

## Biggar to Broughton - with Skirling House

Distance: 8km

Time: 2 ½ hours

Read EatScotland's review of [Skirling House](#)



Image: The meandering River Clyde near Thankerton, west of Biggar

Situated between the Clyde Valley and Borders regions, Biggar is 12 miles from the M74 motorway. A royal burgh since 1451, the town still retains its medieval layout. The main street, a conservation area, is dotted with houses from the 17th to 19th centuries, and Biggar Kirk itself dates from 1545.

For such a small town, there is a wealth of visitor attractions tracing the history of the area, and a Victorian puppet theatre with a regular programme of quality shows. Biggar is also associated with several historical names including William Wallace (for a notable victory of 1297), Bonnie Prince Charlie, 19th century British Prime Minister William Ewart Gladstone (whose ancestors are buried at the Church of St Mary) and the writers John Buchan and Hugh MacDiarmid.

Start in the High Street at the Corn Exchange walk down to the John Loan's (past the clock) past the local school. Follow the road past the houses and continue on a tree lined footpath along past the golf course, then follow the burn to Biggar Public Park.

When you reach the park gates turn to the right and keep following the burn till you reach the old railway track bed, you will then come to a gate which you will need climb over then follow the track bed east (Signpost BCPN Broughton 8km). Once you reach the coal yard turn left and follow the lane out to the main street and that is you at Broughton.

You can either retrace your steps back to Biggar, or alternatively you can turn right and then at the War Memorial turn right again and you can follow this road which will take you back to Biggar via some fantastic views.

Skirling House lies just outside Biggar and is perfect for afternoon tea or dinner. With log fires to warm you up after the walk and delicious food, this hotel is well worth visiting. Skirling House has a silver award from EatScotland.