

Dunblane Paths

6 Ashfield - Auchinlay Rd.

(6.4 km / 4 miles / 2 hours).

A circular walk to the mill village of Ashfield

From the Cathedral go up the Braeport to Ramoyle, one of the oldest parts of Dunblane. On the left look for Laigh Hills Loan sign-posted on the gable end of a cottage. Turn left and follow this path down to the Scouring Burn. Immediately on crossing the burn, take the path to the right and re-cross the burn. Bear left. Follow the path as it rises away from the burn and then passes through a wooden gate on the right leading to a wider path. Bear left and follow the path, crossing a wooden footbridge over a burn, eventually joining the road leading to Dunblane Cemetery. Cross this road and take the tarmac path to the right of the cemetery. As it emerges at Bellenden Grove, bear right along Barbush to the roundabout on the B8033, turn left and follow the pavement north over the A9. At the junction sign for Perth there is a large metal gate on the left leading into a field. Go through the gate, follow the grassy path to the right across the field to a gate leading onto a white bridge over the railway and into Ashfield. (3.2km / 2 miles from Dunblane). The village and mill, which employed about 130 people, were established in 1866. The mill started as a bleach works then was converted into a dye works in 1946 finally closing in 1975. The houses are now privately owned.



5 Ashfield and Kinbuck by Allan Water

(11.3 km / 7 miles / 3 h 20 min)

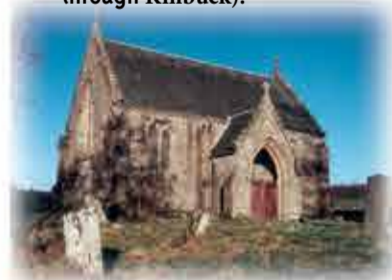
An easy walk through open countryside with views west to the Braes of Doune and east to the Sheriffmuir. From the Cathedral go up the Braeport to Ramoyle, formerly a settlement of handloom weavers. This narrow road is one of the oldest parts of Dunblane. On the left look for Laigh Hills Loan sign-posted on the gable end of a cottage. Turn left and follow this path down to the Scouring Burn. Turn left and cross the concrete footbridge over the burn. Follow the burn to your left until you see the sign for Ashfield on your right. Go up a small rise and continue until you meet the railway. Go right following both the river and the railway passing under the A9. Continue along the riverbank.

Caution: There has been a landslip which has affected a small part of the path by the river on this section of the walk. Warning signs are in place. Detour round the landslip by climbing a short distance up the bank and walk along the hillside until past the landslip. Rejoin the path and continue until you reach the railway underpass on your left. Go under the railway and through the metal gate, turn right and follow the path along the river until you reach a fork in the path. There are two options:

Option 1. Take the left-hand path down to a wood bridge over the river to join up with the return leg of Walk 6. (4.14 km / 2.6 miles to Dunblane).

Ashfield & Kinbuck continued...

Option 2. Take the right-hand fork and follow the railway, on your right, into the former mill village of Ashfield passing the white bridge over the railway on your right. (3.2 km / 2 miles from Dunblane). Continue along the main road in Ashfield, and leave Ashfield northwards via the footpath at the bus shelter. Follow the path along the edge of a field until you meet the access track to Craighton Farm. Cross the track and the stile into the next field. (NB in winter this field is often flooded. If it is, turn right at the Craighton track, pass under the railway bridge, turn left at the junction with the B8033 and follow the road through Kinbuck).



Walk along the edge of the field, cross the stile at the end then follow the path by the river, then uphill to meet the B8033 as it enters Kinbuck. Continue through Kinbuck following the road to the bridge over the Allan Water on the north side of the village

(On the eve of the Battle of Sheriffmuir on 13th November 1715, Kinbuck saw some 6000 Jacobite infantrymen spend the night packed into whatever shelter they could find around the village. They moved uphill onto the Sheriffmuir before dawn to confront the Hanoverian army)

Cross the bridge over the river and turn left to return to Dunblane via the quiet, Auchinlay Road past the back entrance to Cromlix Estate. (6.44 km / 4 miles to Dunblane) Continue along the Auchinlay Road past Crofts of Cromlix and into Dunblane. Mineral wells were discovered at Crofts of Cromlix in 1813 which briefly established Dunblane as a spa down with the associated building of the Dunblane Hydro Hotel. On entering the town a path by the converted Springbank Mill on your left leads to the Faery Bridge over the Allan Water. Once across the footbridge bear right to return to the Cathedral

Ashfield - Auchinlay Rd. continued...

The large mill building and associated weir can be seen beside the river to the west of the village.

Gladstone Square in the village is named after the Liberal Prime Minister William Ewart Gladstone (1809-1898)



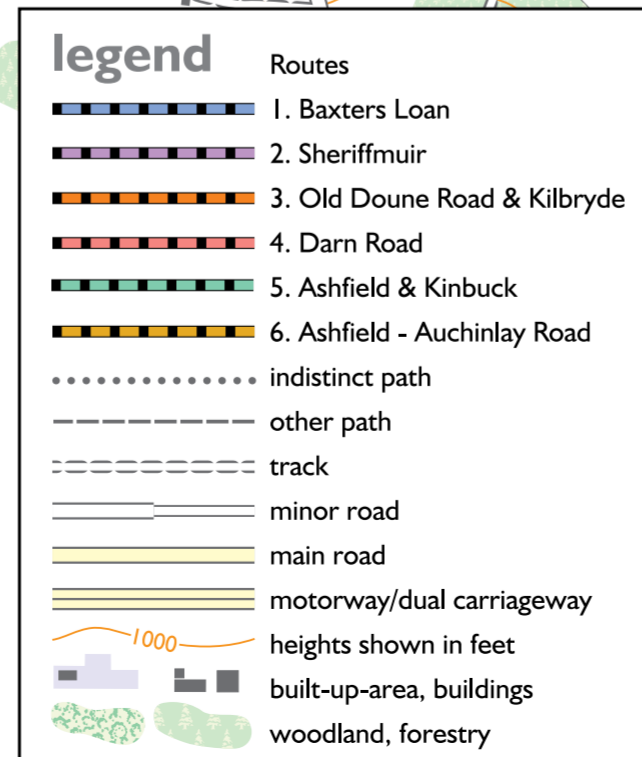
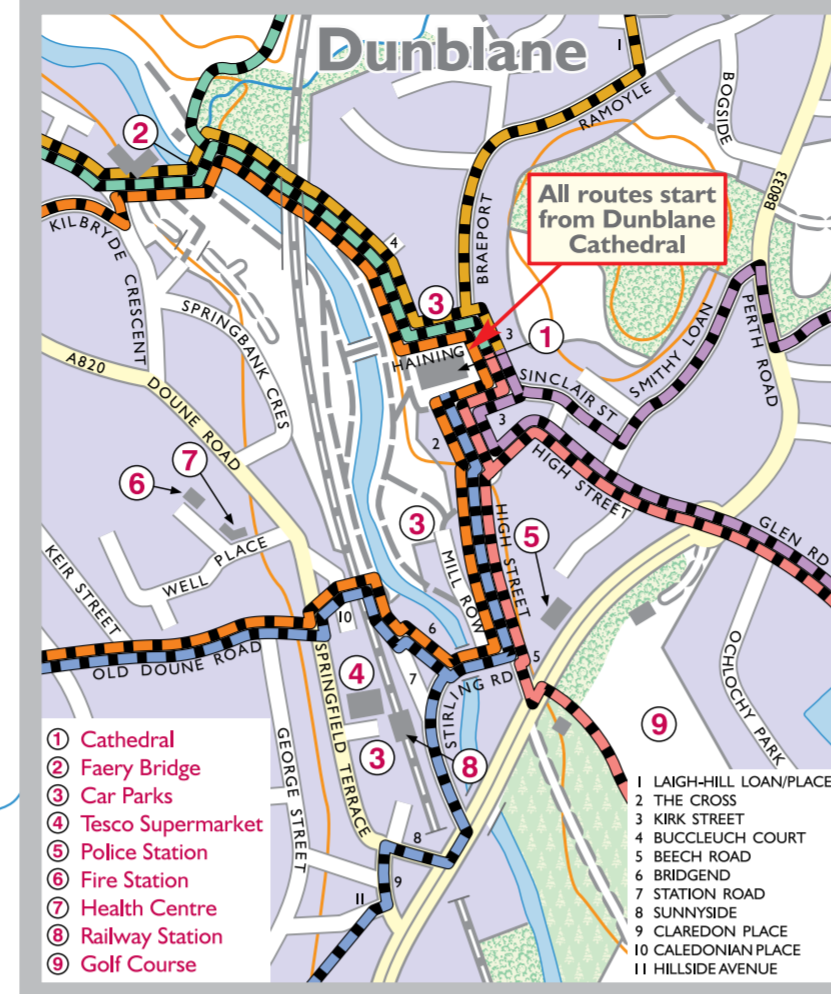
Return to Dunblane from Ashfield can be either:

Option 1 By the Allan Water. Having arrived at Ashfield over the white railway bridge, turn left onto a narrow path and retrace the first part of Walk 5. (3.2 km / 2 miles to Dunblane). OR

Option 2. By Auchinlay Road. Once across the white bridge turn left onto a narrow path but after zoom take the stepped path to the right leading down to the river-side and a wooden bridge over the Allan Water. Cross the bridge and bear right then follow the wall of Wells Cottage to a gate in the fence. Continue along the path, with views over to Ashfield Mill and weir, to the end of the field then bear left uphill to reach the Auchinlay Road via a metal gate. Turn left to return to Dunblane passing Crofts of Cromlix. (3.4 km / 2.1 miles to Dunblane). On entering Dunblane a path by the converted Springbank Mill leads to the

Faery Bridge over the Allan Water. Once across the footbridge bear right to return to the Cathedral.

Public Path
Ashfield ¾
Dunblane 2



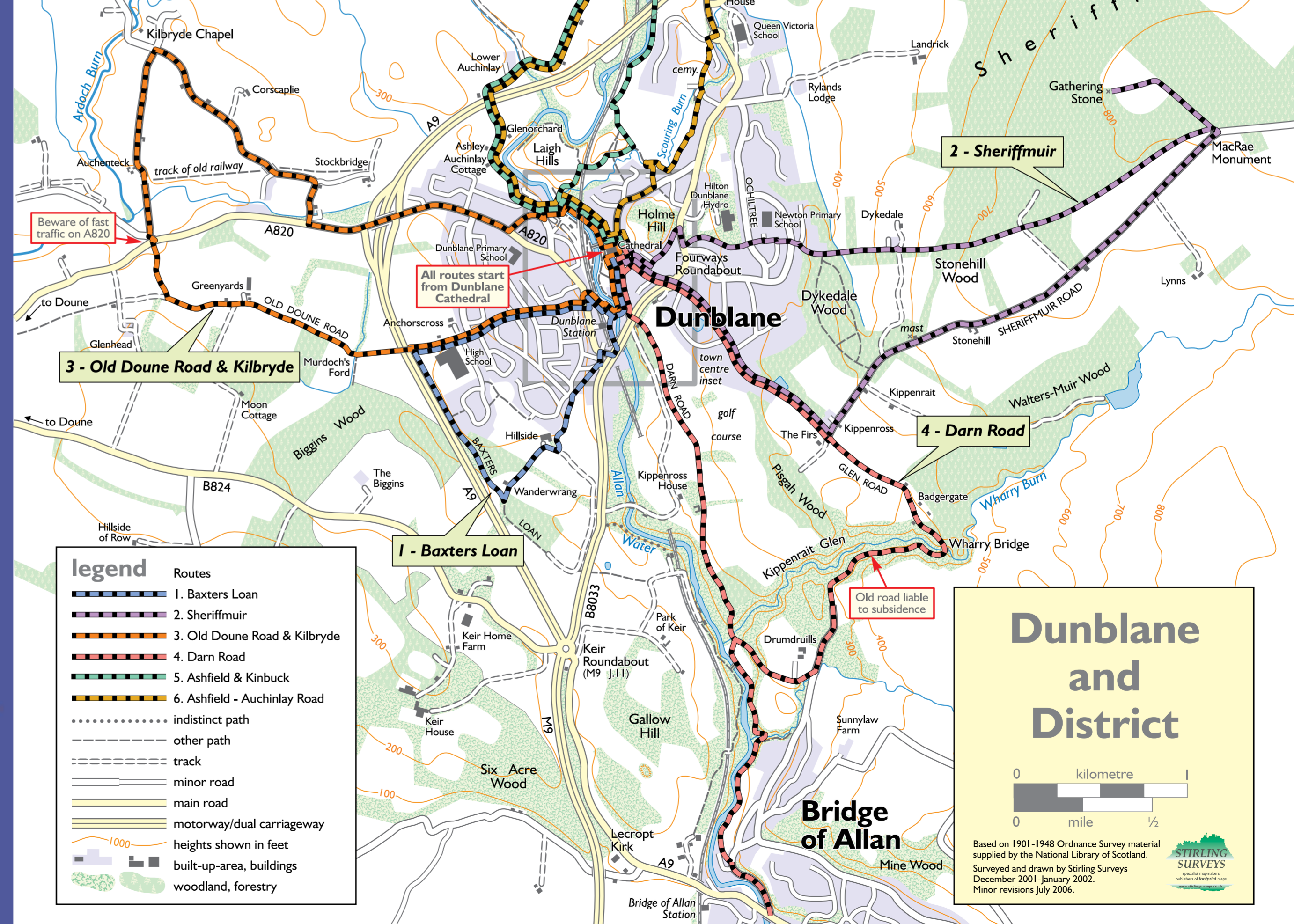
5 - Ashfield & Kinbuck

6 - Ashfield - Auchinlay Road

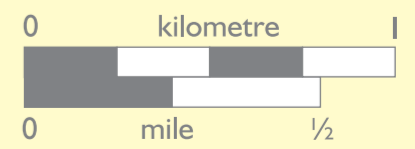
The battle of Sheriffmuir

The battle of Sheriffmuir was fought on the 13th of November 1715 between the Jacobite Army under the Earl of Mar and the Government or Royalist Army commanded by the Duke of Argyll. The battle was fought on the crest of the hill at Sheriffmuir in the region of the Gathering Stone. The right flank of both armies was successful; the Highlanders of Mar's right pursuing the left of Argyll's army to Stirling and the Royalist cavalry breaking the Highlanders left flank and driving them down to the Allan Water beyond Dunblane. Mar's army rallied on top of the hill of Sheriffmuir and Argyll's army returned towards Dunblane.

For half an hour they faced each other but no further fighting took place. While the outcome of the actual battle was indecisive, the Jacobites were prevented from crossing the Forth and seizing Stirling Castle. This setback signalled the end of the rising. The Gathering Stone itself is likely to be a fallen prehistoric standing stone and is only popularly associated with the Battle of Sheriffmuir.



Dunblane and District



Based on 1901-1948 Ordnance Survey material supplied by the National Library of Scotland. Surveyed and drawn by Stirling Surveys December 2001-January 2002. Minor revisions July 2006.

