not much to look at now but was once a thriving port, as was Dalbeattie!. A visit to North Glen Gallery is an experience with projects ranging from jewellery to oil lamps, by way of mushrooms, and furniture to chandeliers, with free philosophy available on request.

C Orchardton Tower. This is the only round tower-house in Scotland, a style usually associated with Ireland. It was built by John Cairns in about 1450 and is now in the care of Historic Scotland. The site is usually open and a climb to the parapet is a delight for children of all ages.

D Doach Wood. A Forestry Commission woodland with a way marked walk (or ride if you are up to the challenge!) up to a lovely viewpoint. The wood contains some very fine Douglas Firs.

E Taliesin Community Woodland is a project of Southwest Community Woodland Trust for all to enjoy and respect. It hosts courses in relevant subjects such as Chair Making from time to time.

F Screel Hill. One of the Galloway coastal hills giving super views, especially to the North and South, from the summit at 1125 feet (343m). There is a way marked path starting at a Forestry Commission car park just before you reach the A711 coast road.



For Your Safety

- Be aware that your safety and that of anyone in your charge is your responsibility.
- Always observe the provisions of the Highway Code when on the road.
- Show consideration for other road users and pedestrians.
- Ensure that your bike is roadworthy.
- Cycle within your capabilities and those of others in your group.

Route devised by members of Dumfries and Galloway CTC. The CTC, which was originally founded as the Cyclist's Touring Club in 1878, is the UK's largest and oldest cycling organisation with over 70,000 members and associates. CTC campaigns for the benefit of all cyclists and provides a comprehensive range of services for members. Web address: www.ctc.org.uk

Published by Dalbeattie Community Initiative, 71 High Street, Dalbeattie, DG5 4HA.
Tel. 01556 612518, email grahamp@dcinitiative.fsnet.co.uk

