



# Glenshee and Strathardle Outdoor Activity Guide

Enjoy great walking and cycling trails at  
the gateway to the Cairngorms National Park



Download this guide at  
[www.glenofthefairies.co.uk](http://www.glenofthefairies.co.uk)



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**The walks and trails of Glenshee and Strathardle deserve to be better known than they are, particularly as so many take the walker or mountain biker to areas of outstanding beauty and scenery which are rich in wildlife.**



Supported by the Drumderg Windfarm Fund

## Introduction



**Glens for all seasons – the Glenshee and Strathardle Glens offer unrivalled opportunities for some of the best hillwalking, cycling, skiing and sightseeing in Scotland.**

Glenshee and Strathardle are the southern gateway to the Cairngorms National Park and Royal Deeside, the hidden route to the Highlands.

Beginning in Blairgowrie, the newly named 'Snow Road and Scenic Route', Glenshee and Strathardle boast a great range of accommodation and things to do. The facilities for walkers, anglers, shooters, golfers and cyclists as well as winter sports enthusiasts are unrivalled.



We ask that you respect any notices relating to shooting, farming and estate activities.

**Walking** - With 20 Munros and a huge choice of smaller hills there is a great variety of walks available for all abilities and ages including the Catevan Trail. Walks will take you to places that boast some of the best scenery in Eastern Scotland.

**Cycling** – The spectacular natural environment and landscape is an adventure playground for bikers. There are many routes available that cater for the novice, families and experts alike.

**Skiing** – Glenshee Ski Centre is the largest Ski Resort in the UK, boasting 22 lifts and tows. Glenshee offers 36 runs comprising 40kms of pisted snow and when conditions allow there are also

## Introduction



snow making facilities if required. All abilities are catered for and there is a good selection of ski and board hire, ski school tuition and climbing guiding.

**Fishing and Fieldsports** – These are a big feature of the area. There is a large river network coming from the hills and lochs for salmon and trout fishing, permits for which are available locally.



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## Glenshee and Strathardle lie hidden in the north-east corner of Perthshire, Glenshee taking its name from the Gaelic 'Shith' (Glen of the Fairies or Peace). Its history provides a virtual snapshot of the story of Highland Scotland with the mountains of the Cairngorms providing a magnificent backdrop.

The first settlers moved in the glens in the Bronze Age. By the first millennium the ancient pass to Braemar was in common use leading to a Hospice (Spittal) on both sides of the mountains. Glenshee and Strathardle grew to support large populations based heavily on the Clan System with Lairds and tenants living in fermtouns.

The resident Clan in the Glens is the Clan MacThomas who became resident in Glenshee in 1470. The annual Clan Gathering continues to be held at the 'Cockstane' in August. To find out more about the history of Clan MacThomas go to [www.clanmacthomas.co.uk](http://www.clanmacthomas.co.uk).

Although the area was wracked by raiding Caterans and Jacobite rebellions, more peaceful times arrived when the first road was built in 1750 opening the Glens up to the outside world.

Unfortunately this period was soon shattered as new enclosed farming methods and sheep were introduced with many families evicted from their ancestral lands. This drastic reduction in population was accompanied by the eventual disappearance of the Gaelic language which had been in place for thousands of years.



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With the visits of Queen Victoria and the rise of shooting, tourism saw a reversal of fortune with the majority of Castles and Hunting Lodges dating from this period. Post WW2 saw the arrival of modern tourism on the back of the new ski slopes, the attractiveness of hill-walking as a recreation activity and the continued popularity of the shooting seasons.

The present Royal Family spend their summers up at Balmoral Castle, built by Queen Victoria, and can often be spotted driving up through Glenshee.

Spectacular scenery on the A93 forms part of the 'Snow Roads Scenic Route' to Grantown on Spey via Royal Deeside. Take a look from the viewpoint at the newly developed layby just below the Devil's Elbow and imagine a vibrant and inhabited landscape in the many outline dwellings still visible.



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## Wildlife

**The Cairngorms National Park is home to 25% of the UK's threatened bird, animal and plant species. Glenshee and the neighbouring glens support a wide range of wildlife.**

Some of the mammals which call the Glen home include: 'The Monarch of the Glen' – The Red Deer, Red Squirrels, Pine Martens, the Scottish Wildcat and Otters.

The rich diversity and scale of habitats found in the Glenshee and Strathardle area are ideal for those wishing to see a range of mountain birds including the Red & Black Grouse, Ptarmigan, Golden Eagle, Buzzard, Kite and Dotterel.



Oystercatcher



Buzzard

Highland Cow

Wildflower

## Wildlife



Stoat



Mountain Hare



Roe



Ring Ouzel

**Please help to minimise disturbance to wildlife by keeping dogs under close control or on a short lead.**



Ptarmigan



Wildcat



Golden Eagle



Red Squirrel



Foxglove

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## Scotland has a tradition of open access to walkers who behave responsibly.

However the Scottish Parliament in 2003 passed The Land Reform (Scotland) Act which gives everyone statutory access rights to most land and inland water. People only have these rights if they exercise them responsibly by respecting the privacy, safety and livelihoods of others, as well as caring for the environment. The Scottish Outdoor Access Code provides further guidance on your rights and responsibilities. Equally land managers have to manage their land and water responsibly in relation to access rights.

[www.outdooraccess-scotland.com](http://www.outdooraccess-scotland.com)

What this means in practice is that you can walk or cycle anywhere, keeping away from private gardens etc, provided that you act responsibly by taking note of reasonable requests by farmers, foresters and game keepers who might be involved in deer culling, lambing or tree felling for example.

Use of cycles should be limited to reasonably strong made-up paths to avoid damaging soft vegetation.



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Dogs should be under direct control at all times, possibly on a lead and not permitted to run wild potentially harming wildlife, ground nesting birds and lambs.

Cars should be parked so as not to interfere with other users. Gates should always be closed behind you. All litter should be taken home with you. Wild Camping is permitted where the tent is pitched away from roads and buildings and for a short period in any one place. Camp fires should be small, enclosed and completely extinguished before moving on. During the red deer stag stalking season in September and October further more detailed information can be obtained from the SNH website [www.snh.gov.uk](http://www.snh.gov.uk)

## In order to enjoy your walk or cycle to the full, it is best to take a few sensible precautions.

- Obtain an accurate weather forecast.
- Wear appropriate clothing and footwear.
- Obtain and know how to use an appropriate map.
- If in doubt consider hiring the services of a guide
- The weather can be very different from the forecast and can change very quickly, so be prepared to change your plans if necessary.
- Please observe any access restrictions.
- Timings for the walks and cycle routes are approximate and may take longer than indicated.
- Particularly for the higher hill walks, it is good practice to leave a note of your intended route and expected return time with a friend or family member.
- Cyclists are urged to wear an appropriate helmet & gloves.
- Be aware that on the higher walks snow and freezing temperatures can occur at virtually any time of the year. Extra clothing, gloves and hat should be carried.
- It is a good idea to carry a mobile phone. Bear in mind a mobile signal cannot be guaranteed.

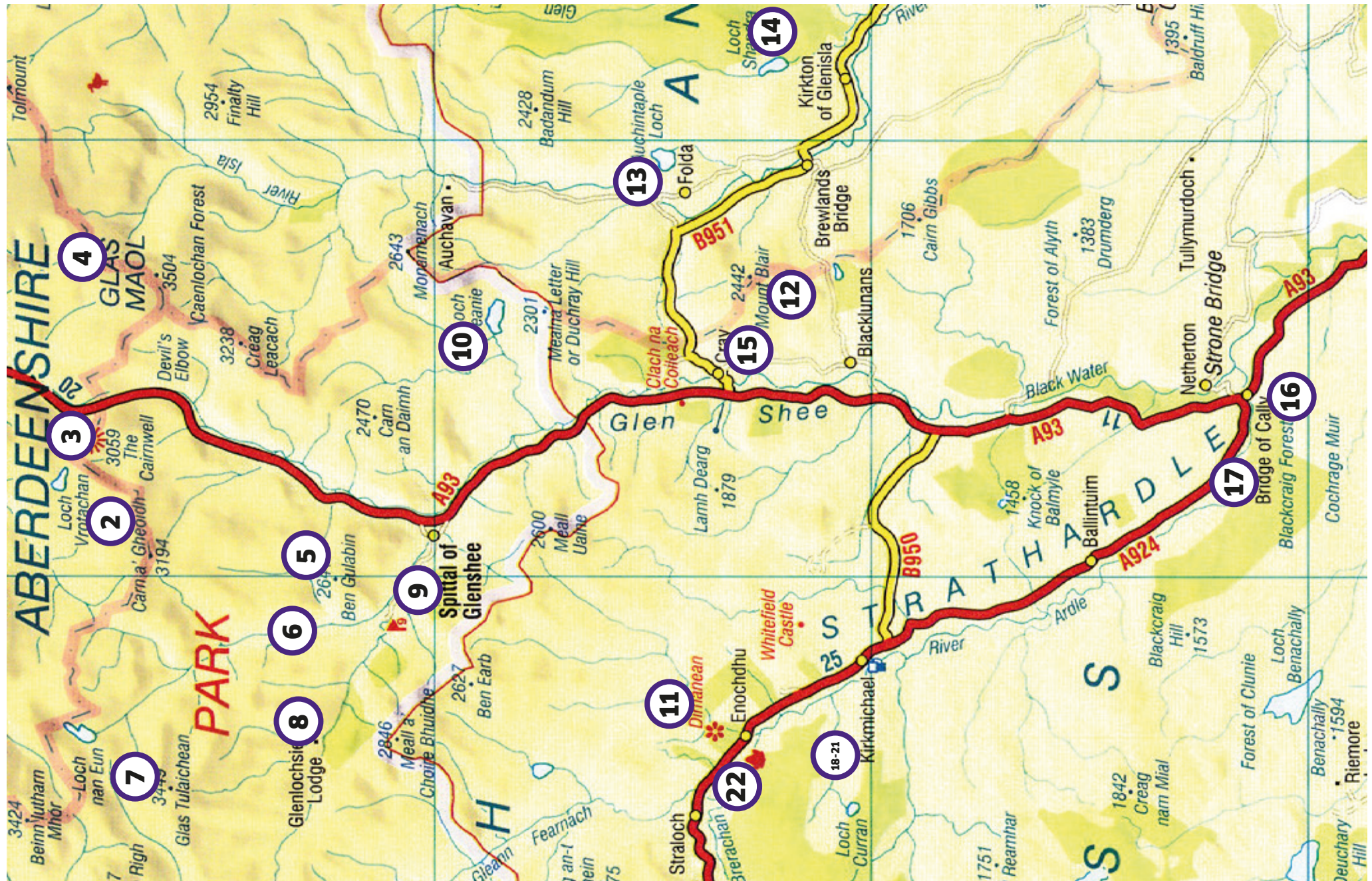
**If there is an incident and you require assistance you should:**

### Dial 999 ask for police and then mountain rescue, giving the following information:

- Location – ideally with a six figure grid reference and description
- Nature of any injuries
- How many people are injured
- Be ready to give your mobile phone number
- Stay at the location given
- Bear in mind that, depending on your location, it can take some time for assistance to arrive. Take any steps you can to keep any casualty warm and from further harm.

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# Glenshee and Strathardle Trails



## Trail 1 The Cateran Trail

### Distance:

103 km (64 miles)

### Duration:

4 to 5 days

### Grade:

Moderate/Hard

### OS Map:

Landranger  
43 & 53

Guides & maps  
can be purchased  
at visitor centres



### Follow in the footsteps of the Caterans - marauding cattle thieves from the Middle Ages.

The Cateran Trail is Scotland's first circular long-distance route. Winding through a mixture of farmland, moorland and woodland; 103 km (64 ml) of fully waymarked paths.

Along the Trail, wide open views reveal distant hills interrupted by mixed woods of gnarled birch, oak and ash, and more recent forest plantations.

### For maximum ease and enjoyment, walk the Trail at a leisurely pace in five stages.

#### Blairgowrie to Kirkmichael

The old mills, lades and weirs along the River Ericht are testament to Blairgowrie's fascinating industrial past. The Trail rises gently from the banks of the Ericht before descending to Bridge of Cally amidst spectacular views, and on through the quiet of the glen to Kirkmichael.

#### Kirkmichael - Spittal of Glenshee

After an easy walk along Strathardle to Enochdhu, it is then a long pull up to the col (Lairig Gate). On the way you will pass the Upper Lunch Hut where you can sign the Visitor's Book. At the col the views of the high mountains of the Grampians are simply stunning. The route then descends steeply to the Spittal.



#### Spittal of Glenshee to Kirkton of Glenisla

Hugging the Shee Water, the Trail heads south skirting castles at Dalnaglar and Forter. The lochs of Auchintaple and Shandra provide a striking backdrop to the journey into Kirkton of Glenisla, once host to a number of illicit stills.

#### Kirkton of Glenisla - Alyth

The steep rise from the tranquil village is worth the effort as the Trail reveals breathtaking open aspects down the glen. The streets of the

charming burgh town of Alyth once echoed to the sound of cattle being driven through its centre.

#### Alyth - Blairgowrie

After climbing Alyth Hill, the Trail passes impressive standing stones on the way to Bridge of Cally and Blairgowrie. Or follow Alyth Burn through the Den of Alyth, with its notable sandstone cliffs, for an alternative ending to your long distance adventure.



## Trail 2 Cairnwell and Cairn a' Gheoidh



**Distance:**  
12km

**Height gain:**  
500m

**Duration :**  
4-5 hours

**Grade :**  
Hard

**Start grid ref :**  
NO 138781

**OS Map :**  
Landranger 43  
Explorer 387

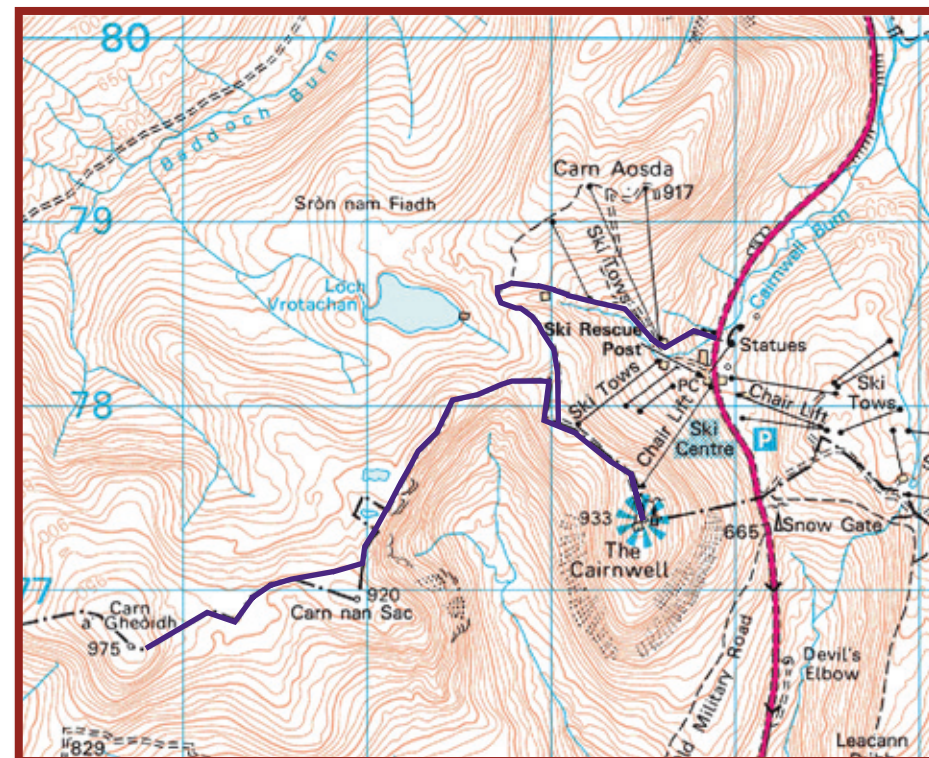
**A high level walk taking in several Munros but starting from the relatively high point of the Glenshee ski area.**

Park in the ski centre car park next to the cafe. Behind the Glenshee Ski Centre main building a landrover track leads steeply uphill for 30 minutes until a t-junction is reached. Turn left and follow the track to the summit of Cairnwell.

To continue, retrace your steps back down the mountain, past the chairlift on your right, to the top of the next ski lift, also on your right. At this point take a path (faint at first) to your left, heading over and down to a narrow gap in the ridge.

The then distinct path continues along the ridge with superb views, past two lochans on your right. At the second lochan turn right, and head directly for the summit of Carn a' Gheoidh - approximately an hour and thirty minutes from the summit of the Cairnwell.

To return, retrace your steps all the way back to the landrover track and descend back down to the ski area - approximately an hour and thirty minutes from the summit of Carn a' Gheoidh.



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## Trail 3 Glenshee Ski Centre Cairnwell



**Distance:**  
0.75km

**Height gain:**  
268m

**Duration :**  
30-60 mins

**Grade :**  
Moderate

**Start grid ref :**  
NO 138782

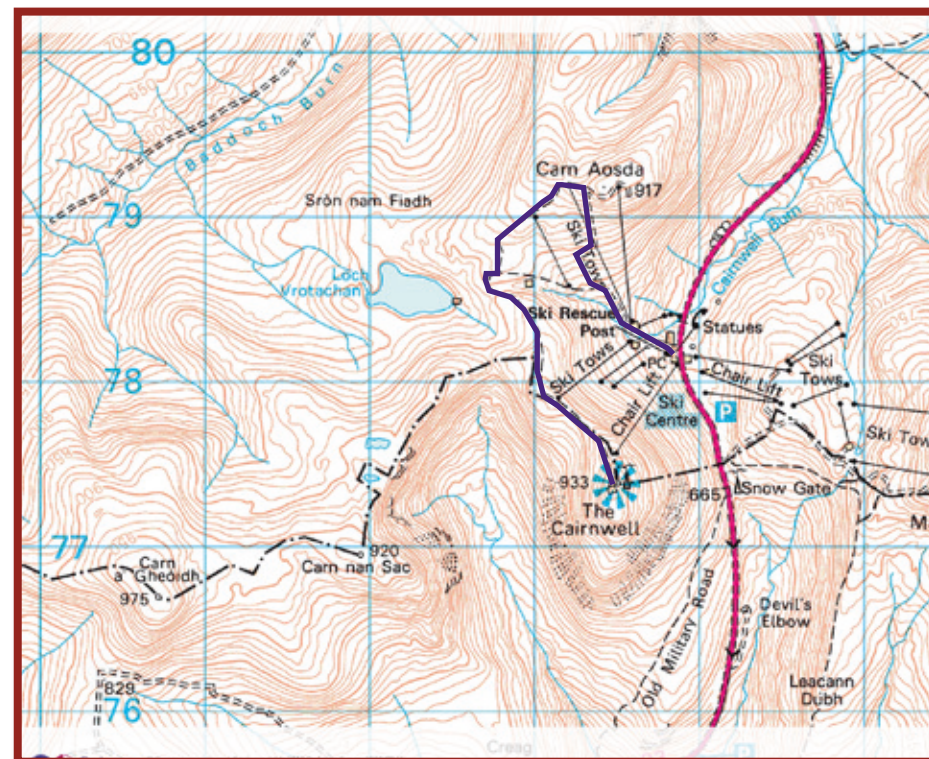
**OS Map :**  
Landranger 43  
Explorer 387

Climb a genuine Munro starting up at one of the highest road passes in Scotland, making this the shortest climb up a Munro of only 268 metres. With fantastic views there are 2 ways to walk up the Cairnwell.

During the summer the chairlift is open so park up by the cafe, buy tickets in the cafe, and take the chairlift up the hill. From there the Cairnwell is a short walk upwards, quite rocky, walking up towards the phone mast.

Or park by the cafe and start walking beside the chairlift up towards the top area where the chairlift arrives. This is a moderate walk but with no precise path so through heather and bog. Then just a short walk as above.

Spectacular views from the top, then walk back down the same route.



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## Trail 4 Glas Maol



### Distance:

6 km

### Height gain:

420 m

### Duration :

3 - 4 hours

### Grade :

Hard

### Start grid ref :

NO 141775

(east side A93)

### OS Map :

Landranger 43

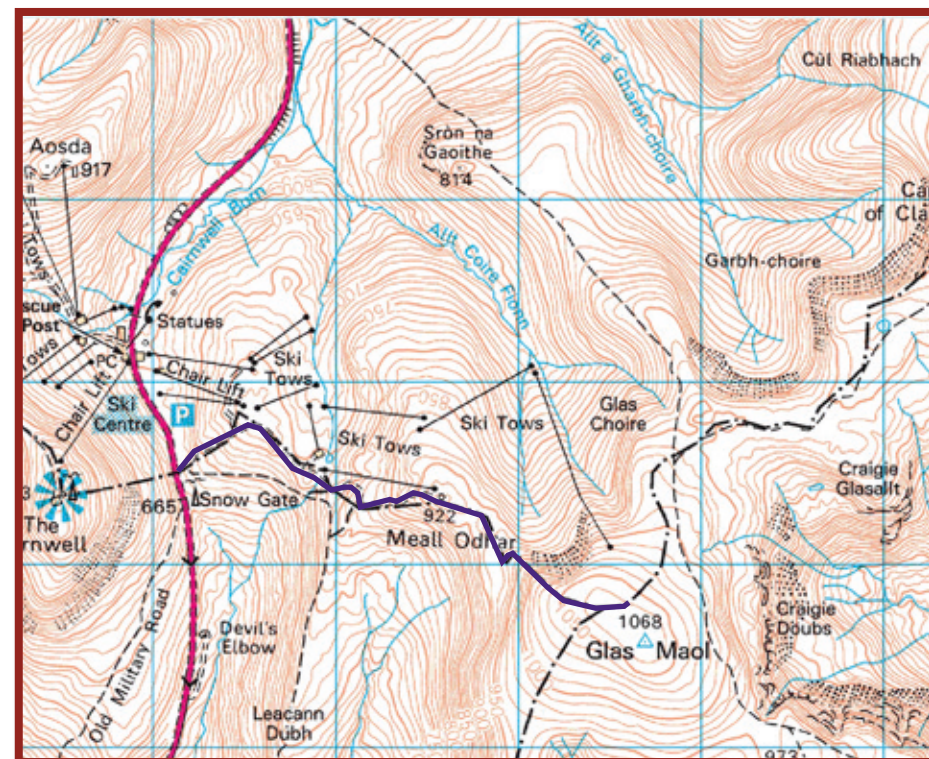
Explorer 387

**A relatively short walk to the highest Munro in Glenshee with a high start point. Distant views to the east coast and north west to the Cairngorms, while closer by to the north are the neighbouring Munros of Carn of Cleise and Carn an' Tuirc.**

Park in the car park on the east side of the A93 at the Aberdeenshire/Perth & Kinross boundary. Follow the landrover track heading east to a ski tow and Meall Odhar Café (only open during the ski season).

Continue following the track to the right of the ski tow to reach the summit of Meall Odhar (922 metres).

From here you will see the west face of Glas Maol with your route following to the right of the head of Coire Fionn. Following a short undulating section, the path now zig zags up the steepish west face, and on gaining flat ground above follow the faint path and one or two old fence posts for ten minutes to the summit trig point and shelter at 1068 metres. To return to your car, retrace your outward route taking care down the steep section.



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## Trail 5 Ben Gulabin



### Distance:

6 km

### Height gain:

456 m

### Duration :

3-4 hours

### Grade :

Hard

### Start grid ref :

NO 114714

### OS Map :

Landranger 43

Explorer 387

**A magnificent walk which climbs steeply to the summit of Ben Gulabin. You will be rewarded with spectacular views of the surrounding glens.**

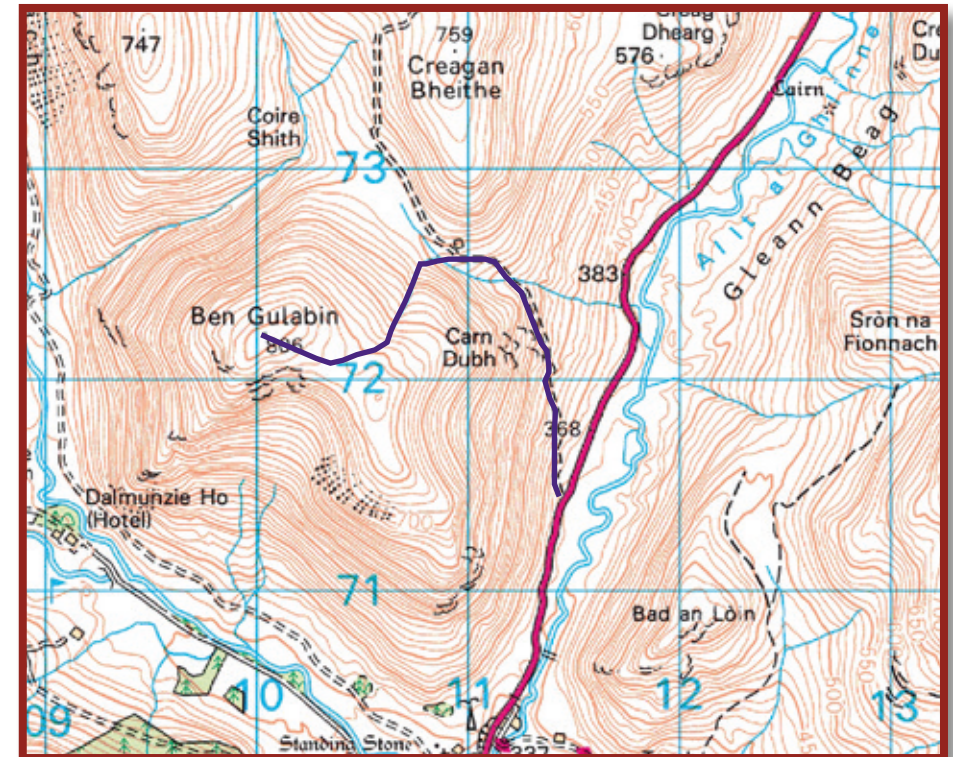
From the Spittal of Glenshee head North along the A93 for approx 1km until a large gate on the left is seen with a track running behind. This being the start of the route and suitable for parking.

Follow the 4x4 track steeply heading in a North Westerly direction. The route contours around Ben Gulabin gaining height quickly.

After approx. 1km the path crosses a stream, look up right for the remains of the first ski tows that were installed at Glenshee. These were very popular until the ski area was developed further up the glen to the North, now known as The Glenshee Ski Centre.

As the track flattens out look for the obvious man-made track (not marked on maps) to the left. Follow this track steeply until its end point and head right across heather and a small rocky outcrop before arriving at the summit cairn. The views will be well worth it!

Simply reverse the route for the descent but keep your eyes on the hillsides, as there is often wildlife to be seen.



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This area is particularly sensitive during the stalking season, Monday to Friday, September, October and November. Please phone 01339 741224 for more information as it is likely that walking will interfere with stalking activities.

We ask that you respect any notices relating to shooting, farming and estate activities.

## Trail 6 Glen Taitneach

### Distance:

17 km

### Height gain:

110 m

### Duration :

Walking 4-6 hours

Cycling 2-3 hours

### Grade :

Walk Easy/Moderate

Cycle Moderate

### Start grid ref :

NO 109701

### OS Map :

Landranger 43

Explorer 387



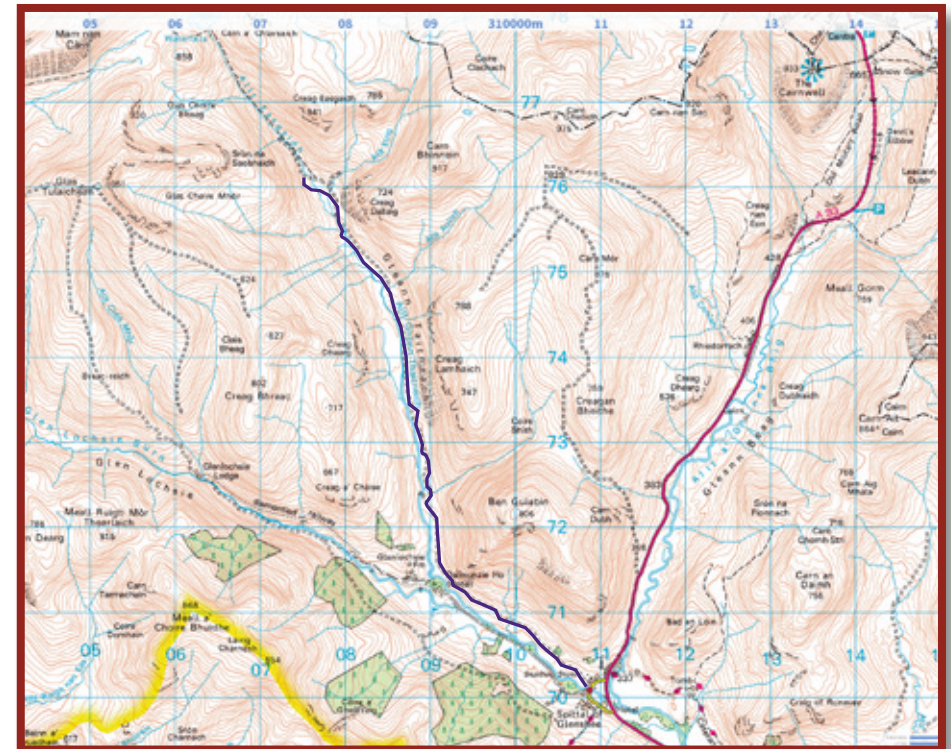
**A great day out for the family along the valley floor of Glen Taitneach. A stunning valley with excellent views and generally lots of wildlife.**

Drive past the entrance to Dalmunzie Estate and over a humped back bridge, turn left into a grassed area just before the church and park.

This track takes you for 6km up the glen always keeping the river to the left. Look out for Golden Eagles.

At any point on the route if you choose to head home just turn around and retrace your steps returning down the glen.

At the head of the Glen the track starts to rise away in the distance climbing steeply past waterfalls to a remote lochan. It is here you should turn around and return the way you came.



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## Trail 7 Glas Tulaichean from Dalmunzie Castle Hotel



### Distance:

15 km round trip

### Height gain:

600m

### Duration :

4–6 hours

### Grade :

Hard

### Start grid ref :

NO 091712

### OS Map :

Landranger 43

Explorer 387

**This walk takes you up to the top of one of Scotland's 282 Munros with spectacular views of the Cairngorms and the Grampians.**

There is a vehicle track almost to the top but it must be remembered that in bad weather it is easy to get lost if you don't stay on this track. Park at Dalmunzie Castle Hotel where there is a small charge. From car park walk up the estate driveway for 200m and follow signs to Glas Tulaichean. After approximately 1km, where the track crosses the river, turn up right follow the old railway line (150m up the hill).

Continue along old railway line to the ruin of Glenlochsie Lodge, then follow hill track which takes you to within 300m of the top. The track levels off at grid reference 050759, turn east/right up hill 400m to the trig point at the top. When leaving the top please retrace your steps, do not leave the track in bad weather unless experienced.

This area is particularly sensitive during the stalking season, Monday to Friday, September, October and November. Please phone 01250 885226 for more information.



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## Trail 8 Glenlochsie from Spittal of Glenshee



### Distance:

10 km round trip

### Height gain:

100 - 200m

### Duration :

3 – 4 hours

### Grade :

Easy to Moderate

### Start grid ref :

NO 105701

### OS Map :

Landranger 43

Explorer 387

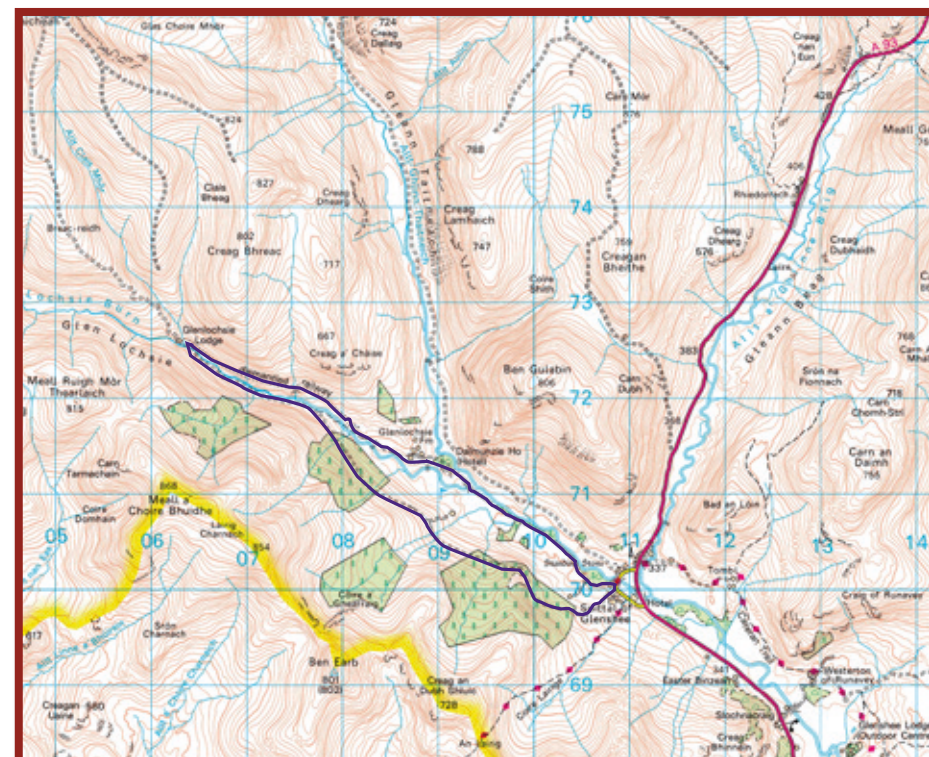
**This walk takes you along the south side and up the beautiful Glen of Glenlochsie. The views are stunning and the paths are easy to follow.**

Park 300m into Dalmunzie Estate, at Spittal of Glenshee, in the big layby on the right of the driveway. Walk back out of the Estate, turn right and then first right up a hill track, where there are signs for Glenbeag Mountain Lodges.

Follow this track through the chalets and up the hill to a forestry gate. Go through the gate and continue following the track for 4½ km, through 2 forestry blocks, until you reach the river where you can see the ruin of Glenlochsie Lodge 200 metres ahead.

If the water level is very low it may be possible to cross the burn at the Lodge and return along the north of the river via the old railway line and Hotel driveway to Spittal of Glenshee

Otherwise return by the route you came.



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## Trail 9 Dalmunzie Driveway

### Distance:

6.5 km round trip

### Duration :

Walking 2 hours

Cycling 1 hour

### Grade :

Easy

### Start grid ref :

NO 109701

### OS Map :

Landranger 43

Explorer 387

### A short but scenic walk that takes in some stunning scenery at the very head of Glenshee.

This area is regarded by the Royal Commission on the Ancient & Historical Monuments of Scotland as one of the finest examples of the pre-improvement period in Scotland and was once home to 150-200 people before the improvements of the 19th century.

This is a very short and easy walk for both walkers and cyclists but also for pushchairs.

Turn into Dalmunzie Estate, drive for 300 yards and park in the big layby on the right. Follow the driveway until you reach Dalmunzie Castle Hotel, which serves food and refreshments. Return via the same route.



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## Trail 10 Loch Beanie



### Distance:

6 km

### Height gain:

110 m

### Duration :

2 hours

### Grade :

Easy/Moderate

### Start grid ref :

NO 133683

### OS Map :

Landranger 43

Explorer 387

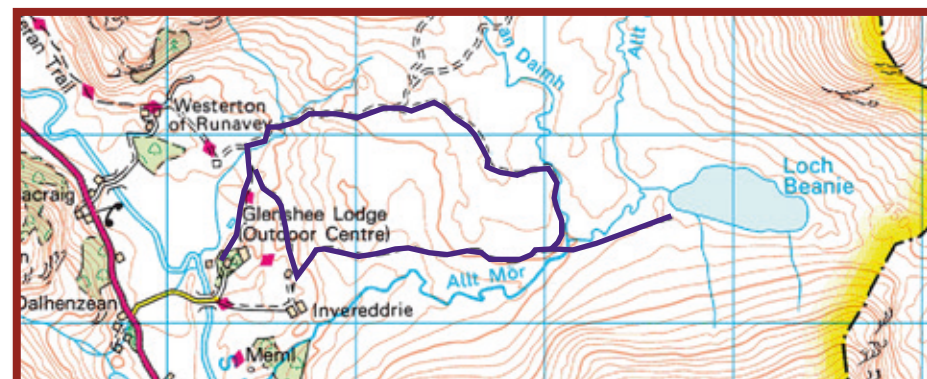


**A low level walk on a good track, but also a muddy path, across open moorland. A good location to observe nesting birds in the spring, and to see or hear red deer in the autumn.**

Car parking can be arranged in advance by calling the Compass Christian Centre on 01250 885209. From the Centre, pick up a landrover track heading north past a small pond, through a gate and then uphill to join an older track. Turn left onto this, passing through another gate through a wall and further on through a deer fence.

The track then takes you through open moorland and at a junction take the track to the right now heading southwest. Look out for a distant view of Loch Beanie opening up on the left before dropping down to a rather rickety footbridge!

In about ten minutes you arrive at the Loch by a small boat shed. To extend the walk, at the far (eastern) end of the loch there is a delightful sandy beach. It is also possible to continue the walk past the loch through Glen Beanie to Glenisla.



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To return to the start by a circular route, return to the footbridge, facing down stream pick up a rather indistinct path going parallel with, but away from, the river.

On reaching a deer fence, head right (away from the river) and go through a deer gate.

Please do not continue on the path by the river to Invereddrie Farm.

On the skyline you will see a strand of pine trees - head for the furthest left tree, by an old wall. Turn right following a short track to another gate. Go through this and head downhill to your start point entering the grounds of Gleshee Lodge over a stile.

## Trail 11 Enochdhu to Spittal of Glenshee

### Distance:

9.7 km

### Height gain:

381 m

### Duration :

Walking 4-6 hours

Cycling 2-3 hours

### Grade :

Walk Moderate

Cycle Hard

### Start grid ref :

NO 062628

### OS Map :

Landranger 43

Explorer 387



**A majestic trail through open countryside, with excellent views from the highpoint of the route overlooking the glens of Glenshee and Strathardle.**

Parts of this walk can be very boggy so wear suitable footwear.

From the main car park at Enochdhu cross the road and follow the waymarked estate road passing estate houses and working farms. Dirnanean Gardens are open during the summer for a small admission charge. Look out for signs naming the woods and their planting dates.

After approx 1.5km the track splits, ensure you take the track junction to the left keeping the fire tower to your right. Follow this track for approx 3km to the Lunch Hut. This is an ideal spot for a mid way break and is the only shelter on the route. Please complete the visitor's book before departing.

From the lunch hut continue along a faint but well-marked hill trail steeply towards the Col. Wooden posts clearly mark the trail. At the summit of the Col there can be excellent views on a good day.

From the Col descend steeply initially towards the Spittal of Glenshee. Again this is a faint trail but is well-marked with wooden posts. This walk can be done in both directions.



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## Trail 12 Mount Blair

### Distance:

7 km

### Height gain:

472 m

### Duration :

Walking 3-4 hours

### Grade :

Walk Hard

### Start grid ref :

NO 149604

### OS Map :

Landranger 43

Explorer 387

**Mount Blair dominates the southern entrance to Glenshee and is now easily identifiable by the communications mast on top. The views from its summit are fantastic: Glenshee and Glenisla to the North, the North Sea to the East, Schiehallion to the West and Strathmore and the Sidlaws to the South.**

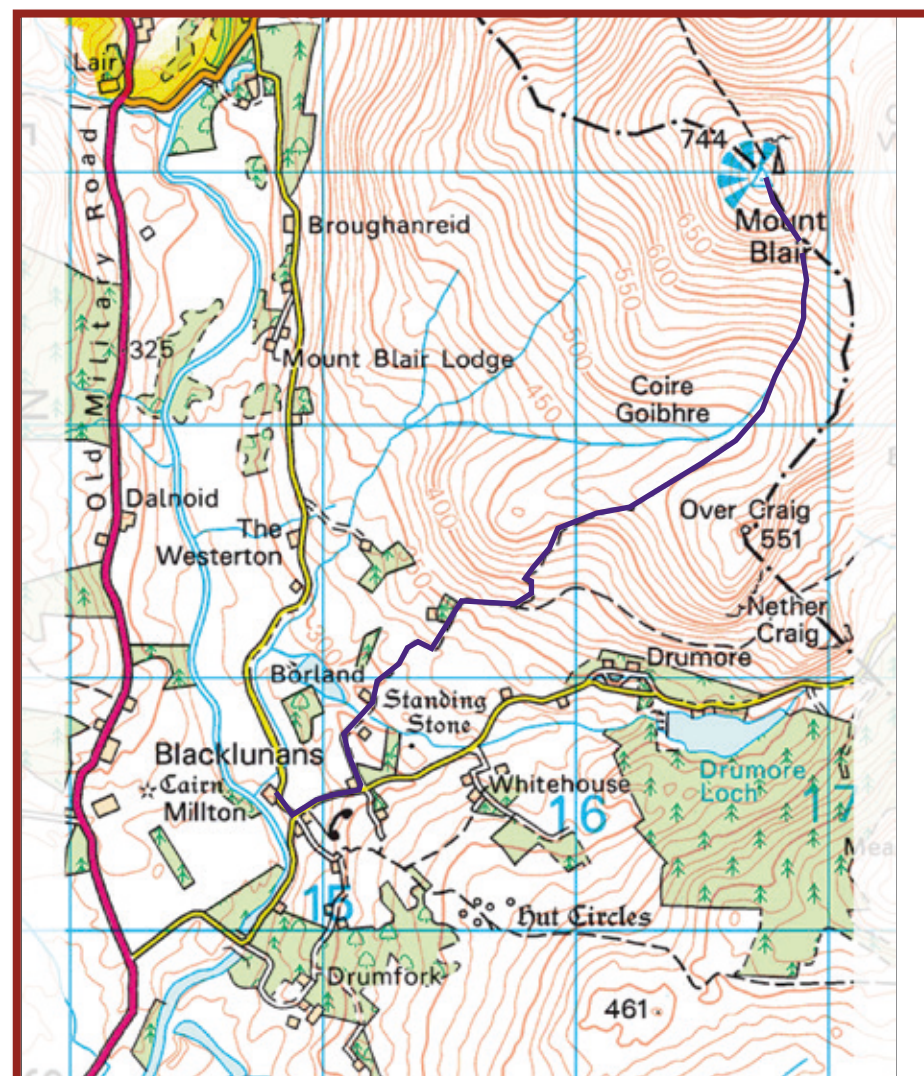
Park at the junction by the phone box on the Blacklunans & Drumore minor road linking the A93 with Glenisla. Head North up the road for 200m and take the first left by an old fank (shed/barn). The track winds its way up hill passing an old mill and the Borland farm before reaching the enormous and impressive lime kiln at the Coldrach. Continue on the track past the lime kiln to the gate onto the hill.

Turn right and follow the track up the hill diagonally into Coire Goibhre.

When the track peters out head due east over rough ground for 200m until you reach the dry stone wall, near an obvious dip in the ridge, locally The Glack of the Barnetts.

Cross the wall and follow a narrow path all the way to the summit crossing two stiles on the way up.

Return via same route.



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## Trail 13 Auchintaple Loch

### Distance:

6 km

### Height gain:

160 m

### Duration :

Walking 1–1.5 hours

Cycling 30–45 mins

### Grade :

Moderate

### Start grid ref :

NO 187648

### OS Map :

Landranger 43/44

Explorer 387

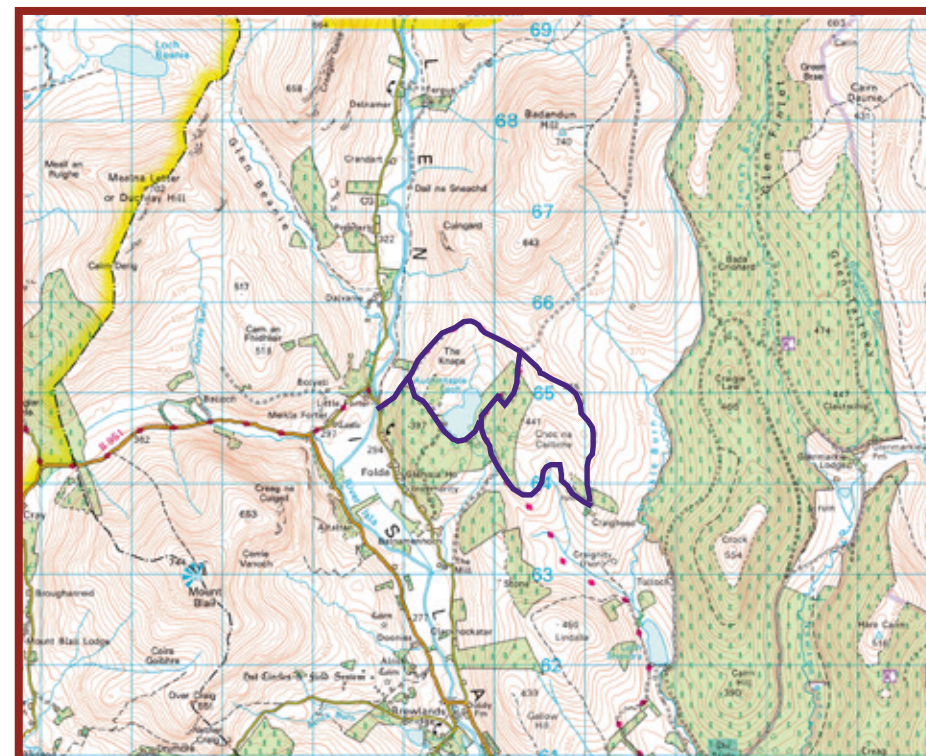


## This is a very scenic trail around Auchintaple Loch in Glenisla.

Park at the layby at the corner of the forest, just south of the bridge over the River Isla at Little Forter. Just north of the layby is a gate and a large stile, follow the Landrover track (and the Cateran Trail) up the hill north east for approximately 500m then bear right following the road up to the Loch.

Stay on the road passing the boathouse on your left, follow the track around the loch through some gates then it changes to a path going round the bottom end of the loch (watch the stones here!). Once over the manmade dam cut up through the heather, using a faint path towards the road, then follow the road north through the trees to a gate and junction. Take the road left going north west and follow this back to the layby. (At this junction you can also turn right and follow the second loop on the map to add another 4–5km to the walk).

At the top end of this trail there is access to a large number of paths and tracks that lie between Glenmarkie forest and the top half of Glenisla. A good look at the OS Map will reveal a selection of other interesting routes.



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## Trail 14 Loch Shandra Glenisla

### Distance:

2.5 km

### Height gain:

30m

### Duration :

Walking 1 hour

Cycling 30-40 mins

### Grade :

Easy

### Start grid ref :

NO 224608

### OS Map :

Landranger 44

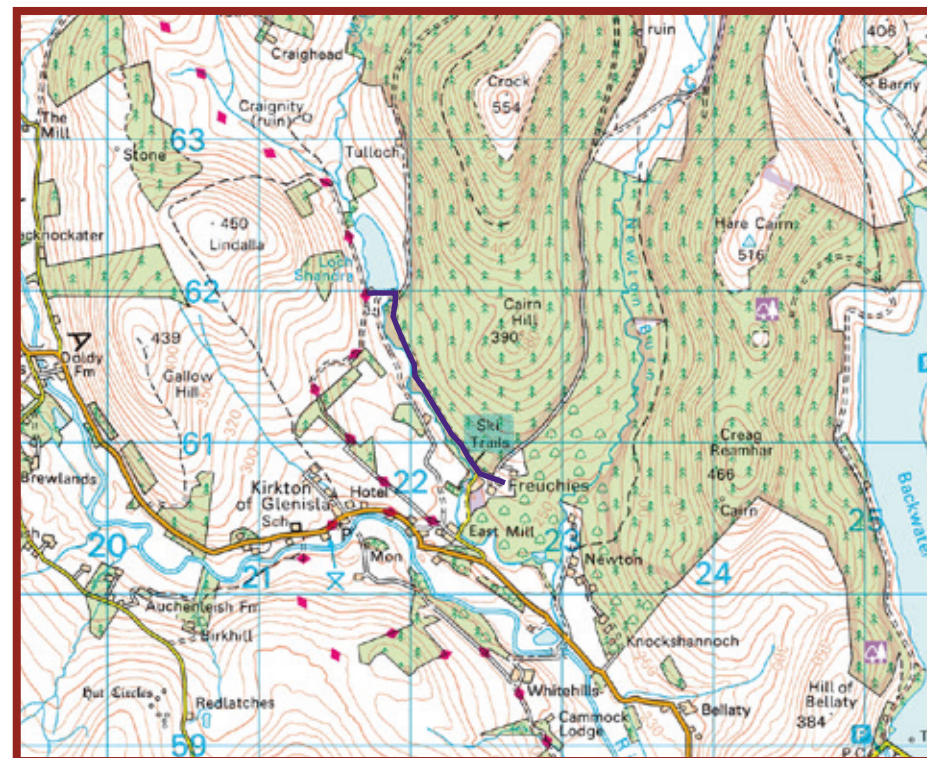
Explorer 381/388

**This is a really easy walk and ride brilliant for young children who are learning to control a bike. The trail to the loch involves a little uphill and adults may have to push children on bikes, but it is broken up by one or two small downhill bits.**

Park at the small car park at Freuchies (the southerly end of Glen Isla Forest). Follow the forestry road north west for approx 1.5 km till you see a gate on your left, go through the gate and you will see Loch Shandra ahead of you. The area by the boathouse is an excellent location for a picnic but please be aware that Loch Shandra is a popular fishing loch and ensure you don't disturb anyone who may be fishing here.

Return the same way you came, please ensure you close the gate by the entrance to the Loch.

On the way back down make sure children on bikes are under supervision and can use their brakes as the forest road is mainly downhill and is occasionally used by vehicles.



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## Trail 15 Cray to Blacklunans

### Distance:

6.8 km

### Height gain:

50 m

### Duration :

Walking 2 hours

Cycling 1 1/2 hours

### Grade :

Walking/Cycling Easy

### Start grid ref :

NO 148635

### OS Map :

Landranger 43

Explorer 387

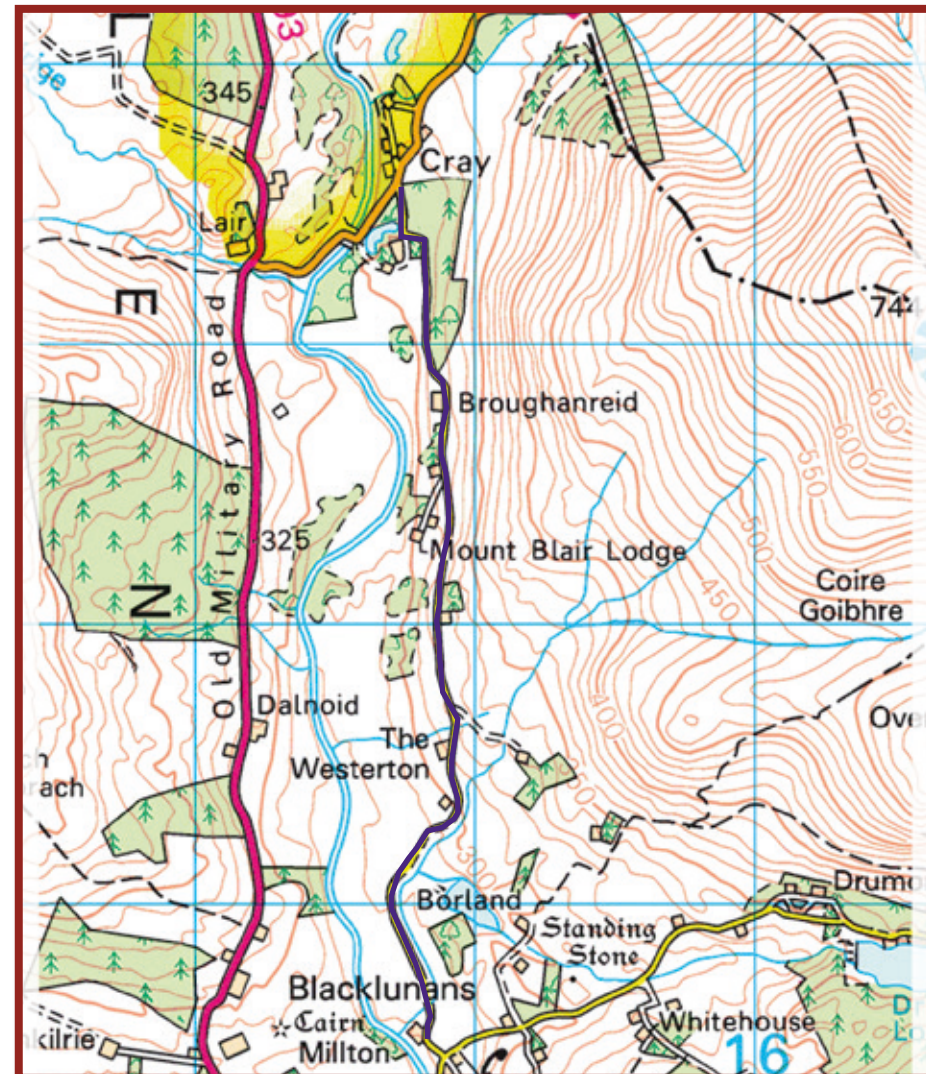
**A delightful walk/cycle route for all abilities and ages on the quiet, unclassified public lane running along the foot of Mount Blair from Cray to Blacklunans.**

From the A93, take the B951 eastwards from just to the south of the Wee House of Glenshee and Visitor Centre. Cross the river and drive past Cray House. Turn right at the old church and find a suitable parking space ensuring that you do not block the road or entry to the two or three private driveways.

The route takes you along the full length of the unclassified lane from Cray to Blacklunans. Initially you will pass by woodland on either side where you will often spot a red squirrel or deer. The route then gently twists and undulates through native woodland, heather moorland and farmland from Cray to The Westerton giving superb views across the Blackwater to the hills above The Lair, Dalnoid and Glenkilrie. The route then drops slightly down through farmland to Blacklunans.

Return via the same route.

Whilst the lane has very little traffic please ensure children and dogs are kept under supervision at all times.



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We ask that you respect any notices relating to shooting, farming and estate activities.

## Trail 16 Cochrage Muir

### Distance:

10.5 km

### Duration:

Walking 1-2 hours

Cycling 0.5 - 1 hour

### Grade:

Moderate

### Start grid ref:

NO 138512

### OS Map:

Landranger 53

Explorer 379/381/387

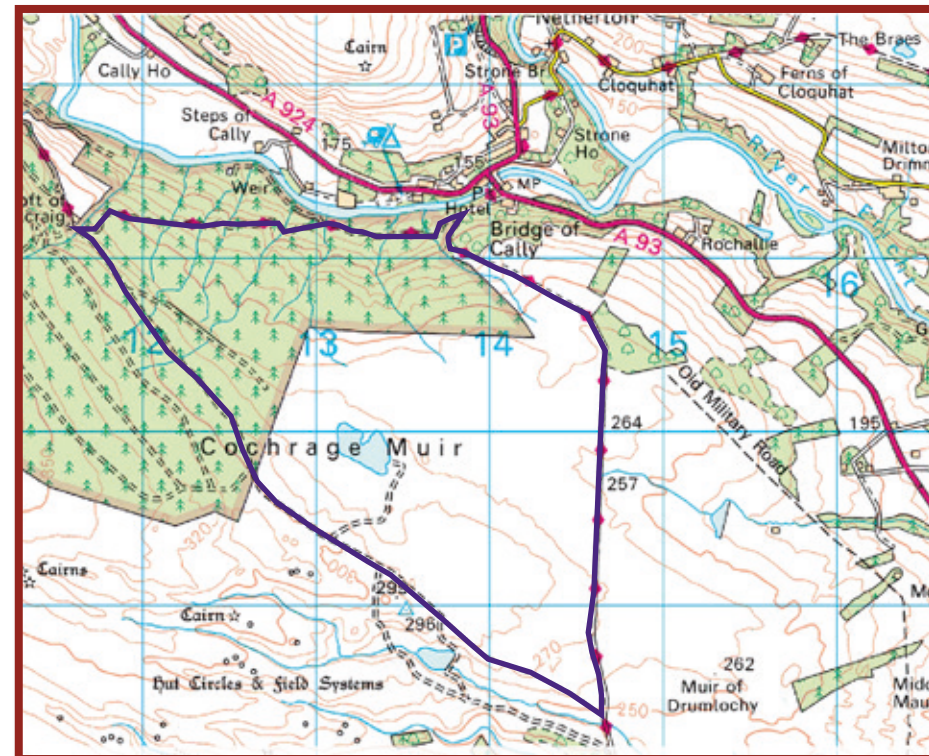
This is a nice circular walk and ride mostly on forestry and landrover tracks. The reason it has a moderate grade is because it starts with a 2 km climb which isn't everyone's cup of tea, and ends with a normally boggy ride down a landrover track.

Park at the car park about 500m up the forestry road next to the Bridge of Cally hotel.

Start at the gate at the car park and follow the road up for about 2km. Take the first road on the left and follow this for another 2km and look for where the forestry road turns right but a smaller landrover track goes straight on up the hill (then bears left through a gate).

Follow the landrover track (don't turn off it to the larger loch on the left, keep going past another small Loch on the right) to where it meets the Cateran Trail.

Follow the Cateran Trail back towards Bridge of Cally. This part can be quite wet and boggy. Continue through four or five gates down towards the forest road. When you meet the forest road, you need to turn left back to the car park.



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## Trail 17 Bridge of Cally River Walk and Blackcraig Forest

### Distance:

Up to 14km

### Height gain:

Up to 290 m  
depending on route

### Duration :

Walking from 0.5 -  
4 hours

### Grade :

Walk & Cycle  
Easy to Moderate

### Start grid ref :

NO 141513

### OS Map :

Landranger 53  
Explorer 387

### Blackcraig Forest is a commercial forest managed by Forestry Commission Scotland.

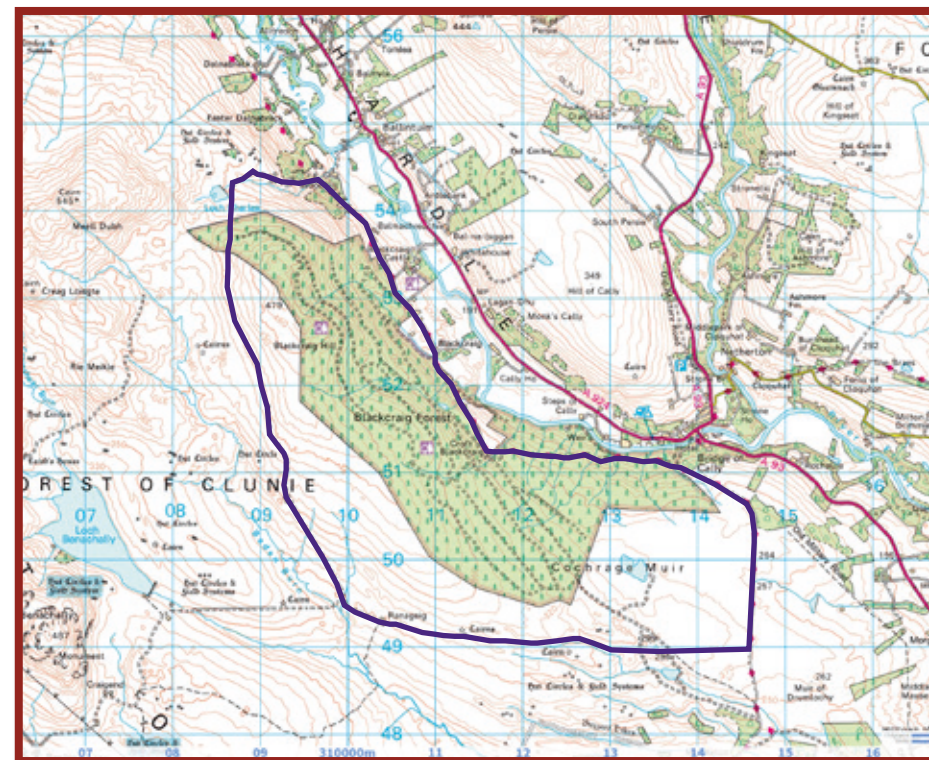
The best starting point for both mountain bikers and walkers is a small track which runs immediately behind the Bridge of Cally Hotel. (There is a small car parking area about 400m along this track, additional car parking is available in the hotel car park nearby).

The forest extends northwards along Strathardle and there are over 8miles/14km of tracks to explore (only some of which are way marked). Mountain bikers looking for a longer ride can also follow the CATERAN Trail from Bridge of Cally to Kirkmichael before retracing their route, or else returning on the A924.

For walkers there is a shorter route lasting only 20 minutes, following the track behind the Bridge of Cally Hotel to just before the entrance gates into the Forest then follow the signed footpath along the riverbank back to the Hotel.

Wildlife watchers are likely to see red squirrels, roe deer and buzzards.

Refreshments are available all day at the Bridge of Cally Hotel; there is also a small post office/shop at Bridge of Cally which sells snacks and drinks.



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## Trail 18-21 Kirkmichael Path Network

**Distance:**  
0.8 km – 8 km

**Duration:**  
40 mins – 5 hours

**Grade:**  
Walk: Easy to Hard  
Cycle: Easy to Hard

**OS Map:**  
Landranger 43  
OS Explorer 387

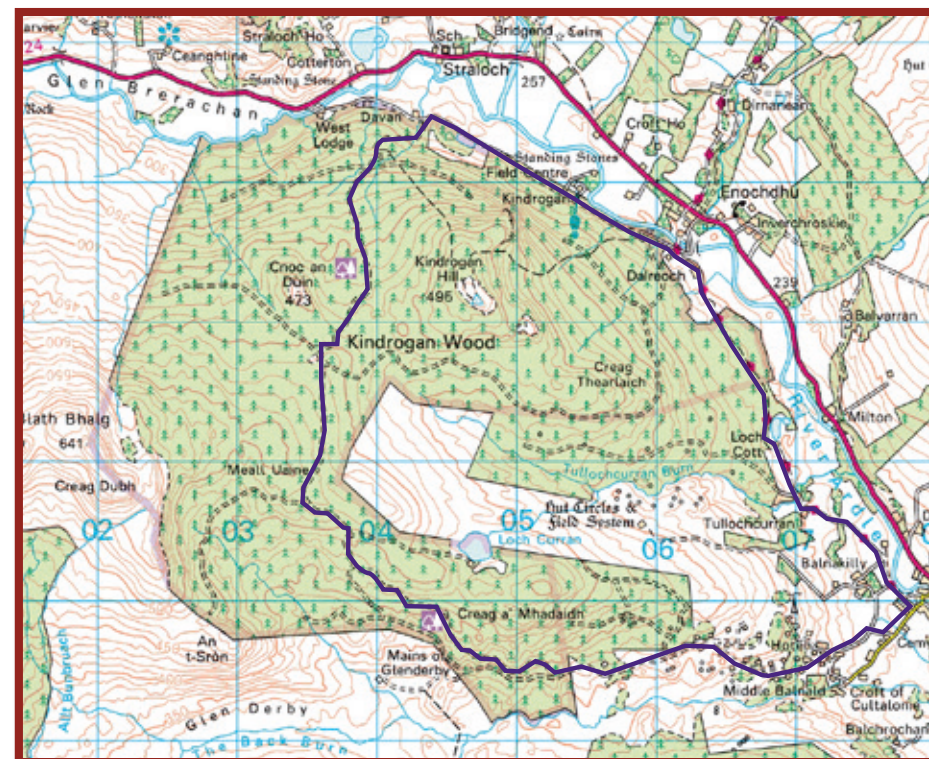
**4 Routes in and around Kirkmichael on the new Path Network offer something for everyone. From short walks around the village to a long route into Kindrogan Forest, great for mountain bikers or those seeking a longer adventure.**

Kirkmichael is on the A924 between the Bridge of Cally and Pitlochry.

Pages 50 and 51 show the routes, interpretation panels along the way highlight and explain the fascinating history and landscape of the area.

Kirkmichael is one of the 7 villages connected by the Catteran Trail (64 miles - see Trail 1). The Path Network also ventures into Kindrogan Forest (see Trail 22).

The village also offers a community run shop with a wide range of food and drink. A specific leaflet on the Kirkmichael Path Network can be picked up in local shops and visitor centres.



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# DISCOVER THE BEAUTY OF KIRKMICHAEL



## EXPLORE IN AND AROUND KIRKMICHAEL

ONE OF SEVEN VILLAGES CONNECTED BY THE CATERAN TRAIL - A 64-MILE CIRCULAR WALKING ROUTE THROUGH THE HEART OF SCOTLAND - KIRKMICHAEL IS A HIDDEN GEM SITTING IN THE KIND OF SCOTLAND WALKERS DREAM OF.

Distance to Kirkmichael (miles)  
Edinburgh: 72 | Glasgow: 87 | Dundee: 31 | Perth: 28



The path network was created by the Mount Blair Community Trust and the Perth & Kinross Countryside Trust so local people and visitors can explore this stunning area.

Visit [www.pkct.org](http://www.pkct.org) | [www.mountblaircdt.org](http://www.mountblaircdt.org) to discover more

Visit [www.pkct.org](http://www.pkct.org) | [www.mountblaircdt.org](http://www.mountblaircdt.org) to discover more

### EXPLORE OVER TEN MILES OF WAYMARKED PATHS AROUND THE TRANQUIL VILLAGE OF KIRKMICHAEL.

**Kirkmichael**  
Set in idyllic countryside 13 miles from Blairgowrie and 12 miles from Pitlochry, Kirkmichael provides an ideal destination for anyone who enjoys the great outdoors. Highlights of the village include the village shop run by a community interest company offering a wide range of food and drink, household supplies and an excellent café.

**Enjoy Scotland's outdoors responsibly**

- take responsibility for your own actions
- respect the interests of other people
- care for the environment.

**KNOW THE CODE BEFORE YOU GO**  
[scotlandsoverseas.com](http://scotlandsoverseas.com) [outdooraccess-scotland.com](http://outdooraccess-scotland.com)



The four routes of the Kirkmichael Path Network each offer something different, from short walks around the village to a long route into Kindrogan Forest, which is great for mountain bikers, horse riders or those seeking a long-distance adventure. Interpretation panels along the way highlight and explain the fascinating history and landscape of the area. The map inside this leaflet shows details of the four trails that make up the Kirkmichael Path Network.



Perth and Kinross Countryside Trust is a registered charity that provides, improves and promotes access to the countryside for walkers, cyclists and horse riders.



The Mount Blair Community Development Trust aims to improve the quality of life for all sectors of the community living, working or visiting within the Mount Blair Community Council area.

### Kindrogan Loop

Kindrogan has miles of tracks for walkers, mountain bikers and horse riders. The long tracks will suit anyone who has endurance and a sense of adventure! If time allows visit Loch Curran with its abundance of wildlife, it's a beautiful place for those seeking solitude.

Mostly wide gravel tracks and quiet roads. Some uneven steeper sections. Return to Kirkmichael by using the Cateran Trail. Long distances so allow sufficient time.



5 miles / 8 km  
Allow 5 hours

### Riverside Loop

This short walk next to the River Arde provides the perfect introduction to the Kirkmichael Path Network. Legend has it that the name Arde is derived from a Pictish warrior who was killed in a battle at Enochdhu.

Mostly smooth gravel tracks. Take care on village roads. Two flights of steep steps.



0.5 miles / 0.8 km  
Allow 40 minutes

### Village Loop

The village of Kirkmichael has lots to offer with links to miles of waymarked trails and wonderful countryside with great pubs and accommodation. This short route takes you on a quick tour of the village. The name Kirkmichael means 'The Church of St Michael'.

Mostly smooth tarmac quiet roads.



1.2 miles / 2 km  
Allow 50 minutes

**Cateran Trail**  
Passing through Kirkmichael, the Cateran Trail travels through 64 miles of stunning countryside.

**Kindrogan Loop**  
Kindrogan Forest provides the ideal habitat for the elusive and rare pine marten.

**Riverside Loop**  
Although quiet now, the Bannerfield was once a site for a massive Clan gathering.

**Pitcarmick Loop**  
A bird that travels great distances osprey have been recorded flying over Loch Curran.

**Village Loop**

**Round Houses**  
For over 2000 years from the early Bronze Age, our ancestors lived in round houses.

**Dirnanean**  
Dirnanean Garden is open from 1st June to the end of August. The garden consists of a Victorian Burn Walk which has been recently re-discovered. Set in a designed landscape the garden includes shrubbery, a walled garden, vegetable garden and orchard.

**Bannerfield**  
Although quiet now, the Bannerfield was once a site for a massive Clan gathering.

**Osprey**  
A bird that travels great distances osprey have been recorded flying over Loch Curran.

**Pine Marten**  
Kindrogan Forest provides the ideal habitat for the elusive and rare pine marten.

**Scale: 1:600**

Project funded and supported by:



### Pitcarmick Loop

A stunning route through varied landscapes of birch and pine woodlands, heather moorland and fields with livestock. From Glen Derby, the path enters open ground with scattered birch and scots pine. The return route offers amazing views of the surrounding countryside.

Quiet roads and farm tracks, mostly grassy paths through open countryside. Some steep sections and wet ground at any time of year. Some boardwalk and gates. Two bridges to cross.



3.5 miles / 5.6 km  
Allow 2.5 hours

## Trail 22 Kindrogan Short Walk

### Distance:

3.5 km

### Duration:

Walking 1 1/2 hours

Cycling 45 minutes

### Grade:

Easy

### Start grid ref:

062626

### OS Map:

Landranger 43

A short and level linear trail suitable for pushchairs and wheelchairs on a good landrover track through scenic Strathardle. The trail takes you alongside Kindrogan Wood where you may see a wide range of wildlife including birds, red squirrels and roe deer.

Start at the east end of the route at the car park at Enochdhu, pass in front of the row of cottages and turn right over the bridge to cross the River Arde.

On crossing the bridge turn right, keeping an eye out for the marker stone showing where Queen Victoria stopped for tea on her way from Balmoral to Dunkeld. The stone is on the river bank just below the trail on a parallel track down by the river.

Continue along the track passing by the Field Studies Council's Kindrogan Centre and then on for a further 2 kilometres to West Lodge and the end of the Kindrogan Drive where it joins the main road. Return to the car park via the same route.

For the energetic walker, the walk can be extended by taking in Kindrogan Hill – look for the way markers before reaching the Cateran Trail signpost.

*Note: The path to Kindrogan Hill is currently affected by windblown trees (at time of print 2017).*



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# balnabea

luxury self catering near glenshee



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## Clan MacThomas Society

Combie, McColm, McComas, McComb(e),  
McCombie, McComie, McComish,  
MacOmie, MacOmish, Tam, Thom,  
Thomas, Thoms, Thomson

MacThomas clansfolk settled in Glenshee around 1450. The Clan Society owns land at Clach na Coileach on the A93 just North of the B951 junction. It is signposted and visitors are most welcome.

For more information please collect our leaflet from the Visitor Centre at the Wee House of Glenshee or visit our website:

[www.clanmacthomas.com](http://www.clanmacthomas.com)

## East & West Cromald Cottages

2 modern well-presented & equipped semi-detached cottages each sleeping 5 near Bridge of Cally. Close to Cateran Trail, Visit Scotland 4 star, all heating, electricity, towels and bed linen included. Wood burning stove. Pets welcome.

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[stay@cromaldcottages.co.uk](mailto:stay@cromaldcottages.co.uk)  
01250 886391





## Mountain Summits: your instructor and guide in the mountains of Scotland

Providing instruction and guiding in all aspects of mountaineering, from navigation and rock climbing to winter mountaineering and ice climbing, Mountain Summits is situated in the Southern Cairngorms. Based in the unique Strathardle Glen near Glenshee, 10 miles east of Pitlochry, we are accessible by both road and train. For all our existing and future clients from Glasgow and Edinburgh, we are just 1hr 45 mins by car, making it suitable for day, weekend and full week adventures!

### Mountain Summits



**Andrew Mallinson**  
Professional Mountaineer

East Lodge, Kindrogan, Enochdhu,  
Kirkmichael, Perthshire PH10 7PF

07801-852798

andrewmallinson@btinternet.com  
www.mountainsummits.co.uk

## Glenbeag Mountain Lodges

Log cabins with Hot Tubs - Self Catering - Sleeping from 2-5 persons. All cabins with Wi-Fi, outside hot tubs and undisturbed panoramic views over majestic mountainous surrounds. Most cabins with saunas, some accept pets. Located within the Cairngorm National Park with numerous walks and trails on the doorstep.

Glenbeag Mountain Lodges

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[www.glenbeag.co.uk](http://www.glenbeag.co.uk) | [logcabins@glenbeag.co.uk](mailto:logcabins@glenbeag.co.uk)

3 and 4 star VisitScotland grading



## Gulabin Lodge Outdoor Centre

Gulabin Lodge Outdoor Centre: Various activities available all year round including a Ski School during the winter months. Accommodation for 50, meals provided, all ages and abilities catered for. Go For It at Gulabin!



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Perthshire PH10 7QE  
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[info@gulabinoutdoors.co.uk](mailto:info@gulabinoutdoors.co.uk)  
[www.facebook.com/gulabinlodge](http://www.facebook.com/gulabinlodge)

# Experience the beauty, history and passion of East Perthshire



Tucked into the Highland hills, the Gateway to the Cairngorms, but only about 90 minutes' drive from Edinburgh or Glasgow. For scenery like ours you might have thought you'd have to drive a lot further!

Make your base with us and you're within easy reach of just about anything you'd want to do in Scotland, in countryside or town, in the mountains on the doorstep or even by the sea, as the unspoilt Angus coastline is less than an hour's drive.

We like to think East Perthshire ticks a lot of boxes for the ideal Scottish break –

especially if it involves unwinding, recharging and enjoying the breeze on the heather and the panorama of soaring hill-slopes. But, if you want to get active, walk and climb, golf, fish or cycle, ski, visit historic places like Glamis Castle or the family attractions in Dundee, shop or discover the gourmet delights – there's something for everyone.

Simply the ideal centre for a Scottish holiday.

Visit [www.caterancountry.com](http://www.caterancountry.com) for further details about what East Perthshire has to offer you.

*visiteastperthshire*

[www.caterancountry.com](http://www.caterancountry.com)





# WEE HOUSE OF GLENSHEE



## Visit the Wee House of Glenshee

**Tearoom, Gift Shop & Visitor Centre on the A93 in Glenshee**

After a day on the hills relax in our cosy tearoom in front of the woodburner!

Great selection of cakes and scones all home-baked, light lunches and hearty soups, coffees, teas, hot chocolates and soft drinks.

Browse our gift shop with its' extensive range of local and Scottish gifts and produce, as well as an extensive range of local maps and walking guides.

Visit the Glenshee & Strathardle Visitor Centre for information on heritage, wildlife and walking in the area, and to pick up copies of our accommodation and activity leaflets. Leaflets and information are also available for the Cairngorms National Park and further afield. Free Wifi

Open Daily 10am – 5pm from Easter to the end of October, reduced opening times throughout the rest of the year, check our Facebook page for details.

Wee House of Glenshee, A93, Glenshee, Blairgowrie PH10 7LP  
Tel. 01250 882238 Email. [info@weehouseofglenshee.co.uk](mailto:info@weehouseofglenshee.co.uk)

## Glenkilrie Bed & Breakfast



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Accommodation consists of two double rooms and one twin room all ensuite. Guests lounge with open fire, television and tea facilities.

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Glenkilrie, Blacklunans, Blairgowrie  
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[glenkilrie@btinternet.com](mailto:glenkilrie@btinternet.com) [www.glenkilrie.co.uk](http://www.glenkilrie.co.uk)



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## Dalmunzie Estate



Our 7 traditional stone built highland cottages and one large luxury house offer self catering accommodation set amongst the spectacular scenery of a beautiful 6,500 estate at the gateway to the Cairngorm National Park.

Explore the estate by walking or perhaps try dry stalking or shooting for the day and have a chance to see red deer, roe deer, grouse, ptarmigan, blackcock, eagles, peregrine, hares and other wildlife. Enjoy a days fishing for brown trout in the burn or loch. And we're only 6 miles from Glenshee Ski Centre, therefore an ideal base for snow sport enthusiasts! We also have our own 9 hole golf course to enjoy too.

For all enquiries please phone 01250 885226 or email [info@dalmunzieestate.com](mailto:info@dalmunzieestate.com).  
For further info visit our website [www.dalmunzieestate.com](http://www.dalmunzieestate.com)

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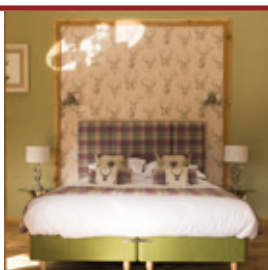
[WWW.SOLIDLUXURY.CO.UK](http://WWW.SOLIDLUXURY.CO.UK)



### Glenshee Treehouse

The Glenshee Treehouse is an architect designed, octagonal building sitting on an elevated platform amidst centuries old Scots Pine trees. Perfect for honeymoons, special occasions or simply to get away from it all!

Luxury accommodation for couples, breathtaking views of Glenshee, hot tub, woodburner and wifi.



### Dalnoid Holiday Cottages

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Dalnoid Holiday Cottages, Glenshee, Blairgowrie PH10 7LR Tel. 01250 882200



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***“Looking forward not back in creating and protecting your wealth”***

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# Visitor Centre

located at the

## WEE HOUSE OF GLEN SHEE



Come to the Wee House of Glenshee which incorporates the local Visitor and Information Centre for the area. Find Accommodation, Activities, Maps, Walking Guides and learn about the local history of the area. From tents to castles, from skiing to llama trekking, from Cateran Trail to short walks - we have it all here. Don't just drive through, take advantage of the area and enjoy one of the most beautiful areas hidden in the heart of Highland Perthshire. And while you are here take advantage of the Wee House with its cosy tearoom and wealth of Scottish crafts.

**Tel: 01250 882238**

**E-mail: [info@glenofthefairies.co.uk](mailto:info@glenofthefairies.co.uk)**

**To learn more about us and the area,  
take a look at the website  
[www.glenofthefairies.co.uk](http://www.glenofthefairies.co.uk)**

**On A93 to Glenshee at the entrance to  
the Cairngorms National Park**