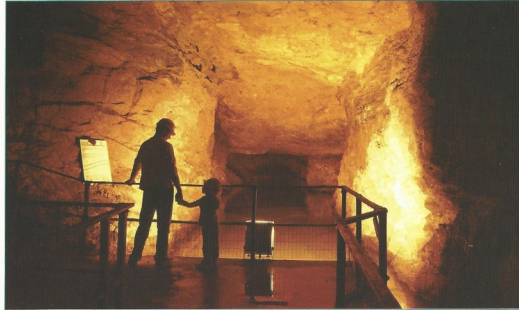


4. Birkhill Fireclay Mine - Woodland and Meadow



Access Information

Bus: For further information on bus times, numbers, routes, etc call Traveline on 0871 200 2233 or visit www.traveline.org.uk.

Train: SRPS Station - Bo'ness to Birkhill (tel 01506 822298 for timetable).

Cycle: Sustrans Route 76 passes within 1.8km (1 mile).

Parking: Small free car park near Birkhill Station.

Distance

■ ■ ■ Suggested route - 1 km (0.6 miles)
■ ■ ■ Alternative paths available - please note

the steep staircase down to the mine which maybe unsuitable for some people.

Path information

The woodland and meadow route follows a surfaced path and is generally flat with some gentle slopes. There are several picnic tables and benches along the route.

Facilities

Why not combine this route with a trip on the SRPS Railway and a tour of the mine. Cafes and parking available in Bo'ness town centre.

Mine Tours: From April to October you can take a guided tour from the

station platform into the underground mine workings and hear about the lives of the fireclay miners - make sure you wear suitable clothing and footwear.

Please check the railway timetable and mine opening times with Bo'ness and Kinneil Railway. Tel. 01506 822298 or email enquiries.railway@srps.org.uk

Car parking, toilets and picnic areas available at the mine.

For more information visit www.srps.org.uk

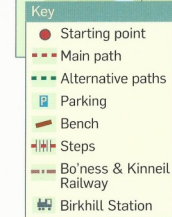
This route takes you through the woodland and meadow beside Birkhill Fireclay Mine. The mine is in the Avon Gorge beside Birkhill Station, which is used by Bo'ness and Kinneil Railway, Scottish Railway Preservation Society. Tours of the mine are available during the summer.

Please note that the only access to the mine is down a steep staircase into the gorge, which may make it unsuitable for some people. Whilst the mine is not suitable for wheelchairs, the railway, woods and meadow are.

Finding Your Way

START from Birkhill Station platform

- 1 Follow the signs to the Woodland. This path takes you down toward the old mine and storage buildings where you will pass a picnic area and a number of information boards.
- 2 Follow the path as it heads round to your right and you will arrive at the top of the steep steps which go down into the Avon Gorge and the entrance to the Mine Workings.
- 3 The woodland and meadow route follows the path to your left (at the top of the steps).



Continue along this path until you reach the picnic tables.

- 4 Take the path to your right and follow the loop around the meadow area. There are several places to rest and enjoy the peace and quiet along this relatively flat route.
- 5 When you return to the picnic tables, turn right

and retrace the first part of the route back toward the mine buildings and Birkhill Station.

Birkhill Fireclay Mine

Developed in 1911 to provide clay for Glenboig Brickworks, mining took place at Birkhill until 1980.

In 1987 Birkhill Fireclay Mine was developed as a show mine.

Birkhill Station was relocated from Monifieth, Angus via Glasgow Garden Festival in 1988 and is now served by the steam train from Bo'ness.

Please note: the mine is now permanently closed and not available for tours.

Source: *Discover the paths networks in and around Bo'ness and Blackness*

Falkirk Council



Falkirk Council

