

Sunday June 4th 2023

Closing date Thursday June 1st

Long Walk – Carn a' Mhaim (1037m) Ben Macdui (1309m). Cycle to Derry Lodge

Start at Linn of Dee Cark Park (NO 064898) and cycle to Derry Lodge. Leave the bikes and head up Gleann Laoigh Bheag, crossing the Luibeg Burn then NW up the steep path, passing the 1014m top and on to Carn a' Mhaim (NN 994952). Follow the ridge NNW, descend to the bealach then climb NE on a boulder strewn route up Alt Clach nan Taillear and skirt the crags to Ben Macdui (NN 989989). Descend via Sron Riach, crossing the ford at Luibeg Burn and return to the bikes at Derry Lodge.

Total distance 30 km (20km walk / 10 km cycle), Ascent 1225 m, Approx. 10 hrs. OS Map 43. Walk involves steep climbing on stony paths with boulders on ascent Ben Macdui and descent via Sron Riach. Good fitness level is required. Please indicate if willing to drive or need a lift and if bringing a bike. Meet 7am St Peters Heritage Centre, Peterculter or 8:30am at Linn of Dee Car Park (£3 pay and display, free to NTS members). If not cycling, option to start from Linn of Dee at 8am and meet at Derry Lodge at 9am. Book through Long Walk Coordinator Geoff Weighill.

Short Walk – Carn na Drochaide 818m from Linn of Quoich

Circular walk from the end of road car park at Linn of Quoich (NO116910). We will walk eastward along the track for a while then find a faint track ascending uphill towards Creag a' Chleirich 650m, thereafter faint path/off track descending around the gulley Clais nan Cat and ascending to Carn na Drochaide, forging ahead to Carn na Criche 737m. From this summit head northeast down to Gleann an t-Slugain, here picking up the main path upstream to the junction that allows us to turn west and follow the Quoich all the way back on good track to the Punch Bowl, a return that involves a wide burn crossing. Total distance 18km. Ascent 670m, Time approx. 6.5 hours. Moderate level of fitness is required. Meet 8.00am at St Peters, Peterculter. Book through the walks co-ordinator James Brownhill by end of Thursday 1st June advising if you wish to drive and offer lifts, or prefer to accept a lift and not drive.

Sunday Saunter - Ballater-Glen Gairn

Start in Ballater, follow the minor road to the Pass of Ballater road (B972) to track at NO376972. Height is quickly gained and beyond Creagan Riabhach the ground levels off before a path at NO364995 is reached (which offers an alternative shorter walk). The main track descends into open moor, and the path starting at NJ360005, a turns to the west way down into Glen Gairn whaer to the old railway line could be used, or alternatively the A93 pavement. Either leading back to Ballater and the cars. **Meet Ballater in the Station Square at 10:30, 11k; 4.5hrs; 300m ascent.** Bookings by Thurs June 1st.

Walkers must wear walking boots (gaiters essential), carry WARM and waterproof clothing, hat and gloves and take plenty of food and liquids.

Culter hillwalking club has no members who are qualified leaders or instructors. Therefore anyone volunteering to assist the club on a walk cannot be held responsible for other members' welfare. Members must be aware they are solely responsible for themselves at all times. Hillwalking and mountaineering are activities with a danger of personal injury and death. Those participating in these activities should be aware of the risks and accept the responsibility for their own actions and involvement. No responsibility can be accepted by Culter Hillwalking club committee, members, guests or co-ordinators of walks for any mishap, which may occur, during a walk. Dog owners must ensure that their dogs are on a short lead at all times.