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Discover 9 wonderful miles from Dalkeith to Penicuik

This 9 mile route follows National Route 1 and Regional Route 73 and takes you on a pleasant country ramble between two Lothian towns. From **Dalkeith Country Park**, the route goes through the centre of Dalkeith and then turns onto the old Waverley railway line and follows mainly traffic-free paths through Bonnyrigg and Rosewell to Penicuik. The whole route is a haven for wildflowers and wildlife, so keep your eyes open. As you head out of Dalkeith you pass the remains of the once fine Eskbank and Dalkeith Railway Station, which closed in 1969.

West of Rosewell, the route crosses open country, with fine views of the Pentland Hills and Moorfoot Hills to either side. To the north-west, you can also see the large barn-like structure that currently protects historic **Rosslyn Chapel**, built in 1446 and famed for its carvings and associations with Templars and with the best selling novel - *The Da Vinci Code*. Further along the track, past the old Rosslyn Castle station, there is access to the **Roslin Glen Country Park**, where footpaths lead to Rosslyn Chapel, Rosslyn Castle and the remains of what was once Scotland's largest gunpowder works. You have to carry your bike down steps to reach the park.

The cycle route continues along the old railway line (closed in 1951), through woodland, farmland, and tunnels towards Penicuik. You can take one of several footpaths that lead into the centre of Penicuik or continue to the end of the track near the A701.

NOTE: The track between Bonnyrigg and Penicuik can be muddy, so wear appropriate clothing and footwear!

Accommodation:

Youth Hostel - Edinburgh www.syha.org.uk

Caravan Club - Roslin and Edinburgh

www.caravanclub.co.uk

This route starts on the **Coast and Castles Cycle Route**. To buy the Coast and Castles map, visit the Sustrans shop: www.nationalcyclenetwork.org.uk

Midlothian Council•
The Scottish Executive•



The **National Cycle Network** is a comprehensive network of safe and attractive walking and cycling routes throughout the UK. 10,000 miles will be completed by the end of 2005 – one third traffic-free, the rest following quiet lanes or traffic-calmed roads. The National Cycle Network is co-ordinated by Sustrans, the UK's leading sustainable transport charity, and other partners, such as local authorities.

For more information on routes in your area, or more about Sustrans and how to become a Supporter, visit or call:

www.nationalcyclenetwork.org.uk

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Front cover: Weir in Roslin Glen Country Park

Dalkeith to Penicuik

Discover 9 wonderful miles along the valley of the River North Esk



www.nationalcyclenetwork.org.uk

Dalkeith to Penicuik

