



5 Brora Village Trail Slighe Baile Bhrùra

This gentle stroll takes you to historic buildings, beaches, the banks of the River Brora and the harbour. Look out for the seven information boards at viewpoints which tell you more about what there is to see. The full walk takes around an hour and is under two miles long. There are alternative routes to bypass steps and slopes. You can join the trail at any point. Look for the Brora Village Trail Symbol and pick up a free trail booklet.

Leave No Trace Na Fàg Fianais

To leave no trace means exactly that. Here are a few top tips for you to help keep our beautiful Scottish countryside exactly the way it is.

Enjoy Scotland's outdoors responsibly

Everyone has the right to be on most land and inland water providing they act responsibly. Your access rights and responsibilities are explained fully in the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.

Whether you're in the outdoors or managing the outdoors, the key things are to:

- Take responsibility for your own actions
- Respect the interests of other people
- Care for the environment

Visit: outdooraccess-scotland.com or contact your local Scottish Natural Heritage office.



Location Map

For further details on the Core Paths Plan and Countryside Access see The Highland Council Website.

www.highland.gov.uk/corepathplans

Photo credits: Ken Crossan, Matt Dent, Kathleen Cunningham, Norman Gibson, George MacBeath, Brora Community Council, A Brighter Brora

Brora General Information

Brora Heritage Centre: www.highland.gov.uk/bhc

Brora Golf Course: www.broragolf.co.uk

Clyne Heritage Society: www.clyneheritage.com

Brora General Information Websites:

www.brora.name

www.broraweb.co.uk

www.brora.biz

www.brora.org.uk

Brora Cultural Centre and Library, Gower Street
(road by main village car park).

Paths Around BRORA

Ceuman Mu BHRÙRA



www.highland.gov.uk/countrysideaccess



Brora Brùra

Brora is a pleasant town on the east coast of Sutherland. The proximity of the sea, hills, rivers and lochs make the area a great place for outdoor access and recreation. The Brora Links (beach and dune habitat) are the most obvious attraction to the passing visitor. The links and beach are particularly well seen to the north of Brora when heading south on the A9.

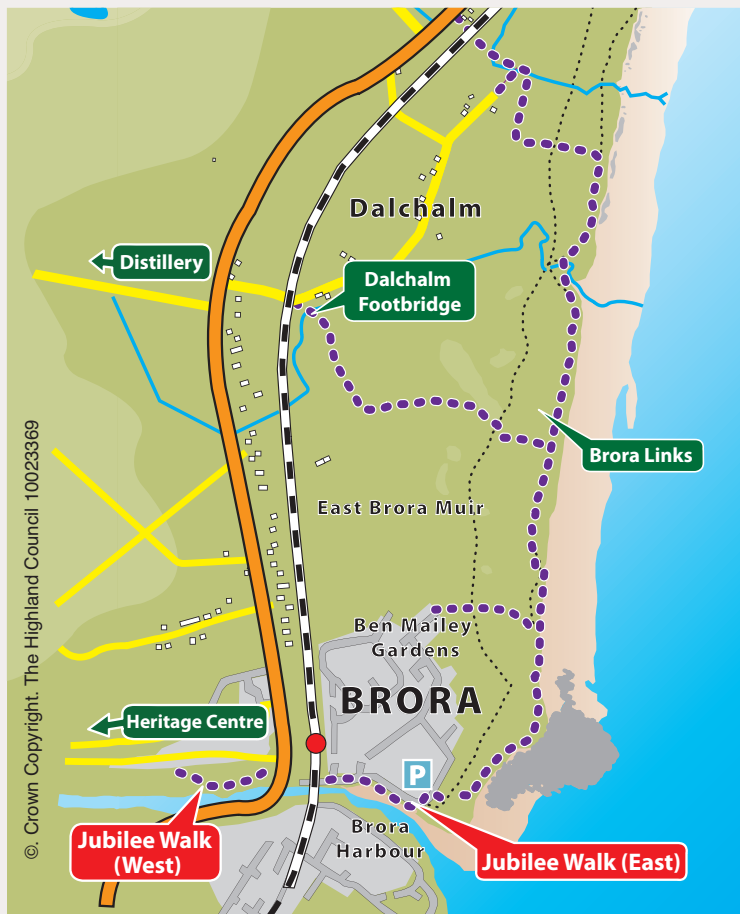
Brora has a strong agricultural backbone but as well as the usual fishing and tourism (through the well respected James Braid golf course) there is also an industrial history to the town. Unusually the area has coal deposits and this led to a number of associated industries being developed; salt pans and a brick works. Also the town was once home to Hunters of Brora; a large mill producing cloth and tweeds. The busy distillery still operates in producing the world famous Clynelish Whisky.

These paths pass through a variety of landscapes and land uses, and use a mix of routes from tarred road to grass paths. Footwear suitable for such paths should be worn as should clothing appropriate for the Highland weather. Please ensure gates are left as you find them, park your car with care and take all litter/dog mess home with you. Much of the area is farmed and crofted, so dogs should be under close control at all times and, during lambing/calving time, should not be taken in to fields with young animals.

Brora Links Machair Bhrùra

The beach to the north of the mouth of the River Brora extends uninterrupted for some 3.5km (2miles) of beautiful expanses of sand. The hills to the west and north add a marvellous panorama with the sea to the east. On a clear day you can make out the Tarbet Ness lighthouse and oil rigs of the Beatrice field.

There are several access points, with the main parking at the public car park next to the clubhouse on Golf Road. This car park is busy in the summer months so you may wish to park in the town proper, it is not far to the links from the centre and you could take in the Jubilee Walk East on your way.



From the Golf Road car park, walkers can access the links by using the track close to the clubhouse and practice nets; there is a by-pass gate at the cattle grid. Head to the shore and follow the coast northwards, except in the highest of tides the beach is accessible at all times. For a shorter walk users can return via a track 300m to the north of The Links apartments and return to the car park by quiet roads.

There are two other accesses to the links, one by the Dalchalm footbridge (near the level crossing) and the other at the north end of Dalchalm.

Crofting, Birds and Golf Croitearachd, Eòin agus Goilf

The Brora links are home to a golf course and are grazed by animals owned by local crofters. The coastal path is quite



clear for the most part but the routes across the links back to Brora and Dalchalm can be a little vague due to the number of options and desire lines available. When crossing the fairways please be alert to the presence of

golfers and cross swiftly to the other side. Walk around tees and greens. Be aware cattle may also be grazing on the links and keep any dogs you have under close control.

During the bird breeding season, April – July, the shoreline dunes are home to a variety of breeding birds. Please keep any dogs you have under close control, particularly when the tide is in and you are passing close to the dunes/machair. Observe any local signs at places such as the information board at Brora Golf Course Club House.

Paths around BRORA - Ceuman Mu BHRÙRA

Shore Route to Golspie Slighe-cladaich gu Goillspidh

The coastline to the south of Brora is sandy in places though there are some rocks and small cliffs. Erosion has taken its toll and the route climbs and descends for short stretches. Nevertheless the route is stunning and both Ben Bhraggie and Dunrobin Castle loom larger and larger as you approach Golspie.

The main starting point is the car park just to the south of Brora Harbour. A short circular route is available; returning on an inland track through an area known as "the other Gleneagles". This used to be an informal golf course.

On the walk along Back Shore from Brora you come to the Sputie waterfall below the Doll where there is a wonderful opportunity for seal spotting. They will even bob along in the water and keep you company as you walk this stretch of beach. There is a broch to visit at Carn Liath and the castle at Dunrobin. Unless you wish a good walk back, you can return to Brora by train or bus. In the summer months there is also a 'request stop' train service from Dunrobin back to Brora.



River Brora - Sea to Loch Brora Abhainn Bhrùra - Muir gu Loch Bhrùra

Through a combination of farming/crofting tracks, fishers paths and other paths the River Brora bank can be walked from the sea to Loch Brora. The route offers a variety of walking surfaces and short sections can be walked or the whole route added to a big day out.

Jubilee Walks

The paths closest to the mouth of the River Brora are the Jubilee Walks. Constructed by the community, as you can probably guess, to celebrate the Queens Jubilee in 1977. There is a short walk to the east of the A9 road bridge which is best started at the Golf clubhouse car park on Golf Road. The route leads down some steps before turning sharp right. The east walk is quite short but there are steps and small slopes to negotiate. Users can continue westwards across the A9 to the west section of the Jubilee walk. Again a short route but seats are in place to help you enjoy the setting, and the hustle and bustle of the A9 and town seem a lot further away than they are.

River Brora Path

The main section of riverside path leads from the 'recreational ground' where a car park can be used as a starting base. It runs for some 3.8km (2.3miles) to the Doll Bridge. The start of the route is on a track that runs past the old coal mining workings. It then passes through croft land to a riverside track. Look out for the steel pedestrian gates to help you find your way. After the initial track the route crosses a small bridge before dropping right down to the waters edge. A grass track leads to the road and the 'Doll Suspension Bridge'. You can return by the same route, take the road back to Brora or continue to Loch Brora.

Doll Bridge - Loch Brora

From the Doll Bridge a route leads alongside the river, then through woodland to Loch Brora. The route starts on a fishers path before joining a forest track. At the end of the forest road continue north to a gate in the deer fence. Closing the gate behind you the route continues through broadleaf woodland to Loch Brora. The path is formed through use for this last section so it can be muddy after poor weather or heavy use. Again return by the same route or the 'Loch Road' to Brora.



West Loch Brora Loch Siar Bhrùra

This route can be taken on its own or as a continuation to the River Brora route. There is limited parking on either side of the Doll Bridge, please park with consideration and do not hinder any field or house access. From the Doll Bridge head south-east uphill for 130m to start the route. On the right a good track heads towards Carrol for some 3.5km (2.2miles). Just before Carrol farm the track crosses Carrol Burn, straight after this take a right hand track across fields to the loch side of Loch Brora. Although a track is marked on the map, it is rough and can be muddy in places. From the track at Carrol it is 4.6km (2.9miles) to Kilbraur. From here a bridge leads you back to the road or the very adventurous users can continue up hill and join the windfarm tracks of Kilbraur.

Drove Road (East Clyne to Oldtown)

Rathad an Dròbh (Clìn an Ear chun an t-Seanbhaile)

This historic route heads over the high ground between East Clyne (where there is an old Belfry) and Oldtown (just south of Gordonbush on the Loch Brora road). There is no parking available close to the start at East Clyne and the road is narrow and twisty. Please walk to the start at East Clyne or get dropped off with any cars parked safely away from the start. The route heads up hill from East Clyne very gently on an old track. As the track reaches higher ground the route becomes rutted and rough. As the track attains the top of the moor it again improves and then descends to Oldtown through a forestry scheme. The route is 5.5km (3.4miles).