

Gladhouse Reservoir - Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

Q: What is the purpose of the construction work at Gladhouse Reservoir?

A: Scottish Water is undertaking a multi-million-pound investment to refurbish the Spillway asset on the north shore of Gladhouse Reservoir. This essential work aims to maintain and upgrade the reservoir, ensuring the continued provision of drinking water to 150,000 customers in Midlothian and parts of Edinburgh.

Q: How long will the construction work last?

A: The project is expected to span over two years, with an anticipated completion in 2027. However, progress may be influenced by final design considerations and weather conditions.

Q: Will the reservoir remain accessible to visitors during the construction period?

A: Yes, visitors will still be able to access Gladhouse Reservoir during the construction. Scottish Water is committed to minimising disruption for both visitors and local residents throughout the duration of the project.

Q: Are there any changes to parking facilities at the reservoir?

A: Currently, there are no designated parking areas at Gladhouse Reservoir, and parking is limited. Visitors are encouraged to park responsibly and be mindful of others.

Q: How will construction traffic affect the area?

A: Construction traffic will be more noticeable around the site. Early enabling works included upgrading Gladhouse Mains Road to allow the majority of construction vehicles to access the compound via this route. While some access via the public road along the dam face is necessary, efforts will be made to minimise this.

Q: Will there be any road closures or diversions during the project?

A: The removal and subsequent replacement of the road bridge are part of the construction activities. Diversion routes will be communicated to local residents, stakeholder groups, and through media channels prior to any closures.

Q: How is Scottish Water engaging with the community about this project?

A: Scottish Water is committed to keeping local residents and visitors informed throughout the project. Engagement efforts include direct communication with nearby residents and hosting community drop-in events to share detailed plans and address any concerns. Event details will be shared in advance.

Q: Are there any safety precautions visitors should be aware of?

A: Visitors should be aware that Gladhouse Reservoir is an active work site with ongoing operational activities that may occasionally impact visits. Notably, an air curtain near the dam, marked by orange buoys, is in operation. This system releases bubbles to aerate the water, creating negative buoyancy that can make it difficult to stay afloat. Both swimmers and boaters are strongly advised to avoid this area and any other operational infrastructure while on the water.

Q: What amenities are available at the reservoir during the construction period?

A: There are no toilets or bins available at Gladhouse Reservoir. Visitors are kindly asked to use the natural surroundings responsibly and take all litter home. A Ranger Service is available year-round to assist and ensure the preservation of the area.

Q: How can I stay updated on the progress of the construction work?

A: Updates on the construction progress and any potential impacts on visitors will be communicated through Scottish Water's communication channels. Visitors are encouraged to check for the latest information before planning their visit.