



# 23 EDINBURGH ARTHUR'S SEAT

▶ Distance: 5¼ miles/8.5km ▶ Time: 2¾ hours ▶ Grade: Moderate



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FEATURE  
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Looking down onto Edinburgh  
and Salisbury Crags.

PHOTO: KEITH FERGUS



### CHOSEN BY...

#### KEITH FERGUS

The distinct profile  
of Arthur's Seat

dominates Edinburgh and this particular route is stunning, with a number of steep ascents and descents. It climbs steeply from Holyrood Park onto the 251m summit, where a panorama across Scotland's capital awaits. Good paths then descend to beautiful Duddingston Loch, after which the Innocent Railway climbs back into Holyrood Park. Another steep pull leads onto Salisbury Crags, where glorious views are constant.

### 1 Start

From Scottish Parliament, on Canongate, follow Horses

Wynd past Palace of Holyroodhouse into Holyrood Park. Turn L onto Queens Drive, cross at pelican crossing beside car park, turn L then immediately R onto paved path. Climb steadily to fork. Take L branch onto stony path, follow this up steps towards 14th century St Anthony's Chapel. When path leading from chapel comes in from the L, bear R onto this.

### 2 ¾ mile/1.25km

Climb steeply south, with unique profile of Arthur's Seat rising ahead. In due course path veers L to traverse steeper slopes then reaches grassy plateau beneath summit and an outstanding view along East Lothian coast. Path turns R

### PLAN YOUR WALK



### ROUTE

**Start/parking** Canongate, The Royal Mile, EH8 8DX, grid ref NT269739

**Is it for me?** Pavement, parkland and hill paths

**Stiles** None

### PLANNING

**Nearest town** Edinburgh

#### Refreshments

Kilderkin, Edinburgh (Tel: 0131 556 2101)

**Public toilets** South Bridge, Edinburgh

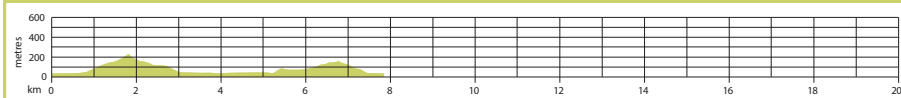
#### Public transport

Edinburgh is well served by public transport from all across Scotland

**Maps** OS Explorer 350; Landranger 66

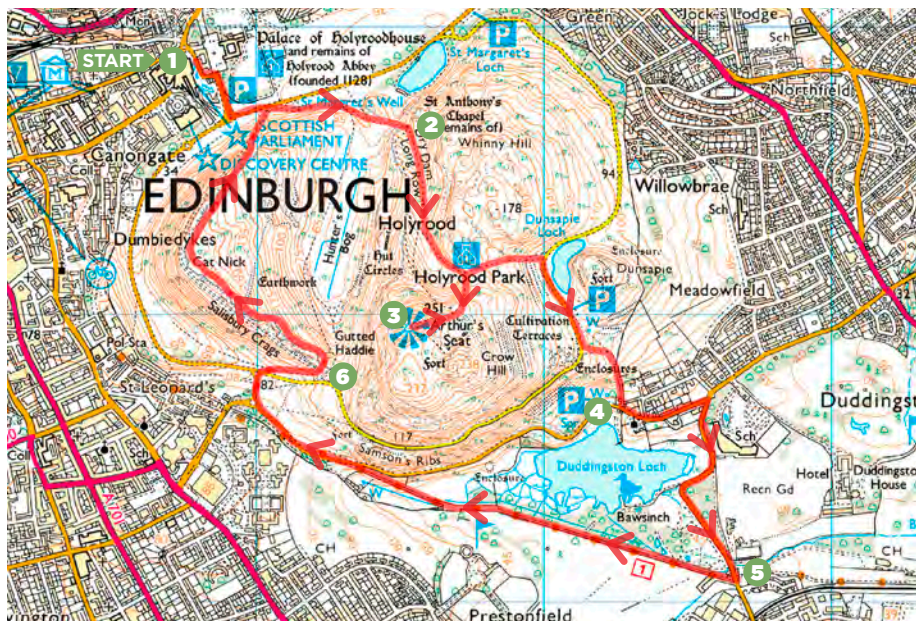
with steep pull, alongside fence, soon gaining airy summit ridge. Final few feet onto Arthur's Seat cross slabs of rock which can be greasy when wet. Spectacular views extend across Edinburgh to Southern Highlands.

### GRADIENT PROFILE



23 EDINBURGH  
ARTHUR'S SEAT► OS Explorer map 350 ► Buy maps at: [ordnancesurvey.co.uk/shop](http://ordnancesurvey.co.uk/shop)

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**3** 1¼ miles/2km

Retrace steps back to grassy plateau from where path descends steeply east to Queens Drive near Dunsapie Loch. Turn R, follow pavement past car park. As road swings R turn L, descend steps onto path. Follow this steeply down more steps to Old Church Lane at Duddingston Loch, a lovely spot to sit and relax.

**4** 1¼ miles/2.75km

Turn L, follow Old Church Lane through Duddingston to Duddingston Road West. Turn R, follow pavement for nearly 1km to entrance of Innocent Railway Path beside Fokenford. Innocent Railway opened in

1831 to transport coal from Dalkeith to Edinburgh and nicknamed Innocent because horse drawn carriages used it instead of steam engines which were thought dangerous. The line closed in 1868.

**5** 2½ miles/4km

Turn R, follow path as it climbs northwest, eventually gaining fork just before tunnel. Go L then immediately R, climb steps to Duddingston Low Road. Walk L, continue to roundabout. Keep R, then R at next roundabout onto Queens Drive. Keep straight on along path that rises gradually, passing path on L, known as the Radical Road, onto the

eastern edge of Salisbury Crags where path splits.

**6** 4 miles/6.5km

Keep L then L again at next fork. Ascend steeply northwest, walking along lip of crags; at the top there's an astonishing view of Edinburgh. Path swings R and descends northeast back to outward-bound path. Turn L and return to start. **CW**

**VIEW THE WALK ON OS MAPS ONLINE:**

[lfto.com/cwroutes](http://lfto.com/cwroutes)

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



OS MAPS



Ordnance Survey

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DATE WALKED

TIME TAKEN

YOUR RATING

