

Explore for a day

Cairngorms National Park

Pàirc Nàiseanta a' Mhonaidh Ruaidh



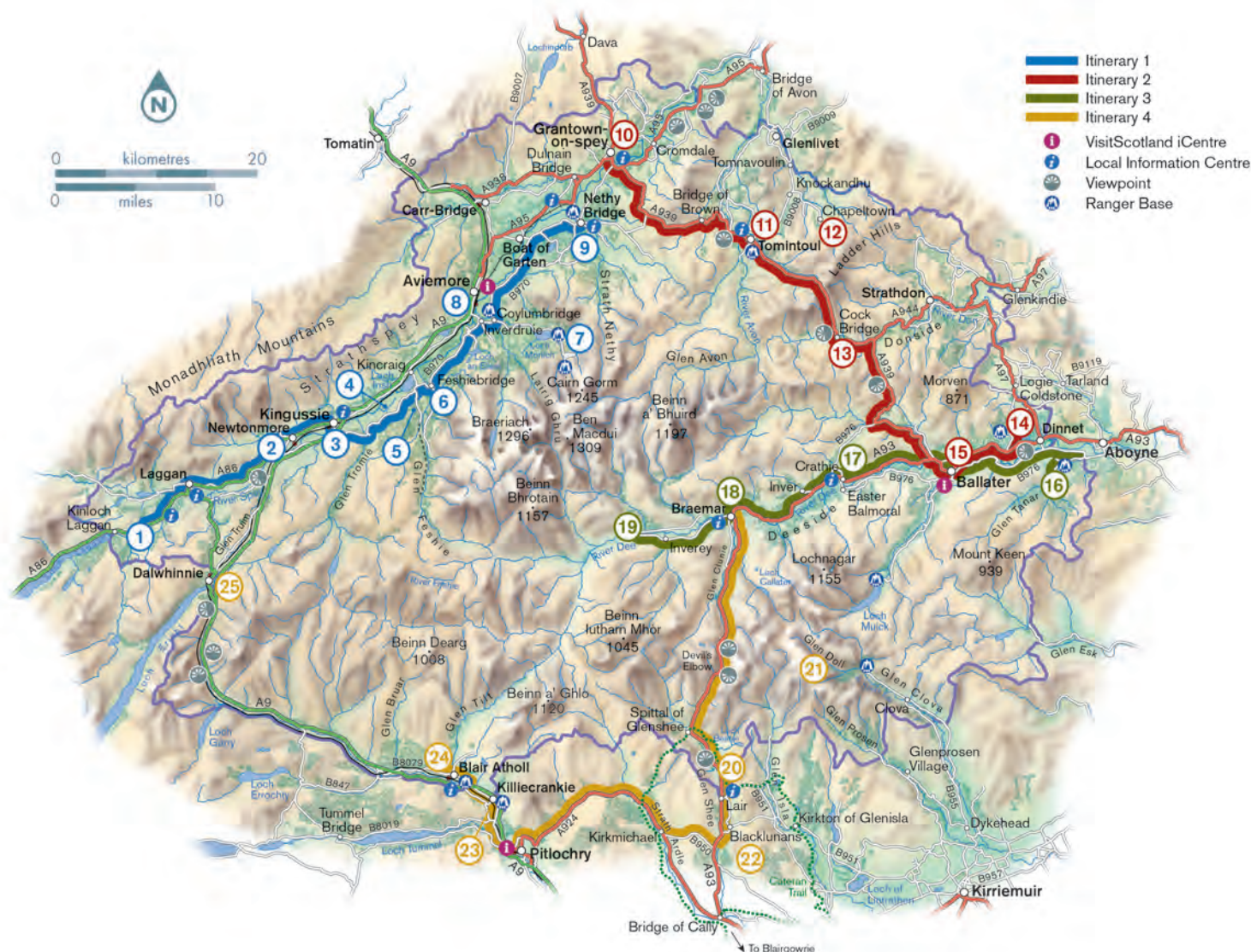
Scottish Natural Heritage
Dualchas Nàdair na h-Alba

nature.scot



Cairngorms
NATIONAL PARK
Pàirc Nàiseanta a' Mhonaidh Ruaidh

Cairngorms National Park



The Cairngorms mountain range lies at the heart of the Cairngorms National Park. Five of the highest mountains in the UK are found within the Cairngorm massif and crystal clear rivers rise among the hills. This special place, with its vast tracts of wild land and predominance of natural vegetation, including extensive and expanding native woodlands, is a stronghold for wildlife and a paradise for outdoor lovers.

Discover the rich cultural history of the Park in museums which record the social and domestic lives of agricultural communities. Castles, battlefields, barracks and old military roads running through the glens and over high passes tell a story of less peaceful times.

Discover for yourself the rugged and magnificent mountains, visit the planned towns and smaller villages scattered around the central mountain plateau and relax in the lovely varied woodlands.

Discover the area by following the suggested routes or simply create your own using the map.

Symbol Key

- | | | | |
|--|--------------|--|--------------------|
| | Parking | | Information Centre |
| | Paths | | Disabled Access |
| | Toilets | | Wildlife watching |
| | Refreshments | | Picnic Area |

Admission free unless otherwise stated.

1 Pattack Falls

Cold crystal water cascades over the falls in this impressive wooded gorge in Strathmashie forest. A viewing platform high up on the rocks overlooking the river is a short walk through the woods from the car park at Druim An Aird and is a great place to appreciate this lovely place. A variety of paths and walks in this woodland are shown on an information panel in the car park. Follow the path through the pine forest above the falls for a loop walk (4.5Km / 3 miles) which takes you past the deserted settlement of Druim An Aird.

Nearest Postcode: PH20 1BY

Tel: 01528 544366 www.lagganforest.com



2 Highland Folk Museum

The award-winning Highland Folk Museum brings to life the social and working conditions of Highland people since the 1700s. With collections focused on domestic life, agriculture, craft skills and sport, this fascinating open air museum records and interprets rural life in the Highlands over several hundred years. The site includes re-constructed buildings, a 1700s 'Township', a 1940 working farm, live interpretation and a range of visitor facilities, including a children's play area and audio trails.

Open Apr – Aug 10.30am - 5.30pm, Sept/Oct 11am - 4.30pm.

Postcode: PH20 1AY

Tel: 01540 673551

www.highlifehighland.com/highlandfolkmuseum



3 Ruthven Barracks

Ruthven Barracks are the smallest but best preserved of the four infantry barracks built by the British Government after the 1715 Jacobite rising. Remains of earlier castles on the site were removed to make way for the barracks. The government garrison surrendered during the Jacobite rising of 1745/46 and the departing Jacobite forces set fire to the barracks. The remains that you can see today are pretty much as they were left on that day in 1746. This imposing ruin looks particularly spectacular at night when it is floodlit.

Nearest Postcode: PH21 1ES

Tel: 01667 460232 www.historicenvironment.scot



4 Insh Marshes National Nature Reserve

This is one of the most important wetlands in Europe. A wide wandering river makes its ponderous journey through an active floodplain, giving a home to vast numbers of water loving birds. Enjoy a springtime stroll along one of the nature trails and look out for nesting lapwings, redshanks and curlews. Summer visiting ospreys keep a watchful eye out for a fishing opportunity whilst in winter the flooded marshes resound to the noisy wing beats of whooper swans. Patches of birch, aspen and juniper dot the fringes of the reserve. Look out for roe deer and foxes from two hides, which give you an excellent view.

Nearest Postcode: PH21 1NS

Tel: 01540 661518 www.nnr.scot



5



5 Uath Lochans

Gaelic meaning the lochs of dread

The picnic site at Uath Lochans is one of the most scenic locations in Inshriach Forest and the wider Strathspey area. A 30 minute walk takes you around four small lochans through woodland, heather moorland and bogland. Starting from the car park, follow the white markers and walk clockwise around the lochans. A small bird hide overlooks the largest lochan where goldeneye ducks and greylag geese can be seen during the spring, whilst the summer months see a myriad of dragonflies and damselflies.

Nearest Postcode: PH21 1NU

Tel: 01479 861220 www.scotland.forestry.gov.uk



6 Frank Bruce Sculpture Trail

This lovely varied walk in the Inshriach forest incorporates striking and thought-provoking sculptures by the late Frank Bruce. The works depict icons of patriotism and the tragedies of world poverty, yet are placed in a beautiful and tranquil setting – a tension which gives real power to the sculptures and the whole trail experience. Great views of the river Feshie and the surrounding mountains can be had from the 4.5Km/ 2.75 mile trail. The car park for the trail is located just south of Feshiebridge on the B970.

Nearest Postcode: PH21 1NF

www.frank-bruce.org.uk



7 Glenmore National Nature Reserve

An Gleann Mòr

Gaelic meaning the big glen

The National Nature Reserve is part of Glenmore Forest Park. A haven for wildlife and outdoor enthusiasts alike, Glenmore has a unique mixture of ancient Caledonian pinewoods, high mountain scenery and beautiful lochs. Miles of walking, from gentle forest strolls to serious high mountain adventures are here to be savoured, along with cycling, cross-country skiing and watersports on Loch Morlich. Keep your eyes peeled for red squirrels, crested tits and crossbills. Glenmore Visitor Centre offers a forest shop and café, as well as an audio-visual presentation and displays about the native pinewoods and the work being carried out to restore and expand this habitat for future generations.

Reserve open at all times, Visitor Centre open 9am – 5pm (closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day and New Years Day)

Nearest Postcode: PH22 1QU

Tel: 01479 810477 www.nnr.scot



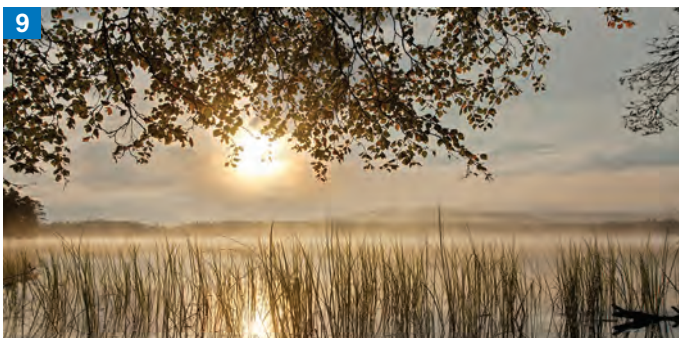


8 Craigellachie National Nature Reserve

An Gleann Mòr
Gaelic meaning the big glen

A perfect destination for a stroll from Aviemore, the woodland of this reserve brings together the gentle motion of silver birch trees with the constant activity of countless insects in summer. In spring and summer the woodland floor bursts into a blaze of colour as flowers like tormentil and foxglove take hold. The crags loom above the woodland like sleeping grey giants and provide a home for peregrines. Take your pick of four routes, one of which is suitable for all abilities, and enjoy the unexpected peace and solitude to be found here just minutes from the main road and the bustling village of Aviemore. Parking is available in the village. Follow signs to the Reserve from the Aviemore Youth Hostel.

Nearest Postcode: PH22 1PH
Tel: 01479 810477 www.nnr.scot



9 Abernethy National Nature Reserve

Obar Neithich
Gaelic meaning mouth of the shimmering river

Home to some of Scotland's most spectacular wildlife, Abernethy is a dramatic and awe-inspiring place, comprising a mosaic of ancient Caledonian pinewood, moorland, bog and mountain plateau. There are two visitor centres on the Reserve: the RSPB Loch Garten Osprey Centre, which provides fantastic views of these magnificent birds, and the Explore Abernethy Visitor Centre in Nethy Bridge which focuses on the ancient Caledonian pine forests of Abernethy. Whether you want to watch ospreys, take part in an early morning capercaillie watch or simply wander through the pinewoods, there is a lot to choose from in this lovely Reserve.

Reserve open all year.

RSPB Osprey Centre, Loch Garten: **admission charge**, open April – Aug, 10am – 6pm.

Postcode: PH25 3HA Tel: 01479 831476

Abernethy Visitor Centre, Nethy Bridge: open Sat – Wed, 12 noon – 4.30pm, Easter – Oct.

Postcode: PH25 3DG
Tel: 01479 821565 www.nnr.scot



10 Granttown Museum

Baile nan Granndach
Gaelic meaning town of the Grants

Granttown Museum tells the story of Granttown-on-Spey, a fine example of an 18th century planned town. The story is brought to life through the museum's extensive photographic collection. Visitors can learn the history of the people and buildings that made Granttown what it is today. Find out about Queen Victoria's royal visit in the 19th century and the coming of the railways, and how this encouraged Granttown's development as a holiday destination. A shop, research facilities and internet are available.

Admission charge. Open Apr to Oct, Mon – Sat, 10am – 4pm.

Postcode: PH26 3HH
Tel: 01479 872478 www.granttownmuseum.co.uk



11 Tomintoul Museum

Tom an t-Sabhail
Gaelic meaning the knoll of the barn

The new Discovery Centre is the place to come for local information on the surrounding area and the Cairngorms National Park. It also has gifts and inspiration for things to see and do in this amazing area. Meet Percy Toplis, once the most wanted man in Britain, and see the Tomintoul Coat thought to have once been worn by the local exciseman collecting tax for the amber nectar! We tell the story of Tomintoul from the early geological period right up to modern times and the importance of wildlife, tourism and whisky to our area. Remember you can also park at Tomintoul quarry on the A93, just 5 minutes north of the centre, to see the Snow Roads art installation called 'Still'. You can find out more about the Snow Roads at www.snowroads.com.

The centre is community owned and run so donations are welcome.

Open every day 10am – 5pm end of March to end of October.

43 The Square, Tomintoul, AB37 9ET
Tel: 01807 580760



12 Scaln Seminary

An Sgàilean
Gaelic meaning the shelter

The Scaln, a plain 18th century house in the Braes of Glenlivet, was once a Seminary and one of the few places in Scotland where young men were trained for the Catholic priesthood during the turbulent years of the 18th century. This secluded College played a vital role in keeping the Catholic faith alive in northern Scotland, despite repeated attacks by Hanoverian soldiers. You can walk through the silent rooms and imagine the quiet faith of those students of long ago. To reach 'secret Scaln' take the B9008 in the direction of Dufftown. Scaln is signposted off this road 5 miles north of Tomintoul. At the end of the road, park at the last farm buildings on the right and take the right hand track. After 1 Km / around half a mile, you cross the river Crombie on a wooden bridge and you will find Scaln facing you.

Nearest Postcode: AB37 9JS www.scaln.co.uk





13 Corgarff Castle

Coire garbh

Gaelic meaning a rugged/crooked corrie

Set in splendid isolation at the head of Strathdon and in a strategic position in the Lecht Pass, this medieval tower house was built around 1550. After being abandoned as a home in the late 17th century, the castle was pressed back into service mid-18th century and the distinctive star-shaped perimeter wall added. For 95 years soldiers patrolled Strathdon, hunting down Jacobite sympathisers and latterly helping stamp out the illegal production and smuggling of whisky. You can also view the castle from the A93 layby, just past Cock Bridge, at the Snow Roads art installation called 'The Watchers & a moment in time'.

Admission charge. Open Apr – Sep 9.30am - 5.30pm. Oct – Mar, open weekends only, 9.30am - 4.30pm.

Postcode: AB36 8YP

Tel: 01975 651460 www.historicenvironment.scot



14 Muir of Dinnet National Nature Reserve

Dùnaidh

Gaelic meaning fort place

Muir of Dinnet blends woodland, heath, open water and an impressive example of nature's sculptural work, all on one site. Visit the Burn O'Vat, a giant pothole formed by glacial meltwater and grinding rocks, and feel the walls swallow you up in their damp embrace. Elsewhere, wander through birch woodlands, or savour the peace and tranquillity of a summer reflection in the clear water of the lochs. You can also explore some local history by following the Little Ord Trail to visit the Iron-Age hut circles, see the crannog islands and a 1200 year-old Pictish stone.

Reserve open all year. Visitor centre open daily Easter – Oct, 9am-5pm and from Oct – Easter from 10am - 4pm (staff permitting). Strong footwear is recommended.

Postcode: AB34 5HB

Tel: 01339 881667 www.nnr.scot



15 Ballater Station

Bealadair

Gaelic meaning a pass between mountains or hills

At the centre of Ballater is the beautifully rebuilt wooden building that was formerly the royal railway station. The station was destroyed in a fire in 2015 but now includes a tourist information centre, restaurant, tearoom, shop and public library. The railway was vital to the development of Ballater and was much used by royalty and visitors to Balmoral Castle as well as giving 'ordinary' people the opportunity to visit Royal Deeside for long or short holidays. A highlight is the royal waiting room, fitted out as it was during Queen Victoria's day.

Open all year (apart from public holidays) 10am - 5pm except Tues 10 - 7pm.

Postcode: AB35 5RB

Tel: 01339 755306



16 Glen Tanar National Nature Reserve

Gleann Tanar

Gaelic meaning glen of the thundering river

Glen Tanar provides a great opportunity to explore Scotland's classic Caledonian pine forest in search of its elusive wildlife. A darting red squirrel or an acrobatic Scottish crossbill might be above your head as you wander through ancient trees or, from the banks of the rushing river, you might see the silvery flash of a salmon powering upstream. Choose from a range of waymarked paths, picnic areas by the river or viewpoints with benches. There are also opportunities for fishing, mountain biking, horse riding and bird watching.

Reserve open all year.

Reserve open all year. Visitor centre open 10am - 5pm (except Tue) Apr – Sept; 10am - 5pm (except Tue & Wed) Oct – March.

Postcode: AB34 5EU

Tel: 01339 886072 www.nnr.scot



17 Crathie Kirk

Craichidh

Gaelic meaning boggy place

Set in the heart of Royal Deeside, this picturesque parish church has strong connections to the Royal family, who worship here when in residence at Balmoral. The Church, which features fine woodwork and stained glass, offers some great views around the Deeside countryside and the nearby River Dee.

Open Mon – Sat, 10am - 4pm Apr & Sept.

Postcode: AB35 5UL

Tel: 01339 742208 www.braemarandcrathieparish.org.uk



18 Braemar Castle

Bràigh Mhàrr

Gaelic meaning the upland of Mar

This 17th Century castle has a colourful past and an exciting future. Built by the Earl of Mar in 1628 it has been a hunting lodge, fortress, garrison for Hanoverian troops and family home for the Clan Farquharson. Since 2007, this castle has been in the management of the local community and there is an ongoing process of restoration. Set amid the stunning scenery of the Cairngorm mountains, this castle with its castellated turrets, a star shaped curtain wall and a bottle necked dungeon, is an interesting place to visit and learn more about the intriguing events it has witnessed.

Admission charge. Open 11am - 4pm Sat & Sun from Easter – Oct and Wed from Jul – mid Sept.

Postcode: AB35 5XR

Tel: 01339 741219 www.braemarcastle.co.uk



19 Linn of Dee

Linn

Gaelic meaning a pool or cascade of water

Dramatic waterfalls cascade through the natural rock gorge at the Linn of Dee, a well-known beauty spot and a fine place to stop and have a watery contemplation. There are walking trails through the woods and picnic spots beside the falls. In the winter, banks of icicles can add Narnia-esque wonder. There is a waymarked walk from here to Derry Lodge, a disused hunting lodge in a beautiful pinewood with great views of the Cairngorms. At almost 11Km / 7 miles in length it will take around 3 hours to complete but is on an open forestry track most of the way so, whilst undulating, the going is easy.

Nearest Postcode: AB35 5YB

www.discoverroyaldeeside.com



20 Glenshee

Gleann Sidh

Gaelic meaning the glen of the fairies

Glenshee is Scotland's hidden route north to the Highlands, a beautiful tranquil glen and the southern gateway to the Cairngorms National Park and Royal Deeside. The landscape is spectacular: fertile farmland gives way to rolling hills and at the head of the glen some of the highest peaks in Perthshire crowd in to form a rugged landscape. Look out for the Snow Roads art installation 'Connecting Contours' which has parking and is an excellent viewpoint. Glenshee also has more than its share of myths and legends. Learn more about these stories along with the wildlife, history and heritage of the area at the Wee House of Glenshee café and Visitor Centre.

Open from 10am - 4pm daily.

Postcode: PH10 7LP

Tel: 01250 882238



21



21 Corrie Fee National Nature Reserve

Gaelic meaning of 'coire' is a cauldron

Corrie Fee stands like a giant stone armchair in the Angus Glens and is a wild amphitheatre of rocky landscape sculpted by the power of ice and water. The area is now a haven for the plants, birds and animals that are equipped to cope with the challenges of this harsh mountain environment. Park in the car park by the ranger base in Glen Doll. The reserve is accessed on foot 3.5Km/ 2.2 miles along a forest track.

Visitor Centre open 9am - 6pm Apr – Sept and 9am - 4.30pm Oct – Mar.

Postcode: DD8 4RD

Tel: 01575 550233 www.nnr.scot



22



22 CATERAN Trail

The CATERAN Trail is a fully waymarked, 64-mile / 103 Km route through Perthshire and the Angus glens in the heart of Scotland, which follows old drove roads and ancient tracks across a varied terrain of farmland, forests and moors. The Trail is a circular route divided into five stages and can be joined in many places, so is ideal for an exploration on foot.

If you want to find out more, the CATERAN Ecomuseum is an outstanding new 'museum without walls', a virtual experience which allows you to discover more about the people, places and landscapes of Scotland's Tay Country.

Admission charge for museum and exhibition.

Opening Jul – Aug 9am - 6pm daily; Sep – Jun 10am - 5pm daily.

Postcode: PH10 7NT

www.cateranecomuseum.co.uk





23 Killiecrankie & Soldiers Leap

Coille Creithnich

Gaelic meaning aspen wood

On 27 July 1689 the peace and tranquillity of this beautiful gorge was shattered when the first shots in the Jacobite cause were fired. The battle, a victory for Claverhouse's Jacobite army (although it left him among the 2500 dead) was the inspiration for poetry, prose and music. The Visitor Centre tells both the story of the rich natural history of the Pass and the bloodthirsty story of the battle. A short stroll through attractive woodland takes you down to the historic Soldier's Leap where one man escaped the battle by making a spectacular jump across the River Garry. Continue on the path for 1.5Km / 1 mile to a footbridge crossing the River Garry. Views from the bridge are stunning, particularly when autumn colours fill the landscape.

Parking charge. Site open all year; Visitor Centre Apr – Oct, daily 10am - 5.30pm.

Postcode: PH16 5LG

Tel: 0844 4932194 www.nts.org.uk



24 Blair Castle

Blàr Athall

Gaelic meaning plain of Atholl

Blair Castle, the ancient seat of the Dukes and Earls of Atholl, is at the heart of the extensive Atholl Estates. The collections displayed in this historic castle – including arms and armour, furniture, paintings and family treasures - give a rich impression of Scottish life over seven centuries. The gardens and parklands include superb woodlands, an adventure playground and a deer park. Equal to this is the magnificent landscape of the estate offering scenes of rolling farmland and wild open hills. Walking, cycling, horse riding and tractor tours are among the range of outdoor activities available.

Admission charge for castle, charges for various outdoor activities. Blair Castle is open daily from Apr – Oct from 9.30am – 5.30 pm and Sat/Sun from Nov-Mar, from 10am - 4pm. Atholl Estates Information Centre is open 9.00am - 4.45pm daily, Easter – Oct.

Postcode: PH18 5TH

Tel: 01796 481355 www.blair-castle.co.uk



25 Dalwhinnie

Dail Chuinnidh

Gaelic meaning river meadow of the meeting place

Dalwhinnie sits at the head of Loch Erich where it meets Glen Truim, at a maximum height of 1,180ft. This makes it a little higher than Tomintoul, the Highland's' officially highest village which lies 40 mountainous miles to the north east. South of Dalwhinnie, the A9 climbs towards the summit of the Pass of Drumochter, with a 1516ft or 432m summit marking the high point of the road's passage through the Cairngorms. Look out for the distinctive Dalwhinnie distillery which you can visit to sample some local whisky!

Postcode: PH19 1AA

Tel: 01540 672219 (Distillery)

www.visitcairngorms.com/dalwhinnie



Itinerary 1

Badenoch and Strathspey

This itinerary takes you through the wide valley of the River Spey and along the western edge of the Cairngorms National Park. There's a lot to do in Badenoch and Strathspey and this is just one of many options for a great day out. Start the day with a walk at the lovely Pattack Falls, before engaging with Highland history at the strategically important Ruthven barracks just outside Kingussie. Enjoy some quiet scenic back roads, be intrigued by an attention-grabbing sculpture trail and savour the tranquillity of the wildlife-rich Caledonian pinewoods of the Abernethy National Nature Reserve. You might enjoy reliving the day over a fine Speyside malt!

Pattack Falls (1)

If coming from the south, exit the **A9** for Newtonmore then turn left to follow the **A86** in the direction of Spean Bridge and Fort William. Pass through the village of Laggan and 7km/4.4 miles from the village you will see the Druim an Aird car park with Pattack Falls a short walk away.

Ruthven Barracks (3)

Head back through Newtonmore and continue your journey to Kingussie, where from the **A86**, turn right onto the **B970**. You will see Ruthven Barracks, clearly visible on a castle mound to your left overlooking the stunning Insh Marshes. If you're not in a hurry, the entrance to the Insh Marshes NNR is just along the road from the Barracks. From the car park there, it's a short walk to a sheltered lookout with great views across the marshes.

Frank Bruce Sculpture Trail (6)

Carry along the **B970** to Feshiebridge where you will see a car park and sign posting the walk around the intriguing Frank Bruce sculpture trail.

Abernethy NNR (9)

Stay on the **B970**, as it takes you through Rothiemurchus and Coylumbidge, to Boat of Garten. Here you could visit the station for a glimpse of the steam train if you are lucky! Continue along the **B970** and follow signs to Nethy Bridge on the edge of the forest, where there is a community local information centre with information about the Abernethy National Nature Reserve.

Itinerary 2

The Snow Roads Scenic Route – North

The Snow Roads are a 90-mile route from Grantown-on-Spey to Blairgowrie, along some of the highest public roads in Britain where you may glimpse snow on the hill tops almost all year round. Find out more at www.snowroads.com. This itinerary takes you along the northern part of this route. From the Tomintoul Discovery Centre, which is full of information about the area, take the spectacular road over the Lecht to visit Corgarff Castle, which stands in impressive isolation at the head of Strathdon. Cross from Donside into Deeside to explore Muir of Dinnet National Nature Reserve, before enjoying a stop at the Ballater station to end your day.

Tomintoul Discovery Centre (11)

From Grantown-on-Spey take the second exit over the roundabout at the Spey Bridge onto the **A95** turning right after a mile or onto the **A939** sign posted Braemar / Tomintoul. After about 20km/12.5 miles, there is a car park on your left at a quarry. You can park here and walk up to the Snow Roads art installation called 'Still'. Carry on for about 1 mile and you will have reached Tomintoul village with the Discovery Centre on your right in the village square.

Corgarff Castle (13)

Leaving Tomintoul on the **A939**, drive onwards for about 12km/8 miles and go past the Lecht ski area on the hilltop before descending towards the medieval Corgarff castle. You will see a large layby, on your right, where you can park to view the castle as well as sit and admire the view from the Snow Roads art installations called 'The Watchers' and 'a moment in time'. At the bottom of the hill, you will find the entrance to Corgarff Castle signposted on your right hand side.

Muir of Dinnet NNR (14)

Carry on along the **A939**, then turn onto the **A93**, signposted for Aberdeen. Continue on this road for 8km/5miles then turn on to the **B9119**, signposted Tarland and Strathdon. 3km/1.5miles along this road you will see the car park at the Burn O'Vat Visitor Centre.

Ballater Station (15)

Return to Ballater via the **B9119** and the **A93**. Follow the **A93** through the village then turn right into Station Sq. Here you can visit the renovated station where there is visitor information, a shop and a café.

Itinerary 3

The Snow Roads Scenic Route – South

The Snow Roads are a 90-mile route from Grantown-on-Spey to Blairgowrie, along some of the highest public roads in Britain where you may glimpse snow on the hill tops almost all year round. Find out more at www.snowroads.com. This itinerary takes you along the southern part of the Snow Roads, starting with a visit to the majestic Caledonian Pinewoods at Glen Tanar NNR. Then follow the road through the hills, with time for a look at Crathie Kirk, a parish church with Royal connections, before engaging with history in Braemar Castle. A wander at the lovely Linn of Dee completes the day before you continue south toward Glenshee and Blairgowrie.

Glen Tanar National Nature Reserve (16)

Starting from Ballater, cross the river, then turn left onto the **B976** (*the South Deeside Rd*). Continue on this road for 10 miles / 16Km then turn right at the Bridge and Tower o' Ess into Glen Tanar. After two miles bear right at Glen Tanar House and go up the hill with the Equestrian Centre on your left. Follow this road round the next corner and past the "end of public road" sign. You will enter a yard area where the Estate Office (*Brooks House*) is located on the left hand side. There is parking for a few cars outside the office. Here you will find the largest remnant of Caledonian Scots pinewoods on the south side of the Cairngorms and wildlife such as red squirrels.

Crathie Kirk (17)

Leave Glen Tanar and at the Bridge o' Ess, turn left onto the **B976**, (the South Deeside Road) and continue for 16Km/10 miles, until you see the sign for Ballater. Cross the bridge and follow the signs for Braemar on the **A93**. 11Km / 7 miles from Ballater you reach the village of Crathie. A free car park is on the left hand side of the road and Crathie Kirk is on the opposite side.

A scenic alternative to the **A93** is the **B976** South Deeside Road. This road runs along the opposite bank of the River Dee between Ballater and Crathie.

Braemar Castle (18)

Continue west on the **A93** and 12.5 Km / 8 miles from Crathie the village of Braemar will come into view. Just as you see the village, you will see the car park for Braemar Castle on the right hand side of the road.

Linn of Dee (19)

Turn right off the **A93** into the centre of the village of Braemar. This road is signposted for the Linn of Dee. Follow this road through the village and up the broad valley. After 6 miles you will arrive at the Linn of Dee, a popular beauty spot. Car parking is signposted over the river.

Itinerary 4

Cateran Country

This itinerary takes you through the scenic southern side of the Cairngorms National Park via Glenshee into Cateran Country and onto Blair Atholl and Dalwhinnie. The Caterans were marauding cattle rustlers who would descend from the uplands, often by night, to raid cattle from the more prosperous glens. By custom they would return by a different way from which they came, using ancient drove roads through remote glens. Visit these rich farmlands and remote glens; descend from Glenshee and explore Cateran Country, before heading over the moors, towards the wooded valley of the Rivers Tummel and Garry.

Glenshee (20)

From Braemar, travel 15.1Km/9.4miles south on the **A93** before reaching the Glenshee Ski Centre. Carry on a few miles south of here looking out for the Snow Roads art installation-'Connecting Contours', which has parking, seating and a stunning viewpoint. Four miles south of the Spittal of Glenshee, you can find information on the area at the Wee House of Glenshee.

From the junction of the **B951**, (*signposted Glenisla*) in either direction you can walk a section of the Cateran Trail.

Cateran trail and ecomuseum (22)

The Cateran Trail is a fully waymarked, 103Km/ 64-mile route through Perthshire and the Angus glens in the heart of Scotland. The Trail is a circular route divided into five stages and has no official beginning or end! It can be joined at various locations including; the Spittal of Glenshee, Cray, Alyth or Blairgowrie. You can find out more about the trail at <https://www.pkct.org/cateran-trail> and the Cateran online 'museum without walls' at <https://www.cateranecomuseum.co.uk/>.

Killiecrankie and soldier's leap (23)

From the Wee House of Glenshee, continue south on the **A93** for 5.6Km/3.5 miles, then turn onto the **B950** signposted Kirkmichael and Pitlochry. Follow the signs for Kirkmichael and Pitlochry and turn on to the **A924**, which will take you to the centre of Pitlochry. When you reach the main street in Pitlochry, turn right, continuing on the **A924**. Follow the road as it crosses underneath the **A9** and becomes **B8019**, then the **B8079** (*signposted Killiecrankie and Blair Atholl*). Just as you reach the village of Killiecrankie, you'll see the Visitor Centre signposted on your left.

Blair Castle (24)

Head north again on the **B8079**. Continue for about 4.8Kms/3 miles, where you will find Blair Castle at the north end of the village of Blair Atholl. The village also has a visitor centre, a working water mill, and services, so it's well worth a visit.



Other visitor information

There are many other sites to discover in the surrounding area. Find out more at VisitScotland i Centres or at Local Information Centres;

Aviemore i Centre	Tel: 01479 810930
Ballater Station i Centre	Tel: 01339 755306
Crathie, Balmoral	Tel: 01339 742555
Grantown-on-Spey Museum	Tel: 01479 872478
Kingussie Caberfeidh book shop	Tel: 01540 661000
Speyside Centre	Tel: 01479 851359
Tomintoul Discovery Centre	Tel: 01807 580760

Many sites are accessible by public transport. For bus and train times please contact Traveline Scotland on 0871 200 22 33 or go to www.travelinescotland.com. The National Cycle Network Route 7 runs through the western edge of the National Park. Find out more at www.sustrans.org.uk

Know the code before you go...

Enjoy Scotland's outdoors responsibly!

Find out more at
www.outdooraccess-scotland.scot

National Nature Reserves are magical places where you can experience the incredible sights and sounds of Scotland's natural world. Located throughout Scotland, National Nature Reserves are open to everyone to visit and enjoy.

Find out more at www.nnr.scot

Scottish Natural Heritage is the government agency charged with looking after all of Scotland's nature and landscapes, across all of Scotland, for everyone.

Find out more at www.nature.scot

Cairngorms National Park Authority

works with others to ensure that the unique aspects of the Cairngorms National Park are cared for, sustained and enhanced.

Find out more at www.cairngorms.co.uk.

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