FIND OUT MORE

The Antonine Wall website, listed on the back of this leaflet, offers a range of site information and other resources to help plan a visit. It also has media galleries, downloadable walking guides and all documents relating to the management of the site.

For information on special events or for educational resources, try the Antonine Wall website, or the local authority and museum websites listed on the back page.

Additional information about the wider frontier and the international elements is available on the Antonine Wall website and on the websites for Hadrian’s Wall and the German Limes.

FURTHER INFORMATION

www.antoninewall.org

HISTORIC ENVIRONMENT SCOTLAND,
Longmore House, Salisbury Place, Edinburgh EH9 1SH
Tel: +44 (0)131 668 8600 Email: worldheritage@hes.scot
www.historicenvironment.scot

EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE COUNCIL, Business & Tourism,
Southbank House, 1 Strathkelvin Place, Kirkintilloch G66 1XQ
Tel: +44 (0)141 578 8625 www.eastdunbarton.gov.uk

FALKIRK COUNCIL, Development Service, Abbotsford House,
David’s Loan, Bainsford, Falkirk FK2 7YZ
Tel: +44 (0)1324 504950 www.falkirk.gov.uk

GLASGOW CITY COUNCIL, Development and Regeneration Services,
Development Management, 231 George Street, Glasgow G1 1RX
Tel: +44 (0)141 287 8555 www.glasgow.gov.uk

NORTH LANARKSHIRE COUNCIL, Environmental Services,
Fleming House, Tryst Road, Cumbernauld G67 1JW
Tel: +44 (0)1236 632 638 www.northlanarkshire.gov.uk

WORLD HERITAGE SITE

GERMAN LIMES, Deutsche Limeskommissionen,
Saalburg Castle, Castle Hall 1, 61350 Bad Homburg
Tel: +49 (0)6175 937 434 www.deutsche-limeskommission.de

HUNTERIAN MUSEUM, University Avenue, Glasgow G12 8QQ
Tel: +44 (0)141 330 4221 Email: hunterian-enquiries@glasgow.ac.uk
www.gla.ac.uk/hunterian

NATIONAL MUSEUMS OF SCOTLAND, Chambers Street, Edinburgh EH1 1JF
Tel: +44 (0)300 123 6789 Email: info@nms.ac.uk
www.nms.ac.uk

KINNEIL MUSEUM, Kinneil Estate, Bo’ness EH51 0PR
Tel: +44 (0)1506 778 530
www.falkirkcommunitytrust.org/venues/kinneil-museum

CALLENDER HOUSE MUSEUM, Callendar Park,
Callendar FK1 1YR Tel: +44 (0)1324 503770
Email: callendar.house@falkirk.gov.uk
www.falkirkcommunitytrust.org/venues/callendar-house

AULD KIRK MUSEUM, Cowgate, Kirkintilloch G66 1AB
Tel: +44 (0)141 578 0144 www.edlc.co.uk

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Altar © Hunterian Museum

Rough Castle
New Kilpatrick Cemetery

Nearly 2,000 years ago, the Antonine Wall was the north-west frontier of the Roman Empire. Built on the orders of the Emperor Antoninus Pius in the years following AD 140, it ran for 40 Roman miles (60 km) from modern Bo’ness on the Firth of Forth to Old Kilpatrick on the River Clyde.

Over time, the industrial and commercial heartland of Scotland has grown around it yet, unbelievably, one-third of its total length is still visible today. Archaeological excavations have demonstrated that much of the rest survives well beneath both fields and urban areas.

In 2008 it was inscribed as a World Heritage Site, becoming part of the Frontiers of the Roman Empire World Heritage Site, alongside Hadrian’s Wall and the German Limes.

What can I see and do today?
The line of the Antonine Wall crosses five modern local authorities (East Dunbartonshire, Falkirk, Glasgow, North Lanarkshire and West Dunbartonshire) and there are a number of sites and museums in each of these areas.

Some of the best preserved sections of rampart, ditch and Military Way are at Croy Hill and Seabegs, good forts are visible at Bar Hill and Rough Castle, and Roman baths survive at Bearsden and Bar Hill.

Museums along the route have personal artefacts, gravestones and distance slabs on display; try the Auld Kirk Museum in Kirkintilloch, Callendar House in Falkirk, Kinneil Museum in Bo’ness, the Hunterian Museum in Glasgow, or the National Museum in Edinburgh.

What was the Antonine Wall?
The Antonine Wall was both a physical barrier and a symbol of the Roman Empire’s power and control. It was never a stone ‘wall’, but consisted of a turf rampart fronted by a wide and deep ditch.

Forts and fortlets provided accommodation for the troops stationed on the frontier and acted as secure crossing points to control movement north and south. Behind the rampart, all the forts were linked by a road, known as the Military Way.

The Antonine Wall was the most northerly frontier of the empire and, when it was built, was the most complex frontier ever constructed by the Roman army. It was the last of the linear frontiers to be built by the Romans and was only occupied for about a generation before being abandoned in the AD 160s.