

# Newtonhill

**minutes 5** Walking distance is based on 3mph therefore 5 min = 440yds

**minutes 5** Cycling distance is based on 12mph therefore 5 min = 1 mile

Although there are 6 individual routes marked on this map please note that your walk could be extended by continuing on the nearest route where the two meet.



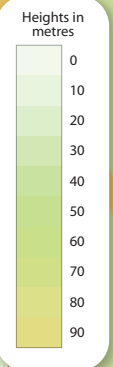
### Walk 6

Scale 1:7,500

0 100 200 300 m  
0 100 200 300 yds

### KEY TO SYMBOLS

- Public car park
- Pedestrian crossing
- Landmark building
- Footpath
- Route 1
- Route 2
- Route 3
- Route 4
- Route 5
- Route 6



**The Isabella**

The striking metal sculpture of a ship you can see at the Braehead was created in 2021 by Jim Malcolm – known as the “Stonehaven Banksy” – to commemorate the Isabella, a coal-laden schooner which ran aground in the bay below during a ferocious storm in November 1888. A “gallant band” of villagers gathered at the pier to mount a daring rescue, somehow pulling all five crew members to safety despite the atrocious conditions, then showing them “every kindness” in the the fishers cottages you can still see today.



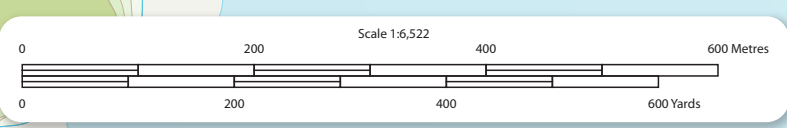
### Walk 4

Scale 1:9,000

0 100 200 300 400 m  
0 100 200 300 400 yds

To the west of this map there is a new trail starting and finishing at Hume Square, Chapleton. For a description of the route please visit <https://chapletonnewtown.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/Trail-Leaflet.pdf>

**minutes 15**



see inset top left for continuation of walk 6

see inset below for continuation of Downies route (walk 4)



This map aims to simplify your journey around Newtonhill, whether by cycle or walking.

We are committed to helping residents and visitors move around Newtonhill easily, cheaply and with the least impact on our environment.

Our town has excellent links for walking and cycling!

### Walking

Walking offers most of us the chance to stay fit and healthy and get around over short distances. It is pollution free and a sociable activity, allowing plenty of opportunities to bump into neighbours or to meet up with friends. Walking is usually the fastest and most efficient way of getting around town for those living locally and avoids all the frustration and delay of taking the car.

### Cycling

The quickest way to travel short distances in towns is by bike. A maintained bike is ready when you are, with very little that can go wrong. A bike can nearly always be parked outside your destination. It's cheap and reliable plus you feel better by being a little active. And above all, it's fun!

### Work out your calorie count when walking

Weight	10mins	20mins	30mins	40mins
7st 12lbs	29	58	86	115
9st 6lbs	35	69	104	138
11st 0lbs	40	81	121	161
12st 8lbs	46	92	138	184
14st 3lbs	52	104	156	208
15st 10lbs	58	115	173	231

The numbers show the calories burnt when walking, based on flat terrain which is of a good, consistent hard surface like a pavement. Numbers are based on an average person. For more information, please visit [www.nhs.uk/Change4Life](http://www.nhs.uk/Change4Life)

Aberdeenshire walking and cycling maps are freely available for most towns. It's easy to get around by foot or on your bike – for a purpose or just for fun!

### Walk 1 – Purple Route

Start at the Braehead, where you will find the sculpture of the Isabella (see the map for the dramatic story of her shipwreck). Behind you are the houses of the original fishing village once known as Skateraw – and to the north, a lovely view of the haven of Newtonhill Bay, at one time a thriving fishing port. Take the steps down to the beach. If the tide is low you may catch a glimpse of the remains of an old stone pier which was demolished in the 1980s. After exploring the shore, cross the small wooden bridge where the Elsieck Burn tumbles prettily over rocks and climb the steps to emerge on a track between two houses. Turn left, away from the sea. (On your right you will see more steps going up – this is the start of Walk 2). Along the rising track you will see on your left the old mill – now converted into a fine home. When you reach a crossroads with the railway viaduct in front of you, head left and up a steeply rising path to emerge at a play park. Take the path to skirt anti-clockwise around the park (cutting across might mean missing the fairy village). Continuing alongside the railway, you will see the Newton Arms pub on your left. Turn left at the Newtonhill Pharmacy to pass Quoiters pub and Skateraw Store café and village shop on your right. Continue down Skateraw Road, pausing to admire an old smokehouse and the lovely fisher cottages which remain – most of them in rather more elaborate form than they would originally have been. When fishing was no longer viable as a business, due mostly to the arrival of steamers, the area became popular as a coastal bolt hole for the better-off folk of Aberdeen. Continue down until you find yourself back at the Isabella sculpture.

### Walk 2 – Green Route

Take the steps from the north side of the beach track up to a large sloping field. This was the original site of the fishing village, then known as Elsieck, and evidence of terracing remains. At the top of the steps turn right and carefully follow the field edge path along the cliff tops. The grassy plateau above Craig Stirling, magnificent but treacherous rocks on which more than one ship has foundered, provides great views. The cliffs here are well frequented by seabirds – including on occasion puffins. Keep following the path as it tracks the coast and eventually turns inland, bringing you to a stile in the corner of the field. A short climb brings you to a path. Turn left and follow it straight and then as it swings to the right and starts to climb towards a gate and an outbuilding. A short distance before you get to them, look out for a track to the left that nearly doubles back. This will bring you to the corner of the sloping field and the descent back to the steps.

### Walk 3 – Orange Route

At the crossroads under the viaduct, take the road uphill and follow it left over the bridge, crossing the railway tracks and continue past the houses of East Cammachmore on your left. Just before the first house on the right, take a clear farm track. It re-crosses the railway at another bridge before heading through Backburn farm (sometimes there are Highland cows to be seen) and on towards Cobleboards, where it swings right. Pass the large gate (there is a passage to the left if it is closed) and continue gently uphill back towards the village. Take a narrower path off to the left through the gorse bushes to a metal gate that only opens a short way and has the remains of a cattle grid on the other side. (A steep short path to the left here links to Walk 2). Keep following the path which eventually swings to the right, giving great views of the village and eventually the viaduct. It crosses a cattle grid and passes houses on the right until it brings you back to the road, where you turn left to return to the start.

### Walk 4 – Red Route

From Cobleboards Farm, a grassy track heads north. Take this and soon drop down to a small bridge across the Burn of Daff then follow the track between gorse bushes, past a small water treatment facility and then back uphill through a gate and past a house on your right to join the road at Downies. Turn right and follow the road, bearing left to eventually join a path towards the sea. The braehead offers wonderful views over Cammachmore Bay and Downies Haven – and there are steps down. Retrace your steps to return to the start.

### Walk 5 – Blue Route

From the junction of Skateraw Road and Old Mill Road, head south along the railway line until you get to the Bettridge Centre. Keep right of the hall – which hosts many local leisure activities - to take a path along the top of the playing field which will bring you to a stile. Cross the stile and follow the path parallel with the tracks (or go left for a longer but rougher route right around the edge of the field). When you reach Silvers Bridge, cross the railway and fork right up the edge of a field (the track to the left is private access to the farm). When you reach another field, pause to admire the magnificent view along to the rock formations at Muchalls and beyond to Stonehaven before almost turning back on yourself to follow the field edge round past a mast and eventually to a metal gate. Turn right up the wide path. As you approach houses, look off for a diagonal track to the right which then joins a path through and behind houses and comes out on Park Place. Follow this until you pass Newtonhill Park with tennis courts and play equipment on your left and see the modern parish church building in front of you. Turn right to cross the railway line and then left to head back towards Skateraw Road.

### Walk 6 – Yellow Route

From the metal gate mentioned in Walk 5, take the path in the opposite direction, towards the sea. Head downhill until you get to the farm and bear right to find a narrower path which drops to cross the Pheppie Burn via a small bridge before heading gently back uphill to Muchalls. On reaching the village turn left onto Stranathro Terrace to pass between lovely old cottages and their clifftop gardens. Take Dunnyfell Road as far as a crossroads by the phone box (now a tiny community library) and turn left to follow Marine Terrace downhill through the village, passing the old railway station with its giant "PEACE" sign on the left and the site of the old Muchalls Hotel – now houses but once a very popular holiday destination with the rich and famous, including Charles Dickens. At the end of the road and track, turn left under the railway. (A track leads from here around the clifftops and to the beach but it may be closed because of erosion). On your right is a grassy field that makes for a nice circuit before retracing your steps back towards Newtonhill. (In the far corner, cross the small stone wall for a magnificent view. The path there also continues towards Mill of Muchalls, the pond used for Ophelia's death scenes in a Hollywood production of Hamlet starring Mel Gibson and on to Doonie's Point).

## - Newtonhill -

Newtonhill is located 10 miles south of Aberdeen and five miles north of Stonehaven. Originally a fishing village known as Skateraw (Gaelic meaning 'a row on a rock'), its traditional industry was halted by the invention of steamers and it became a popular holiday spot for city dwellers thanks to the arrival of the railway. Today Newtonhill is a commuter village with a population of over 3,000 residents.

Find a better way to get about....

Record your walks here

Walk	Notes	Distance
1		
2		
3		
4		
5		
6		

### Getabout

The Getabout partnership consists of Aberdeenshire and Aberdeen City Councils and Nestrans, supported in their work by NHS Grampian.

Getabout is the partnership's campaign to help people in the North East to make sustainable transport choices.

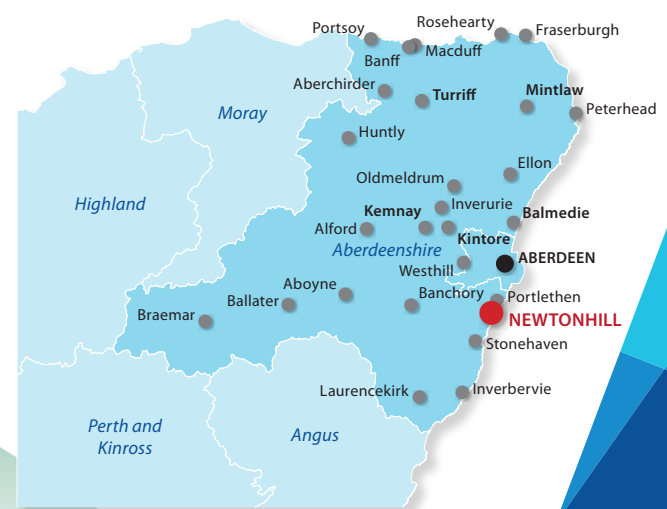
For more information visit [www.getabout.org.uk](http://www.getabout.org.uk).

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# Newtonhill Walking & Cycling

From mountain to sea

Aberdeenshire COUNCIL



Walk it... Bike it... Try it!

