



Route Directions

The Commonwealth Walkway in Glasgow is open to be walked and enjoyed. It is described here, in 6 convenient sections so that it can be completed as a series of stages or one continuous journey.

SECTION 1 - City Chambers to Sighthill Park

From the foundation marker outside the central front door of **City Chambers** on George Square turn right and turn right again onto George Street heading East. Turn left up the hill on Montrose Street, then right into **Rottenrow Gardens**. Here there are some remains of the old Royal Maternity Hospital, celebrated with a giant nappy pin - made by local artist George Wylie and known locally as 'the Monument to Maternity'. Cut through the University of Strathclyde following Rottenrow to Castle Street and into Cathedral Square. The impressive **St Mungo's Museum, Cathedral** and nearby Necropolis are all worth a visit.

Continue up Castle Street, forking left along Glebe Street opposite the Hospital. Carefully cross the busy Stirling Road at the pedestrian crossing and follow the alley up to St Mungo's Church itself. Here you will find the plaque marking where famous artist **Charles Rennie Macintosh** was born. Keep to the left of the church and cross St Mungo's Avenue into Townhead and walk along Glebe Street where an art adorned trail weaves a convenient path through. Don't miss the right turn at the shops to climb even further up the hill (don't worry the views will reward you soon enough!). You will come out onto Kennedy Street and wiggle left past the famous Tiso Outdoor Store on Couper Street. Curve around the store to the right, crossing Kyle Street and head down the track to the East of the Student accommodation block where a footbridge will take you safely over the mighty M8 and deliver you into the green comfort of **Sighthill Park**.

SECTION 2 - Sighthill Park - Kelvin River Kelvin

Now you are in the Park, turn left (West) and follow the path until you reach the canal. There is a bit of negotiation to be done, round the back of the old wharf buildings, but within minutes the tow path itself will be revealed which connects Glasgow to the East Coast at Falkirk. Follow the Forth and Clyde Canal path West, crossing Craighill Road, passing **Spiers Wharf** and taking a moment to enjoy the views out over the City from Applecross Bridge.

It feels surprisingly rural, despite only being a mile or two from the centre, but the glimpse of **Patrick Thistle Club**, regular hello's from students, and reassuring glimpses of impressive spires and chimney pots all help keep Glasgow front of mind. You may well be tempted to climb yet higher, crossing the canal at Murano Street foot bridge into Ruchil Park. If not, keep the canal on the right until The Old Glass Works by Mackintosh Church where a left fork will soon join Shakespeare Street. Cross Maryhill Road and drop down to River Kelvin at Garrioch Road.

SECTION 3 - River Kelvin - River Clyde.

Along the **River Kelvin** there is a good sealed path that meanders along the bank and through the arboretum, past **Glasgow Botanic Gardens** and into Kelvin Park. There are herons, kingfishers, swans, coots and moorhens in abundance, as well as other walkers and joggers who have already discovered this magical part of town and are regular visitors. There are some lovely bridges, plenty of play areas, fitness parks, and lots of benches to tempt a pause along the River, but Kelvingrove Park itself can entertain for a day - with beautiful rose gardens, impressive fountains and many nearby cafes. **The University** area to the West and Crescents to the East are well worth exploring too but save enough time for the **Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum**.





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Once out of the Park, cross Argyle Street and walk down Bunhouse Road, turning right on Dumbarton Road before dropping onto Ferry Road at the edge of Yorkhill Park. Take the convenient underpass below Pointhouse Road to reveal the astonishing architecture of **The Riverside Museum** and behind it the amazing Tall Ship.

SECTION 4 - River Clyde - Pollok Country Park

Follow the River Clyde back towards the City (East), passing the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre before crossing on the Millennium (foot) Bridge over to the BBC building and **Science Centre** on the South Bank. Turn right onto Pacific Drive, by **Glasgow Film City** and then left on Whitefield Road and right onto the busier Edmiston Drive just by **Rangers Football Club**.

There is a shuffle to be done over two bridges to cross Paisley Road West and M8 Ring Road which is a noisy moment at any time of day but it is not long before the access into **Bellahouston Park** beckons and **House for an Art Lover** provides respite.

Follow the path through the Park to Mosspark Boulevard turning right on Dumbreck Road to cross the M77 and turn right after the Hagsgs Castle Golf Club into Pollok Country Park.

SECTION 5 - Pollok Country Park - Rutherglen Town Hall

Enjoy the woodland trails in **Pollok Park**, taking time to see Pollok House, **The Burrell Collection** and famous Highland Cows. Exit the Park onto Titwood Road up to Crossmyloof Station to take a right turn over Minard Road into **Queen's Park**.

The duck pond, amphitheatre and majestic gateways are all enticing, but keep heading East through the Recreation Ground and cutting through Queen's Park Avenue and along Myrtle Park to Aikenhead Road. Following the alley way to the East of the depot, continue through Prospecthill which is a development area in transition. Keep to the right of the community centre, passed the nature reserve and tower blocks, go through Burnhill and under Mill Street to join Rutherglen High Street.

The **Rutherglen Town Hall** is a popular wedding venue locally and sits proudly on the recently revamped High Street.

SECTION 6 - Rutherglen Town Hall - City Chambers.

After the Town Hall, continue along the High Street, turning left down Castle Street towards the station. Turn right onto Victoria Street then left down to the River on Farmeloan Road, under the M74 and along Baronlad Street. The best bridge is on Dalmarnock Road, though there is talk of a new crossing further down at some point, connecting into the new Athlete's Village. Stay on the North Bank and cut up to the London Road where a right turn soon leads to the **Sir Chris Hoy Velodrome**.

The **Celtic Football Club** is an impressive Games venue. Once you have walked past, take a left turn along Dunn Street and right into Bridgeton and **Bridgetown Cross**. After Queen Mary Street turn right to the new bandstand and left along James Street to **Glasgow Green**.

There are great fountains, the Templeton Carpet Factory, **People's Palace and Winter Gardens** and look out for the old washinglines too. Rejoin London Road and get back into the City feel with the **Toolbooth Steeple** and **Tron Theatre**. Turn right up Albion Street from Trongate, passing **Commonwealth House**, the headquarters of the 2014 Commonwealth Games.



Glasgow Commonwealth Walkway



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At Bell Street skirt around the **Police Museum** at Merchant Square and tuck right up Candleriggs passing the **Scottish Music Centre** (previously the City Halls and old Fruit Market) before turning left at the **Ramshorn Theatre** to meet The **Gallery of Modern Art**. **George Square** is only a few moments away up the appropriately named Queen Street where the statue of James Watt welcomes you back to City Chambers and the completion of The Commonwealth Walkway-Glasgow.

Jim Walker
Outdoor Trust CEO

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