



pentland hills
regional park

Glencorse View Walk

Guide and map

www.pentlandhills.org



**Which will
you choose?**

Guide for grown-ups
or fun mystery trail
for kids!



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regional park

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HAPPY TO TRANSLATE

You can get this document on tape, in Braille, large print and various computer formats if you ask us. Please contact the Interpretation and Translation Service (ITS) on 0131 242 8181 and quote reference number 19-5342. The ITS can also give information on community language translations.

Glencorse View Walk

Guide for grown-ups



TIME: 1-1½hrs



GRADE: Easy



NAVIGATION: Follow Heron signs



1 There are limited parking spaces, but we recommend taking the bus to Flotterstone – the 101/102 regularly stops on the main road. Start at the car park, café and information point, and walk along the woodland footpath. Walk past the blue plaque in honour of the inventor of the Cloud Chamber who was born at nearby Crosshouse Farm. A cloud chamber is a device used to track ionising radiation.

2 Cross the road, over to a footpath which leads past Daisy Dell, a tranquil riverside spot.

3 Ignore the turning to the left which crosses the river: instead, bear right alongside the river and the low field,

until you reach the two old water buildings (one round, one square), then the Filter Beds. Unused for many years, this area is now a great wildlife refuge. It is occasionally visited by volunteers who work with our Park Service to repair damage, and improve wildlife opportunities. Let us know if you see anything interesting! Carry on along the riverside until you can see the Glencorse Waterfall, which sometimes isn't there, much to the consternation of regular visitors! The reason it disappears is usually because of spells of dry weather, which can restrict the amount of water running off the reservoir. Retrace your steps to the main path and immediately turn left up the (steep-ish) path to the roadway.

4 Turn left here, and walk along the tarred, private road towards the Waterman's Cottage, occupied by the person in charge of the reservoir until relatively recently. It is a private residence, so please respect the occupants' privacy, and don't peer through the windows. Just past the house you get a good view of Glencorse Reservoir Dam. The dam was completed in 1824, and was built to provide a supply of drinking water to the residents of Edinburgh. Now owned by Scottish Water, the reservoir is still used to top up the Edinburgh supply. Rumour has it that it tastes better than the regular sources!

5 Walk along the reservoir side until you get to a shelter-belt of conifer trees on your right.

6 A footpath runs uphill beside these trees, and at the top there's a spectacular view of the reservoir, Turnhouse and Carnethy Hills.

7 Turn right at the top, and start heading back through Ministry of Defence land, which is used for sheep grazing. Make sure any dogs are under very close control.

8 As you walk along with the bulk of Castlelaw to your left, you will see signs of a military presence. If red flags are flying, or red lamps lit, that means the shooting range is being used: don't venture uphill past the flags to your left if so!

9 After going through a couple of gates you have the option of carrying on to the Souterrain (an ancient underground storage chamber), or continuing the walk down the path known as "Buckie Brae" – signposted "Flotterstone".

10 Once at the bottom of this path, turn left and walk back down the narrow tarred road to the Visitor Information Point and café.

Flotterstone Glen Mystery trail for kids



In 2018 something special returned to the Pentland Hills after being away for over 100 years! Can you work out what returned? See the map overleaf, and follow the Glencorse View Walk, discovering the coloured numbers on the way. To solve the puzzle:



follow the heron signs



stop at the coloured numbers



read the clues inside this leaflet.

You don't need a pencil. We hope you find the Mystery Trail fun! Good luck in finding the answer.

There's a mystery animal, rarely seen here in the Pentland Hills. Can you work out what it is?

You do not need to follow all the clues to solve the Flotterstone Glen Mystery. You can stop at **clue 5** and walk back down the road to **clue 10**.

6 Lots of visitors like climbing this hill to see the reservoir. The *mystery animal* has amazing eyesight.



Look through the binoculars or telescope to see how well it can see.

5 An angler saw the *mystery animal* and stretched out his arms to show how big it was.



Can you stretch your arms that far?

4 A squirrel was worried the *mystery animal* might steal her children.



Look through the spy hole to see the squirrel's nest, called a drey.

3 You may see a heron here. The *mystery animal* was making a strange sound, but the heron couldn't hear because of the noise.



Listen through the cone to find out what was noisy.

2 The shepherd was counting her sheep, and she saw the *mystery animal* above.



Look through the spy hole to see how many sheep she counted.

1 A robin living in this wood saw the *mystery animal* and thought it was very frightening.



Look through the spy hole to see where the robin hid.

START AND FINISH POINT
Flotterstone Information Point and Café

Glencorse Reservoir

Old Filter Beds

Buckie Brae picnic area

7 Here there's lots of tasty grass for rabbits – but the *mystery animal* likes to eat young rabbits!



Look through the spy hole to see where rabbits might hide.

8 In spring a soldier was standing here, when he saw the *mystery animal* looking for twigs to build a nest.



Look through the spy hole to see where the twigs were.

9 While the officer from the Regional Park was cutting back bushes from the path, she found a footprint of the *mystery animal*.



Look through the spyhole to see the footprint.

10 A cyclist was looking up at the *mystery animal* and didn't see the sign.



Look through the spy hole to see what the sign says.

11 A birdwatcher was looking for birds and thought he could see the *mystery animal*.



Lift up the flap to see what bird he actually spotted.