

## West Ferry Wander

A walk from West Ferry Post Office via Victoria Road to Duntrune Garden, Claypotts Castle, Dawson Park, Ellieslea Road, Ogilvie Road, the Stony Beach, Beach Lane and return to Post Office.

**Distance:** about 3 km **Duration:** about 1 - 2 hours

**Footwear:** ordinary shoes **Where to eat:** Taychreggan Hotel Ellieslea Road

**Transport:** buses to West Ferry Post Office about every 8 minutes (longer on Sunday & evening)

**Toilets:** Central Dawson Park by tennis courts and bowling green

Numbers below refer to the map

**1.** West Ferry Post Office is at the junction of Dundee Road, Victoria Road and Queen Street, 1 km west of the Library. Cross the road at the pedestrian crossing and turn up Victoria Road. Turn right shortly into Albert Road.

**2.** Turn immediately left into Turriff's Plant Nursery and go up to the main house, one of the many large and well designed houses in West Ferry from the 19<sup>th</sup> century. The Nursery has an interesting collection of plants, flowers and vegetables for sale in the extensive garden, with greenhouses at the back. Of particular interest are the conservatory, full of house plants, and the shop in the former billiard room with fine stained glass roof lights. The Nursery is open most days.

**3.** Return to Victoria Road, which is laid with granite sets, as were many streets in the past, and go up to Strathearn Road.

**4.** Turn left and then right into Duntrune Terrace. This is an area of fine stone houses and pleasant gardens.

**5.** At the north end of the Terrace turn left into Duntrune Garden, open weekdays 10 - 4pm. This garden was gifted to the City and is run as a demonstration garden with fruit, vegetables and a variety of flower beds. On Wednesdays in season a series of talks are held about gardening topics. Leave the gardens and continue north along Claypotts Road.

**6.** On the left you will come to the medieval castle of Claypotts. Turn into Castle Gardens to view the castle on the west side where there is a short description of the building and its history. Note the lovely private garden next to the castle grounds.

**7.** Return south along Claypotts Road and turn left into Claypotts Terrace which takes you into the extensive Dawson Park. Most of the park is grass sports pitches. In the central area is a fine sunken garden with roses in the summer and rhododendrons in flower in spring. A fine avenue of mature cherry trees, an impressive sight in April, leads you south towards the main entrance with flower beds.

**8.** Before reaching the entrance turn right and exit the park at Dunnotar Place. Turn left into Strathearn Road again.

**9.** Walk a short distance until you see a large new mansion house - one of the few modern buildings in West Ferry. Cross the road and take the green lane west of the new building. Turn left into Albany Road and right into Ellieslea Road.

**10.** All the streets in this area are worth exploring to see the impressive 19<sup>th</sup> century architecture, many houses belonging to the families of jute mill owners in Dundee. In the Taychreggan Hotel you can see inside such a house and its garden. The hotel offers meals in the restaurant and bar and has a pleasant garden.

**11.** Continue down Ellieslea Road and turn right into Dundee Road. Cross the road at the traffic island, go down Ogilvie Road to the railway and turn right.

**12.** Shortly you will find the pedestrian level crossing which takes you down to the river Tay, stony beach, by the land bases the three yacht clubs. Opposite are the green fields and woods between Tayport and Newport, west is the Tay Road Bridge and east is Douglas Terrace leading round to the new Lifeboat pier and the Castle. Turn left on the footpath, which runs from the Stannergate end of the docks (where often there is an oil rig in for servicing) to Douglas Terrace.

**13.** At the end of the yacht area you will see an old iron footbridge. Ascend this for the impressive view of the river and continue over. The imposing building with columns houses the Royal Tay Yacht Club.

**14.** The footpath north of the railway leads to Beach Lane and takes you back to West Ferry Post Office