

WATERWAYS OF GLASGOW (PT282)



- CONTACT:** Peter Tilbury - 116 Wykeham Road, Reading, Berkshire, RG6 1PL
Telephone - 0118 966 6523 E-mail - BTreading@aol.com
- DISTANCE:** 15km
- ENTRY FEE:** £1.00 per walker (Cheques made payable to Thames Valley Walking Club)
- AWARD:** There is currently no award for this walk. (Please indicate on the entry form if you would like an award if one is produced)
- START VENUE:** Queen Street Railway Station, North Hanover Street, Glasgow G1 2AF
(OS Explorer Map 342 GR: NS 592655).
- CAR PARKING:** There are various car parks around the city.
- FACILITIES:** Café & toilets (cost 50p) are available at the start venue.
- TRANSPORT:** Train to the start point or bus services to Buchanan Bus Station which is approx. 300m from the start point.
- TERRAIN:** City centre roads, plus footpaths (mainly tarmac) alongside the river and canal. Not suitable for pushchairs or wheelchairs.

The organisers are not liable for accidents, thefts and/or damage to property. Every effort will be made by the organisers to make this a safe, enjoyable and memorable event.

ROUTE DESCRIPTION

(Updated 2nd August 2021)

PLEASE REMEMBER TO TAKE GREAT CARE ON ALL ROAD SECTIONS OF THIS TRAIL

Leave Queen Street Station using exit to George Square. At road, go straight ahead along right-hand side of George Square. At next road junction go straight ahead into Queens Street and after approx. 50m (immediately before Museum of Modern Art) turn right. Follow walkway with museum on left to pass under archway with 'Royal Exchange Square' sign on it, to reach T-junction with Buchanan Street. Turn left and immediately turn right into Gordon Street. At crossroads go straight ahead and at next crossroads cross Renfield Street and go ahead to reach Glasgow Central Station on left. Turn left to enter station and once on the station concourse, turn around and in front of you in the middle of the entrance is an ornate plaque in memory of the men of the Caledonian Railway during World War 1.

Exit the station using the same entrance you came in and at the road turn left to reach T-junction by Grand Central Hotel. Turn left into Hope Street and follow road to reach crossroads (with the Central Station Bridge on left). Go straight ahead and follow road to reach crossroads with bridge ahead. Turn right to cross road (Oswald Street) and immediately turn left to cross road using pedestrian crossing. Bear right and immediately left in front of Grosvenor Casino to go down steps to reach river.

Question 1: Looking at the signpost, how long will it take to walk to Skypark?

Turn right on riverside footpath and follow footpath keeping river on left & ignoring all turning for approx. 1,400m & heading towards SECC. When path reaches road, go ahead bearing left on road. At road junction by Hilton Garden Inn, go ahead to cross road and continue ahead on road passing Hilton

Garden Inn on left and the Rotunda on right. At next road junction, go ahead bearing left on footpath/cycleway & after approx. 50m opposite the "SSE Hydro", bear left then right on footpath/cycleway to re-join the riverside. (2½ km)

At first bridge (Bells Bridge), go straight ahead to pass Crowne Plaza on right to reach next footbridge. Continue ahead and after approx. 200m and at end of riverside path, turn right and immediately left on Stobcross Road (heading towards York Hill, Riverside Museum and Partick). Take first turning on left (Stobcross Road) to reach mini roundabout.

Question 2: In front of you is a square clock tower. Above the bottom window/door is a date - what is that date?

Turn right to cross road and then use pedestrian footbridge to cross main road. From the footbridge if you look to your left towards the Clyde, there is usually a Tall Ship moored next to The Glasgow Transport Museum. At the end of the footbridge, go ahead to pass under the railway and immediately turn right. Pass Fire Station on left, then take second turning on left into York Hill Street. After 50m & at crossroads, turn right (Haugh Road - but no sign). Follow to reach road junction by the Islay Inn. Go straight ahead and at next crossroads go straight ahead onto tree lined road passing Kelvingrove Tennis & Bowls Club and Kelvingrove Museum & Art Gallery on left to reach bridge. (4½ km)

Do not cross bridge, but turn right opposite the entrance road to Kelvingrove Museum & Art Gallery to pass through metal gates to enter Kelvingrove Park. After approx. 25m, turn left on footpath towards children's play area. After passing children's play area, go straight ahead on footpath with river on left. At next bridge go ahead and bear left on footpath alongside river on Kelvin Walkway towards the Botanic Gardens, following tarmac walkway with river on left.

As walkway goes uphill, turn left at footpath sign towards Kelvinbridge Station. Follow path under road bridge and go ahead on walkway with river on left (on Kelvin Walkway). At next path junction go ahead bearing left following Kelvin Walkway to cross river, then bear right with the river on your right to pass under road bridge. Follow walkway with river on right for approx. 450m. After walkway crosses river, continue to follow main tarmac walkway with river on left, following signs to Maryhill Locks. At path junction do not go ahead over bridge, but bear right signposted Kelvin Walkway passing brick building on left. Follow tarmac walkway with river on left passing under road bridge and uphill. As pathway starts to descend, take the left-hand fork keeping river on left. (6 km)

At next path junction go straight ahead towards Maryhill Locks and keeping river on left, pass under another bridge and uphill to reach path junction. Bear left and go ahead on tarmac walkway with river on left and follow ignoring all turnings to reach road. **CROSS ROAD WITH CARE** and go ahead on cycleway/footpath passing metal barriers heading towards Maryhill Locks. Follow tarmac walkway and at next path junction, bear left downhill to re-join riverside. Pass weir and after approx. 60m, bear right to reach path junction with bridge to left (do not go under bridge). Turn right and after approx. 30m, turn left towards Maryhill Locks. Follow path uphill as it zigzags right then left to reach canal. Turn right on canal towpath with canal on left and follow tarmac towpath to reach flight of locks (note the disused dry dock between Locks 23 & 22). Follow path to Lock 21. (8½ km)

Question 3: By Lock 21 on the right is a 'Forth & Clyde Canal' sign against the wall – what is the height above sea level?

Continue ahead on towpath keeping canal on left. Follow towpath, ignoring all side turnings for approx. 800m before turning right to reach Stockingfield Junction.

[If the canal towpath is closed at this point, please follow this diversion:

When you reach the point where the canal towpath is closed (as you approach Stockingfield Junction), turn right down the steps to the road. Cross the road using the pedestrian crossing & turn right. Follow

road to reach t-junction, then turn left (Maryhill Rd). Follow road passing the police station on left, then cross Shawpark Street & continue ahead to reach road junction by McDonalds. Turn left following the sign towards 'Forth & Clyde Canal 150 yds' & follow road passing McDonalds on right, then bearing right & uphill. At the top of the rise & just before the bridge, turn left then immediately right onto the canal towpath. Go under bridge 51 and continue ahead with canal on left. Then rejoin the original route at Question 4]

The main canal heads off to the left towards Falkirk and The Forth Estuary and the route ahead is the Glasgow branch of the canal (Note plaque in wall on bridge). Continue ahead on Glasgow branch keeping canal on left heading towards City Centre. Follow towpath ignoring all turnings and heading towards Speirs Wharf & City Centre. (11 km)

Question 4: Under Bridge 53 is a plaque – what is the bridge name?

Follow tarmac towpath as it bears right and away from canal. Bear left and continue to follow tarmac path with water on left. Continue to follow pathway as it re-joins canal. After a short while you will reach a small basin at Applecross Street where there is a row of whitewashed buildings on the opposite side of the canal - these were built as warehouses and are the oldest remaining on any canal in Scotland. Bear left and continue to follow towpath keeping canal on left heading towards Speirs Wharf. After the canal turns right and passes under electric pylons, continue ahead to enter Speirs Wharf.

Continue ahead on footpath with canal and Wharf on left. Go ahead to reach the Lock at the end of Speirs Wharf and a footpath signpost. Bear right and go down steps. Turn right and immediately turn left towards road. Go down steps, turn right and then turn left towards City Centre passing under motorway and other bridges. Bear right and go ahead on cycleway/footpath passing bus stops on right. At end of walkway go straight ahead passing subway on right and immediately turn right signposted 'City Centre' on tunnel under road. Turn left up slope, then bear right and go ahead to pass "Doubletree by Hilton" on left. At road junction, go ahead crossing Renfrew Street and into Cambridge Street. At next junction (with Costa on left) turn left into Sauchiehall Street. Follow Sauchiehall Street crossing three roads to reach Buchanan Galleries. Turn right and at road junction, go ahead and immediately after passing Buchanan Street Subway turn left into Dundas Lane. Go ahead to return to Queen Street Station.

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To claim your IVV stamp, please use the 'Permanent Trail Completion & IVV Stamp Claim Form' which is downloadable from the BWF website and send with your record books to the walk contact.