



Discover a landscape carved from rock, cloaked with trees and haunted by legend. This is where the kingdom of Scotland was born.

Gaze over **breathtaking views**, watch iconic wildlife, ponder ancient monuments or simply embrace the **tranquillity** to be found in the remarkably diverse forests of Mid Argyll & Kintyre.

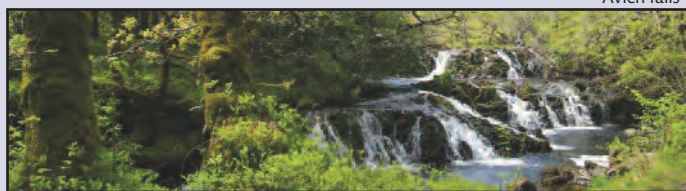
Walkers can explore these native and timber-producing woodlands along waymarked trails, some shared with cyclists and horse riders.

Fàilte do na coilltean aig cridhe Shiorrachd Earra-Ghàidheal, a' sìnèadh eadar Loch Obha agus Cinn Tìre. Fàilte do chreathall Rìoghachd na h-Alba, làn dualchais, eachdraidh, agus bòidhchead nàdair.



## 1 Dalavich

- Loch Avich Trail**  
5 miles/8 km - Allow 2½ hrs
- Dalavich Oakwood Trail**  
2 miles/3.2 km - Allow 1 hr
- Avich Falls Trail**  
1¾ miles/2.8 km - Allow 45 min



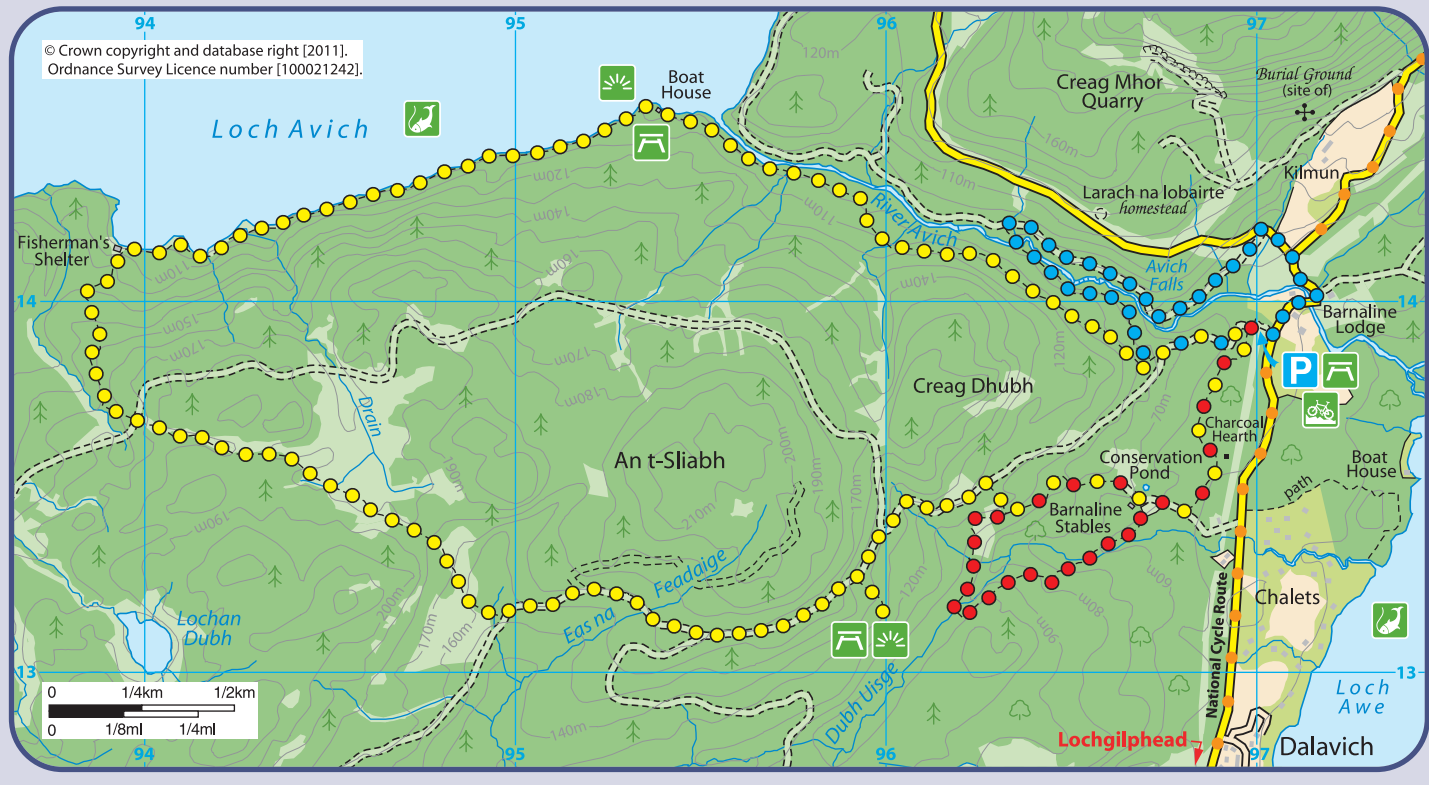
Avich falls

### Between the Lochs

The forest that stretches between Loch Awe and Loch Avich is by turns **dramatic, peaceful and inspirational**. Three trails loop through it from the Barnaline car park located a mile north of Dalavich. Pass through ancient Atlantic oakwood on the Dalavich Oakwood trail or brave **thundering waterfalls** and rapids on the Avich Falls trail. The Loch Avich trail crosses forest that is **home to red squirrels**, red deer and pine martens before following an unspoilt shoreline.



A stroll through Dalavich Oakwoods



## 2 Ardcastle

- Ardcastle Point Trail**  
5 miles/8 km - Allow 3 hrs
- Crag Trail**  
1 mile/1.6 km - Allow 45 min
- Hazel Burn Trail**  
2 miles/3.2 km - Allow 1 hr

### In the Living Forest

This forest is **bursting with wildlife**. Three trails descend through wooded hills and skirt pebble beaches from the car park off the A83, eight miles from Lochgilphead. **Watch common seals** and **eider ducks** as you picnic by Loch Fyne. Roe and sika deer often graze among the trees. The ancient ruins of St Bride's Chapel stand in a graveyard on the Ardcastle Point trail. The shorter Crag trail climbs to a great viewpoint over the loch.

### Tiugainn leam gu Taobh Loch Fìne

Thàin' an samhradh buidhe braonach,  
Tha na h-uillt air dol 'nan caochain,  
Eòin a' seinn am mullach chraobhan  
Muir is speuran dhut mar sgàthan!

Nuair tha 'n saoghal gu tur air ùrach',  
Nuair tha 'm fraoch an-siud fo ùr-bhlàth,  
Mìl is bainne mar am bùrn ann,  
Cò nach dlùth'cheadh ris a' Ghàidhealtachd?

bho Taobh Loch Fìne, le Eòghann MacColla, Bàrd Loch Fìne



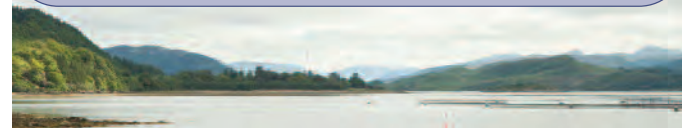
## Information Centre

### Take care on the hills



Please remember that the weather on the hills can change very quickly. Even in summer, conditions on high ground are often much colder and windier than at low levels, despite clear skies. If you are venturing off our waymarked trails onto the higher hills and mountains, here are some pointers for a safe and enjoyable trip.

- Be properly equipped
- Plan your route carefully and stick to it
- Tell someone where you are going and when you expect to return
- Take adequate warm & waterproof clothing
- Wear suitable footwear
- Take sufficient food and drink
- Carry map & compass, know how to use them
- Turn back if it gets too hard for you
- In emergencies call 999 and ask for the **POLICE**



### What the trail symbols mean

Trails are graded according to degree of difficulty and type of conditions to be expected.



#### Easy

Sensible Footwear



#### Easy

Muscle Loosener



#### Moderate

Waterproof Footwear



#### Moderate

Muscle Stretcher



#### Strenuous

Hillwalking Boots



#### Strenuous

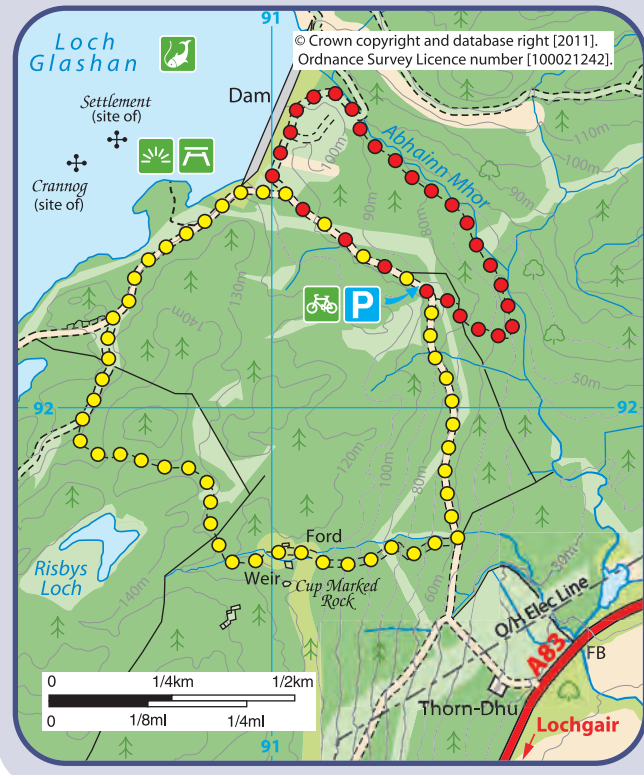
Muscle Builder

## 3 Glashan

- Risby's Loch Trail**  
2 miles/3.2 km - Allow 1 hr
- Glashan Burn Trail**  
1 mile/1.6 km - Allow 45 min

### Water and Woodland

Kilmichael Forest swathes the hills in green right around Loch Glashan reservoir. From the car park off the A83, one trail circles through pleasant broadleaved woodland about Glashan Burn while another heads through conifers to pass Risby's Loch, **a haven for dragonflies**.



## 4 Achnabreac

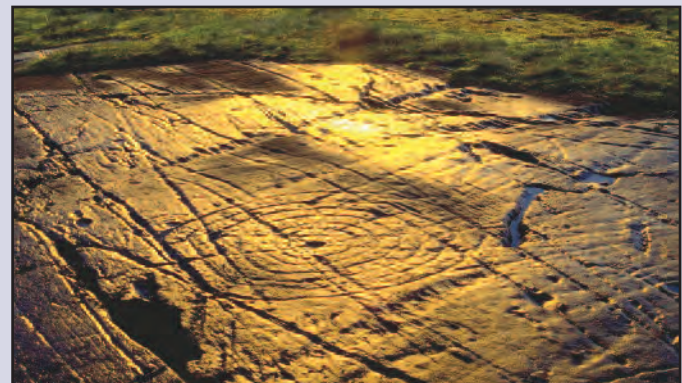
- Achnabreac Trail**  
1½ miles/2.3 km - Allow 45 min
- Dun na Maraig Trail**  
½ mile/0.7 km



Ancient mystery

### The Original Brit Art

A lost culture has transformed the rock faces of Achnabreac into a **prehistoric art gallery**. The trail from the car park off the A816 three miles north of Lochgilphead leads to Britain's most extensive spread of enigmatic "cup and ring" symbols. Carved

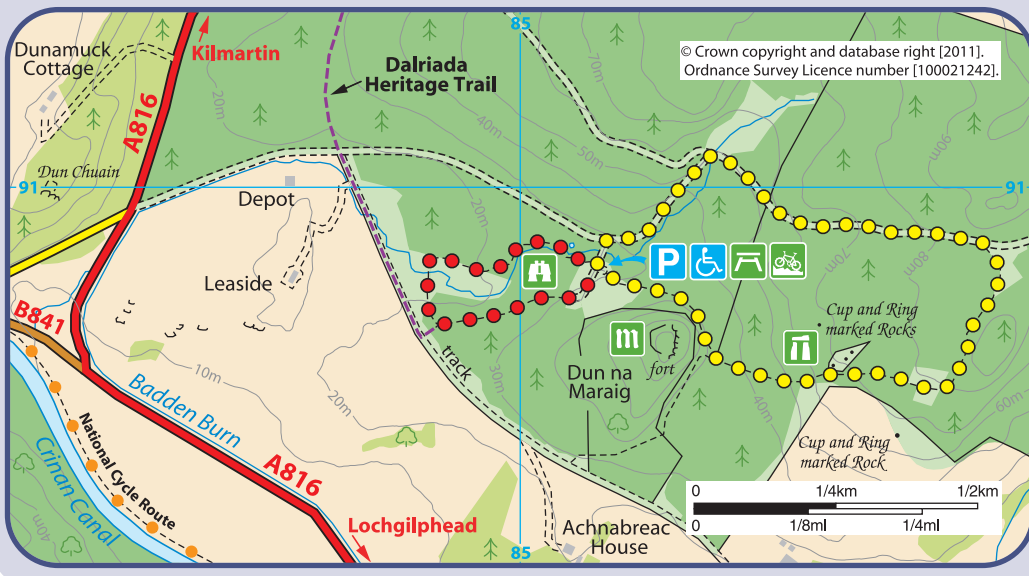


A decorated rock face at Achnabreac ©Kilmartin House Trust (David Lyons) www.scran.ac.uk

some 4,000 years ago, their meaning has been forgotten. There are good views towards Knapdale and Loch Fyne.

### Bikes and Birds

An easy access trail meanders around low-lying wetlands, dotted with broadleaved trees and fringed with conifers. **Wildfowl can be watched from a hide**. Cycle routes cross the forest, including the Fire Tower mountain bike trail.



### Fialaidheachd na Coille

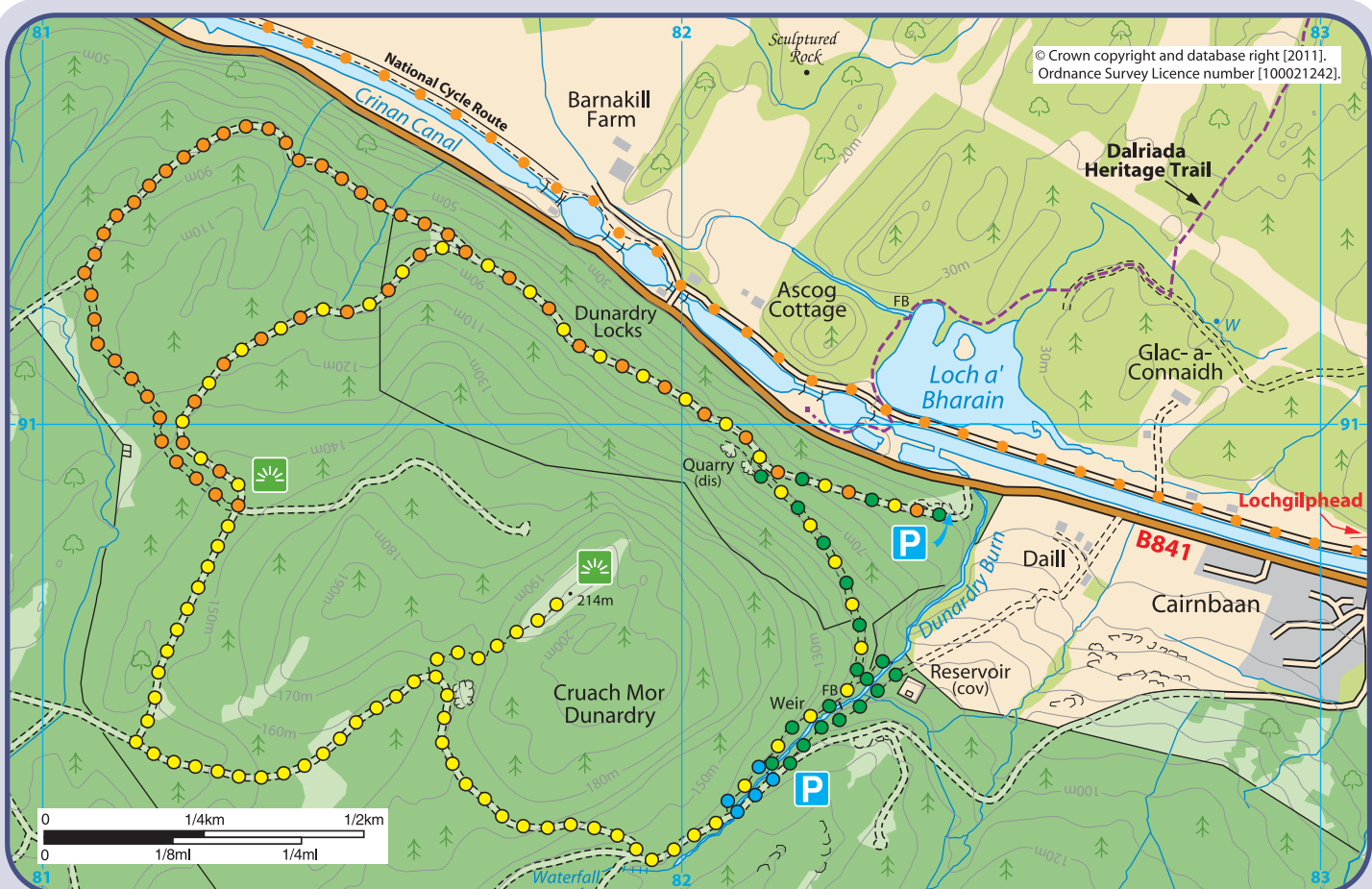
Théid fiodh à Earra-Ghàidheal ùisneachadh fhathast airson thaighean-còmhnaidh agus connaidh, ach ri linn Rìoghachd nan Eilean gheibhte na h-uibhir eile bhon choille, eadar an dubh-sgrìobhaidh a thigeadh bho chnòthan-daraich, agus am bàta seang lùbach, air a togail à iomdach craobh-dharaich, craobh-ghìuthais, craobh-leamhain is eile, air an robh a' bhirinn.

## 5 Dunardry

- Dunardry Trail**  
3 miles/4.8 km - Allow 2 hrs
- Bardarroch Trail**  
2½ miles/3.7 km - Allow 1¼ hrs
- Near to Nature**  
1½ miles/2.4 km - Allow 45 min
- Green Gate Loop**  
285 yds/¼ km

### Taking the Plunge

The forest cascades down the craggy slopes of Knapdale at Dunardry (from the Gaelic Dùn Àrd-Rìgh or Àrd-ruighe, height of the high king or high brae). Four trails can be reached from parking off the B841 Crinan road and on a lane south of Cairnbaan. **A rough scramble to the summit** of An Cruach Mòr is rewarded with wonderful views, sometimes shared with **buzzards and ravens**. The exhilarating Near to Nature trail climbs and crosses Dunardry Burn while the easy access Green Gate Loop also bridges the gorge.



## 6 Crinan

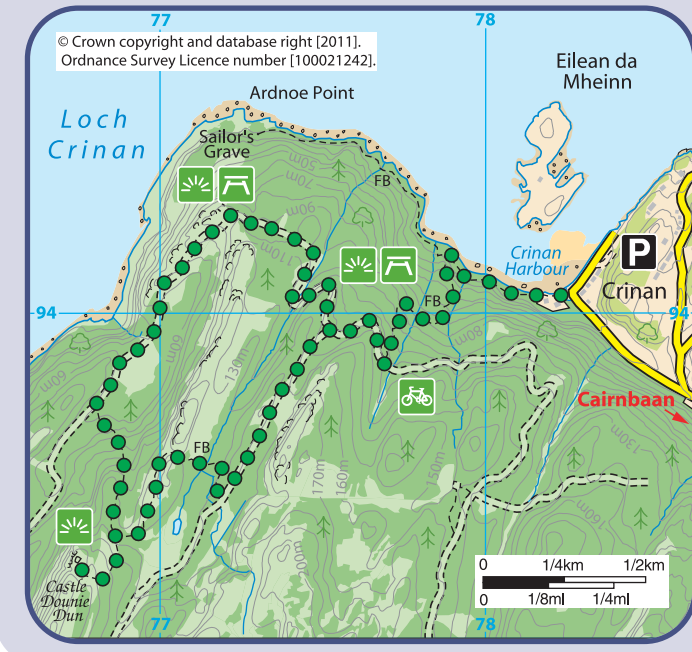
- Crinan Trail**  
3 miles/4.8 km - Allow 2-3 hrs

### An Unforgettable View

The trail rises from Atlantic oakwood by Crinan harbour, passing through conifers onto forest roads with **stunning views over the Sound of Jura** and the Inner Hebrides. The steep climb to the ruined dun of **Castle Dounie** is particularly memorable.



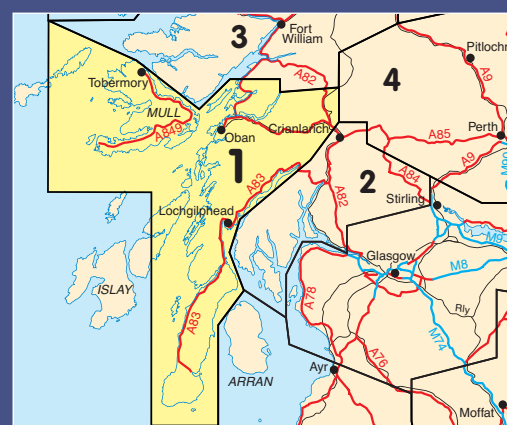
Castle Dounie ©Kilmartin House Trust www.scran.ac.uk



### Contact 1

Forestry Commission Scotland  
West Argyll Forest District  
Whitegates, Lochgilphead, Argyll PA31 8RS  
Tel: 01546 602518  
e-mail: westargyll@forestry.gsi.gov.uk  
Web: www.forestry.gov.uk/scotland  
Public enquiry line 0845 FORESTS (367 3787)

For information on what's available from Forestry Commission Scotland in the rest of Argyll and surrounding areas please contact



2 Forestry Commission Scotland  
Cowal & Trossachs Forest District Tel: 01877 382383  
e-mail: cowal&trossachs@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

3 Forestry Commission Scotland  
Lochaber Forest District Tel: 01397 702184  
e-mail: lochaber@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

4 Forestry Commission Scotland  
Tay Forest District Tel: 01350 727284  
e-mail: tay@forestry.gsi.gov.uk

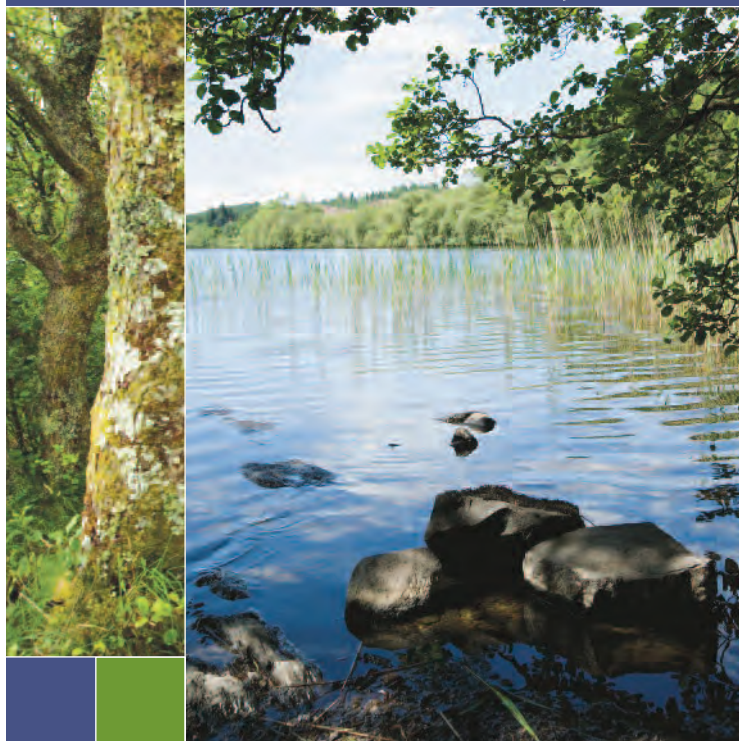
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Explore  
Enjoy  
and  
Discover

The Forests of  
**Mid Argyll  
and Kintyre**





## 7 Knapdale

- Wildlife Trail**  
1 mile/1.6 km - Allow 1 hr
- Barnluasgan Oakwood Trail**  
1½ miles/2.4 km - Allow 1 hr
- Loch Coille-Bharr Trail**  
3 miles/4.8 km - Allow 2 hrs
- Arichonan Township**  
1¼ miles/2 km - Allow 1 hr

### The Return of the Beaver

In the heart of Knapdale forest you can **watch wildlife, explore ruins, discover lochs** and encounter a long-absent animal. Three car parks link to trails off the B8025 to Tayvallich, with an information centre at Barnluasgan. Beavers were reintroduced to Knapdale (from the Norse Cnapadal, Lumpy Hill Valley, adopted into Gaelic) after centuries of absence. You might spot one at dusk or dawn from the Loch Coille-Bharr trail. You will certainly see the felled trees, ingenious dams and flooded woodland. Discover more at [www.scottishbeavers.org.uk](http://www.scottishbeavers.org.uk)

The easy access Wildlife trail circles peaceful Barnluasgan Loch.

A short trail from the Gleann a Gealbhan car park leads to the evocative **ruins of Arichonan**, whose people were evicted in 1848.

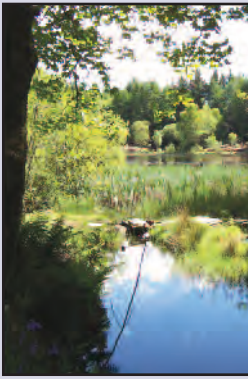


Artist enjoying the peace of Arichonan



## 8 Kilmory

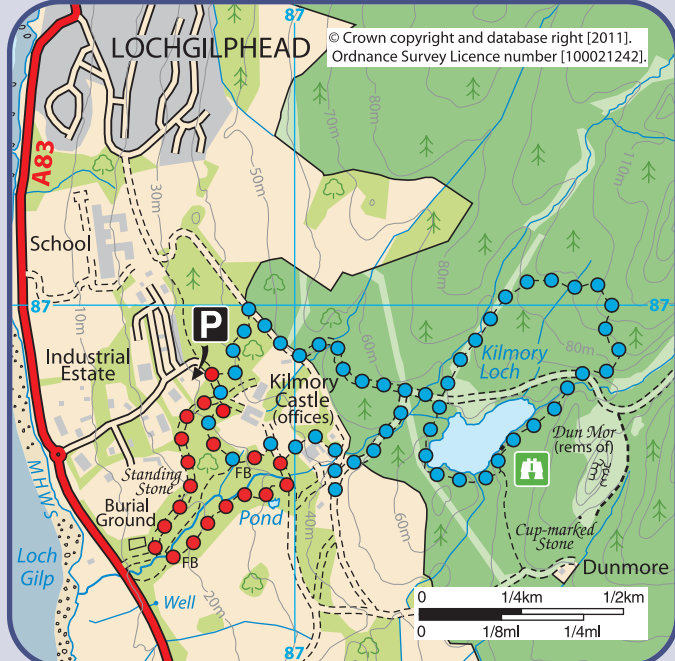
- Kilmory Loch Trail**  
2 miles/3.2 km - Allow 1 hr
- Kilmory Red Trail**  
1 mile/1.6 km - Allow 30 min



Kilmory Loch

### In the Castle Grounds

From the car park at Kilmory Castle, trails snake through a woodland park once planted with rhododendrons now reclaimed by nature. **Picnic** by Kilmory Loch, **watch wildfowl** or **climb Dun Mor** for views over Lochgilphead.



## 9 Tarbert

- Tarbert Castle Trail**  
1 mile/1.6 km - Allow 45 min
- Corranbuie Trail**  
3 miles/4.8 km - Allow 2 hrs

### Above the Norseman's Harbour

This is a legendary place. Climb above the pretty fishing port with its medieval castle for **spectacular views** to either side of Kintyre. The trails lead off from the quayside.

Norsemen hauled their boats overland and Robert the Bruce turned a castle into a royal stronghold at Tarbert. Native broadleaves are regenerating around the gentle **Tarbert Castle** trail. Higher up on the Corranbuie trail you might glimpse **golden eagles**, as well as roe and sika deer and black grouse.

### Fearann mo Rùin Cinn Tìre

Neul a' snàmh air an speur,  
Duilleach eadar e's mo shùil;  
Ùr bàrr-uaine gruag a' bheithe,  
Leug nan leitir cas mun Lùib.

bho Do Bheithe Bòidheach, le bàrd an Tairbeirt Deòrsa mac Iain Deòrsa

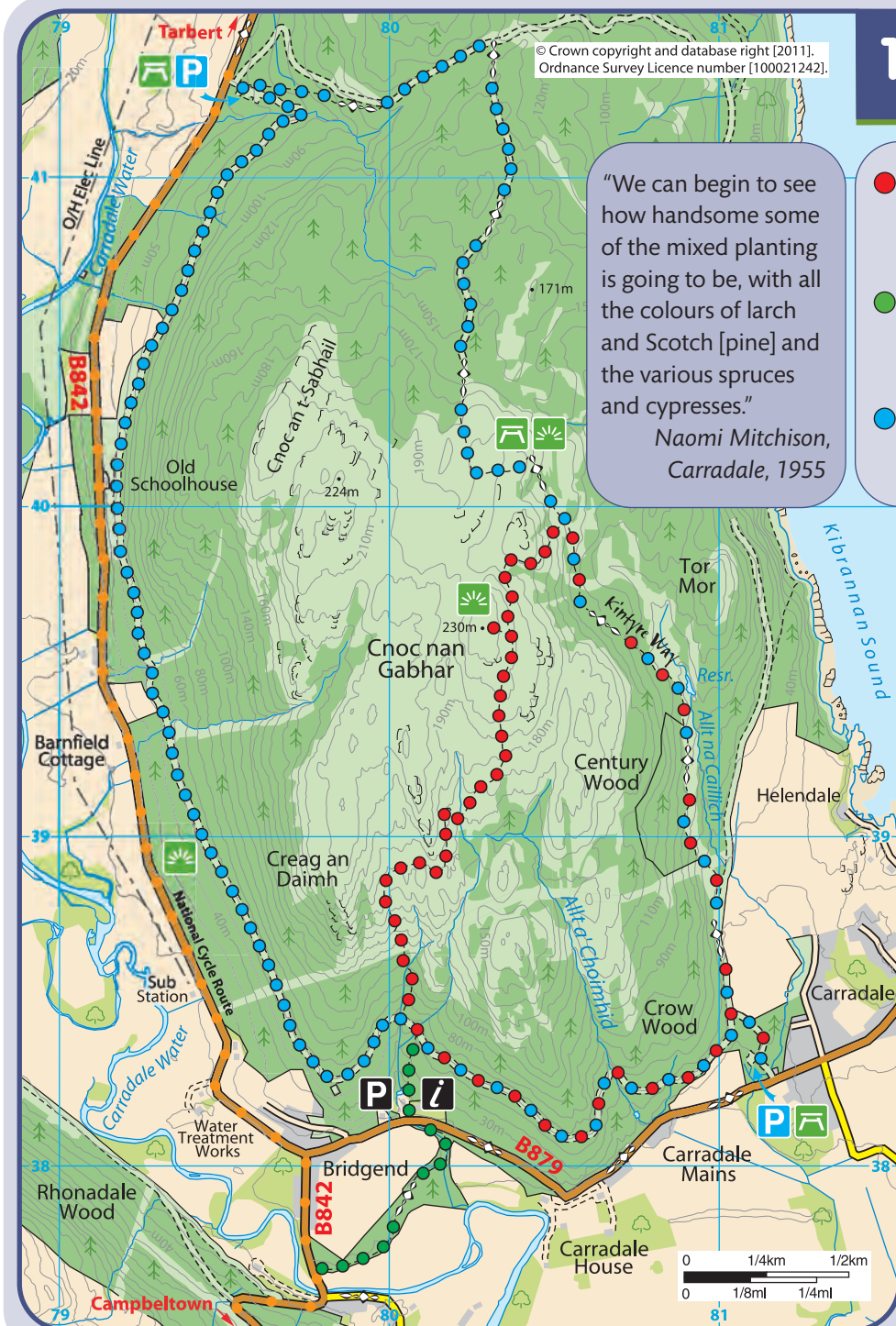
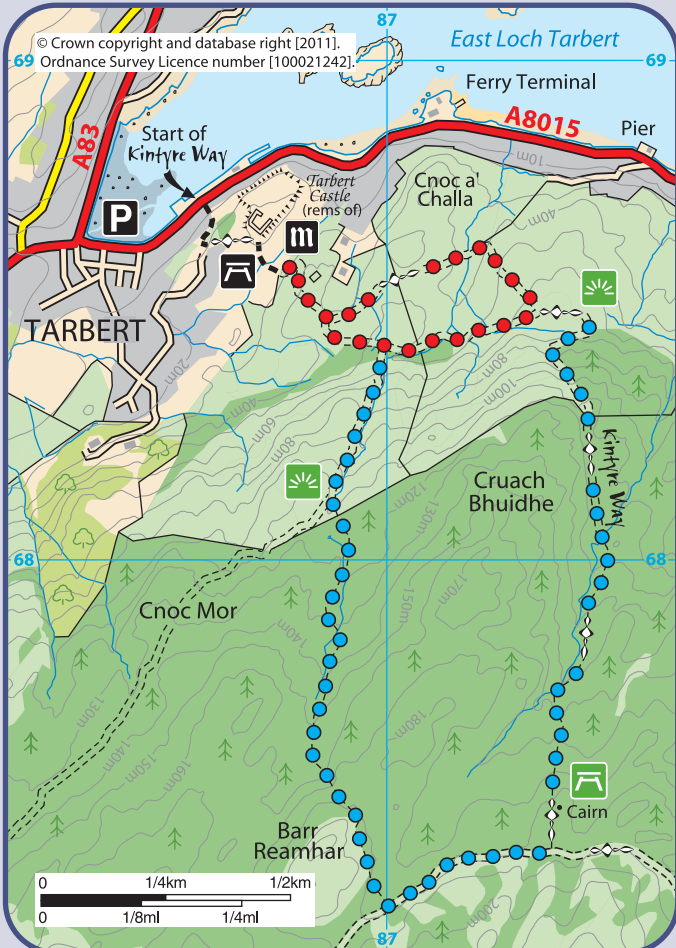
### Land of my Love Kintyre

A cloud swimming in the sky,  
Foliage between it and my eye;  
Fresh and green-topped the tresses of the birch,  
A jewel of the steep slopes about Loup.

From To a Beautiful Birch Tree, by Tarbert poet George Campbell Hay



Golden Eagle



## 10 Carradale

- Deer Hill Trail**  
3 miles/4.8 km - Allow 2 hrs
- Sally's Trail**  
1 mile/1.6 km - Allow 40 min
- Kirnashie Trail**  
6 miles/9.7 km - Allow 3 hrs

"We can begin to see how handsome some of the mixed planting is going to be, with all the colours of larch and Scotch [pine] and the various spruces and cypresses."  
Naomi Mitchison, Carradale, 1955

### Hilltop Drama

From Cnoc nan Gabhar, sweep your gaze from Ben Cruachan - Argyll's highest point - to the island of Arran. Two routes lead to the summit while Sally's trail explores the woodland below. Park in Carradale (from the Norse Càrradal, Brushwood Valley), off the B879.

The diverse forest supports **abundant wildlife**, including red, sika and roe deer, black and red grouse and many birds of prey.

Arran from Cnoc nan Gabhar

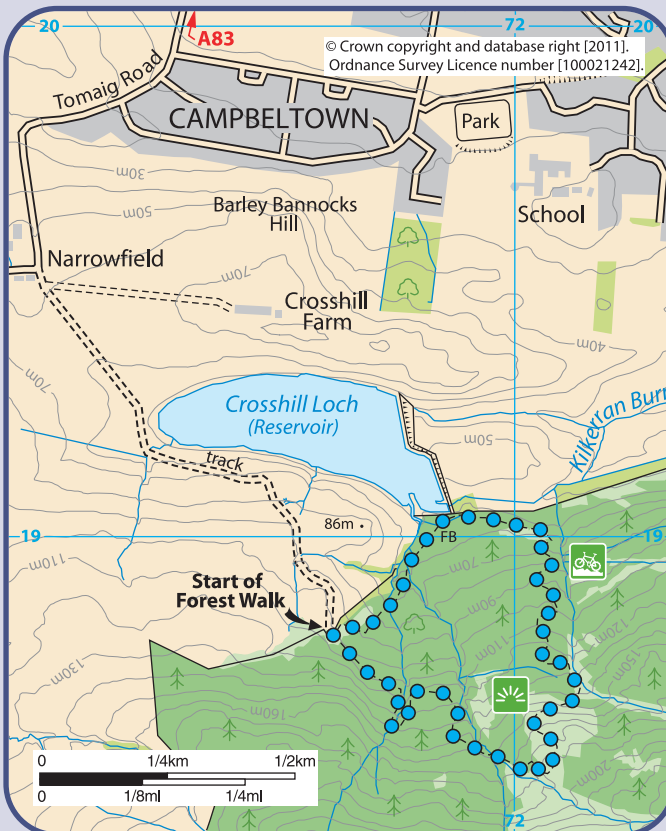


## 11 Beinn Ghulean

- Beinn Ghulean Trail**  
1½ miles/2.4 km - Allow 2 hrs

### On the Shoulders of a Giant

Climb Beinn Ghulean (from the Gaelic Beinn Ghuilainn, Hill of the Shoulders) for **stunning views** and rich wildlife. The trail passes through mixed forest from the southern fringes of Campbeltown.



### Key to maps

- Forestry Commission land
- Forestry Commission woodland
- Other woodland
- Main road
- Secondary road
- Minor road
- Forest road
- Track
- Footpath
- Forest drive
- Forest trails (colour coded)
- Start of forest trails (detailed on trail maps)
- Other forest walk areas
- National cycle route 78
- Kintyre Way
- Railway line
- Parking
- Easy-access facilities
- Tourist information
- Viewpoint
- Wildlife viewing
- Picnic area
- Forest drive
- Prehistoric monument
- Ancient monument
- Fishing
- Horse riding
- Cycling
- Off road cycling
- Non FC parking
- Non FC tourist information
- Non FC picnic area
- Non FC ancient monument



These forests are places to work as well as enjoy. Please watch out for vehicles and follow any signs you see, to ensure you have a safe visit.

### Enjoy Scotland's outdoors responsibly

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

KNOW THE CODE BEFORE YOU GO  
outdooraccess-scotland.com