

## **Killin - Ben Lawers - Glen Lyon - Glen Lochay - Killin (2-3 hrs)**

From the house turn right leaving Killin and going east away from the village over the Bridge of Lochay with its pub. Travel the North Loch Tay road (A827) past Finlarig power station (notice the water pipe), past the Morenish centre (used to be a hotel) on the right and the small Morenish Chapel on the left. At Edramucky take a left turn (signposted National Trust Visitor Centre ). The road climbs steeply and breaks out of the trees and over a cattle grid to the foot of Ben Lawers. Go past the visitor centre and the reservoir (providing the highest head of any hydro power station in Scotland). Watch out for the groups of stones which are all that remain of the 'Shielings' that dotted the hills. Just before you descend into Bridge of Balgie there is a car park on your right with a short walk through the trees to Creag Chrannach with a 360 degree panoramic view of the surroundings. Continue into Bridge of Balgie and turn left after the bridge. The road twists and turns and goes up and down like a roller coaster so take care. Down to your left is Meggernie Castle . Just after Gallin is a dead end right turn to Loch An Daimh and its hydro dam, a pleasant diversion and of interest to hill walkers. Carrying on, you pass Stronuich Reservoir and power station and eventually reach Loch Lyon. You have to turn left here over the bridge across the River Lyon and climb up the single track road which eventually descends into Glen Lochay (note: there is no phone signal up here and no GPS either!). When you reach the bottom turn left and cross the cattle grid at Kenknock farm and carry on down Glen Lochay until you reach Lochay power station Turn right at the fork in the road and go past the distribution (danger of death) sub-station and then the Moirlanich Longhouse (call in if it's open) and then turn right at the main road and back to the house. You can start this route with a complete tour of Glen Lyon by taking the left turn (marked Moirlanich Longhouse) and taking the next left (marked no through road) at Finlarig power station . Travel through Glen Lochay until you cross a final cattle grid with Kenknock farm house to your right. There is parking here for hill walkers and a cross roads. Take the right hand road up the hill. You climb over the hill and down to the first of the Glen Lyon dams. Just keep on this road passing through Bridge of Balgie and on eventually past Castle Menzies to Aberfeldy.

## **Killin - Lochearnhead - Crieff- Comrie - Aberfeldy (all day)**

Turn left out of the house, through the village, across the bridge and up to Lix Toll (Lix means Hard climb) junction. Turn left onto the A85 and climb past the old Killin Junction station and then down Glen Ogle to Lochearnhead, notice the railway across the glen to your right. Turn left after the railway bridge supports as you enter Lochearnhead and travel along Loch Earn. St Fillans marks the end of Loch Earn. As you enter Comrie you may divert to your right and visit the Trout farm and try your luck at fishing! Go straight through Comrie (count the churches in-use, or disused) towards Crieff 5 miles away. When you enter Crieff turn left and climb up the main street. Stop for some shopping or a bite to eat. Carry on the A85 to Gilmerton and take the A822 (left fork), through Sma' Glen to Amulree. It would be a shame to miss Glen Quaich but you can carry straight on past the 'Lonely Inn' (known to Wordsworth) and taking the left turn onto the A826 head straight to Aberfeldy. Or take the left turn just before Amulree proper into Glen Quaich and past Loch Freuchie and wind your way up one side of the hills and down the other into Kenmore. A right turn will take you through to Aberfeldy. Leave Aberfeldy on the A827 towards Kenmore, across the river to your right you should see Castle Menzies, look out for the stone circle on you left further on and just before you get to Kenmore a strange looking house built for Queen Victoria's visit to Taymouth Castle (which you may spot to your right). Go straight through Kenmore, over the bridge and just keep going along the north Loch Tay road to Killin. If you prefer you can take the left fork at the start of Kenmore go and onto the South Loch road. Immediately on your right is the Crannog Centre. If you are early enough take the educational tour (about 1 hour) and learn how to light fire with sticks. The South loch road is very pretty, but very narrow, with some lovely views down the loch.

## **Killin - Callander - Stirling (shopping day trip/Wallace Monument/Stirling Castle) (72 miles)**

Turn left out of the house, through the village, across the bridge and up to Lix Toll junction. Turn left onto the A85 and climb past the old Killin Junction station and then down Glen Ogle to Lochearnhead, notice the railway across the glen to your right. Carry straight on through Balquidder, Strathyre and Kilmahog (try the woollen mill shops and see Hamish the bull). Shop in Callander. Exit Callander and carry on towards Stirling. You might try a stop to look round the Antique Centre. Perhaps a stop at Doune to visit the Castle before carrying on through Meldrum (see if you can read the two words on the metal roofed barn on your left) and past Blair Drummond Safari Park and finally past Dobbies Garden Centre. Take a left into Stirling. You should see the Castle ahead before bearing left into town. Find a car park (the Thistle is convenient) and go shopping in the Mall. If you have the time a visit to the Wallace Monument is well worth it - use the free bus to get from the visitor centre and car park to the monument then climb the 246 steps to the top to enjoy the magnificent views. Retrace your route to get home.

## **Killin - Callander - Trossachs Park (Bridge of Monteith, Inchmaholm Priory) picnic - sightseeing (all day)**

Follow trip Stirling above until you get to Kilmahog. Take a left and follow the A821 to Brig o' Turk and Loch Katrine pier. Consult the Loch Katrine timetable to see when the Sir Walter Scott travels (see <http://www.incallander.co.uk/steam.htm> or phone 018770376). Alternatively you could hire bicycles to cycle round this unique loch, much loved and feted by Sir Walter Scott and his friends (no watersports as the Loch is a reservoir for Glasgow). Coming back from the pier, take the road to Aberfoyle and divert onto the Queen Elizabeth Forest Park loop road (toll road). This meanders through the forest with plenty of stopping places to get out and stretch your legs or picnic. In Aberfoyle take the left road (A81) to Port of Monteith (home of celebrity chef and his cookery school, Nick Nairn) and the Lake of Monteith. A minor detour and you can set the board to alert the boat to come and take you across the lake to Inchmaholm Priory, once the home to Mary Queen of Scots. Carrying straight on, on the A81 will bring you back to Callander for a left turn onto the A85 to journey home. At Kingshouse on the way back you might like to turn off towards the Hotel and the road marked to Rob Roy's Grave. This is a dead end road which travels along Loch Voile and Loch Doine, but is very pretty. There is a nice walk and waterfall and Balquidder church where you will find not only Rob Roy's family grave, but that of the MacLarens upon whose gravestone is carved a grizzly tale.

## **Killin - Crianlarich - Tyndrum - Oban - Taynuilt - Loch Etive cruise - Glen Coe (all day) (a lot of miles)**

Turn left out of the house, through the village, across the bridge and up to Lix Toll junction. Turn right onto the A85 through Crianlarich and Tyndrum. Take the left turn after the 'Green Welly Stop' (still the A85) towards Oban. Pass through Taynuilt and under the bridge at Connel and into Oban. Oban grew up around the Whisky Distillery which was built first. Take a Tour and have a wee dram. The docks where the MacBrayne ferries depart from has a very good fish restaurant (No 1 the Pier). If you're feeling fit then take a walk up to MacCaig's Tower, looking like a Roman theatre, it was in fact started in Victorian times to keep the local stonemasons employed. Mr McCaig died before completion so it is now his memorial. Take the time to find Pulpit hill and admire the view across Kerrera Island and the Firth of Lorne to the Isle of Mull. Plan to get back to Taynuilt at about 12 (please check cruise times before you leave). Follow the signs to Loch Etive Cruises until you get to the pier car park. There are 2 cruises, one is 90 minutes and goes to the sea to see the seals, the second is 3 hrs and goes past the seals and continues to the head of Loch Etive. In summer you have time to go back towards Oban and turn north over the Connel bridge on the A828, a road which roughly follows the coast up to Ballachulish, follow the A82 to go through Glen Coe and back to Tyndrum. You will probably get back to Tyndrum about 7pm so now is a good time to stop at the 'Real Food Cafe' in Tyndrum for Fish and Chips. Retrace your route to get home.

- **Killin - Crianlarich - Tyndrum - Glen Orchy - Cruachan Power station**

- 
- Turn left out of the house, through the village, across the bridge and up to Lix Toll junction. Turn right onto the A85 through Crianlarich and Tyndrum. Carry straight on after the 'Green Welly Stop' and climb past the snow gates on the A82 towards Fort William. Having reached the highest point, the road descends. Keep an eye out for the small road on your left, before the Bridge of Orchy Hotel. Take this road to [Glen Orchy](#) . The road closely follows the river which has some magnificent falls, shallows and rapids. Eventually you will reach the A85 to Oban. Turn right and past Loch Awe and [Cruachan Power station](#) and visitor centre is on your left. Regular trips leave the visitor centre, by bus, into the mountain-side where this hydroelectric power station has been buried in a man made cavern.