

Edinburgh Geological Society – Excursion Programme 2021



Excursion title: Joppa Rocks
Date & time: Wednesday 21st July 2021, 6pm **Finish time:** 9pm
Leader(s): Robert Gatliff, Edinburgh Geological Society

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| Excursion aims and description: | <p>This field excursion is an introductory trip, but open to all. The section at Joppa extends from the Upper Limestone Formation, through the Passage Formation and into the Lower Coal Measures (Carboniferous). The excellent exposures allow for study of the sedimentology in a fluvio-deltaic system (sandstones, siltstones, mudstones, ironstones, coals) with marine transgressions (limestones and shales). Evidence for palaeosols is widespread. The sequence dips to the east into the Midlothian syncline with several well-exposed faults with some evidence of syn-sedimentary earthquakes.</p> <p>All participants will be provided with a copy of the Joppa Shore geological leaflet, a small seismic section and a borehole log to help put the section into a regional context and compare outcrop scale information with subsurface data.</p> <p>There is a pub (the Dalriada) 300 m along the Promenade for post trip refreshment etc</p> | | |
| Meeting point: | <p>Eastfield (Grid Reference 324735). The meeting point is next to a bus stop (Lothian 26, Lothian East Coast 124). Local train services to Brunstane station (about half a mile from start location). There is ample free roadside parking.</p> | | |
| First locality: | <p>At meeting point.</p> | | |
| Excursion route: | <p>About 600 m along the shore and then return on footpath back to start to see overview of the section</p> | | |
| Terrain, walking distance, height gain: | <p>There is an easy ramp or steps down to the beach. The entire walk along the coast is over rocks, boulders and sand. The rocks and boulders can be slippery if wet. There will be some scrambling but nothing difficult. There are steps up (a few metres) to the road at Eastfield (324735). Easy walk along footpath and grass back to start.</p> | | |
| Specific or Medium- / High-Risk Hazards: | <p>Rough scrambling over rocks and boulders The section is tide-dependent: low tide is in the afternoon</p> | | |
| Control measures required to mitigate against any Hazards referred to above: | <p>Walking boots preferred, although sensible outdoor footwear would be sufficient. The leader will have a basic first aid kit.</p> | | |
| Hard hats or Hi-viz clothing needed? | <p>No</p> | | |
| May dogs be brought on the excursion? | <p>Yes</p> | | |
| Toilet information: | <p>None (the Pumping station public conveniences are currently closed).</p> | | |
| Geological map sheet: | Edinburgh 32E | OS map sheet: | Edinburgh Landranger 66 |
| References: | <p>Edinburgh & West Lothian - a landscape fashioned by geology (SNH and BGS) Edinburgh Geology - an Excursion Guide (Edinburgh Geological Society) Edited by</p> | | |

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| | <p>Mitchell, Walton and Grant. Published by Oliver and Boyd. This book is out of print. The Joppa section is not featured in the more recent Lothians Guide.</p> |
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Lothian and Borders GeoConservation leaflet, Joppa Shore, available to download at <https://www.edinburghgeolsoc.org/publications/geoconservation-leaflets/>