



# Blue Bonnet Trails



The Goudie Collection, South Ayrshire Council  
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Enjoy two self-guided historical walking trails led by 23 Blue Bonnet signs over 31 locations from Ayr town centre out to Alloway, exploring the streets and parks along the way. Download the app “Ayr Through The Ages” and find the Blue Bonnet Trails in “Historical Tours” to experience fully.

Follow in the footsteps of Robert Burns’ fictitious hero, Tam o’ Shanter, from Burns’ most famous poem “Tam o’ Shanter” first published in 1750. Trace Tam’s journey home on a stormy night on his trusty steed (horse) Maggie, after a night drinking in Ayr.

Start walking from different locations, choose the length and time of a walk that suits you. Do all or part of the trails, drive and start from various locations or part walk and use public transport to take you back to your starting point – you choose and the blue bonnets will guide your way.

Look out for signs on walls, gates, trees and posts along the trail. Be aware of traffic in the town centre and vigilant of travelling golf balls while passing through golf courses!

## Alloway Trail ●●●

Allows you to explore Robert Burns Birthplace Museum, Alloway village, Rozelle Estate and Belleisle Estate and all they have to offer.

### Terrain

Mostly flat with a mixture of public pavements, tarmac and grassy path. Some uneven sections, with option of no steps or gates. Includes road crossings.



easy

1 ¼ miles /  
2.1km  
Allow  
40 mins



## Tam's Trail ●●●

A linear walk starting from the Tam o' Shanter Inn on Ayr High Street following Tam's journey through Belleisle Park, passing Burns statue in the square. Then heading through woodland with views over the sea to Arran towards the river Doon in the Burns National Heritage Park and the haunted Auld Kirk Alloway before finally reaching the Brig o' Doon (a late medieval bridge).

## Terrain

Mostly flat with a mixture of public pavements, tarmac and grassy path. Some uneven sections, with option of no steps or gates. Includes road crossings.



**3 miles /  
5km**  
Allow  
1 ½ hrs



Over 25 years ago, the OIR (Opportunities in Retirement) Tam o' Shanter Trail officially opened, with eight Blue Bonnets outlining the route. Through time, the original trail signs disappeared. South Ayrshire Council Tourism has revived, developed and extended the trail.

South Ayrshire Paths Initiative (SAPI), OIR and the Robert Burns World Federation were keen to help. SAPI secured funding from Paths for All via a Nature Scotland fund, and with everyone working together, Interpretation boards were created and installed at Burns Cottage and the entrance to the Old Racecourse on Racecourse View, together with online and paper trail maps, bringing this forgotten walking trail back to life.

Public transport is available at various points along the route. Operated by Stagecoach there are two main buses depending on where you choose to travel from (Bus no's 9 and 361). For further details and timetables check out Stagecoach [www.stagecoachbus.com](http://www.stagecoachbus.com) or call Traveline **0871 200 22 33**.

Refreshments available along the trails include:

**Tam o' Shanter Inn Ayr -**

**f** The Tam O'Shanter Inn

**Secret Garden Doonfoot -**

**f** The Secret Garden

**The Stables Cafe, Belleisle Park -**

**f** The Stables Cafe, Belleisle Park

**RBBM Café Alloway -**

**f** Robert Burns Birthplace Museum

**Rozelle Tea Room -**

**f** Rozelle Tea Room

**Poet's Corner Alloway -**

**f** Poet's Corner Alloway

## Enjoy Scotland's outdoors responsibly

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.

Visit [outdooraccess-scotland.scot](http://outdooraccess-scotland.scot) or contact your local Scottish Natural Heritage office.



Please keep dogs under close control or on a short lead, and clear up your dog's mess – Bag it & Bin it!

[www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/outdooraccess](http://www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk/outdooraccess)



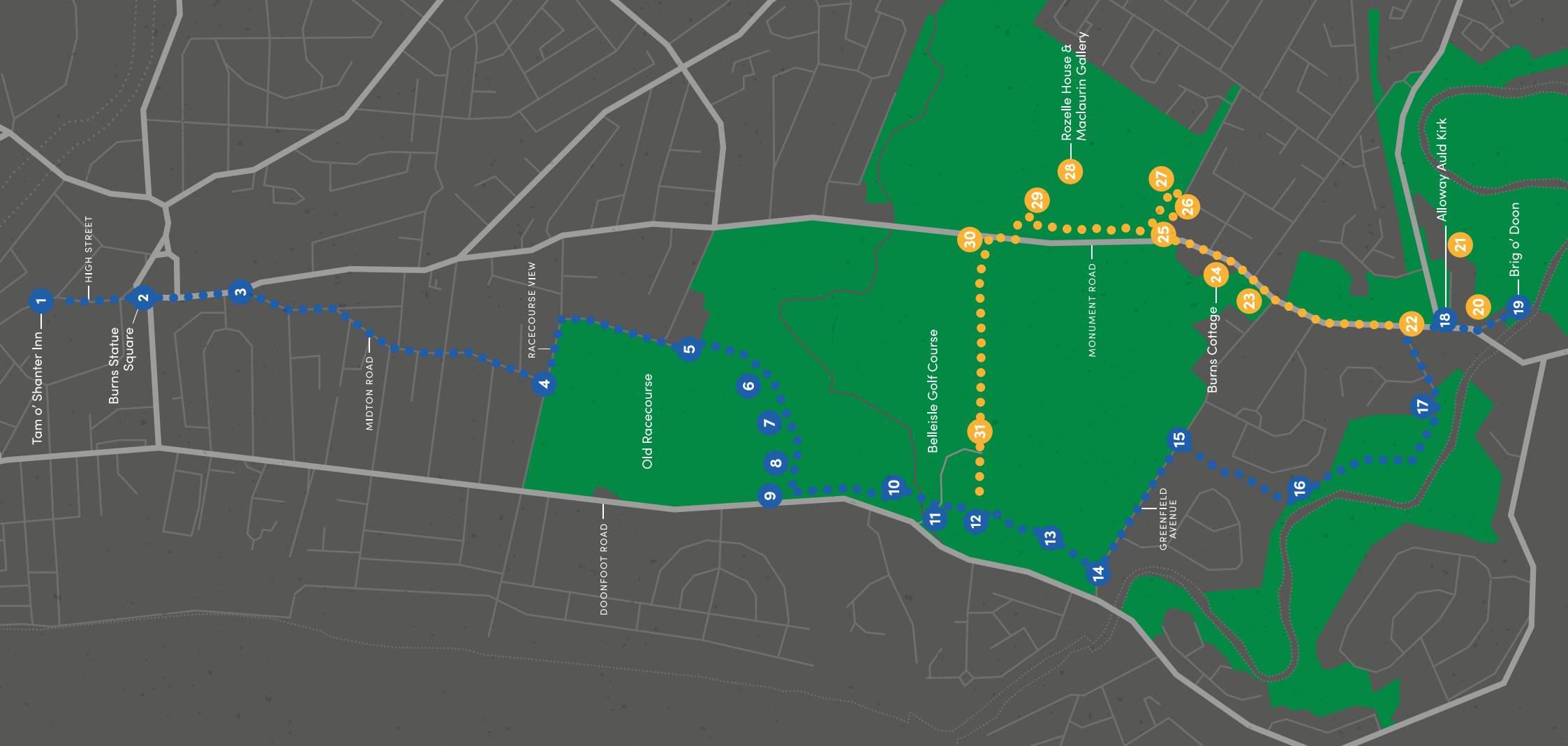
## Download the app



[www.ayrthroughtheages.com](http://www.ayrthroughtheages.com)

# Locations

- 1 Tam o' Shanter Inn
- 2 Burns Statue Square
- 3 Old Grammar School
- 4 Old Racecourse
- 5 Gap in the wall
- 6 Path through the trees
- 7 Path through the trees
- 8 Path through the trees
- 9 Belleisle Estate North Lodge
- 10 Crossroads
- 11 8 steps
- 12 Crossroads before children's small play area
- 13 Deer Park
- 14 Belleisle exit at Greenfield Avenue
- 15 Cambusdoon Lodge at 27 Greenfield Avenue
- 16 Cambusdoon Estate
- 17 Path to Shanter Way
- 18 Alloway Auld Kirk
- 19 Brig o' Doon
- 20 Burns Monument
- 21 Robert Burns Birthplace Museum
- 22 Poet's Path entrance
- 23 Alloway Village
- 24 Burns Cottage
- 25 Lane to Burness Avenue
- 26 Path into Rozelle Estate
- 27 Rozelle Estate woodland & sculpture walk
- 28 Rozelle House Museum & Gallery / Maclaurin Gallery
- 29 Main exit and entrance to Rozelle Estate
- 30 Belleisle Estate entrance at Monument Road
- 31 Putting Green Belleisle Golf Course



Download the app



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