

Longniddry to Dunbar and

The Route

Distance: 17 miles/27.4 km

Terrain: a mix of railway path, riverside path and minor roads with the final four miles to Dunbar on a relatively quiet A-road

Getting there: railway stations at Longniddry, Drem, Dunbar and North Berwick

Bike hire: Belhaven Bikes, Dunbar - 01368 860300, Law Cycles, North Berwick - 01620 890643 and numerous outlets in Edinburgh

Maps: NN1C Coast & Castles South Cycle Route Map (Newcastle to Edinburgh) - £6.99 from Sustrans

OS maps: Explorer 351, Landranger 66/67

Tourist information:

Edinburgh and Scotland - 0845 225 5121, Dunbar - 01368 862 843



This is a great car-free day out starting from Longniddry railway station. However, it's possible to start the cycle from Edinburgh and follow National Route 1 to Musselburgh, where you join National Route 76 just after crossing the River Esk. Route 76 heads round the Ash Lagoons near Musselburgh golf course and race track and then along the coast on a combination of multi-use paths and quiet roads, past Preston Pans and Port Seton, to Longniddry. The last couple of miles to Longniddry are on road.

As you come out of Longniddry Station, turn right and go straight through the roundabout onto the B1377. After a few hundred metres, look out for a sign on the right hand side of the road for the path to Haddington. Take care turning right and onto the track under the railway line. Keep to the left to follow the track which runs just to the south of the live railway. This dust path is on what used to be the Haddington branch line from Longniddry, which operated

from 1846 to 1968. The leafy corridor of the railway path curves for four miles through farmland and, after passing under the A1, enters the town of Haddington on the B6471.

Having been bypassed by the mainline railway and the A1, Haddington retains many fine old buildings and the old Nungate Bridge, just south of the Victoria Bridge, is worth a visit. National Route 76 goes right through the

centre of town, along Market Street and over the River Tyne on Victoria Bridge (not to be confused with the River Tyne in England). About 200 metres east of the bridge, turn left and follow a path alongside a playing field and cross the river again on a footbridge. You then join a lovely riverside path for just under a mile. As parts of the path were washed away in recent floods, please take care as the surface is passable but may be rough until repairs can be done.