

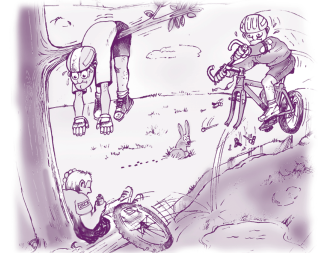
Cycle Trails in Glenlivet Cycle Trails in Glenlivet

ROUTE DESCRIPTIONS

Route 1: Glenconglass/Glen Brown (Black Trail)
Total Distance: 17 km, 10 miles. Off roads: Approx. 70%
Trail Information: A combination of farm tracks and paths, forests, hill tracks and public roads. Some sections can be muddy and wet at times. Bikes may need to be carried over stiles or walked along certain parts of the route. Livestock may be present on some sections.
Recommended start point: Campdalmore Car Park, Tomintoul (GR 164 194)
Other Car Parks: White Bridge (GR 133 209), Glenconglass Farm (GR 172 223)
Places of interest: Old Military Road, Bridge of Avon, Victor Gaffney Viewpoint.
Approximate duration: Allow 3-4 hours

This route is very varied and enjoyable with interesting off-road sections and attractive views. Surface conditions are generally hard, but the track through Glen Brown can be wet, muddy, rough and rutted in places. The public road sections are generally quiet with mostly local traffic, but please take care on the busier A939 section at the Bridge of Avon. Care is also required on the steep descent along the section of the Speyside Way from the Croughly road to Campdalmore car park at the end of the route (see below).

From Campdalmore Car Park at the N end of Tomintoul, follow the farm track, uphill past the Victor Gaffney Viewpoint to Campdalmore Farm. Continue past the farm following the route of the Old Military Road downhill (westwards) along a grassy track and then some steps, to rejoin the public road at the Bridge of Avon. Turn north along the A939, crossing the new road bridge, before turning left (SW) after 100m to join the road that leads to Kynardochit Lodge (where a Scottish Rights of Way signpost marks the public path to Dorback). Take the right fork at the entrance to the Lodge and continue SW, keeping left at the next fork in the forest road. Continue through a metal deer gate, alongside a re-planted area to eventually reach a gate where the track emerges from the forest. Just beyond the forest gate, turn right (N) and follow the grassy track, steeply uphill. At the top of the short brae, continue northwards for 100m alongside the edge of the wood, through a gap in the stock fence, then take the left fork along a muddy track in the heather. Follow this track downhill (NE), overlooking Glen Brown and continue through the fields, past the ruined cottages of Tombreck, then along the rough, muddy farm track that continues northwards through a forest shelter belt, before emerging at the hair pin bends on the A939 near the Bridge of Brown. Turn right (E) at the bends and head steeply uphill along the public road, to reach the entrance of a forest road on the left, just at the break of slope at the top of the hill. Join the forest road, crossing the stile at the gate, and then continue for approx 200m to a T-junction. Turn right (northwards) and follow the undulating forest road, through the trees, keeping to the main track, which continues past a small disused quarry before bearing right, where a fast descent leads to a turning circle, then a short section of un-metalled track through the trees to join the unclassified Strathavon public road on the west bank of the River Avon. Turn right (SE) along the public road to reach the suspension bridge across the River Avon near Achlichnie Farm. Cross the river at the bridge and head downstream along the field fence for 100m then turn right uphill (E) through the field (you may need to walk here) to join the main B9136 Strathavon road at a small gate in the fence alongside the road. Turn left (northwards) then after 50m turn right (SE) along the public road that is signposted to Croughly, heading uphill past Tomachlaggan. Stay on the public road heading SE, then S past Croughly Farm towards Tomintoul to eventually reach a sharp left hand bend, overlooking the village, where the Tomintoul Spur of the Speyside Way Long Distance Path descends from the road to a footbridge over the Conglass Water. Join the Speyside Way, following the track steeply downhill (take care if trying to cycle here!), cross the stiles and the bridge then follow the footpath which soon joins a rough track to return to the start point at Campdalmore. This last section can be by-passed if required by following the public roads to Tomintoul, through the village to return to the start point.



Route 2: Glenconglass/Strathavon (Red Trail)
Total Distance: 15 km, 9 miles. Off road: Approx. 50%
Trail Information: An interesting combination of forest road, hill tracks and quiet country roads with good views. Surface mostly hard, but hill track past Ardeight can be muddy and rough in places. Livestock are also present on this section and there are several gates/stiles to negotiate.
Recommended start point: Glenconglass Farm (GR 172 223).
Other Car Parks: Balcroch (GR154 265).
Places of interest: Detour to Knock Earth House from Balcroch Car Park – see map
Approximate duration: Allow 2-3 hours.

From Glenconglass car park follow the farm track and forest road N past the farms of Ellick and Inverchor. Head straight on (northwards) at all the road junctions keeping parallel to the Chabet Water on the right. Continue to where the road reaches the N edge of the plantation marked by a gate. Leave the woods and follow the hill track NW (still on the west side of the Chabet) then N past the ruins of Ardeight, then downhill through birchwoods to join the main Strathavon road at Ballenleish. This section passes through several enclosed fields where deer are kept. Please keep to the track and ensure gates are left closed and securely fastened.

At Ballenleish turn right (N) along road for 100m, then left (W) across road bridge (over R. Avon), to Balcroch car park, (a detour to visit the Knock Earth House can be made from this point if required-see map). From Balcroch head (SW) and follow the public road on the W bank of the Avon, through Inverlochy Farm, up river as far as the footbridge near Achlichnie Farm. Cross footbridge (over R Avon) and follow directions as for Route 1 as far as Tomachlaggan. Continue along the public road beyond Tomachlaggan for 400m then turn left (NE) to join the forest road into Carn Mellich. Follow the forest road uphill NE, keeping to the left at both junctions of the loop road on the right (this loop can also be followed if you wish to extend the ride – see map). Keep right at the next junction and continue downhill to the T junction on the outward route overlooking the Chabet Water. Turn right (SE) and retrace outbound route along the forest road to the start point.

Route 3: Carn Daimh/Glenlivet (White Trail)
Total Distance: 28 km, 17 miles.
 Off road: Approx. 70%
Trail Information: A strenuous, lengthy, challenging but highly rewarding route through varied terrain climbing to 570 m and providing spectacular views. Off road sections mainly on forest roads and farm tracks. Parts of the route can be rough, muddy, wet and exposed at times (sometimes all at once!). The public road sections are generally quiet but please take care on the Strathavon road which has many twisting and narrow corners. Livestock are present on some sections on the descent to Tomnavoulin and bikes may need to be carried over stiles or walked along certain parts of the route particularly on the ascent from Altmaglander.
Recommended start point: Glenconglass Farm (GR 172 223)
Other Car Parks: Tomnavoulin (GR 212 265), Balcroch (GR 154 265)
Places of interest: Carn Daimh Viewpoint, Glenlivet Distillery, Blairfindy Castle, Drumin Castle, Drumin Museum of Scottish Country Life, Blairfindy moorland demonstration site.
Approximate duration: Allow 4 hours.

From Glenconglass car park, follow the farm track and forest road N then NW as for Route 2. After passing the junction with the access track to Inverchor, continue NW, keeping straight on at the next junction (on the left) to reach another junction where the road turns downhill towards the Chabet Water. Leave R2 (which continues NW) and head right (NE) down to the bridge over the Chabet Water. Cross the bridge, then continue uphill (eastwards) through the woods to a quarry at the junction of several forest roads. Continue NW past the quarry taking the right fork (uphill) to the next junction. Turn right (NE) following the forest road eastwards then southwards to the summit of Carn Daimh, which provides spectacular views over the Glenlivet hills and Cairngorms. From the summit head SE along a stony track (rough in places), which is part of the Speyside Way, to re-enter woods at Carn Ellick. Enter the woods at the gate and follow the peaty track (S) through the trees to the junction in the forest marked by a wooden finger post. Turn left (N) and follow forest track downhill (signposted to Tomnavoulin), continuing through the gate at the edge of the plantation then downhill through the fields along a farm track to meet the farm road near Craighead. Continue NE, through the shelter belt of trees along the farm road past Westerton house, to reach the junction with Easter Corrie farm road, (where the main track heads E along a tarred road to reach Tomnavoulin). Leave the road at this junction heading straight on (NE) over a couple of stiles to join a path (part of Walk 5) in Clash Wood. (A detour into Tomnavoulin can be made if required – where a shop and post office provide an opportunity for refreshments). Once on the path in Clash Wood continue NE alongside the boundary fence on the

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NOTES AND INFORMATION ABOUT ACCESS

BEFORE USING THE ESTATE CYCLING TRAILS, PLEASE READ THIS INFORMATION



The Crown Estate welcomes visitors who wish to explore the Glenlivet Estate trails for walking, cycling and informal recreation. However, please remember this is a working estate with a community that relies on farming, forestry and sporting activities to earn a living. It is also an area of countryside with a rich natural heritage, supporting a range of birds and animals that can be vulnerable to disturbance, particularly during the breeding season. We therefore ask that you follow the Cycling Code (overleaf) and the Scottish Outdoor Access Code at all times.

Ordnance Survey 1:50,000 Sheet No 36 and parts of sheet 37 will be helpful and shows most of the roads, paths and tracks used. The cycling routes and

locations of car parks are shown on the map overleaf. Most routes involve a combination of "off road" sections (forest roads, farm roads and hill tracks) linked by quiet public roads and all are waymarked with a small blue "G" together with a cycling symbol, which is usually fixed to a small post. The descriptive notes below will also help with route finding, (grid references (GR) refer to OS map references). The "off road" sections are for the most part, only suitable for all terrain "mountain" bikes, as they can be rough, stony and muddy in places (and sometimes all at the same time!). Stiles are provided where fences have to be crossed and we would ask that these are used and bikes are lifted over stiles where possible, even if there is a gate close by. If you

do need to open gates please ensure they are left SHUT and securely fastened.

Certain management activities, such as deer stalking or forest harvesting activities may affect trails from time to time. Information signs are also erected during relevant management seasons, or when other management activities are taking place.

As these activities may affect your safety, please observe any warning or information signs you see and take care to act accordingly.

For further information contact the ranger staff at the Estate Information Centre in Tomintoul.

Deer Control (May, June and July / October, November)
 It is essential to reduce deer numbers by shooting to prevent damage to woodlands and farmland and keep numbers in balance with their habitat. Roe deer stalking mainly takes place in woodland areas in the evening and early morning during May, June and July. Users of the trails at this time are asked to take particular care to be aware that deer stalking may be taking place and to avoid causing disruption to shooting activities. Limited roe deer stalking also takes place in the daytime during October and November on certain hill areas, particularly in the Ladder Hills. Please contact ranger staff for further information about access at these times.

Grouse Shooting (August and September)
 This takes place on the moorland areas of the estate from 12th August – mid October (except Sundays). Cyclists using tracks through hill and moorland areas at this time of the year are asked to keep to the main hill paths (shown on map overleaf) and to avoid cycling through shooting activities. If you encounter shooting activities, please wait until it is safe to continue or divert your route and find an alternative way to your

destination. Grouse shooting does not take place on Sundays and access to all hill areas is unaffected when shooting is not in progress. All moorland birds are also particularly vulnerable to disturbance from walkers and cyclists with dogs during the breeding season (April, May and June) and we ask that care is also taken to ensure dogs are kept on a lead at all times when on open hill ground at this time of year.

Farm Livestock
 Almost all of the waymarked trails and other tracks pass through fields containing farm livestock. Please take great care not to disturb sheep and cattle when using the trails, particularly before and during the lambing and calving seasons, (March, April, May, September and October). Cyclists may occasionally encounter young cattle and bulls on some of the waymarked walks, which at times can be curious and may approach you. While it is unusual for these animals to present any threat, they may be a cause for concern. Please take care not to provoke or annoy cattle and ensure dogs are kept on leads at all times when passing through livestock (see opposite).

Dogs
 Visitors with dogs are welcome but please ensure they are kept under close control at all times. Livestock can be found on almost all areas of open land. Uncontrolled dogs can cause death, injury and abortions among valuable animals and can disturb, injure or kill roe deer and ground nesting birds. Many waters and moorland birds are particularly sensitive to disturbance from unrestricted dogs during April, May and June. Please ensure that dogs are kept on a lead at all times in areas where livestock are present and when on open ground during the nesting season, (see information on grouse shooting above).

Litter
 Litter bins are not generally provided outside village areas and we ask your cooperation in taking your litter to a place where it can be properly disposed of.

Disabled Access/Motorised Access
 Vehicular access to viewpoints/trails for elderly or disabled visitors can be arranged to certain areas. Please contact ranger staff for further information about these routes and for information about trails and forest roads suitable for wheelchairs/disabled access. Unauthorised motor vehicles of any type are not permitted on the trails.

Thank you for reading this information and for your co-operation. We hope you enjoy exploring the estate. If you would like any further details, please contact ranger staff.

grassy path that joins the forest road near the Clash Wood car park. Turn right when reaching the forest road, following it a short distance to the gate at the car park. Cross the stile and turn left (N) onto the public road (known locally as the Gallowhill Road) which continues NE past Blairfindy Farmhouse and Gallowhill. At the junction overlooking the Glenlivet Distillery (to which a detour can be made to see the visitor centre if required) continue westwards on the left fork and follow the road downhill to the next junction at Drumin Smithy. Turn left onto B9136 and continue to Drumin, where a further detour to see the Country Museum and Drumin Castle can easily be made. From Drumin head SW on the B9136 to the picnic site at Altmaglander. Turn left (S) at the picnic site leaving the public road to join an old (now redundant) short section of the road that leads across a bridge to a gate which provides access to a farm and hill track. Head uphill along the track that continues south along the eastern edge of the plantation for 1km (the going is difficult and bikes may need to be walked here) to a gate in the forest fence where the route is signposted to the right (W). Continue through the gate into the trees and follow the track for 100m to where it joins a forest road. Continue steeply uphill along the forest road which eventually levels out and opens up providing some enjoyable views over the surrounding moorland. At the highest point of the road, a small information shelter to the left provides interpretation about moorland management and wildlife. Continue S on the forest road as it descends through the trees past the junction with the loop road on the right (which can be used as an alternative if required) to reach the forest road junction near the quarry on the outward route. Retrace the outbound route from the quarry to return to the car park and starting point at Glenconglass.

Route 4: Cairn Muldonich (Purple Trail)
Total Distance: 17.5 km, 10.5 miles.
 Off road: Approx. 50%
Trail Information: A good combination of forest and public roads, though the initial ascent through woods can be tiring! Off road sections generally on smooth and hard forest roads which are good for bikes, though some sections may be rough and bumpy in places. Well sheltered with some excellent views. The route can be cycled in either direction depending on whether you wish to undertake the public road section first or last. The description below follows the anti-clockwise route.
Recommended start point: Allanreid (GR 235 249).
Other Car Parks: Forestry Commission Morinish (GR 223 303), Tomnavoulin (GR 212 265).
Places of interest: Site of the Battle of Glenlivet.
Approximate duration: Allow 2 hours.

From the car park at Allanreid head NW for 200 m along the public road then turn right (SE) to join a forest road. Follow the forest road uphill through the woods (it does level out eventually) to the where the road turns

northwards and descends steeply to cross the Allt a Chailleach Burn at a ford. Continue across the small ford and follow the forest road NW to the Estate boundary and the start of Forestry Commission woodlands (a signpost marks the boundary). Here a track to the right (E) can be used as a detour to reach the site of 'The Battle of Glenlivet (1594)'. To continue keep left following the FC red markers to the FC car park at Morinish. Turn left (SW) onto B9009 and continue southwards to Auchbreck. Join the B9008 at the hairpin bend taking the left fork at the junction and head S towards Tomnavoulin (take care on this section of public road). Just before the B9008 crosses the river Livet turn left onto the Tombae road, and head SE then E continuing up the River Livet on the public road back to Allanreid.

Route 5: The Braes of Glenlivet (Blue Trail)
Total Distance: 20 km, 12 miles (including spur to Scalán) Off road: Approx. 95%
Trail Information: Excellent varied route with off road sections on farm and hill tracks which can be fairly rough and muddy in places. Provides access to some remote and very attractive parts of the Estate, with some expansive views onto the Ladder Hills and the Braes of Glenlivet. Open and exposed in bad weather. Please ensure that all gates are left as they are found.
Recommended start point: Allanreid (GR 235 249).
Other Car Parks: Tomnavoulin (GR 212 265), Eskemulloch (GR 245 204), East Auchavaich (GR 243 209)
Places of interest: Scalán Seminary, Braes Heritage Trail (booklet available), Ladder Hills Site of Special Scientific Interest (wildlife interest).
Approximate duration: Allow 3-4 hours.

From Allanreid car park head due S along the farm track to Achdreggie. After 100m leave the road and head towards the footbridge over the R Livet. Turn left before the bridge and head south eastwards along the north bank of the river following the same route as Walk 3. After passing through a shelter belt of trees, the trail turns eastwards leaving the river for a short section before rejoining it at the ford near Inverlybe, where another bridge provides a route across the river. Cross the bridge and follow the track through a gate. Continue along the well defined track on the south bank of the river for about 1.5 km until the path meets another gate. Walk 3 leaves the track here heading SE across the moor. The cycle route continues through the gate along the hard track which after about 200m turns into a grassy track. At this point head SE away from the river (the main track continues upstream), picking up a hill track which heads uphill towards the Ladder Hills (designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest for upland plants and birds). As you reach the break of slope at the top of the brae the track turns SW and undulates for approx. 3km around the foot of the Ladder

Hills passing through a couple of gates before reaching the cottage at Ladderfoot. Continue through the small ford over the Blye Water past the cottage, picking up the track which heads westwards, then NW, to eventually reach the public road at Chapeltown. At the junction next to the Chapel, the route splits, with a spur to the left (S) which can be used as a detour to visit the Scalán Seminary. To follow the spur take the public road to the Eskemulloch car park then follow the farm track (signposted) to the Scalán. Return to Chapeltown by the same route. To continue along the main route from the chapel take the public road (N) for 400m then turn right (NE) at a phone box following the tarred road that leads to Auchnacra and Rhindou Farms. At the crossroads next to the farms, turn left (N) taking the farm track (part of Walk 3) which heads NE through the fields to Eskemulloch and Badievochel (the track can be wet muddy and rough in places). Beyond Badievochel at the junction of Walks 3 and 10 below the Bochel hill, (signposted) the cycle track leaves Walk 3 (which contours N along sheep tracks around the base of the Bochel). Head slightly downhill through a gate, to follow the track on the downside of the fence, eventually leading through open fields (where the track disappears) to reach the cottage at the Glack (Walk 3 can be followed as an alternative if required – but the going is rougher). At the Glack, pick up the track that heads downhill towards the River Livet to cross the footbridge and return to the starting point at Allanreid.

Route 6: Glenmullach Forest (Green Trail)
Total Distance: 12 km, 6 miles return.
 Off road: 90%
Trail Information: The easiest and most sheltered of the waymarked cycle trails. The route follows hard and mostly smooth forest roads which are good for bikes. A steady (but not too difficult) climb in the woods leads to an excellent viewpoint overlooking the Cairngorm Mountains. Forest trails in the Glenmullach woodland can also be followed for added interest and more varied terrain.
Recommended start point: Glenlivet Estate Office, Tomintoul (GR 172 183).
Other Car Parks: Glenmullach Forest Car Park (GR 193 168).
Places of interest: Glenmullach Forest Nature trail and forest hide, Viewpoint, Old Military Road.
Approximate duration: Allow 2 hours.

From the Estate Information Centre, head SE along the Old Military Road, through woods to join A939 at Alltatchbeg. Turn right onto main road for 1km then turn left on to Glenmullach Forest road (signposted). Follow the forest road to the car park then straight on uphill, past Glenmullach House taking left fork at the first junction in the woods. Continue uphill, then straight on at next junction past the fire pond on the right, to emerge from the trees at a gate. After the gate, turn right (NE) at the junction

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outside woods and follow the hill road to a viewpoint (GR 207 186). The road can be followed further uphill (500m) to reach the communications mast if required, but the terrain is not suitable for bikes beyond this point. Retrace route from viewpoint downhill to the junction outside woods heading straight on (SW) taking the higher level forest road back into the plantation. After a long straight, take left fork (SW). After 200 m as the road bears left to a turning circle, leave the road bearing right to join a muddy track continuing downhill (SW) through the trees. Continue along this track, which after 200m turns SE, joining the Forest Nature Trail. Follow the path downhill, going straight on at the next junction (the road to a hide goes off to the left here) then follow the track which meanders through the trees (muddy in places!) before rejoining the outbound route at the entrance to the forest close to the car park. A detour to the Forest Hide can be made from the Nature Trail to extend the route if required. Return to the Estate Office and start point via the outbound route along the A939 and Old Military Road.



OTHER CYCLING ROUTES
Clash Wood Circuit (Walk 9)
 This is an interesting 2 mile circuit along hard forest roads in Clash Wood near Tomnavoulin, with some excellent views onto the surrounding countryside. Park at the Clash Wood Car Park (GR 208 265). Follow Walk 9 waymarkers.

Tom Dubh Circuit (Walk 7)
 A short 1.5 mile circuit on grassy but generally hard forest roads in this woodland near Auchbreck in Glenlivet, with some expansive views. Bikes may need to be walked up the steep grassy track at the start of the route. Cars can be parked at the Croft Inn (GR 214 294). Follow Walk 7 waymarkers.

LONG DISTANCE ROUTES
The Speyside Way: Tomintoul Spur
 This extension to one of Scotland's most attractive Long Distance Footpaths runs from Ballindalloch Station to Tomintoul. Most of the Spur is unsuitable for bikes and the going can be very difficult, as it crosses open moorland and farmland where the track can be boggy, wet and easily damaged, or passes through fields containing livestock where gates and stiles make progress difficult. In particular, several sections of the route from Croughly to Blairfindy and Deskie Farm to Auldich are unsuitable for bikes. Cyclists wishing to follow the spur are recommended to use detours around the marked route using a combination of forest roads, public roads and the estate waymarked trails (see map) to avoid the more difficult sections. From Tomintoul to Ballindalloch cyclists will find it easier to follow the unclassified public road past Croughly Farm to Glenconglass then continue along cycle route 3 (white trail) to Carn Daimh summit, Tomnavoulin and Drumin. Leave route 3 at Drumin following the unclassified link road northwards Drumin Castle to join the B9008 which can be followed northwards to rejoin the Speyside Way at Auldich and Ballindalloch. Further information about cycling on the Speyside Way is available from the Moray Council Countryside Ranger Service. Tel: 01340 881266 or from the Speyside Way website: www.speysideway.org

Other Rights of Way and Hill Tracks
 Several old routes and rights-of-way radiate across the hills from Glenlivet (see map overleaf). Some of these routes provide lengthy and challenging cycle trails providing access to other trail networks within the National Park. These include: the route up the River Avon by Inchroy and Glangairn to Deeside, (starting as the Tomintoul Country Walk); the Ladder Path from the Braes of Glenlivet to Donside; the track from Scalán to the Lecht mine; the 'Stephar Road' from upper Glenlivet to Cabrach; the old 'Peat Track' over the Cromdales and the route from Tomintoul to Dorback Lodge (see Speyside Way above). Whisky smugglers and 'reivers' (cattle thieves) formally used many of these routes during the Seventeenth and Eighteenth Centuries. All these routes are marked by fingerpost signs at the principal access points/car parks but they are not waymarked along their length. Some pass through high and very exposed hill areas, where the route may be indistinct in places. Walkers and cyclists are advised to ensure they are properly equipped and are able to use a map and compass when following these paths. Additional details of these routes can be obtained from the Estate Ranger or in the Scottish Rights of Way Society guide to Hill Tracks (available in most bookshops). The hill routes that traverse the Ladder and Cromdale Hills are NOT suitable for bikes.

