

Entry 9

My Favourite Place by Bike: Innocent Railway Path - at the back of Duddingston Loch

Why it's my favourite place by bike...

The Innocent Railway is like a trapdoor into a secret garden, you whizz down the tunnel under the Queens Park, and suddenly you burst out into the light and see a glimpse of the loch and Duddingston Kirk before plunging into another green tunnel of trees on both sides of the cycle path. It doesn't feel like you are in the city at all ... for a few hundred yards you are transported to some long lost vision of the countryside.. probably unchanged for a few centuries (apart from the new school building)

It's a lonely place at times, and my pulse always races a bit faster and I cycle a bit faster until I see another cyclist or walker at the other end of the path - but it is great to be away from the noise of the cars and buses.

It is also very sheltered - and the only place we could go for a family cycle .. a few hours after the January gales hit Edinburgh and 100mph winds were recorded on Blackford Hill !!

Mind you there were a good few trees down , and it was a bit of an obstacle course getting along the path!!

The kids enjoyed climbing round the trees and we all got some fresh air (see photo attached) - of Sinead Thin (age 11) on the Innocent Railway after the storm (by Duddingston Loch)

