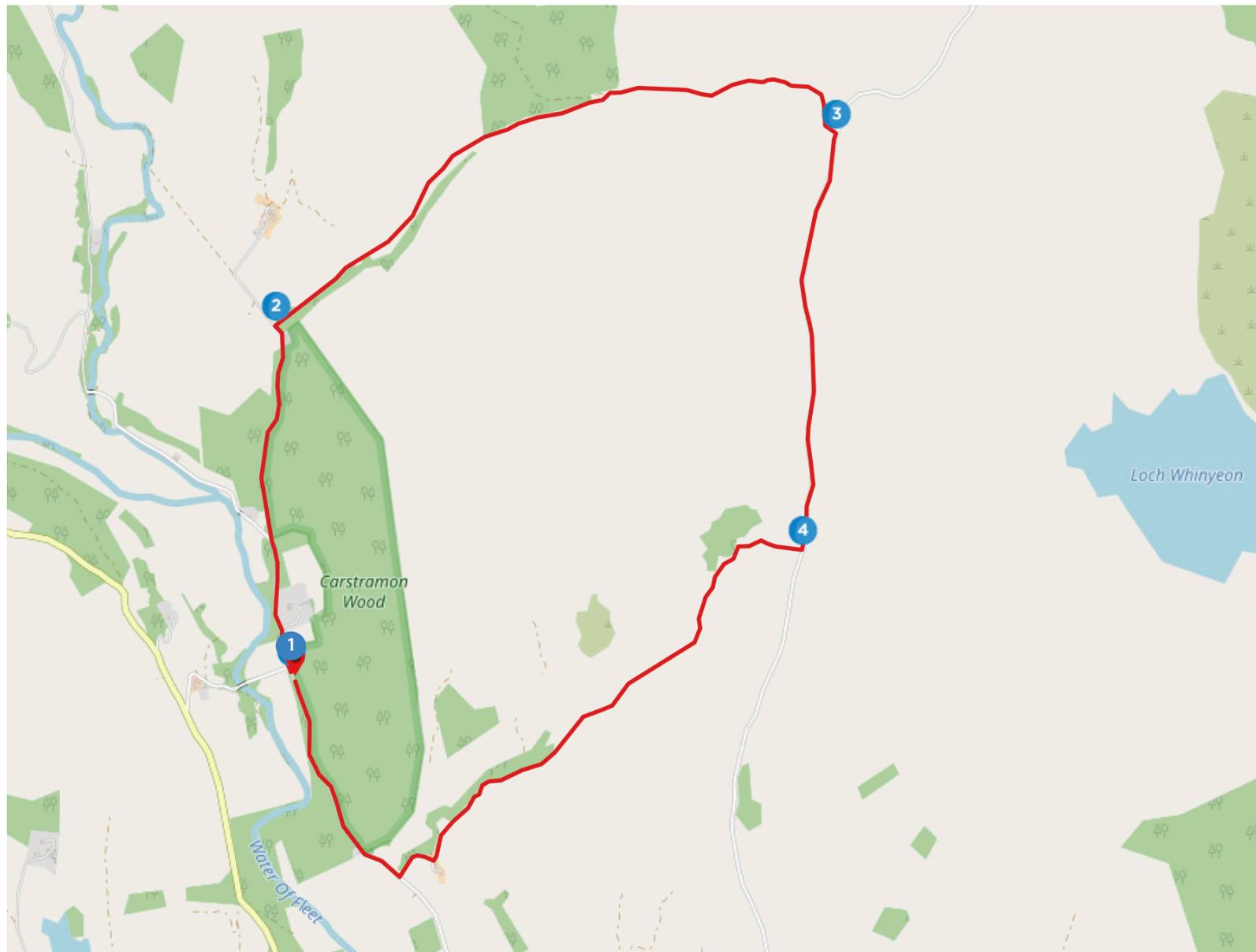


# Carstramon Woods & Knocktinkle

Walk 12

Distance: 5 miles/8km Map: OS Explorer 312 Kirkcudbright & Castle Douglas - D&G Core Path 186/206



 - Walk

- Leave gates as you find them
- Walk to the edges of crop fields, not across the middle
- Keep dogs on leads, especially if there is livestock in the field
- Cows with calves can be aggressive
- There is a large tidal range in the Solway Firth. Be careful if venturing into the tidal zone.

Disclaimer: This route was correct at time of writing. However, alterations can happen if development or boundary changes occur, and there is no guarantee of permanent access. These walks have been published for use by site visitors on the understanding that neither HPB Management Limited nor any other person connected with Holiday Property Bond is responsible for the safety or wellbeing of those following the routes as described. It is walkers' own responsibility to be adequately prepared and equipped for the level of walk and the weather conditions and to assess the safety and accessibility of the walk.

# Carstramon Woods & Knocktinkle

Walk 12

**Distance:** 5 miles/8km **Map:** OS Explorer 312 Kirkcudbright & Castle Douglas - D&G Core Path 186/206

**Woodland and moorland walking over varied terrain. This is a good walk for seeing red squirrels, roe deer and a variety of woodland birds.**

**Start:** At a parking area in Carstramon Woods

**Refreshments:** Cafés and pubs in Gatehouse of Fleet

**Note:** It would be a great help to future walkers if you could record any inaccuracies you come across during this walk and report them to reception so that appropriate amendments can be made. Thank you for your help. *Happy walking.*

## WALK

**1.** Carstramon (also known as Castramon or Castramont) Wood is found along the minor road on the east side of the Fleet Valley about 2 miles north of Gatehouse of Fleet. There is a designated parking area with information boards just before the junction with the minor road that crosses over to the west side of the valley. The woods are part of a Scottish Wildlife Trust reserve that is known for its abundant bird life and spectacular bluebells in late spring. The woods are largely composed of oak trees that were planted around 1800 and were used for charcoal production

for about 100 years. The oak wood was also used to produce bobbins for use in the cotton mills of Gatehouse. For the first section of the walk you can follow the road northwards, past Carstramon House to the end of the woods or alternatively make use of the network of paths through the woods to reach the same point.

**2.** At the north end of the wood is a sign post indicating the start of the path that follows the rough valley of Castramont Cleugh up the east side of the Fleet valley. The path stays to the right side of a dry-stone wall and has muddy sections and some bridges to assist in crossing small streams that come down from the hillside of the left. After about a mile of rough going you will meet a forest track coming in from the left. Follow this track up to meet the Gatehouse to Lauriston road.

**3.** Turn right (southwards) on the road and enjoy the panoramic views over Wigtown Bay as you descend for about a mile to reach the point where the road crosses the Laghead Burn and a track branches off to Laghead farm on the right. The dry-stone walls along the roadside here are some of the finest examples of walling using rounded granite boulders. This is an

indication that the underlying rocks have changed from the angular sedimentary rocks that are seen along the coast to the more massive granite rocks that underlie the higher elevations of the Galloway Hills.

**4.** Take the track down past Laghead farm and continue down fields where the track deteriorates into a faint footpath but eventually leads down to Lagg farm and the road from Gatehouse. Turn right along the road and follow it for just over half a mile back to your starting point.