

CELEBRATING FALKLAND!

Guided walks around the less well-known parts of the village - Itinerary

1. Starting from opposite the **Church**: note the well-known major buildings in the **High Street**: Falkland Palace, Old Town Hall, Rococo-Gothick Maspie House, thatched Moncrieff House, historic inns.
2. Note the **Bruce Fountain** (1856, with lions holding Tyndall Bruce and Royal Burgh coats of arms) and the **Mercat Cross** (marked in the cobbles).
3. Up **Cross Wynd**, noting the houses on the east side (different histories, now looking deceptively uniform – the houses on the west side now demolished). Before 1901 housewives brought pots and pans to wash them in the burn that ran down the street. Note **Parliament Square**, with its former blacksmith's forge and **hooping bed** (to make iron rims for cartwheels).
4. Turn into **Brunton Street**, noting the houses on the south side, saved by the National Trust for Scotland under the Little Houses Improvement Scheme, including **Brunton House** (probably 17th century, despite the 1712 date on the coat of arms). The buildings on the north side of the street were demolished to form **Brunton Green** with its **War Memorial** ('Dziękuję' means 'Thank you' in Polish) and **Cart**.
5. Turn into **Horsemarket**, note the former **Lomond Tavern**; the "boot" stone is said to be from a former building opposite (now the car park) that held French prisoners in the Napoleonic wars. **Dundrennan** is dated 1694 but has acquired Victorian oriels to make the rooms lighter. Weavers Cottage has a **forestair**, once very common in Falkland, often giving access to a separate upstairs apartment.
6. At the crossroads, look down **Back Wynd**, noting **Smart Cookies Nursery**, formerly Lomondside House (not to be confused with the house of the same name above East Loan), later a War Memorial Institute and then a Youth Hostel: older photos show an ugly iron fire escape; the circular stair tower is much newer than you might imagine.
7. Along **South Street** (part of the village's secondary axis including Horsemarket and Brunton Street) note the former **Drill Hall** (1830; originally a Burgher chapel, now two dwellings).
8. Go as far as the gate-piers and the noble horse-chestnut tree, at the entrance to **Meadowfield**, built around 1910 for John Walker Jackson one of the family who owned both local factories in the early 20th century.
9. Back as far as **Victoria Place** with mid-19th century houses, several of them built end-on to the road.
10. Walk up **Royal Terrace** (mid-19th century) pausing outside number 1 with bracket and gas pipes for the Provost's Lamp: William Page was Provost from 1897 and 1903. He was a builder and had built the whole terrace. The Provost's Lamp is now permanently in front of the Palace.
11. Up as far as the bend in the road, then return downhill via the lane between the **gardens** at the back.
12. Walk through **Castle Park**, a sincere attempt to build decent housing for older citizens.
13. View the 9-acre **factory site** (former St John's Works: floorcloth, later linoleum, and finally paper bags) soon to have new purpose after being empty for many years.
14. At the crossroads, note **Ashgrove Cottage**, incorporating former Stables (like several other buildings around the village).
15. Continue into **Back Dykes Terrace**: good local authority housing of the inter-War period.
16. Turn into **Back Dykes**, an old lane just outside the town wall.
17. Turn almost immediately into **Sharps Close**, a narrow cobbled lane.
18. Carry on down to the **Cottage Craft Centre**, then down **Rotten Row** (another narrow cobbled lane) and back to the Church and the completion of the tour.