



ART & ARCHITECTURE TRAIL GUIDE

STARTING FROM KIELDER CASTLE VISITOR CENTRE

ART & ARCHITECTURE MAP

Starting from Kielder Castle Visitor Centre



I MINOTAUR Nick Coombe and Shona Kitchen 2003

DISTANCE: 200m

The Minotaur maze is a must for children and adults alike. The adventurous will discover a number of special features that include a set of stairs taking visitors above the walls and enabling them to consider possible alternative routes within the maze and say 'Hello' to others waiting outside. The final goal, a small glittering room formed from rocks of recycled glass is a quiet place from which to contemplate the task of discovering a return route to the outside world.

Minotaur was designed by artist Shona Kitchen and architect Nick Coombe in response to the old castle garden site. Surrounded by an old drystone wall, and overlooked by the fake fortifications of Kielder Castle, the maze deliberately uses a rugged walling system comprised of 'gabions' to suggest a certain dark purpose and strength, and a room of glittering glass to offer a delicate goal that visitors must find. The structure plays with the notion of a traditional building, deconstructing it so that usual features such as walls, doors, windows and stairs still exist, but not necessarily where you might expect to find them.

DIRECTIONS:

Minotaur is located in the grounds of Kielder Castle. While there is a direct path that includes steps, wheelchair users can access the work via the Duchess trail.

OS map ref: NY632935



2 SILVAS CAPITALIS SIMPARCH 2009

DISTANCE: 3 miles/5km (approximately one hour walk time) from Kielder Castle Visitor Centre.

“The uncanny effect is often and easily produced when the distinction between imagination and reality is effaced, as when something that we have hitherto regarded as imaginary appears before us in reality” — Sigmund Freud

Silvas Capitalis (a play on the Latin for forest head) is a giant timber head located along the Lakeside Way created by American artists SIMPARCH. The head has been conceived as a watcher, an imaginary presence who has observed the passing occupation of the landscape over past millennia and who has also seen how environment has dramatically changed during the last one hundred years with the coming of the forest and more recently the lake. The sculpture's name 'Silvas Capitalis' playfully references the Latin spoken by the Roman population that occupied much of England to the immediate south of Kielder 2000 years ago.

Members of SIMPARCH worked throughout February and May 2009 to fabricate and construct the head in the forest from approximately 3000 specially shaped pieces of European Larch which have been glued and pegged together without the use of any screws or nails. Visitors to the head who enter through the mouth and climb upstairs to look out of its eyes literally get inside its head.



2 SILVAS CAPITALIS SIMPARCH 2009

DISTANCE: 3 miles/5km (approximately one hour walk time) from Kielder Castle Visitor Centre.

DIRECTIONS:

From Kielder Castle Visitor Centre pick up the Lakeside Way (north shore) at the Kielder Water end of the village and follow the track across Kielder Viaduct and past Gowanburn farm for three miles until a signed spur path to the right leads off to the sculpture.

While the route is accessible to all, please note that wheelchair users might wish to take care on the short spur path that leads to the head.

OS map ref: NY657905

3 VIEWPOINTS Tania Kovats 1998

DISTANCE: 3.5 miles/5.5km (approximately 1 hour 10 minutes walk time) from Kielder Castle Visitor Centre.

Originally two 'Viewpoints' sat on opposite shores, visible from either side, but remote destinations. Only the north Viewpoint at Needs Hill is now still in place. Viewpoints is a physical three-dimensional representation of the Ordnance Survey symbol for a viewpoint and as such this sculpture references existing ideas of what makes a picturesque view, offering a frame for the landscape and encouraging a visitor to consider the experience of looking.

DIRECTIONS:

From Kielder Castle Visitor Centre, follow the directions to Silvas Capitalis and then continue along the Lakeside Way for a further half mile until a short, signed path leads off the main track and down the sculpture.

While the route is accessible to all, please note that wheelchair users might wish to take care on the path that leads to the viewpoint.

OS map ref: NY662903



4 JANUS CHAIRS Ryder Architecture 2009

DISTANCE: 5.25 miles/8.5km (approximately 1 hour 45 minutes walk time) from Kielder Castle Visitor Centre.

Janus Chairs are three rotating seats located on a peninsula along the Lakeside Way on the north shore of Kielder Water. Taking their inspiration from the unfolding petals of a flower, the three chairs are made using a Glulam construction technique and backed with stainless steel. Each chair is a different size and each has a roof that extends over the occupant's head so that when the chairs are rotated towards each other they overlap to form a partial shelter. The chairs can be orientated by visitors as they wish; towards the sun, away from the wind or rain, or together as a social group.

DIRECTIONS:

From Kielder Castle Visitor Centre, follow the directions to Viewpoints and then continue along the Lakeside Way for a further one and three quarter miles until a short, signed path is seen leading down the chairs.

The route to Janus Chairs is accessible to all visitors.

OS map ref: NY665906



5 SALMON CUBES Xsite Architecture 2009

DISTANCE: 5.25 miles/8.5 km (approximately 2 hours walk time) from Kielder Castle Visitor Centre.

The four Salmon Cubes that are sited along the Lakeside Way started life as part of the Tyne Salmon Trail, a sculpture project that was initiated by the Environment Agency to encourage more people to use and enjoy the river Tyne and to raise awareness of its healthy salmon population.

The original project formed a travelling sculpture trail of ten cubes, each depicting a different aspect of the Tyne Salmon. The family of cubes made by furniture designer Nick James were designed to travel along the banks of the Tyne following the Tyne salmon themselves as they embark on their amazing journey from Kielder to the mouth of the Tyne and eventually back again over the period of a year.

The four cubes sited along the Lakeside Way are called, from west to east;

‘Colours’ – inspired by the changing colours of the salmon throughout their life cycle.

‘Scales’ – inspired by the beauty, strength, and agility of the salmon’s armour,

‘Birth’ – inspired by the pea-sized orange eggs that the salmon lay in gravel beds,

‘Reflection’ – inspired by the myths and legends associated with salmon.

DIRECTIONS:

From Kielder Castle visitor centre, follow the directions to Janus Chairs and then continue along the Lakeside Way for a further half mile to the site of the four cubes.

The route to Salmon Cubes is accessible to all users.

OS map ref: NY672903



6 SPECERE Adjaye Associates 2009

DISTANCE: 4.25 miles/6.75 km (approximately 2 hours walk time) from Kielder Castle Visitor Centre.

Specere is a stark timber shelter designed by internationally acclaimed architect David Adjaye and located on top of the 1900 foot summit of Deadwater Fell – an exposed hilltop overlooking Kielder Water & Forest Park. As well as walkers to this remote outpost, from this point, mountain bikers begin their descent down one of the Park's single-track trails back to their starting point at Kielder Castle visitor centre. Specere can be interpreted as meaning 'to see' or 'I see'. The structure that sits close to the Deadwater radar installation is three sided with an entrance to the rear. One side is solid and offers protection from northerly winds in winter, one is perforated providing a fragmented view to the east, and the third is completely open framing the view to the south of the full expanse of Kielder Water & Forest Park. Specere also offers visitors fantastic views into southern Scotland while also offering protection from the extreme weather conditions often encountered on Deadwater.

DIRECTIONS:

The nearest public parking is at Kielder Castle visitor centre. From there it is recommended that visitors use the OS Explorer Map OL 42 or 'Kielder Forest Deadwater mountain bike trail guide' to identify their access route. The shortest distance along forest roads is a little over 4 miles and walkers should allow one and a half to two hours to reach the top.

Walkers should note that it is often much colder and windier on the top of Deadwater than down at the visitor centre and should therefore carry appropriate clothing. It is also usually possible to receive a mobile signal there.

OS map ref: NY626970



7 MIRAGE DECK Kisa Kawakami 2006

DISTANCE: Approximately 3 miles/4.8 km from Kielder Castle Visitor Centre.

Mirage deck is the physical legacy of a sculptural installation that occupied this space from 2006-11. The elements of the sculpture that hung in the trees were originally created to last for 5 years, after which the installation was removed but leaving the interlocking decks and walkways within the forest as a resting place for travelers along the Lakeside Way.

DIRECTIONS:

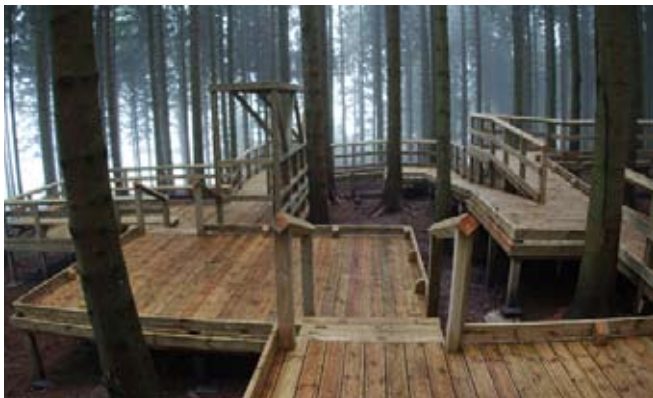
Mirage deck is sited along the Lakeside Way halfway between Lewisburn bridge and Bakethin Weir and is fully accessible. Visitors can access Mirage deck from Kielder Castle Visitor Centre, Leaplish Waterside Park, or from the Bakethin Weir approach road.

From Kielder Castle, follow directions to the Lakeside Way south shore and follow the track approximately 3 miles/4.8 km towards Leaplish.

From Leaplish, follow the Lakeside Way south shore towards Kielder Castle for approximately 3.5 miles/5.5 km.

Mirage decking can be accessed directly off the C200 from Bakethin Weir. Turn off where Bakethin Weir is signed. After parking, follow the Lakeside Way heading east towards the Lewisburn bridge and Leaplish for 0.3 miles/0.5 km.

OS map ref: NY645905



8 KIELDER COLUMN John Maine 1999

DISTANCE: 2.5 miles/4 km (approximately 50 minutes walk time) from Kielder Castle Visitor Centre.

Kielder Column is a stack of pink sandstone blocks arranged in courses around a core. The surfaces have been closely worked by hand to create the sense of an ascending spiral throughout the column. Kielder Column was commissioned in 1990 for the Gateshead Garden Festival and re-erected at Bakethin Weir in 1999.

DIRECTIONS:

There is public parking at Bakethin Weir which is sign-posted off the C200. Alternatively access the Lakeside Way (south shore) from Kielder Village and follow the track for 2.5 miles to Bakethin Weir. The sculpture is a short 2-minute walk along the weir access road.

Kielder Column is fully accessible.

OS map ref: NY643912



9 SKYSPACE James Turrell 2000

DISTANCE: 1.5 miles/2.5km (approximately 40 minutes walk time) from the signed C200 car park.

“My work is not so much about my seeing as about your seeing. There is no one between you and your experience”.

— James Turrell

Cat Cairn: the Kielder Skyspace is a sculptural artwork located on a rocky outcrop overlooking Kielder Water & Forest Park by internationally renowned American artist James Turrell. The artwork consists of a short tunnel that leads to a partially buried circular room, a ceiling containing a central circular oculus or opening, and a ring of seats forming the lower part of the inner wall.

The main structure presents an overall feel of simplicity and quiet away from the visual distractions found outside. We often experience the sky as being ‘far away’ because we see it disappearing behind trees, hills or houses. The Skyspace removes these clues and when seen from inside, the sky is often perceived to be right on top of the space, or sometimes intruding into it.

Visitors will find themselves in a space where the artist manipulates our normal perceptions of light and space. In daylight hours, this chamber; illuminated only by natural light through the roof opening, is a contemplative space that presents the ever-changing sky as a moving picture for visitor’s enjoyment and meditation. As the light conditions change at dusk and dawn, a ring of hidden lights illuminate the upper part of the chamber and visitors can expect to experience a highly unusual display of tone and colour lasting up to an hour.

James Turrell is interested in the psychology of perception, essentially how our brains work to make sense of the world around us and ‘invent’ a reality to fit the information that our senses provide. In the Skyspace a visitor’s experience of colour becomes particularly challenged and the sky viewed from within the space often appears very different from the same sky seen outside. However, visitors are reminded that this is by its very nature, an individual experience, and no two people will ‘see’ the same thing.

9 SKYSPACE James Turrell 2000

DISTANCE: 1.5 miles/2.5km (approximately 40 minutes walk time) from the signed C200 car park.

DIRECTIONS:

The nearest public parking is at the car park sited just off the C200 at the bottom of the forest road which is signposted to the Skyspace and Kielder Observatory.

The walk to the Skyspace is one and a half miles and takes around 40 minutes. Visitors wishing to drive up to the sculpture will need to get a key to pass through a forestry barrier beyond the lower car park. Keys are available from the visitor centres, the local shop, the Anglers Arms in Kielder Village and from the Calvert Trust Kielder activity centre.

Skyspace is accessible to all visitors.

OS map ref: NY613928



10 KIELDER OBSERVATORY

Charles Barclay Architects 2008

DISTANCE: 2 miles/3.25km (approximately 50 minutes walk time) from the signed C200 car park.

Like the deck of a ship sailing above the landscape, the Observatory provides astronomers with a permanent facility in the heart of Northumberland. Famed for having the darkest night skies in England thanks to minimal light pollution, Kielder Water & Forest Park is a star gazer's heaven and the Observatory offers exciting opportunities for those with an interest in learning more about the night sky.

Kielder Observatory was created by Charles Barclay Architects with the ambition to provide a dramatic yet sympathetic building on the high fells overlooking Kielder Water & Forest Park. The structure resembles both a pier and a ship and is constructed mostly from timber. The designer wanted to create a building that did not carry the usual design elements such as domes that would suggest 'observatory' to visitors. This was because such clues can also imply that perhaps this is not a place for the general public, while the Observatory was specifically created to enable the public to become involved in the science of astronomy. The actual design is more ambiguous, with its square turrets only giving the game away once the building is in use, the shutters are open and the turrets rotated. In the main part of the building, the shapes of the roof and skirts have been designed to mirror the gradient of the hills that form its backdrop, and the Siberian Larch cladding to slowly change colour to silver-grey like the remains of trees that cover the surrounding landscape. Since completion, Kielder Observatory has won an RIBA Award, a Civic Trust Award, a Hadrian Award, and a Wood Award.

You can visit the Observatory at any time and walk around the decking. However, the turrets and astronomical equipment can only be accessed and operated by fully qualified members of the Kielder Observatory Astronomical Society (KOAS) during specific events.

10 KIELDER OBSERVATORY

Charles Barclay Architects 2008

DISTANCE: 2 miles/3.25km (approximately 50 minutes walk time) from the signed C200 car park.

DIRECTIONS:

Those wishing to visit during the day can park in the Skyspace/Observatory signposted parking off the C200 and walk up the forest road, around two miles and taking about 1 hour, to the Observatory from which there are excellent views of Kielder Water & Forest Park. Please note that there is a vehicular barrier beyond the car park and although you can obtain a key from the Forestry Commission shop to make it possible to drive as far as the Skyspace, vehicular access after this point is restricted to times when astronomy events are being held.

The Observatory is fantastic to visit all year round – the spectacular views are best in summer while the winter nights are darker and better for star gazing.

The Observatory is run by the Kielder Observatory Astronomical Society (KOAS) who have developed an access programme to enable people to find out more about astronomy, visit the building and use the astronomical equipment. This programme covers all levels of interest and includes both night and daytime events.

OS map ref: NY609933



What's your perspective?

At Kielder Water and Forest Park we have some wonderful art and architecture so what's your perspective of it? During your visit to the Park why not have some fun and get creative by taking photos – whether it be interesting angles, abstract details, amazing reflections or just you enjoying the art and architecture.

Go on, take some photos today! Then visit our website to find out how to share them with us.

www.kielderartandarchitecture.com

USEFUL INFORMATION

THE LAKESIDE WAY

The Lakeside Way multi-user trail offers visitors to Kielder Water & Forest Park a truly unique experience and gives access to the most scenic parts of the lake shore, many art and architectural works, and opportunities to get closer to some of Kielder's abundant wildlife.

The path encircles Kielder Water's 27 mile shoreline and is almost 26 miles in total. It is suitable for walkers, cyclists, horse riders, mobility scooters and wheelchair users.

The Lakeside Way has a good surface which is suitable for comfortable walking boots, wellington boots or trainers. Some hills may be difficult for younger or less experienced cyclists and it is recommended that people in wheelchairs are accompanied. Horse riders should move at a controlled walking pace only. Visitors using a mobility scooter should ensure batteries are fully charged before setting off. No other motorised vehicles are permitted.

For operational and safety reasons, sections of the Lakeside Way may be closed from time to time. Please check the current status of the path before setting out. You can do this by contacting or visiting one of the following:

Leaplish Waterside Park	T 01434 251 000
Tower Knowe Visitor Centre	T 01434 240 436
Kielder Castle Visitor Centre	T 01434 250 209
Bellingham Tourist Information Centre	T 01434 220 616

Visitors wishing to use the ferry as part of their day out should pre-book by contacting Leaplish or Tower Knowe.

Note that, with the exception of Leaplish, these telephone numbers are seasonally operated.

LAKESIDE WAY SOUTH SHORE

The Lakeside Way South Shore stretches from Kielder Dam to Kielder Castle Visitor Centre and Leaplish. Total distance is approximately 14 miles.

LAKESIDE WAY NORTH SHORE

The Lakeside Way North Shore runs from Hawkhope car park at the north end of the dam to Kielder Castle Visitor Centre, a distance of approximately 12 miles.

Unlike the south shore, there are no visitor centres along the north shoreline so please be adequately prepared before setting out.

Please note that there is no public vehicular access along the north shore. Parking is available at either end of the route at Hawkhope and Kielder Castle Visitor Centre.

FOR YOUR SAFETY

Please be aware that some sections of the Lakeside Way are located in remote areas, away from visitor centres and dwellings, so plan ahead, consider the capabilities of your party and take responsibility for your own actions and safety.

- Please respect other path users and observe signs and notices at all times.
- Pass oncoming path users on the left.
- Cyclists and horse riders give way to walkers.
- Cyclists give way to horse riders.
- Protect plants and animals. Take your litter away with you, do not light fires and keep away from livestock.
- Please keep dogs under close control and put on a lead in livestock and agricultural areas.
- Please remove dog and horse droppings from the path into the adjacent vegetation, or bag it and take it with you.
- Do not cross fences, hedges or walls unless there are stiles or gates.
- Leave gates and property as you find them.

KIELDER WATER & FOREST PARK

Exploring Kielder's art and architecture is just one of the many things you can do in the Park including star gazing, mountain-biking, water sports and wildlife spotting.

The great variety of habitats across the park creates homes for a whole host of wildlife. Explorers may encounter badgers, roe deer, otters, shrews, seven species of bat, many woodland birds and (especially in spring) birds of prey. Information on all activities is available at visitor centres or at www.visitkielder.com.

CAR PARKING

The parking ticket that you buy as part of exploring Kielder's art and architectural works is also valid at all other sites across Kielder Water & Forest Park and the income generated is reinvested into the upkeep of visitor services and infrastructure, and conservation of wildlife habitats.

Please use formal car parks/areas within Kielder Water & Forest Park at all times. Access roads and gateways may be required for operational or emergency access at any time so please do not block any road entrances, gateways or private driveways.

For more information or to plan
your visit call: 01434 220616

Find out more at
www.visitkielder.com or at our
visitor centres at Tower Knowe,
Leaplish or Kielder Castle.

All details were accurate at 01/12. Kielder Water & Forest
Park Development Trust accepts no responsibility for
inaccuracies that may occur in this guide. Please refer
to www.visitkielder.com for regular information updates.

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