

# Pitlochry Path Network



Discover the Pitlochry Paths network which covers more than 41 miles of paths, tracks and quiet roads and links Pitlochry with the settlements of Killiecrankie, Moulin and Strathtay. Intended as circular routes from Pitlochry you can also choose to start/finish at alternative car parks marked on the map and/or use public transport to shorten some of the longer routes.

Use the paths to explore the area and discover its rich heritage both past and present.

You can meander through miles of peaceful woodland on generally level waterside paths drinking in stunning views and enjoying listening to and watching for the wild inhabitants. At the other extreme you can work up a sweat on steep hill and moorland trails to reach the highest viewpoints of Ben Vrackie, Craigower or Craig Fonvuick, and gaze out over highland Perthshire to more distant horizons.

Views and wildlife change with the passing seasons so there's always something different to see. While on higher ground you may get a glimpse of a golden eagle or be lucky enough to see a mountain hare, grouse or red deer. In the woods watch out for the flash of a red squirrel as it scoots to safety up the nearest tree.

This land is also steeped in historical interest so keep your eyes open for signs of past times, such as Caisteal Dubh east of Moulin, and imagine the landscape and lives of long ago.

There really is something for everyone.

Further information on the paths, wildlife and history of the area can be most easily found at the Tourist Information Centre, Atholl Rd, Pitlochry and the National Trust for Scotland (NTS) Killiecrankie Visitor Centre (open April - October). Moulin Kirk and Atholl Palace Hotel Museum both offer lots of information about local history and are well worth a visit.

For path and access enquiries contact:

Perth & Kinross Council, Community Greenspace on 01738 475000











#### Craigower Path •••••

Distance: 6 miles/91/2km Approx time: 3½ hrs

Start/finish: Car parks at Pitlochry (Ferry Rd, Atholl Rd)

Links to: Killiecrankie Path

If starting in Pitlochry you will pass the Cuilc, originally a pit to extract marl used for agricultural fertiliser, it is now a lovely, peaceful pond. You can then either follow the path across the golf course or go around by the guiet road. Interestingly, the Old North Road was once the main route and you will be following in the footsteps of Robert the Bruce (1306), Mary Queen of Scots (1564) and those marching to the Battle of Killiecrankie (1689).

Craigower Hill (the goat's crag) is owned by the National Trust for Scotland and provides wonderful views across Perthshire. Look westwards towards Loch Tummel and Glencoe, south to The Lomonds in Fife, and pick out the unmistakable cone shaped peak of Schiehallion to the west.

#### Ben Vrackie

Distance: 5 miles/8 kms Climb: 700 m Approx time: 4hrs

Start/finish: Ben Vrackie car park **Bealach Path** Links to:

Note: The weather can be unpredictable and the terrain is challenging. Please make sure you are properly equipped.

Leave the Bealach Path and stroll past the pretty upland Loch a' Coire, then climb the steep but well made hill path to the summit of Ben Vrackie (speckled mountain). You will see sheep grazing the hills so if you have a dog make sure it is under close control and look out for glimpses of mountain hare or red grouse, and see if you can spot interesting plants, insects, frogs or lizards in the heather beside the path.

This isolated hill is very exposed to the wind, but gives wonderful panoramic views over virtually the whole of Perthshire and far beyond on a clear day. The nearby Beinn a' Ghlo with the Cairngorms rising behind are particularly stunning.

#### Bealach Path ••••

11 miles/171/2km Distance:

Approx time: 6hrs

Start/finish: Car parks at Pitlochry (Ferry Rd, Atholl Rd)

Path to Ben Vrackie summit. Links to:

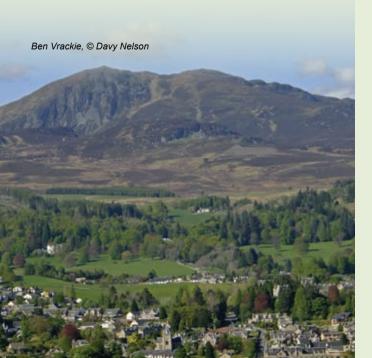
Killiecrankie Path for a low level

waterside route

Note: The weather can be unpredictable and the terrain is challenging on the higher parts of this path. Please make sure you are properly equipped.

This circular path links Pitlochry and Killiecrankie using both high moorland and waterside paths.

Enjoy the energetic uphill walk by way of the Bealach but don't forget to pause to look down over Pitlochry and Killiecrankie. Keep a look out for grouse, eagle, deer and mountain hares. If you want a rest stop, visit NTS's Killiecrankie Visitor Centre (open April-Oct). On the other half of the route you pass along wooded river and lochside on sheltered and generally easy paths, passing through the very lovely Pass of Killiecrankie and by the peaceful and photogenic Loch



#### Killiecrankie Path •••••

Distance: 12 miles/19km

Approx time: 6 hrs

Start/finish: Car parks at Pitlochry (Ferry Rd, Atholl Rd)

Links to: Bealach Path at Killiecrankie & at

Garry & Clunie Bridges to make shorter waterside loops.

**Craigower Path and Craig Fonvuick** Paths to add challenging high

viewpoint climbs.

This circular path links Pitlochry and Killiecrankie. On the western part of the loop you follow the water using quiet roads and peaceful waterside paths.

Crossing the River Tummel by the secluded Coronation Bridge gets you to the spectacular Linn of Tummel, a great spot to rest and soak up your surroundings.

From the riverside path rejoin the road via steep steps to Garry Bridge and look down to wonderful views of the River Garry.

If you want a longer walk and wider views pick up the challenging Craig Fonvuick Path from the quiet road link with Killiecrankie.

Soldier's Leap. On the eastern part of the loop you climb up to forest tracks above the road and gain both good views and a link to the Craigower Path before

Stop at the NTS Visitor Centre in

Killiecrankie to find out more about Photo Art the famous Pass of Killiecrankie and passing through Moulin and descending by the quiet road to Pitlochry.



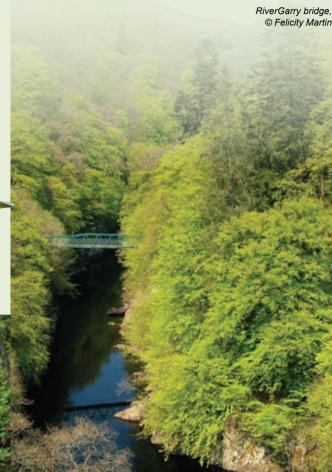
#### **Moulin Path** •••••

Distance: 31/2 miles/6km Approx time: 2 hrs

Start/finish: Atholl Road car park, Pitlochry NB Atholl Palace Hotel has an interesting museum.

This short path leads you through Moulin which before the construction of the railway in 1865 was a large and important Pictish town and the site of the earliest Church in Atholl.

Using the link path, visit the ruins of Caisteal Dubh (the black castle) south east of Moulin and read the information board which tells you that the castle was built (c1326) on a crannog (artificial island) in the centre of a loch!



#### Edradour Path •••••

3 miles/5km Distance: Approx time: 1½ hrs Start/finish: Atholl Road

Follow the path through Black Spout Wood and step onto the viewing platform overlooking the impressive sixty metre high Black Spout waterfall. Take time to savour the peace and tranquillity of the wood, look down to notice the rich woodland floor while listening to the calls of the birds which are often hard to spot amongst the leafy canopy.

Continue on to Milton of Edradour following the Edradour Burn, and pass the smallest distillery in Scotland, established in 1825. The Blair Atholi Distillery in Pitlochry which you will also pass was founded in 1798 and is one of the oldest in Scotland. Both offer guided tours providing popular visitor attractions during the summer months.

#### Craig Fonvuick •••••

Distance: 21/2 miles / 4 kms Climb of: 250m Approx time: 2 hrs

Start/finish: Killiecrankie or Garry Bridge car park

Links to: Killiecrankie Path

Note: The weather can be unpredictable and the terrain is challenging. Please make sure you are properly equipped.

The path passes through Tulach Hill Special Area of Conservation which is a Natura 2000 wildlife site of European importance. It is home to a

number of unusual plants and some very rare snails. Please respect their special habitats.

The path is steep and narrow in places but offers you a lovely walk passing though scattered birch woodland at the northern end and crossing high moorland on top. Craig Fonvuick rewards your effort with views of Glen Girnaig rising above Killiecrankie and northwards to Blair Atholl. The path at the southern end is steep and zig zags through woodland and lower grazing ground to join the road.

#### Clunie Path ••••• (& Strathtay) •••••

Distance

Clunie Circuit:7 miles/ 12 kms

Climb: 300m Approx time: 4 hrs

Distance to

Strathtay: 4 miles/ 61/2kms Climb: 260m Approx time: 21/2 hrs

Start/finish: Ferry Rd car park Pitlochry

or Strathtay

Note there is an hourly bus (Mon-Sat) between Grandtully (near Strathtay) and Pitlochry.

From Pitlochry car park you pass through Bobbin Mill Wood where a mill producing bobbins from birch trees once worked. Enjoy crossing the river on Portna-Craig suspension bridge before very carefully crossing the A9. Pick up the steep forest path to Fonab Hill and look out for the standing stones of Clachan an Diridh where the path splits. You can either turn north towards open moor on the Clunie circuit, where you will enjoy wonderful views towards Blair Atholl as you stride through the heather to return to Pitlochry, or you can carry straight on to descend into Strathtay.



Loch Faskally, © Davy Nelson

Killiecrankie, © VisitScotland

## SCOTTISH OUTDOOR ACCESS CODE

#### Know the Code before you go...

Everyone has the right to be on most land and inland water providing they act responsibly. Your access rights and responsibilities are explained fully in the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.

Whether you're in the outdoors or managing the outdoors, the key things are to:

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

Find out more by visiting www.outdooraccess-scotland.com

For information about other paths visit www.pkc.gov.uk/paths

For ideas on what else to do in Perthshire visit www.perthshire.co.uk

For public transport information contact Traveline Scotland

0871 002233 • www.travelinescotland.com

To check the weather forecast visit www.bbc.co.uk

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Council Text Phone Number 01738 442573

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Perth & Kinross Council and several private and public landowners own and manage the Pitlochry Path Network. Pitlochry and the Road to the Isles is one of six cluster areas included in the Perthshire Big Tree Country Heritage and Access project, celebrating the amazing woodland heritage in the area, and co-ordinated by Perth and Kinross Countryside Trust.

### Big Tree Country sites in this cluster area:

- · Atholl Palace Hotel & Blackspout Wood
- · Ben Vrackie
- · Faskally Wood
- · Pitlochry Salmon Ladder
- Scottish Plant Hunters Garden
- Linn of Tummel
- · Pass of Killiecrankie
- · Allean Forest, Loch Tummel
- · Queen's View, Loch Tummel
- · Dirnanean Garden, Enochdhu
- Carie Walks & Rannoch Forest
- Great Moor of Rannoch

www.perthshirebigtreecountry.co.uk



If you have a smartphone, scan the QR code below to link directly to our web pages.

