



Walks in and around Ballater



Walks from Hostel front door

Walk No.	Name of Walk	Miles	Total Ascent (feet)	Type	Drive to start required?	Drive	Bus available	Starting Grid Reference	Notes
Hostel own routes									
1	Craig Coillich	1.66	660	Challenging	No, walk starts from hostel front door	0 mins	N/A	NO 37146 95712	A very short steep climb - a climb that features in the Ballater Highland Games every August in the famous Hill Race (bear this in mind when you walk it). Drop back via the MacKenzie monument. For further details on the Hill Race (or to take part in the hostel version and earn your place on the wall) peruse the display under the window in the dining area.
2	Up Craigendarroch	2.22	673	Moderate	No, walk starts from hostel front door	0 mins	N/A	NO 37146 95712	Craigendarroch means Hill of the Oaks and was the inspiration behind our Ballater Hostel logo. The acorn and leaf on the logo were drawn from an actual acorn and leaf from Craigendarroch, now framed in our office. Lovely circular evening walk (worth the climb) with amazing views over Ballater from the top.
3	Around Craigendarroch	2.32	544	Moderate	No, walk starts from hostel front door	0 mins	N/A	NO 37146 95712	Instead of going up, why not go around Craigendarroch. A lovely woodland walk, with a small climb at the start, but then an undulating meandering route through the wood and ending up back in the village.
4	River Dee circular (golf course)	2.45	51	Leisurely	No, walk starts from hostel front door	0 mins	N/A	NO 37146 95712	Flat walk with a few stony patches. Excellent demonstration of the effect the December 2015 flood had on the local landscape. Look out for the Ballater Curling Club pond just before the campsite.
5	River Dee up to Stables	4.16	404	Leisurely	No, walk starts from hostel front door	0 mins	N/A	NO 37146 95712	An extension to the River Dee (golf course) route, taking in a wee part of the old railway line that never was (it was partially built but stopped by Queen Victoria).
6	Abergairn Castle via Craigendarroch	5.05	1,221	Moderate	No, walk starts from hostel front door	0 mins	N/A	NO 37146 95712	Head up Craigendarroch first, then onto little known, rather hidden Abergairn Castle. Return by the river. Abergairn Castle is a ruined castle, built in 1614, possibly as a hunting lodge. Abergairn castle was a tower-house - a rectangular keep 3-4 stories tall with an attached round tower. As of 1921 there was only about 10 feet or less left of the main building, now only the basement remains. The main tower survives only to a maximum height of 4 feet; a round tower to the north west reaches to 10 feet. There was some repointing in 1960 which has stabilised the structure. Little is known about this ruined tower (history of the castle has been lost) which was in possession of the Farquharson's.
7	Cambus O May (back route)	6.68	699	Moderate	No, walk starts from hostel front door	0 mins	N/A	NO 37146 95712	Once you reach Cambus O May the walk can easily be extended to encompass some of the Cambus O May forest trails (all signed), or a walk up Cnoc Dubh (see walk 15), or a walk to the Muir of Dinnet National Nature Reserve (where, again, there are plenty of signed routes). Riverside Cottage cafe highly recommended (on A93, at entrance to Cambus O May, just before you return on the Deeside Way). Return along Deeside Way - look out for the Farquharson Monument on your left (just off the path through a gate, but signed).
8	Seven (well, Nine) Bridges	6.8	538	Leisurely	No, walk starts from hostel front door	0 mins	N/A	NO 37146 95712	A classic route around Ballater. Although labelled as the Seven Bridges walk we count at least nine!
9	Knock Hill, via Seven Bridges & Back Passage	7.28	823	Moderate	No, walk starts from hostel front door	0 mins	N/A	NO 37146 95712	An extension to the classic seven bridges route, taking in little known Knock Hill. A wee scramble off route is required to get to the top but you rewarded with a cairn in the middle of the woods. To get down again follow the fence line through the woods (easy walking). You then take in some of Prince Charles' "Back Passage" - a back route he uses when visiting his Birkhall home.
10	Sgor Buidhe & Creagan Riabhach	7.5	1,310	Moderate	No, walk starts from hostel front door	0 mins	N/A	NO 37146 95712	Worth the climb at the start! A walk north of Ballater, to the top of Sgor Buidhe and behind to Creagan Riabhach. From here it is a superb high moorland walk taking in splendid views to Lochnagar and Mount Keen. You then descend quiet sharply behind Abergairn Castle (worth a detour) back into the village.

Walks from Hostel front door

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Hostel own routes									
11	Cambus O May Suspension Bridge	7.69	656	Leisurely	No, walk starts from hostel front door	0 mins	N/A	NO 37146 95712	Originally a circular route crossing over the river at the Cambus O May bridge and coming back along the Deeside Way. Since Dec 2015 and Storm Frank, the route now follows a large track heading through Pannanich Wood before descending to the road. Crossing the road and turning right, follow the road briefing before turning left onto a wide track. Follow this track all through the woods (signed all the way) to Cambus O May bridge. Return via the narrow path by the river. Eventually this path re-joins the out route to almost the road. Just before joining the road turn right into the fields. Follow the fields (at one point dropping down to the river edge) back to the Council Depot site on the edge of Ballater. Lovely river/forest walk to see the extent of the damage to our lovely Cambus O May bridge (when the floods hit the river was above the bridge - bear that in mind when you view it).
12	Pannanich Hill via Corriearn & Craig Vallich	8.55	1,658	Moderate	No, walk starts from hostel front door	0 mins	N/A	NO 37146 95712	Great views of Morven, Mount Keen & Ballater area from the top. Look out for a statue of a hare half way up Pannanich Hill! At GR 380921 there is a stalking hut - great if it's a bit windy and/or you need to get out the weather for a bit.
13	Peter's Hill	10.04	1,903	Moderate	No, walk starts from hostel front door	0 mins	N/A	NO 37146 95712	Taking you right out of the crowds to a wee hill behind Sgor Buidhe. Once you've climbed Sgor Buidhe it is a very pleasant (you've done all the climbing!) high level walk with rolling hills all around you. On a good day the views are awesome. The return route takes you past an old enclosure and along some magnificent ancient green roads. You end up behind Abergarin Castle (worth a detour) before heading back into the village.
14	Coyles of Muick, via Prince of Wales cairn	11.49	1,992	Challenging	No, walk starts from hostel front door	0 mins	N/A	NO 37146 95712	Just because it is on the map! This route does require some map reading skills. The Coyles of Muick can be seen from Ballater, but this route takes you past Birkhall (Prince Charles Scottish residence) and onto the ancient Prince of Wales cairn that is on an OS map. The cairn is somewhat lower than it was in its hey day (fallen over) and the views are a bit more overgrown (trees), but the achievement of finding it outweighs all this. Would recommend taking a compass and be prepared to clamber up a very rocky/boulder filled hillside (all doable, we did it with Ari on our back). Return via The Green Mile.
15	Cairn Leuchen	11.83	2,359	Challenging	No, walk starts from hostel front door	0 mins	N/A	NO 37146 95712	A superb high level ridge route, extending a walk up Pannanich Hill to a further peak along the ridge. Look out for Leuchen the Hare and the ancient chapel hidden in the trees right at the end.
16	Cambus o' May, Burn o' Vat & Cnoc Dubh	12.26	1,674	Challenging	No, walk starts from hostel front door	0 mins	N/A	NO 37146 95712	Take the back route to Cambus O May continuing on through to reach the Burn O Vat at the Muir of Dinnet. You immediately leave the Burn to climb to the top of a wee hill (Cnoc Dubh) with amazing views over to Lochnagar and the Lochs of Dinnet. Descending back down towards the old railway line, diverting off to see the old outdoor swimming pool at the Cambus O May Hotel. Return to Ballater via the old line.
17	Morven (from Ballater)	14.38	2,981	Challenging	No, walk starts from hostel front door	0 mins	N/A	NO 37146 95712	A superb route from Ballater all the way to top of Morven, our closest Corbett. A long day, but worth it for the views, both from the top, on the descent looking towards Mount Keen and when you return, looking back to say "I've been there"! Paths all the way bar coming off the top - take a compass bearing and descend until you hit the main path circumnavigating the hill.
Routes by other people									
45	Mackenzie Memorial Walk	0.75		Leisurely	No, walk starts from hostel front door	0 mins	N/A	NO 37146 95712	Explore beautiful birch woods and soak up the view at the Mackenzie Memorial. Could extend on the Pannanich Woods Circular Walk.
46	Pannanich Woods Circular Walk	1.5		Leisurely	No, walk starts from hostel front door	0 mins	N/A	NO 37146 95712	A short walk in the woods east of the river from Ballater, taking in the Dalmochie lumber camp. Dalmochie: This site is now a picnic table surrounded by what appear to be three corners of a log cabin. There is concrete and brick underfoot indicating that there once was some sort of a construction here and the four corners each have a plaque telling you the history of the spot. In World War II Britain badly needed more timber, but there was a shortage of able-bodied, skilled men to produce it. The British government sent out a plea for aid and Newfoundland, a province of Canada, responded by forming The Newfoundland Overseas Forestry Unit. Newfoundland lumberjacks who volunteered for the unit were sent to locations in the UK including here, at Dalmochie near Ballater, to fell trees and produce the timber the country needed. The camp was built in 1940. The full camp consisted of a cookhouse, a recreation hut and three bunkhouses with capacity to sleep over a hundred men. Rough hewn logs were used to build the huts with moss stuffed between the logs to keep out the wind. Initially the felled trunks were loaded onto trucks and taken to Ballater railway station. In the winter of 1941 though deep snow covered the slopes and ponies with sleds were used to carry the trunks down the hill and to a newly constructed sawmill. You can also find evidence of the lumber camp and the men who worked there in Tullich churchyard. Two headstones commemorate Newfoundlanders who died working in Deeside.

Walks that require transport to get to start

Walk No.	Name of Walk	Miles	Total Ascent (feet)	Type	Drive to start required?	Drive	Bus available	Starting Grid Reference	Notes
Hostel own routes									
18	Poldhu Wells	1.19	49	Leisurely	Yes	14 mins	No	NJ 43504 04409	Two Wells - about 20 metres apart from each other - can be seen on map as blue dots. In the 16th and 17th centuries mineral springs became popular among royalty and the well-to-do. A sort of hot tub experience, but without the heat perhaps. Ordinary people would also take the waters at local mineral springs for relaxation or to seek specific cures. Logie Coldstone is home to the little known Poldhu Wells. The granite-lined mineral springs of Poldhu Wells were once believed to have curative properties and were, for a long period, a popular attraction for those seeking healing waters. The great gale of 1953 caused widespread damage to the woodland around Logie Coldstone and Poldhu Wells was devastated when the violent storms brought down the trees around the site and with time, a rhododendron thicket enveloped the wells and hid them from sight of the casual observer. Following a chance discovery by members of the Cromar History Group of a 1912 postcard showing a photograph of the Poldhu Wells the group decided they wanted to try and return the wells to their original historical condition. During 2008 they removed vegetation surrounding the wells, dug drains to take away water that was flowing from the forest floor above it, consolidated and refurbished the stonework, unblocked culverts and constructed new entries to the culverts. A new path was also laid between the wells and a new bridge was built to replace the Victorian one that had vanished in around 1912.
19	Linn of Dee via Salmon Ladder	2.06	247	Leisurely	Yes	39 mins	No	NO 06319 89732	A pleasant flat river walk taking in a very good representation of an old salmon ladder. Can be easily extended as time allows.
20	Meall Alvie	2.61	817	Moderate	Yes	21 mins	Yes	NO 18815 91270	A small hill standing on its own, not far from the Invercauld car park. The path disappears before the top but take a compass and you'll find it. There is a cairn at the top too!
21	Balmoral Cairns - short route (4 cairns in total)	2.78	777	Moderate	Yes	15 mins	Yes	NO 26504 94153	Cairns: Princess Helena, Princess Louise, Purchase Cairn, Prince Leopold Turn right at the first bend to the estate houses at Easter Balmoral. Turn left immediately and follow the road uphill past a number of picturesque cottages. After the last house go through the wooden gate and almost immediately turn right onto a path which doubles back slightly to pass behind the cottage to reach a path junction where you turn left into the pines. Continue through the trees above a small gorge and cross the bridge. Bear right at the junction onto a wider path. The first cairn can be difficult to find, after just 50m or so from the path junction look for a very faint trod uphill on the left and head up this; there is a faint path which leads to Princess Helena's cairn. Return to the path by the same route and turn left. Continue until Princess Louise's cairn on a rocky knoll on the left. The easiest way to visit the base of this cairn is to continue past it on the main path and then take a clear path on the left that leads back to it. The next cairn is reached by a short detour to the right from the path. The Purchase Cairn was erected in October 1852 to commemorate the purchase of the estate by Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. There is a lovely view down Deeside. Return to the main path and continue downhill. Keep right where the path forks and soon Prince Leopold's cairn is reached by a short detour to the left. This cairn directly overlooks Balmoral Castle. From here return to the main path and turn left. Follow this path all the way down the hill passing the statue of John Brown on your right. Eventually you reach the path you came out on. Turn left behind the cottage and follow the path back to the wooden gate and road. Turn left back to Easter Balmoral.
22	Tom An Lagain & Creag Phiobaidh	3.1	720	Moderate	Yes	06 mins	No	NO 34080 95085	A couple of low lying standalone hills, off the beaten track, on route up to the Coyles of Muick. Good views, moorland, quiet.
23	Alltcailleach Forest	3.11	497	Moderate	Yes	07 mins	No	NO 35098 93073	Park by "Road Closed sign". Short walk with multiple extensions possible. Lovely forest tracks that you can just get lost in.
24	Spittal of Glenmuick	3.29	212	Leisurely	Yes	19 mins	No	NO 30990 85153	A shorter walk if you don't have the time to walk all the way around Loch Muick. Good chance you'll see deer.

Walks that require transport to get to start

Walk No.	Name of Walk	Miles	Total Ascent (feet)	Type	Drive to start required?	Drive	Bus available	Starting Grid Reference	Notes
Hostel own routes									
25	Ballochbuie Forest to Waterfalls	3.47	469	Leisurely	Yes	21 mins	Yes	NO 18815 91270	Beautiful walk through Ballochbuie Forest – one of the largest remaining areas of Caledonian Pine Forest in Scotland. An amazing place to walk, also on the Balmoral estate. This walk takes you to the "Bridge to Nowhere" - a substantial bridge that just, well, goes nowhere.
26	The Fungle	3.68	615	Moderate	Yes	17 mins	No	NO 52925 97377	Circular walk through forest near Aboyne, descending by The Fungle (an old drove road) and ending by a wee loch.
27	Mona Gowan via Scraulac & Cairnagour Hill	4.26	1,345	Moderate	Yes	19 mins	No	NJ 30281 05235	We did this walk in thigh deep snow (hence the "there and back" route) - it is possible though to make it into a circular walk, going south of Mona Gowan and then walking back along the road (north west direction) back to car.
28	Ballochbuie Forest to Waterfalls, via Royal Hut	4.81	741	Moderate	Yes	21 mins	Yes	NO 18815 91270	Beautiful walk through Ballochbuie Forest – one of the largest remaining areas of Caledonian Pine Forest in Scotland. An amazing place to walk, also on the Balmoral estate. This walk takes you to the Royals BBQ hut (great place for a flask of tea) and then onto the "Bridge to Nowhere" - a substantial bridge that just, well, goes nowhere.
29	Balmoral Cairns - long route (8 cairns in total)	4.97	1,184	Moderate	Yes	15 mins	Yes	NO 26504 94153	<p>Cairns: Princess Helena, Princess Louise, Purchase Cairn, Prince Leopold, Prince Arthur, Princess Alice, Prince Albert, Princess Beatrice</p> <p>Turn right at the first bend to the estate houses at Easter Balmoral. Turn left immediately and follow the road uphill past a number of picturesque cottages. After the last house go through the wooden gate and almost immediately turn right onto a path which doubles back slightly to pass behind the cottage to reach a path junction where you turn left into the pines. Continue through the trees above a small gorge and cross the bridge. Bear right at the junction onto a wider path.</p> <p>The first cairn can be difficult to find, after just 50m or so from the path junction look for a very faint trod uphill on the left and head up this; there is a faint path which leads to Princess Helena's cairn. Return to the path by the same route and turn left. Continue until Princess Louise's cairn on a rocky knoll on the left. The easiest way to visit the base of this cairn is to continue past it on the main path and then take a clear path on the left that leads back to it. The next cairn is reached by a short detour to the right from the path. The Purchase Cairn was erected in October 1852 to commemorate the purchase of the estate by Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. There is a lovely view down Deeside. Return to the main path and continue downhill. Keep right where the path forks and soon Prince Leopold's cairn is reached by a short detour to the left. This cairn directly overlooks Balmoral Castle. From here return to the main path and turn right to retrace your steps to the earlier junction where you go straight on. After a short distance keep your eye out for a faint path running through the woods on the right. This leads to Prince Arthur's cairn. The cairn has a good outlook over Deeside. From here return to the main path and turn right and then turn right at the next junction. At the next junction turn left onto a narrower path through the pines. This eventually passes Princess Alice's cairn.</p> <p>Continue on the grassy track which curves right and heads downhill to meet another grassy track (a surfaced track is visible ahead but stay on the higher track). Turn left, following this until it emerges onto the main track. Turn left and follow this, to reach a gate. Go through this and turn right, following a track that briefly dips and then climbs through the woods. Before the end of the trees look out for a path on the left, opposite a small boulder. This heads steeply up to eventually reach the massive stone pyramid erected for Prince Albert. Follow the path leading south east from the cairn. This soon bends to the left to head northwards downhill on a well made path. After passing an open area with a view of the distillery, pass Princess Beatrice's cairn amongst the trees. Go through a metal gate to reach the road taken on the outward route. Turn right to pass the estate houses and turn right at Easter Balmoral to return to the minor road.</p>
30	Black Hill	5.25	1,215	Moderate	Yes	19 mins	No	NO 30990 85153	A quiet Graham Top, behind Loch Muick, not climbed that often (Loch Muick gets all the attention). Excellent stalkers hut near top for tea/lunch/cake stop. No path from the top down to the river but grouse butts easily followed. Return via beautiful river valley path.
31	Morven (from Groddie)	5.48	2,147	Challenging	Yes	16 mins	No	NJ 41102 04313	Splendid Corbett. This route is the quickest route up. The initial "straight up" path isn't on the OS map but it's there on the ground! Steep climb but once you've reached "Little Cairn" the going gets much easier. It is possible to walk up Morven direct from the hostel but we haven't done it yet - but we know the route so do ask if you're interested.

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Hostel own routes									
32	Carnferg	5.69	1,332	Moderate	Yes	21 mins	No	NO 54589 96309	Lovely walk up to the top of Carnferg (trig point a top!), starting off through forest, and ending on moorland. Superb views from the top. Was rather windy when we went!
33	Geallaig Hill	6.08	1,350	Moderate	Yes	15 mins	No	NJ 28085 00052	A really quiet Graham behind Ballater. Plenty of parking in large layby. Possibly to see Balmoral en route. Good circular walk to get away from it all.
34	Coyles of Muick, via Back Passage & Green Mile	7.32	1,634	Moderate	Yes	06 mins	No	NO 34080 95085	Start along Prince Charles' "Back Passage" - a back route he uses when visiting his Birkhall home. You then ascend forest tracks, before going slightly off path (path on map doesn't exist - easy scramble/walk) to reach the main Green Mile path at the top. Final push and you have fantastic views from the top of the Coyles over Ballater and beyond. Descend by the Green Mile - a popular downhill mountain bike route.
35	Ballochbuie Forest, to the southern most point	6.31	1,225	Moderate	Yes	21 mins	Yes	NO 18815 91270	Beautiful walk through Ballochbuie Forest – one of the largest remaining areas of Caledonian Pine Forest in Scotland. An amazing place to walk, also on the Balmoral estate. This walk takes you to the southern most tip of the Ballochbuie Forest. For those inclined you can continue up onto the Lochnagar range. Return via a path that's obviously not been walked in a very long ("it's on the map, so must be there!") and don't forget to enjoy a flask of tea at one of the Royals BBQ huts.
36	The Cairnwell, Carn a' Gheoidh & Carn Aosda	7.21	2,152	Challenging	Yes	37 mins	No	NO 13905 78103	Three Munros in one day - with The Cairnwell probably the easiest Munro in Scotland. You start by Glenshee Ski Centre, thus at the top of the hill! Walk underneath the ski lift and within 40 minutes you're at the top. Continue onto Carn a' Gheoidh before returning via Carn Aosda.
37	Loch Muick Circular - low route	7.41	707	Leisurely	Yes	19 mins	No	NO 30990 85153	Very beautiful area - a must whilst you are here - experience the real Cairngorms. Very popular with deer.
38	Conachcraig	7.42	1,908	Moderate	Yes	19 mins	No	NO 30990 85153	Nice Corbett next door to Lochnagar (Ari's first when she was just a few months old!). Easy ascent (path all the way) , with a fine descent over moorland.
39	Loch Muick Circular - high route	9.93	1,557	Moderate	Yes	19 mins	No	NO 30990 85153	An alternative route around Loch Muick taking in the high ridge to the south. Excellent views of Loch Muick from valley head.
40	Carn an t-Sagairt Mor (from Braemar)	10.96	2,387	Challenging	Yes	29 mins	Partly, to Braemar, 2 mile walk to start	NO 15603 88224	
41	Lochnagar	12.05	3,559	Challenging	Yes	19 mins	No	NO 30990 85153	Classic trip up a much loved Munro. Good paths all the way to the top, with excellent views (on a good day!) from the top. Descending by Glasallt waterfalls is a must (excellent coffee stop) before the awe inspiring views over Loch Muick open up as you descend to the shore line and return to the car by the loch.
42	Carn an t-Sagairt Mor & Carn a Choire Bhoideach (from Ballochbuie)	15.21	3,968	Challenging	Yes	21 mins	Yes	NO 18815 91270	
43	Glen Lui & Dee via base of Lairig Ghru	16.23	1,252	Challenging	Yes	39 mins	No	NO 06319 89732	Walk that goes up to Derry Lodge, west to the base/start of the Lairig Ghru and then back via the River Dee.
44	Broad Cairn & Cairn Bannoch	16.68	3,659	Challenging	Yes	19 mins	No	NO 30990 85153	

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Routes by other people									
47	Lochside Trail (blue)	0.5		Leisurely	Yes	04 mins	Yes	NO 40487 98083	A short loop around the west lochan, where you may see damselflies and dragonflies dancing over the water. Firm but uneven gravel surface. Some short steep slopes with single uneven rock steps. Parts may be slightly grassy or muddy.
48	Two Lochan Trail (red)	1.5		Leisurely	Yes	04 mins	Yes	NO 40487 98083	Wander beneath majestic Douglas firs to reach a pair of picture-perfect lochans nestled amid the pines. Uneven gravel surface with some slightly grassy and muddy parts. Some steep slopes with one flight of wooden steps. Includes three bridges.
49	Pine Tree Trail (yellow)	3		Moderate	Yes	04 mins	Yes	NO 40487 98083	A longer tour through the tranquil pine forest, which is home to red squirrels, capercaillie and black grouse. Uneven gravel surface with some rocky and muddy parts. Some steep slopes. Includes three bridges and some exposed tree roots.
50	Juniper (blue)	0.5		Leisurely	Yes	16 mins	Partly, to Aboyne, walk into Glen Tanar	NO 48010 96549	A short route from the car park to a viewpoint overlooking the glen. Grassy paths with a few short, steep climbs. The Juniper Trail goes through a mix of habitats rich in insect life. Small flowering plants, Juniper scrub and broad-leaved trees all attract moths, butterflies and many other types of insect. Birds are also attracted to the area to nest, to feed in the trees and on other plants, and to eat the insects.
51	Chapel (yellow)	1		Leisurely	Yes	16 mins	Partly, to Aboyne, walk into Glen Tanar	NO 48010 96549	A gentle walk by the river and through meadows to the chapel of St Lesmo. Long ago this was an inn for drovers taking herds of cattle through the mountain passes. Not it's popular for weddings. Crushed stone and grass surfaces, mainly level with no steep slopes.
52	Knockie Viewpoint (red)	2.5		Leisurely	Yes	16 mins	Partly, to Aboyne, walk into Glen Tanar	NO 48010 96549	For a taste of the glen's forest and a glimpse of the moorland beyond, try this route. You'll pass the chapel and the river on the way. Crushed stone and grass surfaces. Some long but mainly gentle slopes.
53	Fairy Lochan (white)	3		Leisurely	Yes	16 mins	Partly, to Aboyne, walk into Glen Tanar	NO 48010 96549	This path passes the chapel on the way to the romantically-named Fairy Lochan: a great place to spot dragonflies in summer. Beyond the loch, the path runs through pine forest and back along the Water of Tanar. Crushed stone and grass surfaces. Some short, gentle slopes.
54	Old Pines (green)	6		Moderate	Yes	16 mins	Partly, to Aboyne, walk into Glen Tanar	NO 48010 96549	This path takes you to the heart of Glen Tanar's magnificent forest, an is never far from the sparkling Water of Tanar. Crushed stone and grass surfaces. Some short, gentle slopes.
55	The Linn walk	0.5		Leisurely	Yes	39 mins	No	NO 06319 89732	Leaving the car park by the short path adjacent to the entrance, follow the sign across the road to where the path leads you down a flight of stone steps to arrive at the viewpoint. Here you can enjoy the rush of water and spectacular rock formations as the River Dee, flowing down from its source in the Cairngorms, cascades through the narrow gorge. Keep to the path to avoid the slippery rocks. Cross the road (watch for traffic) at the steps by the bridge to view the upstream side, and follow the network of paths to return to the car park.
56	River Dee woodland walk	1		Leisurely	Yes	39 mins	No	NO 06319 89732	Extend the Linn walk by following the path east from the viewpoint along the River Dee. Carpeted with moss and pine needles, the route takes you through a mature stand of Scots pine and Douglas firs. Look out for a glimpse of a red squirrel – their feeding signs of gnawed cones are all around. The river here is a protected habitat. Otters frequent its banks, and salmon head upstream to spawn. In springtime you may be lucky enough to spot fish among the rocky pools of the Linn. You can either return to the car park or continue your walk across the road and into Glen Lui.

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Routes by other people									
57	The Vat Trail	0.8		Leisurely	Yes	08 mins	No	NO 42967 99720	A short circuit that will take you to the Vat (MacGregor's Cave) and a viewpoint across Loch Kinord.
58	Parkin's Moss Trail	1.9		Leisurely	Yes	08 mins	No	NO 42967 99720	Raised bogs are mysterious places where the ground is more water than solid earth. Find out just what makes them so special – there's a boardwalk so you can keep your feet dry.
59	Little Ord Trail	2.5		Leisurely	Yes	08 mins	No	NO 42967 99720	People have lived on the Reserve for thousands of years – on this trail you can explore some of the traces they've left behind.
60	Loch Kinord Trail	3.7		Leisurely	Yes	08 mins	No	NO 42967 99720	A circular route around the loch that takes you through Muir of Dinnet's woodland, with beautiful views across the water. There's a good link path from Dinnet village.
61	All-abilities trail (orange)	0.75		Leisurely	Yes	15 mins	Yes	NJ 48151 04399	A flat walk on a smooth gravel path. A pleasant walk through the woods around Alastrean house, with good views south over the Howe of Cromar.
62	Drummy Woods and Stone Circle (brown)	2.49		Moderate	Yes	15 mins	Yes	NJ 48151 04399	An interesting ramble out to Tomnaverie stone circle with views over the Howe of Cromar and to Lochnagar, returning through Drummy Wood. Mostly gentle or moderate slopes with one short fairly steep climb. Mainly grass and earth paths with several narrow sections and several gates and stiles.
63	Alastrean Woods (green)	3.11		Leisurely	Yes	15 mins	Yes	NJ 48151 04399	A pleasant walk exploring the countryside to the east of Tarland. Good for observing wildlife. Gentle except for one 250m long moderate climb. Mostly on tarmac or firm gravel with a grassy section that can get wet after rain.
64	Corrachree (yellow)	3.73		Moderate	Yes	15 mins	Yes	NJ 48151 04399	A low-level route around Drummy Muir with a spur to Knockargety hill, the site of an ancient hill fortification with panoramic views over the Dee valley. Mostly gentle but with one 250m long fairly steep climb. One narrow section. Can be very wet and muddy after rain. One gate.
65	The Tarland Way (Aboyne to Tarland)	6.21		Moderate	Yes	15 mins	Yes	NJ 48151 04399	The route starts at the entrance to the Kemsley Green housing development in Aboyne, where the new route follows the line of the Aboyne to Tarland road. It then crosses the road and winds down to the new bridge across the Tarland Burn. The track then continues through scenic and varied countryside until it reaches the Coull road near Coull Manse. Originally the remainder of the route was along the quiet Coull road into Tarland. Whilst it is still possible to follow this route an off road alternative is now in place. In 2015 a grass path was created along the South side of the Tarland Burn all the way from the bridge at Coull to the bridge in Tarland.
66	Pittenderich (red)	7.15		Challenging	Yes	15 mins	Yes	NJ 48151 04399	A circular route to a large cairn high above Tarland with panoramic views over the Howe of Cromar. A long (3km) fairly steep climb mostly on firm gravel or grass. A short grass section on the descent can be quite muddy. 2km of tarmac to finish. Two gates.
67	The Old Drove Road (black)	7.46		Challenging	Yes	15 mins	Yes	NJ 48151 04399	A walk around the eastern side of the village, visiting Tomnaverie stone circle and following an old drove road to a viewpoint high above the howe. Includes parts of the brown and blue routes. A long (1500m) moderate climb with a shorter (300m) fairly steep climb. Mostly gravel or grass with a field to cross. Several gates.
68	Tarland Skyline (blue)	9.63		Challenging	Yes	15 mins	Yes	NJ 48151 04399	A circular walk taking you right to the top of Pressendye, with fantastic views over the Howe of Cromar and towards the Cairngorm mountains. A long (4km) fairly steep climb, with an additional 400m moderate climb later on. Mostly gravel or grass with some rough sections and 3km of tarmac. Several gates.
69	Deeside Way - Aboyne to Ballater	11		Moderate	Yes, but linear walk so recommend bus	15 mins	Yes	NO 52783 98601	Take bus to Aboyne (or anywhere along route) and walk back. Follow the old railway line back to Ballater, passing some excellent platform remains at Ballater, Cambus O May & Dinnet.