



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 coiltean aig cridhe Shiorrachd Earra-Ghàidheal, a' sineadh 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 Lochgilhead. **Watch common seals** and **elder 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,
Mil 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.

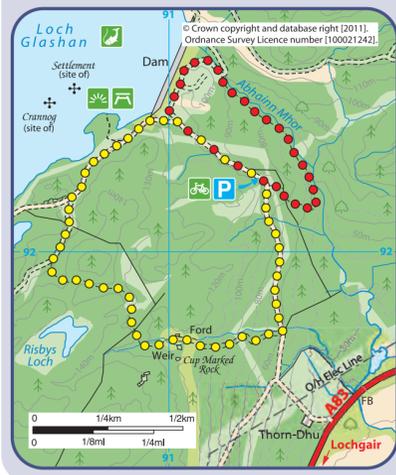
- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| Easy
Sensible Footwear | Easy
Muscle Loosener |
| Moderate
Waterproof Footwear | Moderate
Muscle Stretcher |
| Strenuous
Hillwalking Boots | Strenuous
Muscle Builder |

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

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 Lochgilhead leads to Britain's most extensive spread of enigmatic "cup and ring" symbols. Carved



Ancient mystery

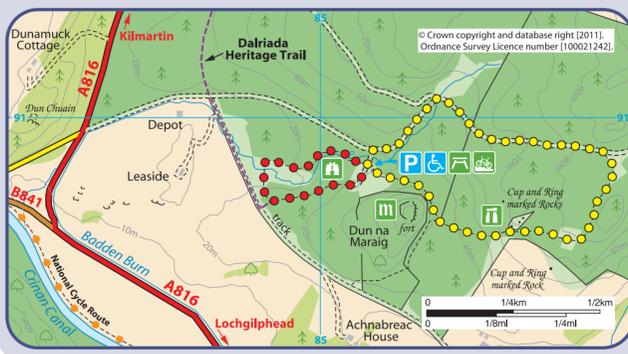
some 4,000 years ago, their meaning has been forgotten. There are good views towards Knapdale and Loch Fyne.

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.



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



Fialaidheachd na Coille

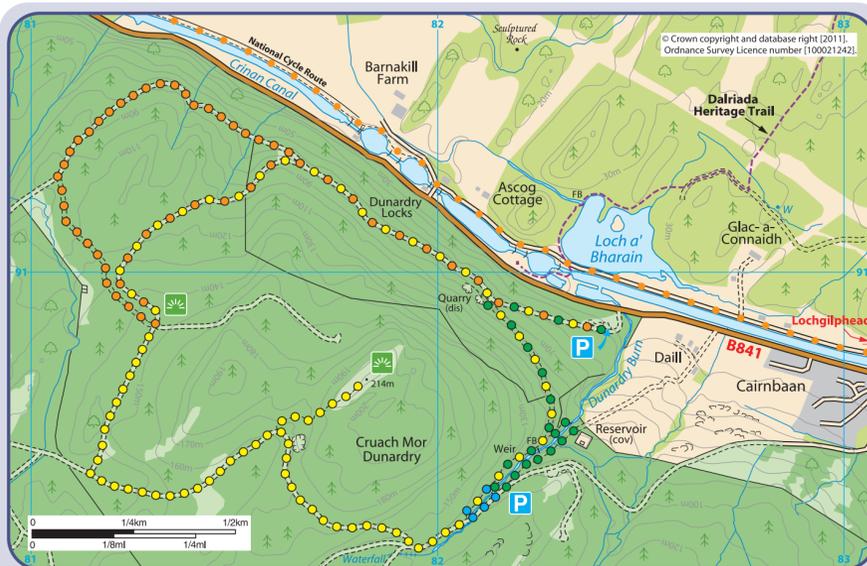
Théid fiodh à Earra-Ghàidheal ùisneachadh fhathast airson thaighean-còmhnaidh agus connaidh, ach ri linn Rìoghachd nan Eilean gheibhte na h-uibhir eile bhon choille, eadar an dubh-sgrìobhaidh a thigeadh bho chnòthan-daraich, agus am bàta seang lùbach, air a togail à iomadach craobh-dharaich, craobh-ghiuithais,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

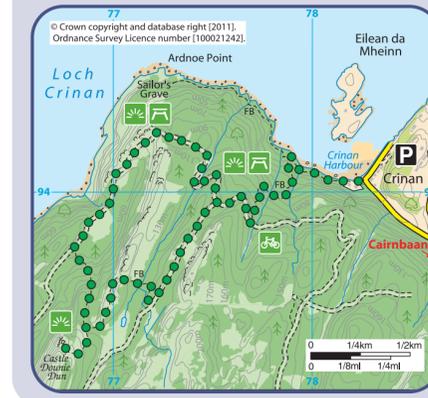
- Crinan Trail**
3 miles/4.8 km - Allow 2-3 hrs

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



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West Argyll Forest District
Whitegates, Lochgilhead, 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

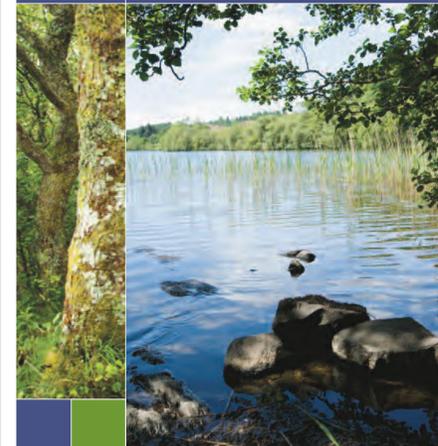
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Explore
Enjoy and
Discover

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

The easy access Wildlife trail circles peaceful Barnluasgan Loch.

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



Arichonan
Archie enjoying the peace of Arichonan



8 Kilmory

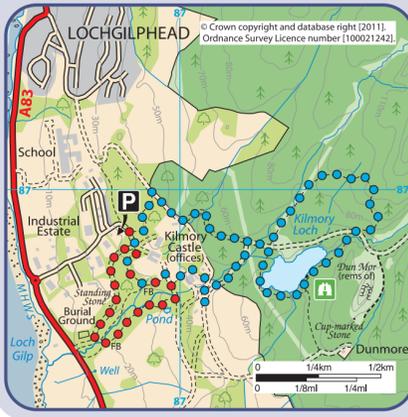
- Kilmory Loch Trail**
2 miles/3.2 km - Allow 1 hr
- Kilmory Red Trail**
1 mile/1.6 km - Allow 30 min



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 è 's mo shùil;
Ùr bàrr-uaine ruag a' bheithe,
Leug nan leitir cas mun Lüib.

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

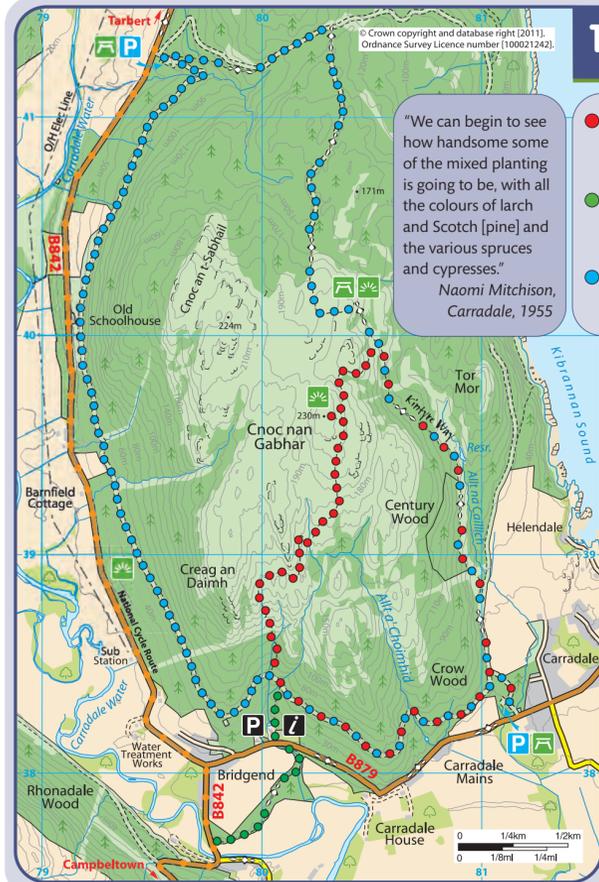
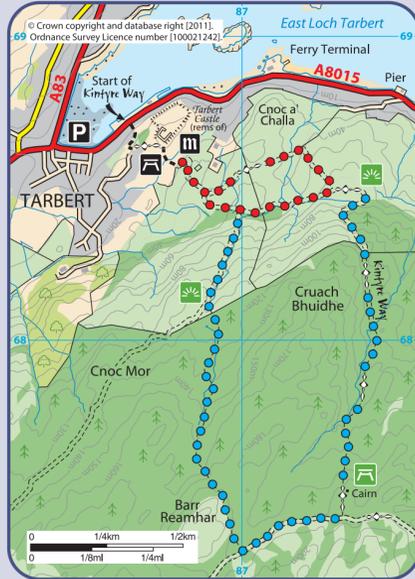
Land of my Love Kintyre

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

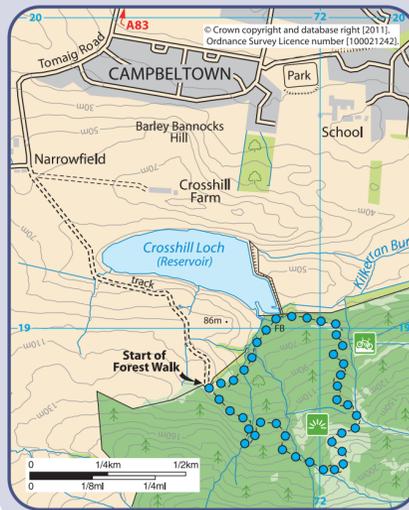


11 Beinn Ghulean

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

On the Shoulders of a Giant

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



Permits for fishing at Loch Awe, Loch Avich and Loch Glashan are available at local hotels and tackle shops

The Forests of Mid Argyll and Kintyre

Welcome to the forests in the heart of Argyll, stretching from Loch Awe to Kintyre. Welcome to the cradle of the Kingdom of Scotland, full of heritage, history, and natural beauty.

- Dalavich
- Ardcastle
- Glashan
- Achnabreac
- Dunardry
- Crinan
- Knapdale
- Kilmory
- Tarbert
- Carradale
- Beinn Ghulean



Key to maps	
[Green box]	Forestry Commission land
[Green box]	Forestry Commission woodland
[Green box]	Other woodland
[Red line]	Main road
[Orange line]	Secondary road
[Yellow line]	Minor road
[Dotted line]	Forest road
[Dashed line]	Track
[Dotted line]	Footpath
[Red line]	Forest drive
[Red dot]	Forest trails (colour coded)
[Blue dot]	Start of forest trails (detailed on trail maps)
[Blue dot]	Other forest walk areas
[Orange dot]	National cycle route 78
[Blue line]	Kintyre Way
[Black line]	Railway line
[Blue square]	Parking
[Blue square]	Easy-access facilities
[Blue square]	Tourist information
[Green square]	Viewpoint
[Green square]	Wildlife viewing
[Green square]	Picnic area
[Green square]	Forest drive
[Green square]	Prehistoric monument
[Green square]	Ancient monument
[Green square]	Fishing
[Green square]	Horse riding
[Green square]	Cycling
[Green square]	Off road cycling
[Blue square]	Non FC parking
[Blue square]	Non FC tourist information
[Blue square]	Non FC picnic area
[Blue square]	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
SCOTTISH OUTDOOR ACCESS CODE outdooraccess-scotland.com