

Wildlife

Kinnoull Hill Woodland Park combines coniferous and broadleaved trees with open heathland. This varied mix makes it an ideal habitat for a range of wildlife. Look out for the park's more camera shy residents, roe deer and red squirrels, especially near larch and Scots pine.

The raucous call of the colourful jay or the drumming of the great spotted woodpecker provide an interesting back beat to the woodland soundtrack. As you climb skywards, keep your eyes peeled for the playful peregrine falcons and the ravens nesting in the cliffs below.

The many wildflowers add splashes of colour to the woodland palette. Seasonal surprises include carpets of bluebells, the sunshine yellow primrose and the delicate white face of chickweed winter green. Clinging to the side of the cliffs, mountain thyme and common rock rose provide a regular source of food for the Northern brown argus butterfly.

The Woodland Park hosts a rich diversity of trees from the coniferous Scots pine, Norway spruce and larch, to the broadleaved oak, birch, ash, rowan and hawthorn. On Deuchny Hill the collection of exotic conifers was planted during the 1920s. The restoration of this arboretum follows a bequest from Perth naturalist and landscape gardener Jim Aitken, who ran a nursery on the lower slopes of Kinnoull Hill, and was keen to share his love of the natural world.

Great spotted woodpecker

© Paul Kipling

Northern brown argus butterfly

The past and present

While the Woodland Park may look natural, it was created in its entirety by man over the ages. The earliest evidence of this is in the outline of the Iron Age fort on Deuchny Hill.

During the Romantic period, the area was privately owned and formed part of a designed landscape. Trees were planted and paths created to allow ladies in their carriages to enjoy the beautiful landscape.

The gentlemen accompanied on foot as the paths were too narrow to accommodate their transport. Kinnoull Hill Tower and Binn Hill Tower were built during this period as viewpoints and landmarks above the Tay.

Kinnoull Hill was gifted to the city of Perth in 1924, and along with Corsiehill and Deuchny Wood, was officially recognised as Scotland's first woodland park in 1991. The park is managed through a successful partnership of landowners and the local community. This innovative scheme gives users an opportunity to influence its management. Countryside rangers care for the day-to-day running of the whole area and are happy to answer questions or give advice.

Did you know?

- The views from the park stretch north to the Highlands; across Perth, through Fife to the Lomond Hills; and down the Tay Estuary to Dundee.
- Before the opening of the Perth Bridge in 1770, the village of Corsiehill was a meeting place for smugglers attempting to avoid the strict taxes charged by the Burgh.
- The most historic of all the routes through the park is the Coronation Road through Deuchny Hill. It was used by kings and queens travelling from Falkland Palace to Scone Palace, the traditional crowning place of the Scottish monarch.

Kinnoull Hill Tower bathed in autumn sun

SCOTTISH OUTDOOR ACCESS CODE

Know the Code before you go...

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

Find out more by visiting www.outdooraccess-scotland.com or contacting your local Scottish Natural Heritage office.

Contact Perth and Kinross Council Ranger Service on 01738 475000

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www.greenflagaward.org.uk

Kinnoull Hill Woodland Park is owned by Perth and Kinross Council, Forestry Commission Scotland and other partners. It is one of the sites included in the Perthshire Big Tree Country Heritage and Access project, celebrating the amazing woodland heritage in the area, and co-ordinated by Perth and Kinross Countryside Trust.

Other Big Tree Country sites in this cluster are:

- The David Douglas memorial in Old Scone Church grounds
- Meikleour Beech Hedge
- Quarrymill Woodland Park
- Scone Palace

www.perthshirebigtreecountry.co.uk

Cover image © Mike Bell

This project is funded and supported by:



Explore Kinnoull Hill Woodland Park



Welcome to Kinnoull Hill Woodland Park, where you can explore the woodland, discover the wildlife or enjoy the peace of this quiet haven next to the city of Perth.

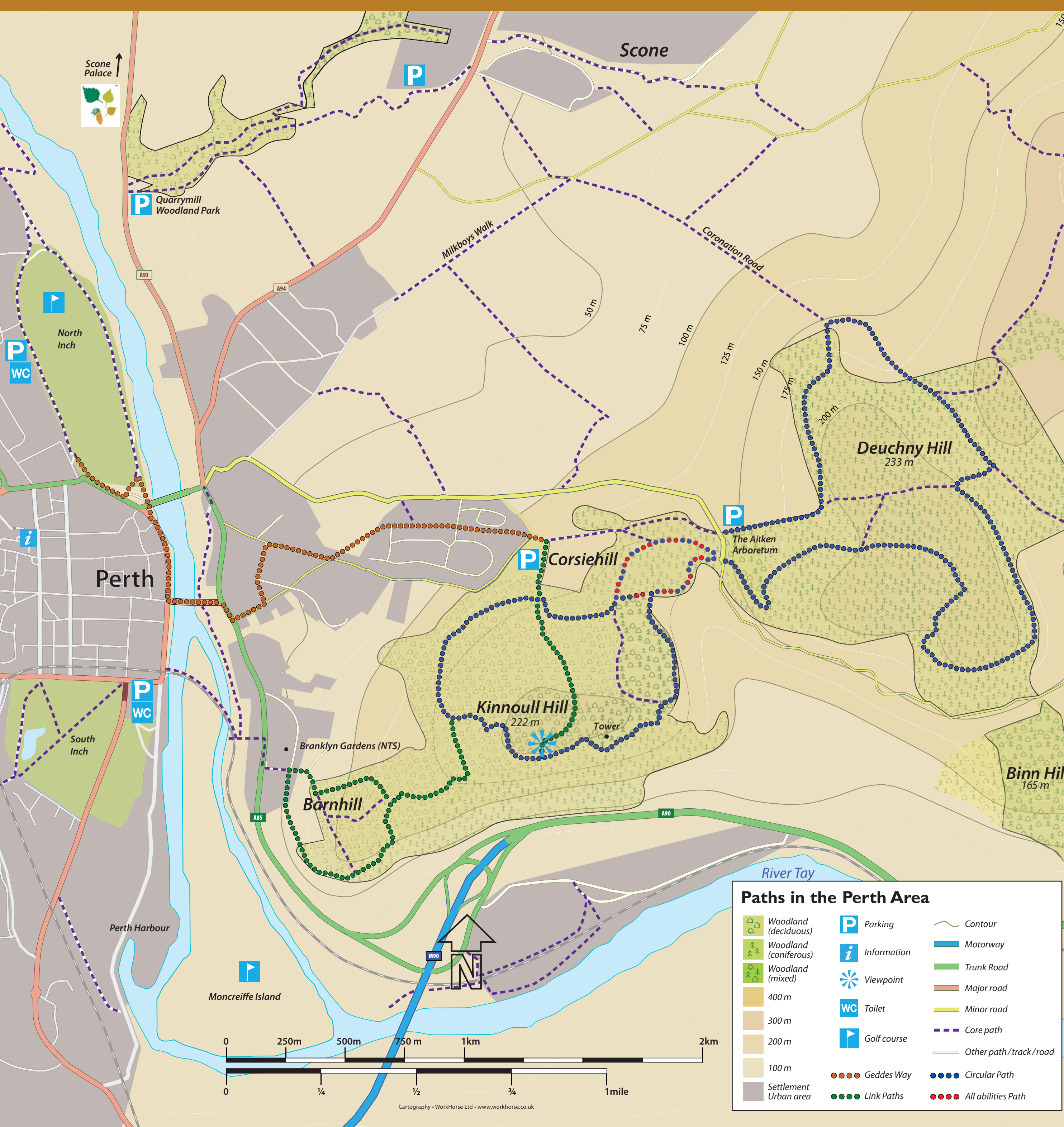
The park consists of the settlements of Corsiehill, Barnhill and the wooded hills of Kinnoull, Deuchny and Binn. The most well known is Kinnoull Hill which, at 222 metres (728 feet) above sea level, overlooks the city of Perth.

Horse riding
Many of the forest roads and hard tracks throughout the park offer excellent horse riding opportunities. See the map on the inside spread for more details on all these routes.

Cycling and mountain biking
Deuchny Wood is perfect for the more adventurous mountain bikers and all cyclists are welcome to use the forest roads and hard tracks criss crossing the park.

Walking
Whatever your ability there is a path suitable for you within the park, ranging from routes designed for wheelchair users and families with pushchairs, to more strenuous uphill walks.





Paths in the Perth Area

Woodland (deciduous)	Parking	Contour
Woodland (coniferous)	Information	Motorway
Woodland (mixed)	Viewpoint	Trunk Road
400 m	Toilet	Major road
300 m	Golf course	Minor road
200 m		Core path
100 m		Other path/track/road
Settlement	Geddes Way	Circular Path
Urban area	Link Paths	All abilities Path

Circular Path

Distance: 9 km (5½ ml)
Approx time: 3½ hrs
Terrain: Some steep slopes

The well surfaced path running through the woodland park allows a wide range of users the chance to explore the delightful mixed woodland. The extensive path forms a figure of eight, with Jubilee Car Park at its centre.

To the west, the path loops through the deciduous wooded slopes of Kinnoull Hill. In autumn, the leaves from the spectacular fiery beech trees carpet the woodland floor in russet and burnt orange.

The eastern loop meanders through the planted slopes of Deuchny, where trees are grown and managed for timber. The year-round greenness offers a sharp contrast to other areas of the Woodland Park, particularly in winter months.



Ranger-led walk to Kinnoull Hill Tower © VisitScotland

Beechwood in Autumn

The Geddes Way

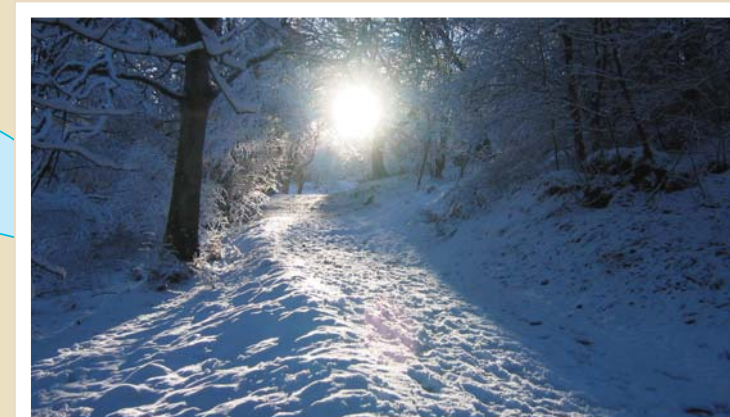
Distance: 3 km (2 ml) one way
Approx time: 50 minutes
Terrain: Some steep sections on Kinnoull Hill

Biologist and botanist Sir Patrick Geddes was raised in Mount Tabor Cottage on Corsiehill. Fascinated by the interaction between people and their environment, he coined the famous phrase *Think Global, Act Local*.

The path begins at the site of the original Perth Grammar, where Geddes went to school, passing many landmarks with which he would have been familiar. Crossing the Tay by the Queen's Bridge, the route takes you through Riverside Park containing sculptures influenced by Geddes' thinking.

Leaving the town centre, a stroll through leafy suburbs leads to Corsiehill, passing Geddes' childhood home. On your way to the summit of Kinnoull Hill, listen for the gentle sound of wood pigeons and the two-tone rhythmic call of the chiffchaffs. Once there take a well earned rest on the benches installed to celebrate Geddes, and drink in the view.

Snow covered trees in the woodland park © PKCT



All Abilities Path

Distance: 1 km (½ ml)
Approx time: 30 mins
Terrain: Level and well surfaced with gentle slopes

From visitors looking to enjoy a leisurely stroll, to parents with prams and pushchairs, and wheelchair users, this path is suitable for everyone.

Beginning at Jubilee Car Park, the route is circular and best followed in a clockwise direction. Offering stunning views westwards along the Tay Valley, the path is ideal for those wishing to experience the full majesty of Kinnoull Hill, without climbing to the summit.

Disabled only parking facilities are available at the start of the route.

Link Paths

Distance: 1 km (½ ml) – Corsiehill link
2 km (1¼ ml) – Barnhill link
Approx time: 30 mins – Corsiehill link
1 hr – Barnhill link
Terrain: Some steep sections

For those with limited time, the two link paths offer snapshots of the Woodland Park on their way up to the top of Kinnoull Hill.

Starting at Corsiehill Car Park, the first of these guides you to the summit via the shortest and quickest route, resulting in magnificent views across Perth and the Tay. Along with the birds and wildlife, look out for some fantastic sculptures carved using a chainsaw from fallen trees and stumps.

The second path is great for visitors parked at the South Inch. Crossing the Tay by way of the railway bridge, the route hugs the edge of the meadows before entering the woodland at Barnhill to join with the Circular Path to the summit. This area hosts the oldest trees in the woodland park, some of the oaks are around 200 years old and can be spotted from the path.

Carved hedgehogs in Kinnoull Hill Woodland Park © Zoe Barrie

