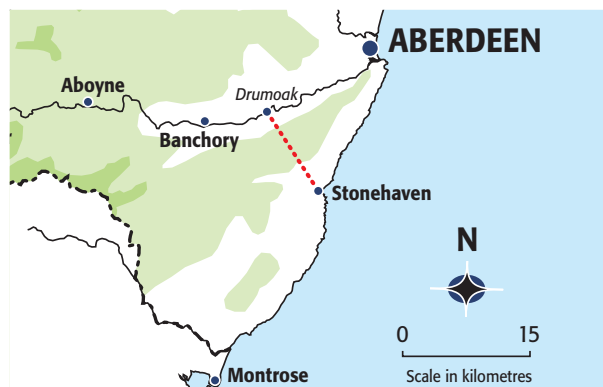




The **Elsick Mounth** is an ancient trackway that links the Dee to the Mearns. The route linked the various bronze age settlements in the area. The Picts erected the Auquhollie Lang Stane, on which they carved an Ogham inscription and the double rectangle pictish symbol, used for the path logo. Roman soldiers marched this way from the Raedykes Camp near Stonehaven to the Normandykes Camp near Peterculter. In the 17th Century, the Elsick Mounth was used as a drove road for herding cattle from the productive breeding grounds of the north to the marts in Auchenblae and further south.

The Mounth is the name for the range of hills that separate the plain of the Mearns from the fertile ground lying north of the river Dee. Other routes across the Mounth nearby include the Causey Mounth and the Cairn a Mounth.



Public Transport

A frequent bus service links Drumoak to Aberdeen and Banchory [201/2/3]. Up to 2 cycles may be carried on coach style buses. Frequent bus and rail services link Stonehaven with Aberdeen [107, 117]. The 105 bus links Banchory to Stonehaven via Rickarton 2–4 times on weekdays only.

Most of the route is suitable for walking, cycling or horse riding. Cyclists and equestrians may prefer to use the short section of minor public road as an alternative to the path in Currackstane Wood, and through Durris Forest there are parallel forest road alternatives. Walkers and equestrians particularly should take care if using linking public roads. **The distance from Drumoak to Stonehaven is approximately 12 miles.**



www.friendsofdurrisforests.co.uk

Enjoy Scotland's outdoors responsibly

- take responsibility for your own actions
- respect the interests of other people
- care for the environment.



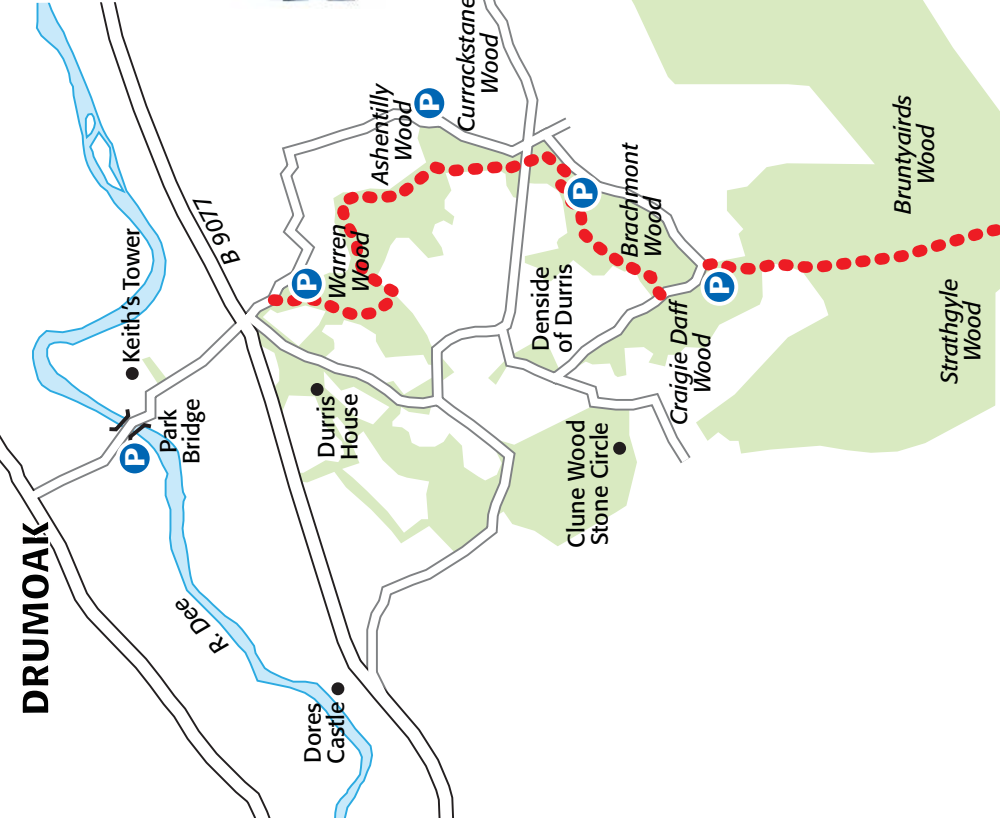
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Elsick Mounth



***An ancient trackway
across the Mounth hills
from the river Dee to
the North Sea***

DRUMOAK



Elsick Mounth



Durriss Arboretum & Paraffin Ha':

Durriss Estate was held by the Fraser family from the C14 to the C19. The site of Dores Castle, destroyed by Montrose's army in 1645, lies on the banks of the Dee. In 1834 Andrew Mactier, a successful merchant in Madras, began the 200 acre arboretum at Durriss House. It was developed by Dr James Young, owner from 1871 and famous for inventing parafrin, hence the house became known as Paraffin Ha'. Henry Baird, who acquired the estate in 1890, introduced more rare trees from the far east. In the C19 Durriss was at the cutting edge of development and experimentation in forestry and agriculture. Today a remarkable remnant collection of rare and imposing trees stands within the policies.



Auquhillies Lang Stone:

Standing 2.3m tall, one of the oldest stones in Scotland carved with an ogham inscription. The ogham writing reads: Avuo Anunao soothsayer of Dovenio. The double rectangle Pictish Symbol is carved on the NE face.

Raedykes Camp:

The Roman marching camp was built in 83-210 A.D. to house 12-15,000 marching soldiers. Enclosed by a substantial ditch with earth rampart behind, once topped with a palisade of sharpened stakes.

Campstone Hill:

West of Raedykes has 4 ring cairns and a cairnfield, dating from the Bronze Age 1900-900 B.C.



- Raedykes
- Roman Camp

Rickarton

Cowie Water

A90

STONEHAVEN