

**NAME OF RIDE:
AE FOREST DUMFRIES AND GALLOWAY**

DESCRIPTION: Forest Ride

HOW TO GET THERE:

Ae village is located west of the A701 between Beattock (Junction 15 A74(M)) and Dumfries.

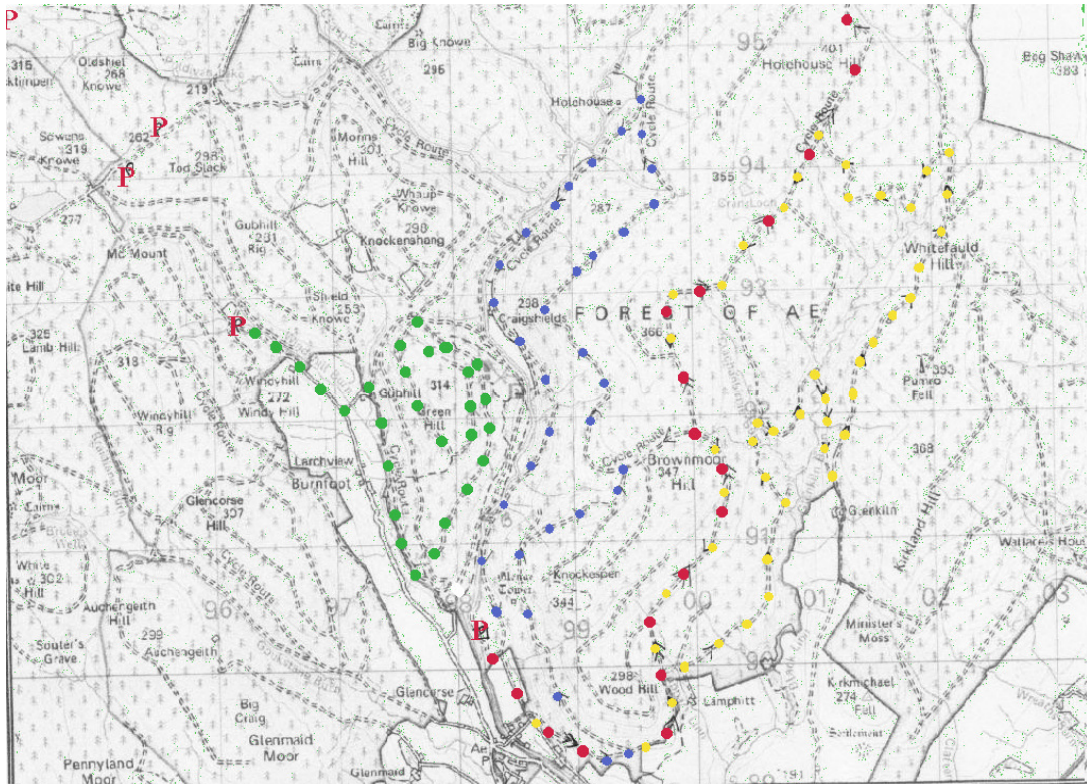
WHERE TO PARK,

A new car park with plenty of turning space (popular with cyclists at weekend) has been built within the forest. Pass the Forest Offices, turn left, drive over the cattle grid across the field, after the second cattle grid turn left and park near the river Ae. The track out of this car park leads up-river to the new Naze Bridge. If a cycling event is being held (the fast mountain bike run is on Glenae (Tower) Hill) continue through Ae village, up the valley and turn right onto the Mitchelislacks Road—parking can be found in an old quarry or in lay-bys beside the road with superb views of the hills. Gaps have been made beside the barriers on this road to allow horses into the forest.

CHARGES, REGULATIONS:

None. It would be good manners however to leave the area as your granny would like to find it. Don't muck out your box in the parking areas and clear droppings off of shared tracks.





ROUTES:

Countryside Trail Ae to Earshaigs **Red** waymarked To ride there and back will take up to 5hrs as fast speeds are not possible on forest roads.

Green Hill Spiral Ride **Green**

Park in the new car park, ride up-river and cross the river by the new bridge, at the T-junction turn left, then bear right and right again, climbing steadily with improving views across the valley towards Brownmoor Hill. Views of Queensbury can be seen through the trees as the track swings NW. After joining a timber haul route, turn left, and left again, the track climbs higher up Greenhill with views of the small holding Knockenshang behind you. After the track levels out you can see the Farm Gubhill below (accommodation for rider and horse) A careful canter is possible. Views of Ae village and south are good through the trees before the track swings north again leading to one of the best views of Queensbury. The last 100m of this track have just been re-instated from being overgrown and disused and are still soft—take care. Bear right then left to return via Gubhill and the bridge. This ride can easily be extended—refer to map (watch out for noisy geese at Knockenshang)

The Ae Valley Ride **Blue**

Leave Ae by the Countryside Trail, either turn left along Tower Hill (likely to be busy with cyclists at weekend) or leave the Trail on Brownmoor Hill following the cycle route to Holehouse returning along the valley floor to Ae or cross at Craigshields Bridge returning via the new bridge.

Glenkiln Ford Ride **Yellow**

Follow signs for the Countryside Trail, enjoy views south as trail follows edge of forest and across Lamphitt to Kirkmichael Fell. Bear right leaving Trail as it re-enters the forest, views of Glenkiln across the valley, follow tracks down to the Glenkiln Burn. Ford the burn follow the track uphill turn left to Whitefauld Hill, left and left again to rejoin the Countryside Trail on Holehouse Hill and return to Ae.

MAPS:

Map—FC have maps of Countryside Trail Ae to Earshaigs—the new roads made at the Beattock (Earshaigs) end are not on any map yet.

Useful Telephone, fax, e-mail numbers

Forestry Telephone number to check on events, workings etc. 01387 272440 fax
01387 251491

