Clyde Muirshiel
REGIONAL PARK

The Park for People

Renfrewshire

START/FINISH:
Yew Car Park,
Muirshiel Country Park,
Lochwinnoch

Windy Hill

Muirshiel Country Park's Windy Hill is family friendly extinct volcano with fantastic views of Renfrewshire's wild side. Enjoy mix woodland, moorland and the chance to hunt for the Forest Folk.

Initially on metalled road and forest trails with open moorland with some boardwalk sections up Windy Hill itself. The moorland path leading to Windy Hill can be boggy in places. 1 kissing gate. Red and yellow waymarkers.

2.4 miles / 3.8km Allow 1-2 hours

moderate

More information

Forest Folk Trail Discover the friendly faces who hide in the trees along the lower Country Trail. They guard their trees and each one will tell you in about the species they live 'in'. Take your time, some are tricky to spot.

Wildlife Plants such as bog cotton may be being blown about in the near constant breeze which gives Windy Hill its name. Look out for green hairstreak butterflies amongst the blaeberry. Juniper bushes have been planted close to the trail and if you are very lucky you may even spot Roe Deer.

The Route

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

- From the Yew Car Park, the first one through the Country Park gates, follow the road along until you see a trail crossing the road. Turn right off the road and onto the path through a woodland of birches, scots pine and rowan.
- Turn right uphill when you reach the tarmac road. Take the first path on your left. From this path you will have a great view over the country park to the other side of the River Calder towards Misty Law.
- Continue on this path past the replica hut circle. Take the red way marked path on your right up through the sitka spruce. This trail opens out onto heather and blaeberry.
- Go through the kissing gate and follow the path towards Windy Hill. At the base of the hill head to your right for a gentler climb. At the top you get marvellous views towards Glasgow and over the Clyde.
- Retrace your route through the kissing gate and downhill to the junction near the hut circle. Turn right. (If you reach the hut circle you have gone too far!)
- Keep on this path downhill, stopping off for some den building if you like, until you reach the visitor centre.
- At the Visitor Centre take the country trail path (yellow markers). This starts by the picnic benches, at the junction take the left path past the shipping containers. Keep on this path looking out for the Forest Folk on the way to your start point at the Yew Car Park.