



## Routes of Inspiration

### St Mungo & St Ninian's Pilgrim Journeys - Moffat Loop via Lockerbie and Dumfries

#### **Why Pilgrimage?**

Follow in the footsteps of saints and sinners, discovering the legacy of Scotland's Celtic Saints by travelling routes that explore some of the country's most beautiful sacred places and scenic areas.

Experience the journey... feel a new sense of awe... be inspired on one of Scotland's Pilgrim Journeys.\*

#### **This Pilgrimage**

This inspiring route in beautiful Dumfries and Galloway includes sections of the journeys of both St Mungo and St Ninian. Mungo, also known as Kentigern, founded Glasgow, baptised Merlin, opened up the Lake District and established Britain's newest city – in Wales. Not much is known about St Ninian, but it is known that he had close connections with Galloway – the cradle of Scottish Christianity. The area is rich in early Christian carvings and is a place of mystery and austere beauty.

This 93 mile route features 20 beautiful churches and sacred sites including the Dumfries church where Robbie Burns worshipped, and which was raided by Bonnie Prince Charlie in 1745, Ruthwell Church, home of the Anglo Saxon *Ruthwell Cross*, Lincluden Collegiate Church, founded as a priory for Benedictine nuns in the 1160s, and Sweetheart Abbey, where Lady Devorgilla of Galloway was buried in 1289, clutching her husband's embalmed heart. The route begins in the pretty Borders town of Moffat, which is easily accessible from the M74 and includes some of the South of Scotland's most beautiful scenery.

#### **The Route**

The route can be followed in either direction and could be completed in a day or include an overnight stay.

Approximate drive-times to Moffat from near-by cities:

Glasgow 1hrs 05mins, Edinburgh: 1hr 30mins, Stirling: 1hrs 20mins, Perth: 1hrs 55mins.

#### **Approximate Pilgrimage Journey Time**

Moffat loop via Lockerbie, Dumfries, New abbey and Thornhill - 93 miles - Approx 2hrs 45mins (by car)

**Allow plenty of extra time to visit the churches along the way. Few of the working churches along this route have regular opening hours, apart from Sunday services, but all are open to visitors by arrangement. Website details are provided for each church where you will find a telephone number and/or email address that can be used to arrange a visit to the church. We've also highlighted some other attractions, cafes, bars, restaurants and hotels that you may want to include on your visit. \*\* Please phone in advance to avoid disappointment. See [www.visitscotland.com](http://www.visitscotland.com) for more information on the area.**

**For further information on the churches highlighted, and on Scotland's Pilgrim Journeys, visit [www.scotlandspilgrimjourneys.com](http://www.scotlandspilgrimjourneys.com) or read Donald Smith's book, *Pilgrim Guide to Scotland*, published by St Andrew Press.**

#### **Directions:**

##### **By Road**

From Moffat, continue on the A701 and then turn south on the A74 (M) as far as junction 17 where you leave the motorway at junction 19, to travel through Lockerbie, rejoining the motorway at junction 18. Leave the motorway at junction 19, taking the B725 to Hoddum. Here you can take a short walk along the River Annan to the graveyard marked on the OS map where St Mungo preached. Carry on through Dalton and Carrutherstown to Ruthwell station. From there, the B724 takes you into Ruthwell. From here, follow minor roads into Dumfries. From Dumfries, take the A710 to New Abbey. Return to Dumfries and now head north on the A76, passing Ellisland Farm, once farmed by Robert Burns, and Friars Carse. You can stop at Friars

Carse, now a hotel, and enjoy the short walk to Ellisland Farm. Back on the A76, continue through Thornhill to Carronbridge and turn right onto the A702, stopping off at Durisdeer and then continuing on through Elvanfoot to join the A74 (M) heading south back to Moffat.

### **By Cycle**

Cyclists can travel parts of NCN 74, NCN 4 and Regional route 10 to enjoy the churches and countryside of this special part of the world.

### **On Foot**

#### **Sections of the route can be walked**

Walkers can pick up the Annandale Way at Moffat and travel south for Lockerbie (<http://annandaleway.org/> or <http://www.walkhighlands.co.uk/galloway/annandale-way.shtml>) There is an alternative loop of the Annandale Way which goes through Lochmaben rather than Lockerbie and passes the old St Mungo's Church at Kirkbank, rejoining the other route a couple of miles north of Hoddum. There is a riverside walk from Dumfries to Lincluden and a walk between Friars Carse and Ellisland.

### **Route Summary**

Moffat to Lockerbie, Lockerbie to Dumfries, Dumfries to New Abbey, New Abbey to Dumfries, Dumfries to Thornhill then Carronbridge, Carronbridge to Elvanfoot then south again on the A74 (M) back to Moffat.

## **The Churches En-route \*\*\***

### **St Andrews Parish Church, Moffat**



This very grand building was constructed in 1884 to designs by John Starforth. At the time, Moffat was a fashionable resort, with an element of high-class commuting added in, hence the elaborate architecture. There is some fine stained glass.

Located: Church Gate, Moffat, DG10 9EJ

<https://www.scotlandschurcheTrust.org.uk/church/st-andrews-moffat>

### **All Saints' Scottish Episcopal, Lockerbie**

A picturesque Arts and Crafts church with tower and broach spire by John Douglas of Chester, consecrated in 1903. Rich but delicate altarpiece by Sir Ninian Comper with Italian Renaissance-inspired blue and gold painted wooden panels above carved alabaster figures. Stained glass by Comper, Westlake and Morris & Co.

Located: Ashgrove Terrace, Lockerbie, DG11 2BQ

<https://www.scotlandschurcheTrust.org.uk/church/all-saints-lockerbie>

### **Holy Trinity Roman Catholic Church, Lockerbie**



This church was built in 1874-75 for a United Prebyterian congregation, to designs by Ford Mackenzie of Wigan and Manchester. It came into the United Free Church in 1900, and the Church of Scotland. It was known as Trinity Parish Church. In 1973, following a union, it was sold to the Roman Catholic Church, and assumed its present name.

Located: High Street, Lockerbie, DG11 2DA

<https://www.scotlandschurchestrust.org.uk/church/holy-trinity-lockerbie>

### **Dryfesdale Parish Church, Lockerbie**

This large church was built in 1896-98, to designs by FJC Carruthers, to replace an earlier building.

Located: Just north of the town centre on B723 High Street.

[www.lockerbiechurchofscotland.co.uk](http://www.lockerbiechurchofscotland.co.uk)

### **The Former Hoddom Church**

This isolated church was rebuilt in 1816-17 by John Park, a mason-architect. It was altered in 1913-14 by Robert James Barton, a joiner in Lockerbie. It was gutted by fire in 1975.

Location: About a mile west of Ecclefechan on the B725

<http://buildingsatrisk.org.uk/details/903711>

### **Dalton Kirk**



Close by the roofless shell of the 1704 parish church stands J M Dick Peddie's 1895 sturdy Romanesque church. Built of the local red sandstone and with an attached square tower with short slated spire. Unusually coloured kingpost-truss roof over the nave and scissors roof in the chancel. Three-light stained glass window of the Ascension by A Ballantine and Gardiner 1896. The graveyard contains a late Georgian burial enclosure and the suave classical monument to the Carruthers of Whitecroft.

Location: Dalton, DG11 1DS

<https://www.scotlandschurchestrust.org.uk/church/dalton-kirk>

### **Ruthwell Parish Church**

One of the main attractions of this church is its famous stone cross dating from around the 8<sup>th</sup> century when Ruthwell was part of the Anglo Saxon Kingdom of Northumbria. It is said to feature possibly the oldest surviving text of English poetry. The church building itself has a complex building history. Parts of it are medieval, with a south burial aisle added in the late 17<sup>th</sup> century. It was remodelled in 1801-03 by Sanderson

of Dalkeith, who shortened and broadened it. In 1886-87 an apse was added to house the Ruthwell Cross. The architects were Campbell and Douglas and Sellars of Glasgow. Finally in 1906, the building was again recast by James Barbour and Bowie of Dumfries.

Location: Ruthwell, DG1 4NP. 8.5 miles south east of Dumfries on the B724

<http://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/ruthwell/ruthwellcross/>

### **Troqueer Parish Church, Maxwelltown, Dumfries**



A red sandstone church, rebuilt in 1771 and altered in the gothic style by James Barbour in 1887. It has a simple rectangular shape, a horseshoe gallery, two entrance porches and a corbelled birdcage belfry. Its memorial vestry contains memorials to Convenanting minister John Blackadder and two posthumous VCs.

Location Troqueer Road, Dumfries DG2 7DF. For directions, see [www.troqueerparishchurch.com](http://www.troqueerparishchurch.com)

<https://www.scotlandschurchestrust.org.uk/church/troqueer-parish-church-dumfries>

### **St Michael's & South Parish Church, Dumfries**



This is a wonderful church, full of history where written records go back to 1190 since when three churches have stood on this site. The pillars of the 1500 church were used in the present building (1741-6), raided by Bonnie Prince Charlie in 1745. Robert Burns worshipped here until his untimely death; his wife Jean Armour continued to worship for another 38 years. This beautiful church has a fine collection of stained glass, some dating back to 1800. The Archangel St Michael overlooks the congregation from the front of the Willis organ.

Location: St Michael's Street, Dumfries DG1 2PR

<https://www.scotlandschurchestrust.org.uk/church/st-michaels-and-south-parish-church-dumfries>

### **The Scottish Episcopal Church of St John the Evangelist, Dumfries**



This red sandstone Gothic church was designed by Slater & Carpenter and consecrated in 1868. Mosaic reredos (altarpieces) by the Venice and Murano Glass and Mosaic Co 1881. The organ dates from 1938 and the Tolling bell by John Taylor & Co of Loughborough was installed in 1877. In 2014, eight change-ringing bells were installed by Whitechapel Bell Foundry, London; five are by Gillett & Johnson of Crydon (1946) relocated from Quarriers Village, Bridge of Weir, and three cast by Whitechapel in 2013-14.

Location: Newall Terrace, Dumfries, DG1 1LW. Situated in town centre, off Edinburgh Road on corner of Lover's Walk and Newall Terrace across from railway station, just past Station Hotel. Location map at [www.stjohnsdumfries.org](http://www.stjohnsdumfries.org)  
<https://www.scotlandschurchestrust.org.uk/church/st-john-the-evangelist-dumfries>

### St George's Parish Church, Dumfries



Built as a Free Church in 1844 by William McGowan and remodelled in 1893 by James Halliday who added the Italianate front of red sandstone. Almost square interior with north and south aisles marked off by superimposed Corinthian columns. Compartmented and coved main ceiling.

Location: 50 George Street, Dumfries DG1 1EJ

<https://www.scotlandschurchestrust.org.uk/church/st-georges-dumfries>

### Maxwelltown West Church, Dumfries

Built as Maxwelltown Free Church in 1866, the church was designed by James Barbour. An imposing church in red sandstone, it presents a Gothic Façade to the street with two large windows over the central door, a pierced parapet to the gable and a central octagonal belfry. Galleries on three sides focus on the 20<sup>th</sup> century pulpit in front of the organ, rebuilt in 1948. The war memorial gates were moved here from Laurieknowe Church in 1999.

Location: Laurieknowe, Dumfries DG2 7AH. Location map at [www.maxwelltownwest.org.uk](http://www.maxwelltownwest.org.uk)

<https://www.scotlandschurchestrust.org.uk/church/maxwelltown-west-church-dumfries>

### St Teresa's RC Church, Dumfries

This striking building was built in 1956-58 and designed by John Sutherland of M Purdon Smith and Partners.

Location: Glasgow Street, Dumfries DG2 9DE

<https://www.scotlandschurchestrust.org.uk/church/st-teresas-catholic-church-dumfries>

### Lincluden Collegiate Church

Lincluden was founded as a priory for Benedictine nuns in the 1160s. The founder was probably Uchtred, son of Fergus, Lord of Galloway. Uchtred introduced feudalism to Galloway and the arrival of the Benedictine nuns was part of that process. In 1389, Archibald 'The Grim', the 3<sup>rd</sup> Earl of Douglas, replaced it with a collegiate church and his son, Archibald 4<sup>th</sup> Earl began the process of building what the visitor sees today. His widow, Princess Margaret, daughter of Robert III, was buried there in 1450 and her tomb still graces the choir. The buildings survived the Reformation but by 1700 had fallen into disrepair. The remains were consolidated in 1882 and are now in the care of Historic Scotland.

Location: On western outskirts of Dumfries in Abbey Lane on A76

Visit [www.historic-scotland.gov.uk](http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk) for more information.

### Sweetheart Abbey, New Abbey

In 1268, Lord John Balliol died. His grieving widow, Lady Derorgilla of Galloway, had his heart embalmed and placed in an ivory casket, which she carried with her everywhere. She undertook many charitable acts in his memory, including the founding of the Cistercian abbey of Dulce Cor (Latin for Sweet Heart) in 1273. When she died in 1289, she was laid to rest in front of the abbey church's high altar, clutching her husband's heart to her bosom. Edward I of England resided at the abbey in 1300. After the reformation, the parish church occupied the refectory of the abbey until 1731, when a new church was built against the south side of the nave of the abbey church, and the monastic buildings were abandoned. The church was saved from use

as a quarry in 1779 by a group of local gentlemen and repaired in the mid 19<sup>th</sup> century. The 18<sup>th</sup> century parish church was removed in 1877. The abbey ruins were taken into state care in 1928 and are now looked after by Historic Scotland.

Location: New Abbey Bridge, DG2 8BU. Located off A710 south of Dumfries

Visit [www.historic-scotland.gov.uk](http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk) for more information.

### **New Abbey Parish Church**



Built in 1876 by James Barbour of Dumfries using stones from Kindar Mill. T-plan Gothic church of squared granite blocks with red sandstone dressings. The timber roof was replaced after a fire in 1963. Stained glass window from 1915, design by William Morris from a Burne-Jones drawing.

Location: Main Street, New Abbey, DG2 8BY

<https://www.scotlandschurchestrust.org.uk/church/new-abbey-church>

### **Thornhill Parish Church (also known as Morton Parish Church)**



This building was constructed by the Duke of Buccleuch and Queensberry in 1839-41 as Morton Parish Church, to serve the surrounding agricultural area. It is in the Romanesque Revival style, applied to a 'Heritors Gothic' form of building. The architect was William Burn, Edinburgh.

Location: Manse Road, Thornhill, DG3 5ER

<https://www.scotlandschurchestrust.org.uk/church/thornhill-parish-church>

### **Durisdeer Parish Church**



Unspoilt, peaceful Georgian country parish church, mostly dating from 1719-20 but built on the foundation of a much older church. The X-plan church has an additional wing at the west end, topped by a belfry tower containing the ducal retiring rooms. The interior has a typical Presbyterian layout with central pulpit and three galleries. Many of the box pews have a central communion table. The north aisle of the church is taller and more sophisticated, built for the Duke of Queensberry and remaining from the earlier church. Inside the Queensberry Aisle is the real jewel of the church – the most amazing monument for the Queensberry burial vault – a baroque mural monument and freestanding baldacchino carved in 1695 by John van Nost to the

design of James Smith, who was also the architect of the later church. A riot of swagged fabric, garlands of flowers, urns, barley sugar columns, cherubs, skulls and pediments, all in gleaming white marble. The churchyard contains some fine 17<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup> century stone monuments, including the martyr's monument to the covenanter Daniel MacMichael.

Location: Durisdeer, DG3 5BJ

<https://www.scotlandschurchestrust.org.uk/church/durisdeer-parish-church>

## ***Cafes, Coffee Stops & Tea Rooms***

Some cafes and coffee shops, bars and restaurants where you may want to refuel during your Pilgrimage...

Many more suggestions can be found at: [www.visitscotland.com](http://www.visitscotland.com). We recommend that you phone ahead to check opening times.

### ***Care Ariete***

10 High Street  
Moffat, DG10 9HF  
Tel: 01683 220313

### ***Thomas Tosh***

19 East Morton Street  
Thornhill  
DG3 5LZ  
Tel: 01848 331553  
[www.thomastosh.com](http://www.thomastosh.com)

### ***Abbey Cottage Tearoom***

26 Main Street  
New Abbey  
DG2 8BY  
Tel: 01387 860 377  
[www.abbeycottagetearoom.com](http://www.abbeycottagetearoom.com)

### ***Mrs Green's Tea Lounge***

18 Queensberry Street  
Dumfries  
DG1 1EV  
Tel: 07503 116582

### ***Kings Coffee and Books***

12 Queensberry Street  
Dumfries DG1 1EX  
Tel: 01387 254444  
[www.kings-online.co.uk](http://www.kings-online.co.uk)

## ***Bars and Restaurants***

### ***Brodies of Moffat***

1-2 Altrive Place  
Moffat  
DG10 9EB  
[www.brodiesofmoffat.co.uk](http://www.brodiesofmoffat.co.uk)

### ***Casa Mia***

53 Nunholm Road  
Dumfries  
DG1 1JW

Tel: 01387 269619

[www.casamiadumfries.co.uk](http://www.casamiadumfries.co.uk)

### ***Hullabaloo***

Robert Burns Centre

Mill Road

Dumfries

DG2 7BE

[www.hullaballoorrestaurant.co.uk](http://www.hullaballoorrestaurant.co.uk)

### ***Steamboat Inn***

Carsethorn

Nr Dumfries

DG2 8DS

Tel: 01387 880631

[www.steamboatinn.co.uk](http://www.steamboatinn.co.uk)

## ***Near-by Attractions***

Other near-by places well worth a visit.

### ***Drumlanrig Castle***

Thornhill

Dumfriesshire DG3 4AQ

**Phone:** 01848 331555

[www.drumlanrig.com](http://www.drumlanrig.com)

### ***Caerlaverock Castle***

Dumfries DG1 4RU

**Tel:** 01387 770244

[www.historic-scotland.gov.uk](http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk)

### ***Robert Burns House***

Burns Street

Dumfries

DG1 2PS

Tel: 01387 255297

[www.dumgal.gov.uk](http://www.dumgal.gov.uk)

## ***Places to Stay***

If you want to break your journey and make a weekend of it, here are few local hotels and B&Bs.

Many more suggestions can be found at: [visitscotland.com](http://visitscotland.com).

### ***Buccleuch Arms Hotel***

High Street

Moffat

DG10 9ET

Tel: 01683 220003

[www.buccleucharmshotel.com](http://www.buccleucharmshotel.com)

***No 29 Well Street B&B***

29 Well Street  
Moffat  
DG10 9DP  
Tel: 01683 221905  
[www.moffatbandb.co.uk](http://www.moffatbandb.co.uk)

***Friar's Carse Hotel***

Auldgirth  
Dumfries  
DG2 OSA  
Tel: 0800 433 4582  
[www.friarscarse.co.uk](http://www.friarscarse.co.uk)

***Cressfield Country Hotel***

Townfoot  
Eccelfechan  
DG11 3DR  
Tel: 01576 300281  
[www.cressfieldhotel.co.uk](http://www.cressfieldhotel.co.uk)

\* Scotland's Pilgrim Journeys is a collection of 14 routes developed by Scotland's Churches Trust exploring Scotland's sacred places. This Route is contains some of the highlights but much more is waiting to be discovered. See [www.scotlandspilgrimjourneys.com](http://www.scotlandspilgrimjourneys.com) and [www.scotlandschurchestrust.org.uk](http://www.scotlandschurchestrust.org.uk) for more information.

\*\* The amenities highlighted along the route are suggestions only and are not endorsed by Scotland's Pilgrim Journeys/Scotland's Churches Trust.

\*\*\*The information about the churches highlighted on this route has been provided by congregations or taken from the Historic Scotland list and published sources, the Buildings of Scotland volumes and the RIASS Illustrated Architectural Guide. It is not authoritative and if you know of any errors or omissions, please contact Scotland's Churches Trust.