

## RENFREWSHIRE VILLAGE WALKS



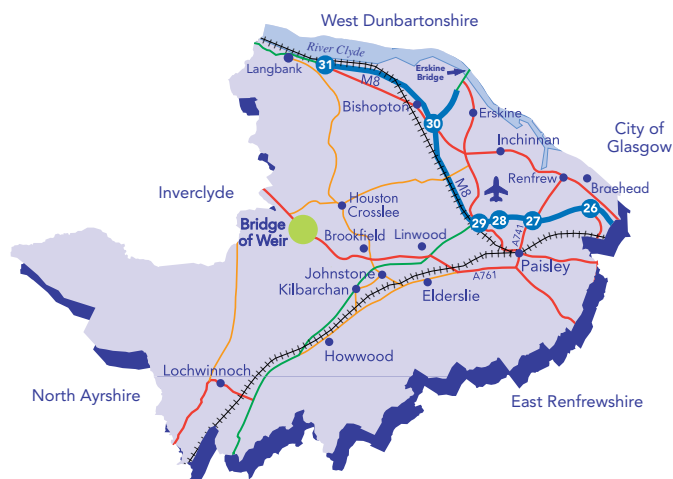
# Bridge of Weir

### Take Care Out of Doors

Dress to suit the weather, take an extra layer and something waterproof. While none of these walks are very far from the village, you may want to take snacks and something to drink, or plan a refreshment stop in the village. Stout footwear should be worn. Trainers will probably do in a prolonged dry period, or for routes on tarmac, but walking boots would be better on rough tracks.

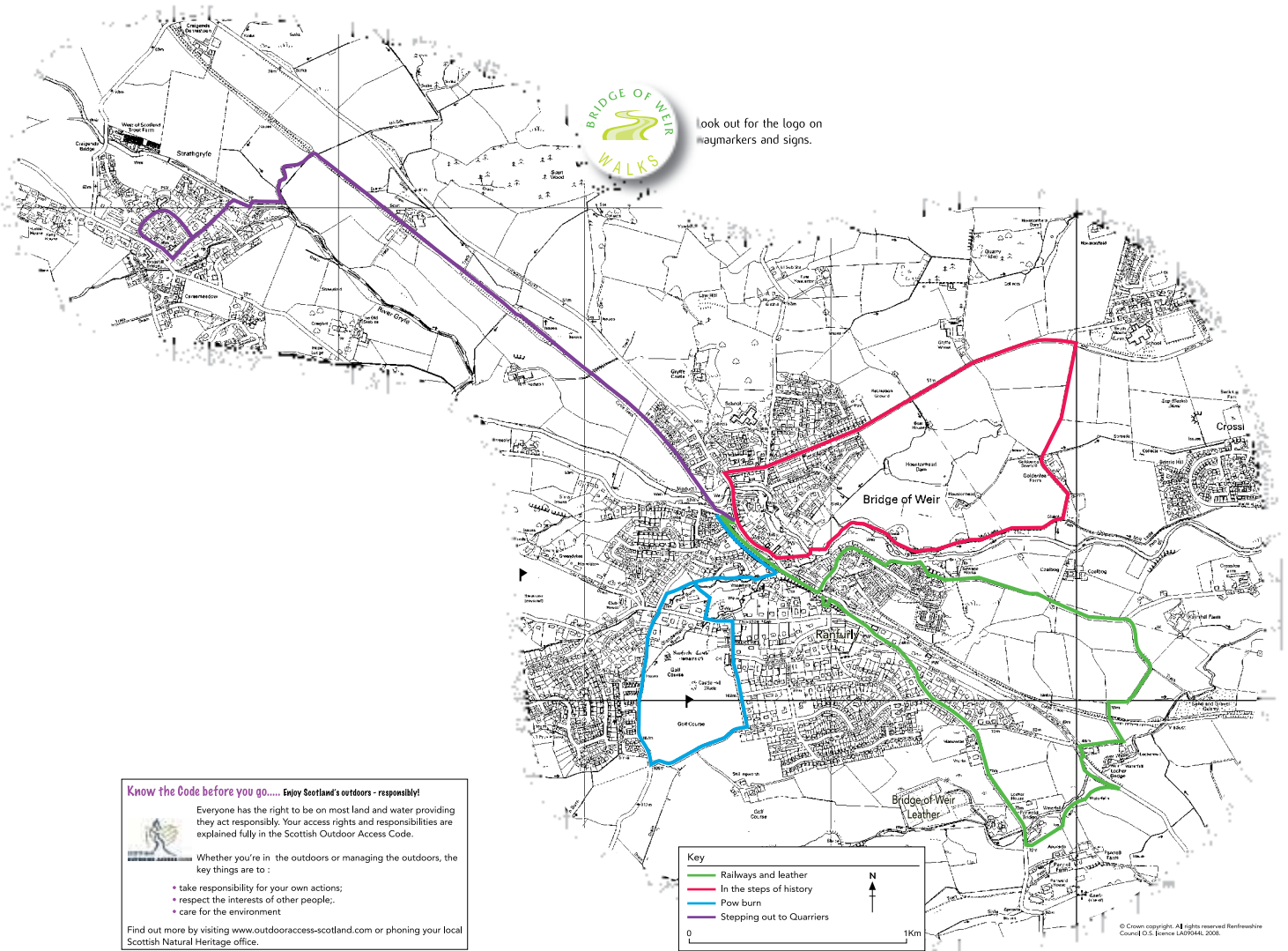
### How to get to Bridge of Weir

While the village is no longer on an active railway line, the old line is now a traffic free cycle and pedestrian route, NCR75, from Paisley and beyond. For bus information contact [www.travelinescotland.com](http://www.travelinescotland.com) or phone Traveline on 0871 200 2233 (calls cost 10p per minute from BT landlines, charges from other operators may vary).



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# Bridge of Weir



look out for the logo on waymarkers and signs.

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

Everyone has the right to be on most land and 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.

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## Pow Burn

3.3 km/2.1 miles)

This route has some narrow paths with a few short steeper sections, there is also one flight of steps. If you choose to use the alternative route at the end of the walk the total distance is 3.6km/2.2 miles. This walk will take you through the gorge of the Pow Burn, through Ranfurly Park and past Bridge of Weir's two excellent golf courses.

Start at the junction of Main Road and Torr Road, turn into Torr Road and bear left up the slope onto the National Cycle track. Turn left. Bear right off the track at the



wooden engine sculpture. At the T junction turn left and almost immediately right over the metal footbridge. Turn right again and follow the burn up stream. Follow the track uphill into the park. Continue straight through the park, bearing left along the wall at the top. After leaving the park turn left. Cross the main road into Lawmarnock Road. Much of this road has no pavement. The remains of Ranfurly Castle can just be seen peeping out of trees on the golf course on your left.



Turn first left. Although you are on the public road you will be surrounded by golf courses. Turn left into Ranfurly Place, on a rather rough pavement. At Prieston Road turn left and then right along a lane marked Cairn Mhor Cottage. At the end of the lane go down the steps and follow the path across the bridge over the Pow burn. Turn right and retrace your steps through the glen to the start of the walk.

**For an alternative route which avoids the steps but not the steeper sections...**

At Prieston Road turn right and follow it to the junction at the bottom of the hill, turn left and go through the white gate posts, bear right down onto the cycle track and then continue in the same direction into Bridge of Weir.







## Railways and leather

(4.8km/3.0 miles)

This route uses two old Rights of Way, some country roads and a rough stony track. There are some gentle slopes. Stout shoes are recommended. On this walk you will enjoy the rolling countryside of the Gryffe valley, and see Bridge of Weir Leather's works where high quality leather is produced for the most discerning customers.



Start the walk at the Library on Main Street. Walk down hill passing Mill Brae on your left. Turn left into Lintwhite Crescent, following it to a narrow path leading off to the left. Follow the path around the backs of houses until you find yourself at the entrance to the bowling club.

Go through a gate into a grassy lane. This is one of



Renfrewshire's old rights of way and appears on maps as long ago as 1843. A second kissing gate takes you into a grazing field. There may be cattle or sheep, be careful not to disturb animals. Go across the field, keeping close to the wall.

Cross over the old stone stile into the farm lane. Continue in the same direction, up the farm lane. At the triangular junction follow the road round to the right. You can cut the walk short by joining the cycle track which passes over the road on a bridge, and head back into Bridge of Weir.

To continue on the main walk go under the bridge to a T junction.

Turn left and cross the road towards the bus stop. BEWARE, traffic on this road is fast.

Just beyond the bus stop take a path marked by metal hoops. Look right at a bridge and you will see a waterfall. This is the Locher Water which feeds the leather works further upstream and would once have supplied water to Locher mill. Continue along the path to the road. Turn sharp right up a track between two hedges. This is also one of Renfrewshire's old rights of way. Follow this track to the road. This is Kilbarchan Road, rather narrow here. Turn right, after a short distance you will see the entrance to the leather works. From here there is a pavement to use. Follow Kilbarchan Road all the way back into Bridge of Weir.





## In the steps of history

4.02km/2.5 miles

This walk uses a narrow track above the River Gryffe which is steep and rough under foot in places. It follows a lade, which provided power for the largest mill in the area, the Crosslee Mill for cotton spinning, established in 1793 and the biggest mill on the Gryffe. During its heyday, the mill employed 300 workers. Velvet from here was used on the seats in the House of Lords. The mill was demolished in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century as hand weaving declined due to competition from machines.

Start at the junction of Main Road and Mill Brae. Walk down Mill Brae and across the river by the bridge. Go towards the houses and bear right along the path between the flats and the river. Just beyond the flats you will come to some steps and a slope down towards the river, follow the path downhill. The path becomes very narrow and soon you will cross a rocky platform - take great care here as it can be slippery when wet.

Follow the path up the hill, then cross a concrete bridge, part of the old mill lade workings.

The path now follows the route of the old lade. Continue until you come to a stone bridge (sometimes known locally as the fairy bridge) which crosses the lade. Turn left and cross the bridge. Continue up the track until you reach a farm road. There may be farm traffic. Bear left along the farm road until it meets the main road (Houston Road).

Cross the road, turn left and almost immediately cross the end of Old Bridge of Weir Road. Now continue on the pavement of Houston Road back into Bridge of Weir.







## Stepping out to Quarriers

6.95km/4.32 miles

This walk will take you out into the countryside along the old Paisley to Greenock railwayline, now National Cycle Route 75. You will have the opportunity to explore Quarriers Village, in its day an innovative solution to the needs of orphan children, and still caring for young people with health problems.

From the library on Main Street, walk towards Kilmacolm (with the road on your left). Cross at the crossing, at the junction with Torr Road turn left onto the cycle track. At the top of the slip turn right and walk along the cycle track. Almost immediately you will cross the viaduct – if you have a head for heights look over to the River Gryffe flowing below. Continue on the cycle track into the countryside. Eventually you will see a village appearing to your left. Shortly after crossing the Renfrewshire boundary take the path off the cycle track towards Quarriers village. There are information boards on the path leading to the village. After crossing the river head uphill towards the



large building. This is now the restaurant and you may be ready for a cup of tea.

Continue up the main avenue (Faith Avenue - all the roads have worthy names). Turn right into Church Street, you will see the imposing Zion Church facing you. As you approach the church a road to your right leads down to the old school building.

From the Church walk along Love Avenue following the road round past the fountain and Hope Avenue until you turn once again into Faith Avenue and retrace your steps to the cycle track.

Once on the cycle track turn right towards Bridge of Weir. As you see the first houses of Bridge of Weir on your left, take the small path on the left, this crosses a field before you arrive at Kilmacolm Road. Turning right, continue back into the village.