

KINTYRE WAY MULTI-USE ACCESS NOTES

The Kintyre Way is a 100 mile long distance path which winds its way between Tarbert and Machrihanish on the Kintyre Peninsular in Argyll. The Kintyre Way connects to the Cowal Way via ferry from Tarbert. Although the Kintyre Way was developed and is currently promoted solely as a long distance walking route, much of the route follows forest roads, farm tracks and other paths equally suitable for multi-use.

These notes have been produced by British Horse Society Scotland to help those interested in using part or all of the Kintyre Way to identify location and brief details of features which may restrict multi-use of the waymarked route. Only those which may present an issue for experienced riders are noted below. Shallow fords, bridges wide enough for a horse (but not necessarily to BHS specs), cross drains, gates which can only be opened or closed if dismounted, rough ground, sheep and cattle are all part of riding off-road and so are not included here. It's up to you to make sure you and your horse are capable of coping with such features before venturing forth. Photos have been included where appropriate to help you assess for yourself whether a feature such as steps, a narrow footbridge, gate or gap less than 1.5m wide may present an obstruction to you.

These notes are intended to supplement detailed route guides and other information already available from the route website <http://www.kintyreway.com>. These notes will be updated as and when notification of subsequent changes is received, but neither BHS or the relevant access authorities can guarantee accessibility or the accuracy of information provided. If in doubt, please contact the route managers.

Suggestions for parking and alternative routes to avoid restrictions on multi-use are included where information has been provided by volunteers, but do not constitute a recommendation. You are responsible for deciding for yourself which parts of this route are suitable for your intended use, taking account of your own abilities, skills, fitness and experience, as well as season, weather conditions etc. Event organisers, groups or commercial operators considering using the Kintyre Way should contact the route managers.

Remember that whether on foot, cycle or horseback, rights of access in Scotland depend on access takers and land managers accepting individual responsibility for their actions. The Scottish Outdoor Access Code defines what this means on the ground <http://www.outdooraccess-scotland.com/>. Specific guidance for horse riders can be downloaded from <http://www.bhsscotland.org.uk/responsible-riding.html>.

Courtesy, consideration of others' needs and good communication are the key to sharing paths. Always pass others you meet along the trail at a walk, and elsewhere limit your pace to ground conditions and visibility. On surfaced paths and other well used sections of the route, riders need to be particularly careful to respect other users and clear dung off the path. Although the Kintyre Way is well waymarked throughout, you should always take a map with you - and know how to read it.

Location / OS Grid Ref.	Issue	Alternative option
Tarbert link up to castle	Several flights of steep stone steps leading up to castle with kissing gate at the top, impassable with a horse	Either turn up School Road by the Tarbert Hotel, pass the police station on your right. Turn left at the sign for the castle and follow the road to the end, through the bridlegate. Or continue along

		Shore Road past the steps, turn right up the track opposite the bus turning circle, and join the Kintyre Way above the castle (please note that this option can be wet in winter).
Path climbing south from Tarbert up to forest NR873684	Narrow wooden chicane fence(s) across path 	Dismount and cut off path through trees to side
Forest boundary fence near Larachmor Burn NR838568	Kissing gate in forest march fence in line of path, no alternative	Continue south on B842 to OSGRNR842530. Turn west on forest road, past Loch Romain and Loch nan Geadh to link up with Kintyre Way west of Lochan a Chreimh.
Track east of Lochan Faoich NR817553	Stile across path, no alternative access	
Track east of Lochan Faoich NR817552	Stile across path, no alternative access	
Western forestry boundary fence north of Loch Ciaran NR772546	Wobbly step over wooden stile over sheep net fence	On north side of Loch Ciaran, west of boat house, follow track which leads north through the forest, through several field gates, onto a broad firm grass track. Continue along this track, passing a steading and mast on your right,

<p>Path up to Loch Ciaran alongside Allt Mor burn NR768556</p>	<p>Landslip on path</p> 	<p>following the track right around a right angled bend, through several further gates. Fork left, following the track downhill to Balinakill, and out onto the road to rejoin the Kintyre Way at Clachan</p>
<p>Path south from Clachan, western woodland boundary NR768558</p>	<p>Wooden steps over dyke with narrow metal gate at western foot of steps. No alternative access. Further steps over remnant dyke, most people now cutting around side</p> 	
<p>Clachan to Tayinloan</p>	<p>Much of this section runs alongside or immediately parallel to the busy A83. There is pavement for some of the way, and the remainder is along a narrow path between the road and the shore, with overhanging branches and some pinch points. Most of this path is passable with a bombproof sure-footed pony but most horses would not get through. From Ballochroy the Kintyre Way follows the rocky shore, which is not passable with a horse to Rhunahaorine Point. The beach between Ferry Farm and the point is passable with a horse at low tide, provided you are happy to wade through burns or ditch outlets across the beach. It is not passable at high tide.</p>	

<p>Ferry Farm, Tayinloan NR693465</p>	<p>Newly installed wooden kissing gate restricts access in line of waymarked Kintyre Way.</p> 	<p>Go through the gap next to the toilet block</p>
<p>Fenced path parallel to A83 south of Tayinloan</p>	<p>Metal gates across either end of track too narrow for horses</p> 	<p>None other than busy A83</p>
<p>Forest road on west side of Deucheran Hill NR743440</p>	<p>Cattle grid across track with no alternative access</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Forest road on south side of Deucheran Hill NR765431</p>	<p>Cattle grid across track with no alternative access</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Lephincorrach Burn NR780359</p>	<p>Deep burn crossing with no facility to cross</p>	<p>Continue south on B842 and link back onto Kintyre Way up track through Saddell Glen</p>
<p>Ifferdale NR769342</p>	<p>Boggy section of path, knee deep in places in wet weather</p>	

<p>South side of Polliwilline Bay NR741093</p>	<p>Newly installed hooped metal kissing gate in line of fence. Good sandy track around bay through caravan site but accepted as Kintyre Way therefore no dispute re. access rights</p> 	<p>It is possible to avoid this kissing gate and the stile which follows by going through the field gate to the west, rejoining the Kintyre Way on the sandy track at the eastern end of the caravan site at Macharioch Bay, but at time of survey the field was badly poached in places with cattle being fed near the gates. Alternatively continue along road from Polliwilline to Blasthill.</p>
<p>South side of Polliwilline Bay NR740092</p>	<p>Wooden step stile over stocknet and electric fence</p> 	
<p>Fence across path west side of Macharioch Bay leading to monument NR734088</p>	<p>Boggy ground leading to wooden wicket gate.</p> 	<p>Passable with care (but note route blocked beyond)</p>
<p>Port a Bhata NR734087</p>	<p>Metal hooped kissing gate in fenceline. No alternative way around this due to locked gate in fenceline</p>	<p>Continue along road from Polliwilline to Blasthill</p>

	<p>immediately to north.</p> 	
<p>Track to Kilmanshena chan NR716087</p>	<p>Cattle grid across track, no gates onto track from adjacent fields to provide alternative access.</p> 	<p>Continue along road from Polliwilline to Blasthill</p>
<p>Southend – track to Dunaverty NR687081</p>	<p>Cattle grid across track. Wooden wicket gate adjacent 87 cm wide wired permanently closed, no alternative access.</p> 	<p>Continue along road from Southend to west end of Dunaverty Bay (note access onto beach possible through gate east of public conveniences)</p>

		
Amond Hill – path between Gleann Breacairigh and Largiebaan	6 stiles in fencelines east of Amond Hill	Continue north on road past Dallsmirren. Follow track to Glenahanty, through Gartnacobaig to Largiebaan
Largiebaan NR610143	Stile with gate adjacent - passable	
Largiebaan to Ballygroggan	Path over rough, wet moorland. No physical restrictions but can be boggy in places after wet weather, and in places close to steep cliffs	
Ballygroggan NR621191	Locked gate	None

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