



Walk on the WILD SIDE

JO VAUGHAN ENJOYS A SCENIC AND GENTLE STROLL AROUND A PICTURESQUE VILLAGE IN THE SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS

INFORMATION | GENERAL

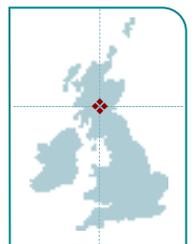
NEAREST CLUB SITE: Maragowan, Aberfeldy Road, Killin FK21 8TN. Tel 01567 820245. Open 23 Mar-5 Nov
DISTANCE: 3.4 miles/5.4km
TERRAIN: Good paths
NUMBER OF STILES: 0
ESSENTIAL EQUIPMENT: Ordnance Survey Explorer 378, Ben Lawers & Glen Lyon (Loch Tay, Killin, & Kenmore)
LEVEL OF DIFFICULTY: Easy
REFRESHMENTS: In Killin
TOILETS: None

THE SMALL village of Killin nestles among some of Scotland's most spectacular Highland scenery. There are two Club sites here – Maragowan, a full-facility site on the banks of the river Lochay, and Clachan, which has no toilet block. It's the former from which our easy walk begins, taking you past the ruins of Finlarig Castle before heading along the banks of Loch Tay. Then we head back into Killin, to the spectacular Falls of Dochart.

Despite not having any great height as the water drops over the rocks, the Falls

gush in a mass of white water and continue beneath the stone bridge leading to the village. Most of the time it's possible to sit on the rocks and admire the wonderful view, although, be warned, it can be slippery. This is a great place to enjoy your sarnies, although there's also an excellent pub here – the Falls of Dochart Inn – where the menu sounds particularly tempting!

Our walk also takes us past Fingal Stone where, legend has it, the grave of Fingal is found – he was one of the heroes of Celtic mythology. ■



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INFORMATION | TOURISM

VisitScotland Stirling, Breadalbane
Folklore Centre, Falls of Dochart, Killin,
Perthshire FK21 8XE. Tel 01567 820254

DIRECTIONS

1 Leave the site via its main entrance and turn left along the road. Almost immediately turn left again down Pier Road. Cross the bridge, pass the 'No Through Road' signs, then continue up the road, past the cemetery.

2 Pass the ruins of Finlarig Castle on your left, still continuing along the same road. Just before joining the side of the Loch, turn right into a small parking area with a large (green and white) 'Please take your litter home' sign. Continue ahead through a kissing gate, adjacent to a metal gate with another green sign on it.

3 Walk along the trodden footpath that leads between the Loch and the stone wall. Follow the footpath around to the right where the Loch is fed by a river, passing through a wooden kissing gate. Pass through another kissing gate and continue along the riverside footpath, heading over the boardwalks where appropriate.

4 When you come to the iron bridge, pass through the metal kissing gate and turn left across the bridge. Continue along the disused railway embankment. When you get to the road veer right and then left to continue ahead past some houses, crossing the entrance to Old Mart Road. Keep to the left side of the road, continuing down the old railway line, to the left of a wooden telegraph pole.

5 Continue as the path crosses the river. Soon, when you meet a lane, veer right so the river is now on your right. Walk past the houses and through the gate, and you'll arrive at the road bridge beside the Falls of Dochart. Turn right, heading over a stone

bridge, while admiring the Falls of Dochart on your left.

6 Turn right along the road (signposted 'Aberfeldy - A827'). Walk past the parking area and the Costcutter supermarket before turning left up a road just past Drumfinn Guest House (which has flags flying outside). Continue up the steeply ascending road as it bends to the left. Soon, turn right into Stewart Road, and at the end turn right again down Fingal Road.

7 At the end of the road, veer left down a public footpath (in front of a small pond). Go through a wooden gate and to your left is Fingal Stone. Go through a metal gate and veer right, heading back towards the village, passing a playing field.

8 Before you get to the wrought iron gates turn left toward the children's play area and walk between the houses. Walk through the car park to the main road, and turn left towards the Killin Hotel. Continue until you return to the site entrance.



INFORMATION | ATTRACTIONS

- **Breadalbane Folklore Centre**, Falls of Dochart, Killin, Perthshire FK21 8XE. Tel 01567 820254 or see breadalbanefolklorecentre.com. Open: Apr to Oct from 10am-5pm. Cost: adults, £2.75; OAPs, £2.20; children, £1.80. Housed in a restored mill, complete with a working waterwheel, the Centre traces the fascinating story of Scotland's clans and the Scottish Highlands. Disabled access: to ground floor only
- **Glenlyon Gallery**, Oakbank, Bridge of Balgie, Glenlyon, Aberfeldy. Tel 01887 866260 or see glenlyongallery.com. Open: Mar to Oct from Thu to Tue, and selected days during the winter. Houses a continuously changing exhibition of the work of Scottish artist Alan B Hayman. Disabled access: downstairs only
- **Moiranich Longhouse**, nr Killin. Tel 01567 820988 (National Trust for Scotland office) or see nts.org.uk. Open: 1 May to 30 Sep, Wed and Sun from 2-5pm. Cost: adults, £3; concessions, £2; NTS members free. A traditional cruck frame cottage and byre dating from the mid 19th century with many of its original features. Some provision for disabled visitors