

Walking around Kirkcudbright Lifeboat Station from 3 to 8 miles**Printer friendly page**

Roadside footpath, minor road and unmade road

Shore & woodland-easy; stile Beyond Lifeboat-moderate

This walk combines a variety of interesting on and off-road routes of varying length, within easy reach of the town. The walk to the **Lifeboat Station** is a round trip of 8 miles, or 3 miles if a car is taken to a small parking spot near The Lake at the start of the unmade road.

From the town of Kirkcudbright, follow the A 711 road-side footpath south towards Dundrennan, past Park House and Sandside cottages to **Mutehill**. Between these two groups of dwellings are a couple of seats, with views across the Lake, to St. Mary's Isle and down to Little Ross Island at the mouth of Kirkcudbright Bay. From Kirkcudbright, a return walk to The Lake is 5 miles and 3 miles to Mutehill.

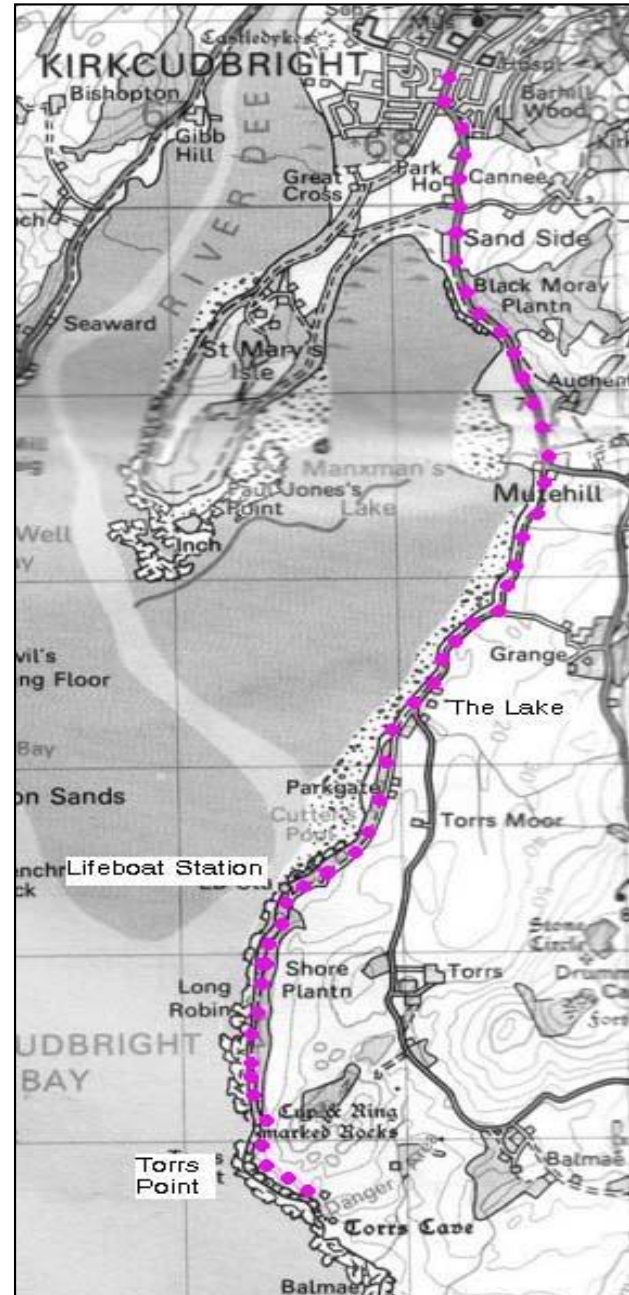
At **Mutehill**, take the easy-going minor road, to the right along the shore. From this level road there are extensive views over the estuary. After a mile, there is a fork in the road, where the road curves left and leaves the shore.

At this point, there is a small area, near The Lake house, where a few cars may park.

Walk straight on along an unmade road, past Parkgate and through a side gate. A strip of woodland separates the road from the shore for $\frac{3}{4}$ mile to the Lifeboat Station and slipway, at the end of the road. The Lifeboat can be launched from this point at all states of the tide.

Until the mid-1950s, when the crew made a road through the wood, they had to run on a rough path for a mile from the road at Parkgate, to get to the boathouse. An inshore RNLI Atlantic 21 is stationed in the Lifeboat House.

The original lifeboat of 1862 was housed by Millburn Street. The boat had to be hauled on a carriage down to the quayside. To get out to casualties, the lifeboat had to be rowed often for three miles or more usually against the tide and wind. The boathouse was moved to the Torrs Shore in 1892.

[cottage at Sandside](#)[from Sandside](#)[Lifeboat Stat.](#)[from Lifeboat Station slipway](#)[near Torrs Point](#)[Clifftop bluebells](#)

The energetic can extend the walk to Torrs Point. Two parallel paths continue for another $\frac{3}{4}$ mile along the wooded shore; one at a low level and the other above. Both paths meander through the wood for $\frac{3}{4}$ mile and emerge via a stile into a field on the cliffs. The higher path is easier and drier. Turn right and continue along the fence coming to the unprotected cliff face.

Take care for the next $\frac{1}{2}$ mile, where a stone wall with a gate is reached just below the look-out tower for the Range, close to Torrs Point. If no red flag is flying, the walk can be continued for a short distance. There are views across Kirkcudbright Bay and Little Ross Island to the Isle of Man. Return by the same way.

Sponsored by [Skye House](#) Kirkcudbright, a self catering town house at High Street.