

16 GLEN FINNAN to LOCH ARKAIG

There is no accommodation at the end of the route. However, cars can be met at Strathan.

Glen Finnan to Loch Beoraid

Landranger Map: 40

OS Maps Central Grid Reference:

NM 900 850

There are two routes between Glen Finnan and Loch Beoraid. One goes via Fraoch-bheinn. The other goes via Allt Feith a Chatha.

Via Fraoch-bheinn

The route begins directly behind Glen Finnan station, and climbs the long grassy ridge all the way to the summit of Fraoch-bheinn. The next stage is due west along the broad ridge to Sgurr an Utha and Sidhean Mor. On descending due west to the bealach, there is a path straight down to Kinlochbeoraid.

Distance: 5 miles (8 km)

Height of ascent : 2480 feet (750 m)

Naismith time: 2 hours 51 mins

Via Allt Feith a Chatha

From the A830, the easiest way to pick up the route is to start at the bridge over the Allt an Utha, just one and a half miles west of Glen Finnan station. At this point, there is a parking area on the south side of the road. The path over to Kinlochbeoraid is found by walking through a gap in the bushes on the north side of the road, and following the stream. At the end of the plantation fence, a cart track is joined on the right. Once over the Allt an Utha, the route then follows the Allt Feith a' Chatha

all the way to the bealach. From there, the descent down the path to Kinlochbeoraid is straightforward.

Distance: 2.5 miles (4 km)

Height of ascent: 825 feet (250 m)

Naismith time: 1 hour 11 mins

Loch Beoraid to Sgurr Thuilm

Landranger Map: 40

OS Maps Central Grid Reference:

NM 900 860

The route is via Sgurr nan Coireachan. A simple, though strenuous, line is a steep climb to the right up Ruighe Breac to Sgurr a Choire Riabhaich. Then, the ridge climbs north to the summit of Sgurr nan Coireachan.

The walk eastwards over Meall an Tarmachain and Beinn Garbh to Sgurr Thuilm is superb. There are fine views down into Glean Pean, and over the intervening ridge of Carn Mor to the north side of Glen Dessary, and another Sgurr nan Coireachan. There is no difficulty in keeping to the crest of the ridge, which never becomes very narrow. Moreover, the way is marked by a line of rusty iron posts. In winter, there is usually a big cornice overhanging the north-facing coire between Beinn Garbh and Sgurr Thuilm. It is wise to keep well to the right along this section.

From the summit of Sgurr Thuilm, the interesting view is eastward, where Charles could see the enemy below. An important feature to note at the head of Loch Arkaig is the ruin of the garrison building by the track along the north side of the loch. There are also two ruined cottages on the

south side of the loch. The one the left, is believed to have been Glenpean's cottage, where Charles had spent a night on his flight from Culloden.

Distance: 6 miles (10 km)

Height of ascent: 4360 feet (1320 m)

Naismith time: 4 hours 12 mins

Sgurr Thuilm to Strathan

Landranger Map: 40

OS Maps Central Grid Reference:

NM 980 910

The descent from the summit of Sgurr Thuilm follows a north-easterly direction to

a short plateau. It may be that Charles spent the day here, rather than on the summit of Sgurr Thuilm, because the contemporary accounts report Charles resting on 'Mamnynleallum', i.e. the breast of Sgurr Thuilm.

From this shoulder, Charles would have descended Coire Chaisil. The descent is without difficulty all the way to Glen Pean. The route to Strathan follows the river to a bridge just beyond the point where the Allt a' Chaorainn enters the River Pean. From the other side of the river, a track leads all the way to Strathan.

Distance: 4 miles (6 km)

Naismith time: 1 hour 12 mins

Gaelic Place Name Details

<i>Name</i>	<i>Pronunciation</i>	<i>Translation</i>
Allt a' Chaorainn	alt a kherin	stream of the rowan
Allt Feith a Catha	alt feh a ka-ah	stream of the bog of the battle
Allt an Utha	alt an oo-a	stream of the udder
Beinn Garbh	behn gar-ev	rough mountain
Coire Chaisil	kora khazil	corrie of the castle
Fraoch-bheinn	fraokh vehn	heather mountain
Meall an Tarmachain	myowl tarmachin	hill of the ptarmigan
Sgurr a' Choire Riabhaich	sgurr a kora ree-a-vikh	peak of the grey corrie
Sgurr nan Coireachan	sgurr nan korrichan	peak of the corries
Sgurr Thuilm	sgurr hool-em	peak of the torrent
Sgurr an Utha	sgurr an oo-a	peak of the udder
Sidhean Mòr <i>should be</i>		
Sithean Mòr	see-yan moor	large hill