

# Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May

## STRONG WALK

### WALK 4 – LOCH ETCHACHAN – LOCH AVON

Loch Avon and Loch Etchachan are in the very heart of the Cairngorms. This route involves steep ascents and descents in wild, remote country. The highlight is passing through the magnificent Loch Avon basin. We start at Cairngorm Ski Centre and climb to point 1141m before descending into Coire Raibeirt. The inflow into the Loch may involve wet feet where we seek out the Shelter Stone before climbing once more to Loch Etchachan. We then enjoy a beautiful return to the Linn of Dee through the Glen Derry pinewoods

Terrain: A testing mountain walk, not to be underestimated, passing through very remote country, lacking clear paths, far from help. Strong fitness and ability to cope with rough steep ground is necessary.

- **Depart from Green Hut Ballater at 8am - BUS**
- **Distance 25k**
- **Approx Walking Time 9 hrs.**
- **Ascent 850m.**
- **Landranger 36, 43**

## MEDIUM WALK

### WALK 5 – GLEN FENZIE - BALLATER

This walk offers fantastic views over Deeside and the surrounding mountains, including Lochnagar. Starting from the Old Military Road we pass through Glen Fenzie to Morven Lodge, a shooting lodge which is still in use. Thereafter the path winds through open moorland, bypassing Morven (Corbett) and the Marquis of Huntly's Well. The path narrows as we head south through pine forests, passing Colsten Loch. We then cross the road to the Tullich Kirk. The original kirk dated back to the mid 600s and Pictish stones are still on display. A gentle walk along the Deeside Way will bring us back to Ballater.

- **Depart from Green Hut Ballater at 8am - BUS**
- **Distance 18.5km**
- **Approx Walking Time 6 hrs.**
- **Ascent 355m.**
- **Landranger 37, 44**

## EASY WALKS

### WALK 6 – KEILOCH- CRATHIE

This is a walk mainly on the Balmoral Estate, taking us immediately across the iconic Bridge Of Dee. Here you can almost anticipate a Regiment of Redcoats marching with you. We continue into the Ancient Ballochbuie forest to enjoy the splendour of The Garbh Alt Falls from the bridge that goes to nowhere! We retrace our steps before following the Estate Road (once a public road) eastward to the main gates of Balmoral. Look out for Highland Coos.

- **Depart from Green Hut Ballater 10am - BUS**
- **Distance 10km**
- **Approx Walking Time 3-4hrs.**
- **Ascent 80m.**
- **Landranger 43,44**

### WALK 6A – EDIBLES & MEDICINALS ([Special Interest](#))

We set off along the River Dee taking the Old Line path to the Bridge of Gairn. Along the way we'll be learning about local plants that were used historically for medicinal culinary or cosmetic purposes. We pass by the Queen Mother's fishing hut and return to St Kentigern's church hall where foraging samples will be cooked up and served and goody bags can be taken away!

- **Depart from Green Hut Ballater 11am-ON FOOT**
- **Distance 10km**
- **Approx Walking Time 3-4hrs.**
- **Ascent 100m.**
- **Landranger 44**