

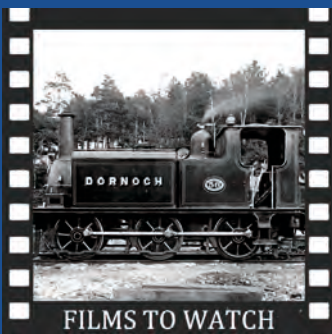
Welcome to Dornoch! - we all hope you will enjoy its unique heritage to the full. You can explore the town by walking around with an eye open for detail: a street name here, and architectural detail there, all add up to give a fascinating picture of our past. Dornoch is unusual, in that so much of our heritage is accessible.

To make your stay in Dornoch more entertaining and informative, the people of Dornoch invite you to follow the Historylinks Trail.

If you are not content merely to wander with the help of this leaflet, visit Historylinks Museum (follow the signs from the square).

Apart from a significant collection of artifacts, with displays and local stories, there are several unique film-shows to help bring 7,000 years of Dornoch's history alive for you.

There's no admission charge for children, who can dress-up as Vikings, do puzzles and quizzes, or have their photo taken in the stocks. Historylinks has something for everyone, making it an attraction not to be missed.



Historylinks is situated behind the Dornoch Castle Hotel, a short walk from the Cathedral – look out for the signs.



Walking Guide

To help you get the most from your walk, an illustrated guide is available in English, French, German, Spanish and Gaelic.



A Historical Guide to Dornoch

A full colour, illustrated souvenir guide is also available to remind you of your visit to Dornoch in the years to come. Available from Historylinks and local outlets.

Opening Times

Daily from 10 am during the Summer.
OPEN some days of the week during the rest of the year. Phone for exact details.

Children Free



The Meadows, Dornoch, Sutherland IV25 3SF
Tel/Fax: 01862 811275

Email: enquiries@historylinks.org.uk
www.historylinks.org.uk



A searchable image library for Dornoch can be found at www.historylinksarchive.org.uk



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Historylinks

Trail

Heritage sites around Dornoch



Includes
trail map
of Dornoch



Although William, Earl of Sutherland supported the Hanoverian cause, there were some considerable Jacobite activities in and around Dornoch in 1746. On March 20th a strong Jacobite force led by the Earl of Cromartie crossed the Dornoch Firth under cover of dense fog taken by surprise the Earl of Lothian's Government troops were soon defeated and dispersed leaving the Jacobites in control of Dornoch, Sicelby Castle and across Loch Fleet to Invermoriston.

Less than a month later Cromartie's force was defeated at the Battle of Culloden. The Jacobite army was completely destroyed and the Hanoverian army was victorious. The Jacobite cause was ended and the Hanoverian dynasty was established.

On the morning of Wed 16 August 1509 over 100 people crowded aboard the ferry boat at the Dornoch side of the Firth, all making their way to the Linnas Fair in Invermoriston. A passenger remembered that the boat was overcrowded, but with only a single oar set sail. It soon started to take to water. The passengers panicked and the ferry capsized, leaving only 22 survivors, 99 people drowned.

The Trail.....

1 Historylinks Museum

The starting point for each trail, with lots more comprehensive information available in the five-star Museum.



2 Old Parish Manse

Turn left out of Historylinks and past the adjoining house. In front of the low wall on your left, you'll see the circular well.



3 Cathedral Gardens

On the green space in front of the cathedral, look out for the ornate cast iron drinking fountain under the trees.



4 Mercat Cross

The former commercial centre of Dornoch is situated beside the churchyard of the Cathedral.



5 The Early Church

By the river there is the site of the old Monastery well; next to the building housing the Sutherland Council Chamber and the Library donated by Andrew Carnegie.



6 Dornoch Light Railway

Along the Embo road is the terminus of the railway and the old Dornoch station.



7 St Michael's Well

The stone marks the old burgh boundary. Visit the site to find out why it is not situated at the actual well.



8 Gallows Hill

Just outside the gates of Earl's Cross House, you will see a plaque marking Gallowhill, site of the last public hanging in Dornoch.



9 Cholera Stone

Round the back of Earl's Cross House there is a stone marking a supposed cholera victim's grave.



10 The Earl's Cross

Tucked into the whins (gorse) is the sculptured stone known as the Earl's Cross.



11 Dornoch Links

Dornoch's successful tourism is based on its long sandy beach and its world famous golf course. View the panorama here and you can see why.



12 The Witch's Stone

Carnaig Street. In the garden of the first house you will see a stone with the date 1722. The last execution in Scotland for alleged witchcraft took place here.



13 Littleton

Tenants cleared from the estates in 1819 settled here and formed a rare collection of vernacular architecture.



14 The Receiving House

Until 1830, post was carried by relays of runners. The Receiving House was the handover point and the town's post office.



15 Embo Beach

The site of the earliest settlers with their chambered cairn as well as the home of Norsemen. Now a typical collection of fishermen's cottages.



16 Meikle Ferry

The site of the greatest local disaster in 1809.



Look for this sign

It is displayed on waymarkers and other objects from site 7 to site 12.



Please note that there are no toilets outwith the town centre, except due east of site 12.

Dogs must be kept under control.





Route Options.....

Hub Trail

Easy walking through the town centre, sites 1 to 5.
 ⚠: Make detour round churchyard, otherwise full access.
 Allow 45 minutes at most.

South-East Spoke

Littleton and Witch's Stone (sites 13 & 12)
 Easy walking. Full ⚠ access.
 Allow 30 minutes at most.

West Spoke

Receiving House & War Memorial (sign 14) via birthplace of Donald Ross in St Gilbert St.
 Easy walking. Full ⚠ access.
 Allow 30 minutes at most.

North Spoke

Railway Station & St Michael's Well (sites 6 & 7).
 Easy walking. Full ⚠ access.
 Allow 15 minutes at most.

Main Trail

Moderate walking through the town centre, woodlands and open countryside with sea views. Passes signs 1, 2, 3, 14, 4, 5, 6, 7, (8), 9, 10, 11, 12, 13. Look out for "Historylinks Trail" arrow signs along your path.
 No ⚠ access, nor suitable for pushchairs between sites 7 and 12.
 Allow 2½ hours at most.

By cycle or car.....

Embo (Site 15)

Leave Dornoch past Station (6). Follow mainly single-track road until turning to the right, signed "Embo." 3½ miles/5½km by road. Can be walked by taking Main Trail and continuing north after sign 11. (2½ miles/4km)

Meikle Ferry (Site 16)

Follow Castle Street left into Sutherland Road, by

Church Hall. Follow single-track road to A9. Left, then first right signed "Meikle Ferry North (No ferry)." 5½ miles/9km.

Other things to look out for...

- Tourist Information Centre
- Birthplace of Donald Ross - world-famous golf course architect
- Panoramic view across Dornoch
- The Station (now 'Dornoch') Hotel, early 20th Century: purpose-built to cater for the many tourists coming by rail.

Also, look for the Dornoch Cat!

