

John Muir Way Section 5: Union Canal Towpath Diversion – Brightons to Almond Road

25/8/2020
Scale correct at A4

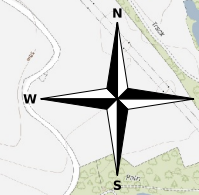
Scale - 1:12000

Legend

- John Muir Way
- Diversion route



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Brightons

Path closed

Almond Road

The Union Canal towpath is currently closed between Brightons (Station Road) and Almond Road due to a major breach of the canal embankment at Muiravonside on 12th August 2020. Repair works will take several months. The closure affects through access on the John Muir Way and National Cycle Route 754. A diversion is in place for walkers and cyclists as shown here. See over for detailed directions.

JOHN MUIR WAY / NCR 754 – DIVERSION (WALKERS AND CYCLISTS) – UNION CANAL CLOSURE BETWEEN BRIGHTONS AND ALMOND ROAD

The diversion is waymarked with yellow directional signage featuring cycle icon and JMW waymarker. Diversion is 2.7 miles, versus 2.4 miles on closed towpath.

DIRECTIONS - Eastbound from Brightons (towards Linlithgow)

Summary: Station Road (Brightons) to Eccles Place (Maddiston) on B810 and B805 - 1.5 miles urban roads with pavement; Eccles Place to east end of Maddiston High Road core path – 0.6 mile off-road compacted stone path; Unnamed minor road and Almond Road – 0.6 mile quiet minor road no pavement.

1. Leave the Union Canal towpath at Brightons (at west side of Station Road) at blue sign for “Polmont, Shops, Station”.
2. Turn right along the lane, then turn right onto B810 Station Road via blue pedestrian bridge. Keep ahead (slight left) at next junction to join Quarry Brae B810. Head south (up the hill) towards Rumford and Maddiston.
3. At the top of Quarry Brae turn left at T-junction onto B805 Maddiston Road.
4. Continue on the B805, keeping straight ahead at the mini-roundabout (B805 is now Main Road) and ahead again at next roundabout on B805 Main Road (Maddiston Primary School will be on your left).
5. Continue on the B805 passing Maddiston Police Station and then Maddiston Mini Market (on your right) and towards the brow of the hill. At sign for “Cairneymount Church” (on left, before bus stop), turn left onto Eccles Place.
6. Follow Public Right of Way sign for ““High Road” to Muiravonside Park”, continuing ahead (east) onto High Road which quickly becomes a track and then a compacted stone path (“Maddiston High Road”).
7. Follow the “Maddiston High Road” path straight ahead, crossing the bridge over the A801, and ignoring tracks and gates to left and right, until it emerges onto an unnamed minor road.
8. Take care joining the road (there is no pavement) and continue straight ahead following sign for “Path Muiravonside Park”.
9. Continue to the junction with Almond Road (another minor road, no pavement) – take care here and continue east (slight right) following sign for “Public right of way to Union Canal Towpath” as far as the bridge over the Union Canal. Ignore Right of Way signs to left and right on route.
10. Cross the canal bridge and immediately turn left and down 17 steps to the towpath.
11. Turn left along the towpath to re-join the JMW/NCR754 eastbound (heading for Linlithgow).

DIRECTIONS – Westbound from Almond Road (towards Falkirk Wheel)

Summary: Almond Road and unnamed minor road – 0.6 mile quiet minor road no pavement; East end of Maddiston High Road core path to Eccles Place (Maddiston) – 0.6 mile off-road compacted stone path; Eccles Place to Station Road (Brightons) on B805 and B810 - 1.5 miles urban roads with pavement.

1. Leave the Union Canal towpath at Almond Road (after passing Muiravonside Basin and passing under a stone bridge), taking the 17 steps up to your right.
2. Turn right onto Almond Road – taking care as you join the road (minor road, no pavement) – and continue over the canal bridge.
3. Continue west along Almond Road to reach the junction with another minor road (ignore Right of Way signs to left and right on route). Take care at the junction and continue west (left) until a sharp left hand bend in the road, with “Maddiston High Road” path in-front of you (signed “Public Right of Way “High Road” to Maddiston”).
4. Continue straight ahead onto the “Maddiston High Road” path, ignoring tracks and gates to left and right, and crossing the bridge over the A801, until the path turns into a track and emerges into Maddiston at Eccles Place, where it then meets the B805 Main Road.
5. Turn right down the hill and continue on the B805, passing Maddiston Mini Market (on your left) and then Maddiston Police Station (also on your left).
6. Continue ahead to roundabout on B805 Main Road and veer left (Maddiston Primary School will be down on your right below the roundabout).
7. Continue on the B805 and across the next mini roundabout past the Esso Petrol Station on your left.
8. Continue around the left hand bend in the road and then turn right onto the B810 Quarry Brae (opposite Braes Equestrian).
9. Continue north (downhill) on the B810 Quarry Brae to Brightons. At the junction (Whitesideload to the right) keep ahead slight right onto B810 Station Road.
10. Cross the canal (on the blue pedestrian bridge) and turn immediately left along the lane, then left at the end of the lane to join the towpath.
11. Turn right along the towpath to re-join the JMW/NCR754 westbound (heading for Falkirk Wheel).