

2. Bo'ness Town Centre Trail B

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: No.

Cycle: Sustrans Route 76.

Parking: Car Parks at Seaview Place and Union Street.

Distance
= Suggested route - 1.5 km (1 mile)
= Alternative paths available

Path information
Surfaced paths, pavements and cobbled roads.

Facilities

Toilets, shops, cafes and parking available in Bo'ness Town Centre.



Look up and look down to take in the fantastic architectural and industrial heritage. From grain and tobacco warehouses to the first purpose-built cinema in Scotland, Bo'ness Town Centre has a wealth of history waiting to be discovered.

Take a look at the wall of Custom House and you will find a plaque dedicated to the RAF and its significant history.

Finding Your Way
START: Carpark at Seaview Place

1 Cross Seaview Place and take the steps up onto Providence Brae, climbing the steep slope up towards the Town Hall. When you reach Stewart Avenue, the remains of St Mary's Church and the soon-to-be-renovated Liberal Club are on your

left, with the Town Hall straight ahead. The Town Hall library (now closed) was financed by Andrew Carnegie the great industrialist.

2 Cross the road and take the steps up to the Town Hall and into Glebe Park where you will see the Victorian Bandstand, erected in the park in 1902. Notice the two clock towers on the Town Hall - these clocks were made by H & R Millar and donated to the people of Bo'ness by Provost George Cadell. Stewart the founder of the present day annual Bo'ness Children's Fair.

3 Turn left following the path round the back of the Town Hall and then left again to the top of the steps that take you back down onto Stewart Avenue. Take a few

moments here to enjoy the magnificent view across the town and the Firth of Forth. A short walk along Stewart Avenue will bring you to the Masonic Hall, another of Matthew Steele's works.

4 Cross Stewart Avenue and turn left down School Brae. Please note that although there are no steps on School Brae, this is a steep slope. Turn right at the post box at the foot of School Brae and walk along South Street to the seating area at the junction with North Street. Look out for the Matthew Steele building now used as a bakers, on your left.

5 Turn left onto North Street and continue to the Jubilee Fountain passing a row of original shop fronts on your right. There is also an original Buttercup Dairy tile mosaic in the Opticians doorway, and ahead you will see Dymock's Building. The Bo'ness Clock Tower on North Street was destroyed by subsidence and eventually replaced with the current tower which graces the town.



6 Cross the road continuing along East Pier Street to the Post Office building on the corner, crossing Union Street. Follow signs to Bo'ness foreshore paths through the car park and railway crossing.

7 Follow the path round to your right. Please note this is a compacted stone path which is muddy in places. Take a look over to your right for a good view of the Post Office Building and Customs House.

8 Turn left at the harbour, and follow the foreshore path back round to the Car Park on Seaview Place, passing the Memorial to Miners on your way.

Bo'ness and its Industrial Past

Bo'ness has been home to many different industries over the years including shipping, coal mining, salt-making, ship building, pottery making and iron founding. The last surviving Bo'ness foundry, Ballantines has been operating on its current site since the 1820's.

Memorial to Miners

The coal mining industry has been important to this area for many years, with hundreds of shafts in the Kinneil, Bo'ness and Carriden area.

Mining in Bo'ness dates back 900 years to the monks at Carriden who collected coal from exposed outcrops. The great boom came with the industrial revolution in the 18th century. Industry and mines were developed and in operation until the last pit closed in the 1980's.

Unveiled in May 2007, the Memorial to Miners celebrates this long history.

Bo'ness Children's Fair
In 1897 Provost George Cadell Stewart spearheaded the first Official Bo'ness Children's Fair. The fair is an annual summer festival, which has become the most important event in the town's yearly calendar and is eagerly anticipated by children and adults alike. A visit to Bo'ness at fair time is a colourful spectacle of pagentry made even more special by the laughter and joy of local children.

Town Hall and Carnegie Library, Stewart Avenue Designed by George Washington Browne, the Town Hall and Carnegie Library opened in 1904. The Town Hall sits in Glebe Park which was formally opened on Bo'ness Fair Day in 1900, with the cast iron bandstand erected two years later as a finishing touch to the park.



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

Falkirk Council



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