



DESTINATION **Callander**

The Falls of Dochart, Loch Tay, Ben Lawer's Nature Reserve, Scotland's Longest Glen, An Ancient Yew Tree, An Iron Age Dwelling and Gourmet Chocolate

Notes: This is a trip for a clear day to enjoy spectacular views from winding mountain roads. Make sure you have plenty fuel before you set off from Callander, the fuel stops are few and far between. There are long stretches of single track roads where it is impossible to drive faster than 25 miles per hour please don't underestimate the short distances – this is a full day's adventure. Much of this route has no mobile phone signal. Please park in designated parking areas only, never park in a passing place on a single track road. There are lots of beautiful picnic spots so visit the local bakeries, deli or sandwich shops before you leave Callander (please do not leave any litter.)

Begin your journey and head north west on the A84 from Callander following the course of the Garbh Uisge through the Pass of Leny, in the shadow of Ben Ledi. Enjoy beautiful views to your left over Loch Lubnaig. Continue north on the A84 through the little village of Strathyre and on to Lochearnhead with a view over Lochearn on your right. Stay on the main road (now the A85) and drive on to Killin (approximately 18 miles from Callander). Turn right from the A85 on to the A827. Please note the fuel station at this junction (LIX Toll) is the last fuel stop. Follow the course of the River Dochart for 2 miles in to the picturesque highland village of Killin.

Stop and admire the spectacular Falls of Dochart as the white water crashes over the rocks and tiny island of Inchbuie, the ancient burial ground of the Clan McNab. There are lots of quaint little shops and cafes in Killin. If you are ready for coffee we can recommend The Old Smiddy. Continue your journey through the village of Killin on the A827 for about 4 miles enjoying the magnificent view over Loch Tay. Leave the A827 and turn left on to the "Bridge of Balgie/Ben Lawers" road. Thanks to recent timber harvesting there are now spectacular mountain views as this single track road climbs high into the Ben Lawers Nature Reserve (you may feel your ears pop). There is a large parking area where you can enjoy a short walk over the Ben Lawers Nature Trail. Experienced walkers can enjoy tackling one of the "Bens". Ben Lawers is the highest mountain in Scotland outside the Nevis and Cairngorm mountain ranges. Head straight on over the pass on the main single track road passing Lawers Dam on your left (Caution - Please do not walk on the dam.). There are some lovely picnic spots along the way. Continue on into Bridge of Balgie (approximately 13 miles from Killin).

Turn right and enter Glen Lyon – the longest Glen in Scotland! Follow the course of the River Lyon to your right (this road is a little wider but drive with caution and take care on the blind summits). Follow this scenic road for approximately 12 miles then turn left following the sign to Fortingall. Here you will find the relics of the ancient Yew tree in the church yard which is estimated to be at least 2000 years old (in 1769 the Yew tree's multiple trunks were measured at a massive 52 feet!). The Fortingall Hotel is very nice if you are ready for a break. (The Keltneyburn Smithy is also well worth a visit but please call ahead to check it is open 01887 830276). Return to the main Glen Lyon road and follow signs for Kenmore/Aberfeldy B846. After ½ mile turn right following signs for Kenmore. You will soon pass Karelia House on your left where you can stop for tea and cakes. Keen knitters and quilters will love the huge range of yarns and cotton.

As you arrive in Kenmore “The Courtyard” restaurant and parking area is on your left. There is also a lovely riverbank walk (turn left just before the stone bridge). Alternatively drive over the bridge and into the pretty conservation village of Kenmore. Stop and admire the magnificent view over Loch Tay from the little beach. Drive on through Kenmore and turn right following signs for “The Scottish Crannog Centre”. (The Crannog Centre parking area on your left.) Experience what life was like 2,500 years ago in this reconstructed replica of an ancient loch dwelling. If you are ready for a break The Taymouth Marina next door has a lovely restaurant and outdoor deck with beautiful views over Loch Tay.



You now have a choice:

Return to Callander: If you are tired you can return to Callander via the north Loch Tay Road A827/A85/A84. It's approximately 37 miles from Kenmore back to Callander. (The south Loch Tay road is also an option but please note it is a single track road).

Extend your trip: Return to Kenmore following the A827, heading east this time and following signs for Aberfeldy. Aberfeldy is a bustling town with lots of shops and cafés (The Watermill is especially nice). Visit Dewar's Distillery or enjoy a lovely walk through the woodlands that surround the steep gorge and waterfalls at the Birks of Aberfeldy. Continue east on the A827 and on to the pretty Highland hamlet of Grandtully. You can watch the white water of the River Tay or treat yourself to a tasting plate at The Highland Chocolatier.

Return back heading west on the A827 to Killin, then the A85/A84 to Callander.

We hope you enjoyed this Great Day Out



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