



North Ayrshire

START/FINISH:
A760 Entrance to
Kelburn Windfarm
east of Largs

Irish Law & Knockside Hills

Enjoy the open moorland landscape of these hilltops with great views of the islands on the Firth of Clyde and inland to the hills above Lochwinnoch. A feature of interest are the remains of the aeroplane wreckage of the Vickers Viking aircraft that may be found on the slopes of Irish Law.

Grassy road verge, gravel track and over moor and heathland on summits.



6.7 miles / 10.8 km Allow 3-4hrs

strenuous



More information

Aeroplane Wreckage is still present on the northern slopes of Irish Law. In 1948 a Vickers Viking aircraft bound for Renfrew airport struck the hill late one evening. Miraculously, all 20 passengers and crew on board escaped before the aircraft was consumed by flames.

The Views from the hill top summits are fantastic. On a clear day, you can spot the iconic features of Ailsa Craig, Goat Fell on the Isle of Arran and the most southerly munro, Ben Lomond.

Birds: Look out for buzzards, ravens, meadow pipits and skylarks as they fly across the moorland.

Vegetation: Sphagnum moss, cotton grass, purple moor-grass, common and bell heather all thrive in the exposed upland landscape.

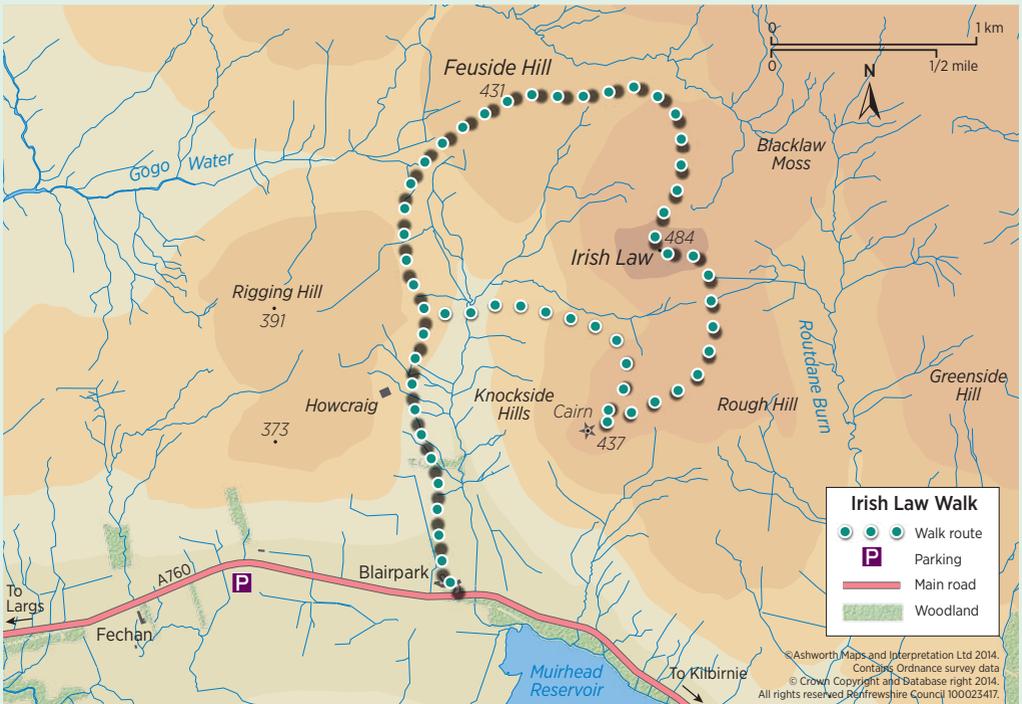


The Route

OS Map 1:25000 Explorer 341 or 1:50000 Landranger 63

- Park off-road on the A760 at the entrance to the Kelburn Windfarm just west of Blairpark Farm [242 574].
- Walk north up the track passing Howcraig staying on the gravel track until you reach the eastern slope of Paton's Hill (named on 1:25K eastern end of Rigging Hill on 1:50K).
- Approximately 3km into the walk step off the track before the bridge and walk north easterly to summit of Feuside Hill. Walk with care as you will need to step over some tributary burns and drainage ditches.
- From the summit of Feuside Hill [253 598] make your way to Irish Law trig point via the small secondary summit (called Little Irish Law).
- From the trig point (484m and the highest point of the walk) make your way across the low point between Irish Law and Knockside Hills to the ring contours north east of the cairns.
- Travel along the ridge to reach the Knockside Cairns. While lower than Irish Law the prominent shape of the hill offers stunning views.
- Head north and follow burn west downhill until you reach the river and the sheepfolds. As there is no obvious route off the hill we advise crossing at the safest and narrowest point. If the burn or river is in spate, cross higher up.
- From the sheepfolds walk on a bearing back onto the track and walk downhill to A760.

NB Map and compass skills are essential as most of the walk is not on tracks.



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