

REPENTANCE TOWER

- woodland walk with a hill viewpoint**
- 2.75km/1¾ miles**
- Allow 1 hour**
- Beaten earth, stone path, road, grassy hill**
Steps and Stiles in places
- Moderate**
- Boots recommended**

OPTION B – Farm Trail (Red Markers)

Cross the river and turn left, follow the path as it goes along the banks of the River Annan and later the Water of Milk. Take care after heavy rain, as the river rises very quickly, and the path can become flooded in places.

Just before a bridge over the Water of Milk, turn right to join a lane. Turn right along the lane. At the deserted steading of Hoddum Mill follow the road to the left. At the next road junction, take the road to the right towards Mainholm Farm. This leads back to the footbridge over the River Annan. After crossing the bridge follow the blue markers of the Riverside Trail back to the car park at Hoddum Bridge as in Option A.

PARKING The Hoddum and Kinmount car park and picnic site is sign posted off the B723 Annan to Lockerbie road at the junction with the B725 Dalton road about 4½ miles north west of Annan.

Several other waymarked walks start from here including the Woodcockair walks which involve steep hills and care must be taken as timber felling and clearing contractors are often working. The Repentance Tower walk has no timber operations in progress.

Please keep dogs on a lead at the caravan park and when crossing the fields to the Tower.

Repentance Tower stands on the ancient beacon hill of Trailtrow and was built by John Maxwell, 4th Lord Herries, as a watchtower for Hoddum Castle in the 1560s. Although the Tower is not open to the public the hill top provides superb views in all directions, towards the Solway the Lake District and over Annandale. No one knows why Repentance is carved over the entrance, but the most popular explanations are given on an information board at the tower gate. The surrounding graveyard has many ornate grave stones dating from the 17th century.

START from the car park, following the blue signed path through the woodland for Hoddum Castle. When you reach the tarmac drive turn to the right towards the gatehouse for about 25 metres. Then take the waymarked riverside path for Hoddum Castle. The path leads upstream for about 200 metres, before turning left. Continue following the blue arrow signs through the woodland to come out just before Hoddum Castle. There is a car park at the Hoddum Castle Caravan Park and the café in the castle provides welcome food refreshments during the summer season.

Just before the Castle turn left and pass the children's playground. At the end of the playground a finger post indicates the path to Repentance Tower; continue through the caravan park, following a second finger post to the edge of the wooded area, where a third finger post can be found. This marks the path which winds through the trees to the main road (B725). Turn left and a sign there reads "100 metres to the stile for Repentance". The steps and stile are signposted on the righthand side of the road. Take care on these steps as they can be slippery. There is no path up the steep hill to the Tower and care should be taken as the grass can be slippery.

From the Tower, retrace your steps to the main road and turn right towards the car park.



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