

Friday 24th May

STRONG WALK

WALK 16 –CLACHNABEN & MOUNT BATTOCK (CORBETT)

We start the walk just before the Bridge of Dye, and continue via Mount Shade to the great granite Tor of Clachnaben, an iconic hill easily recognisable on the skyline. We continue on to Mount Battock, the highest point on a vast expanse of rolling, peaty moorland which is the most easterly of the Corbetts. We continue along the banks of the Water of Dye and return to our transport.

Terrain: Mostly good tracks and paths but the bealach after Clachnaben can be boggy.

- **Depart from Green Hut Ballater at 8:00am - BUS**
- **Distance 27k**
- **Approx Walking Time 7-8 hrs.**
- **Ascent 850m.**
- **Landranger 44, 45**

MEDIUM WALK

WALK 17 – WATERFALLS-BOTHIES & ALBERT'S CAIRN

Starting from Keiloch Carpark we cross the Old Brig of Dee and make our way up through the glorious, ancient Ballochbuie forest. The path winds through the forest with a steady but gentle incline for around 4km to reach a delightful log cabin, used by the Royals as a picnic spot. After a rest/snack we will continue through the forest to the beautiful waterfalls of Glas Allt, with great viewing from the bridge. We continue on good paths towards the Balmoral forests with gentle descents and ascents to the Gelder Sheil and Bothy another of Queen Victoria's haunts. Great views are offered towards Lochnagar. Thereafter it's a gentle downhill as we head to Balmoral with a final climb up to Albert's Cairn, which was constructed following Prince Albert's Death in 1862. The views from the top are worth the climb.

- **Depart from Green Hut Ballater at 9:30am – BUS**
- **Distance 20km**
- **Approx Walking Time 6 hrs.**
- **Ascent 423m.**
- **Landranger 43, 44**

WALK 17A – DINNET – BURN O'VAT & LOCHS

The walk starts in Dinnet and skirts the eastern side of Loch Kinord, rich in birdlife and traces of past human settlements. The route continues westwards to visit a huge glacial granite cauldron - the Vat. Following a path above the Vat Burn, we join the Cambus O'May forest trails. A short ascent up to Cnoc Dubh, offers fantastic views back to

WALK 17A Continued... Loch Kinord and to the west, Ballater and Lochnagar. We continue towards Ballater, passing through beautiful woodlands, with stunning views over the Dee from various viewpoints along the way.

Terrain: Two small burn crossings, some uneven sections, tree roots and moderate slopes.

- **Depart from Green Hut Ballater at 8:30am - BUS**
- **Distance 17km**
- **Approx Walking Time 6hrs.**
- **Ascent 250m.**
- **Landranger 44**

EASY WALK

WALK 18 – AROUND FINZEAN

A circular walk from Birse & Feughside Parish Church. The walk takes us onto Finzean Estate and skirts round Finzean House, a beautiful 17th century country house set in stunning gardens, through woods and up to the War Memorial. The path then heads uphill through mature native birch and pinewoods towards Tom's Cairn where we will be rewarded with lovely views of the surrounding countryside. We then descend back to the village passing the award winning Finzean Farm Shop where we can stop for well-deserved refreshments and more stunning views.

- **Depart from Green Hut Ballater at 9:00am - BUS**
- **Distance 10.5km**
- **Approx Walking Time 3-4hrs.**
- **Ascent 263m.**
- **Landranger 44, 45**