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## Explore Scotland's Forest Parks

- 1 Glenmore
- 4 Argyll
- 2 Tay
- 5 Tweed Valley
- 3 Queen Elizabeth
- 6 Galloway



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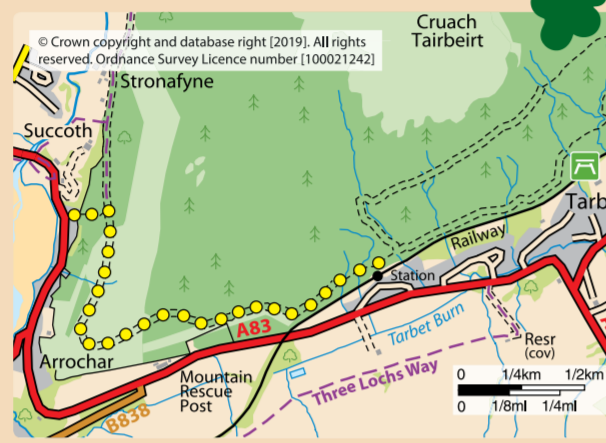
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## 1 Cruach Tairbeirt

These pretty woods nestle above the pass through which warlike Norsemen once land-hauled their longships from Loch Long to Loch Lomond. Today, the secluded hillside is perfect for finding some peace.

**Arrochar Trail** ●●●  
Linking Arrochar and Tarbet Station, this path passes through attractive birchwoods and provides wonderful views across Loch Long to the Arrochar Alps.

Uneven gravel path with some short rocky sections. Long steep slopes. Some sections may be muddy.  
**strenuous**  
2½ miles / 3.9 km  
Allow 1½ hours



## 2 Ardgartan

Where the lively Croe Water washes the foot of the Cobbler is a dramatic landscape that has attracted travellers for centuries. Make your own journey along the tree-lined river as it tumbles towards Loch Long. Salmon swim in its waters, while otters play where it meets the loch. Each spring, the Croe Water's banks are draped with swathes of bluebells.



On a bike, you can follow the moderate 7 mile (11km) Ardgartan Peninsula and Collessan Glen route.

**Riverside Trail** ●●●  
A delightful stroll through the beech and oak woodland alongside the sparkling Croe Water.

Firm gravel surface with some grassy and uneven sections. Includes some exposed tree roots and very muddy sections. Two short steep slopes, a bridge and some broad steps.  
**moderate**  
1½ miles / 2.4 km  
Allow 1 hour

**Loch Shore Trail** ●●●  
A great combination of river bank and loch shore with good views across Loch Long

Uneven gravel surface, with some narrow, grassy and rough rocky sections. Includes some short steep slopes and one bridge. Some very muddy parts. Look out for vehicles along access road.  
**moderate**  
2½ miles / 3.7 km  
Allow 1½ hours

## 3 Lochgoilhead

At the head of Loch Goil, explore pretty woodland where the beautiful Donich Falls are framed by towering conifers and join generations of travellers passing along the old Duke's Path.

**Glen Donich Trail** ●●●  
Follow an ancient Argyll road to discover the glorious Donich Waterfalls at the head of a secluded glen.

Uneven gravel paths, with rough and narrow rocky sections. Occasional patch may be muddy. Long steep slopes for 600m. Includes some rough steps, a kissing gate and a stile.  
**strenuous**  
2½ miles / 4.1 km  
Allow 1½ hours



# Argyll Forest Park

Where great forests meet Atlantic shores



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## Welcome to Argyll Forest Park

Where great forests meet Atlantic shores

Discover this beautiful, tree-cloaked corner of Scotland to walk, ride and relax in Britain's oldest forest park. Trobhad is cuir eòlas air cuairtean-coille a' cheàrnaidh àlainn seo den Ghàidhealtachd. Air chois no air rothar: tha an roghainn agadsa!

Today, you can explore Cowal's most inspiring woodlands on a network of well-managed trails. In this Highland landscape of mountain and glen, forest and water, you can discover breathtaking views, picnic by peaceful lochs, reflect on unique Gaelic heritage and find exhilarating challenges on your bike.

You will encounter some of the biggest trees in Britain here. Conifers especially love Cowal, with its cool, moist climate and long summer days. There are also many native woods, rich with oak, birch, alder and willow.

Iconic Highland wildlife thrives here. Red squirrels are common while red and roe deer roam among the trees. If you are lucky, you might glimpse otters playing or golden eagles flying overhead.



## Map Key and Trail

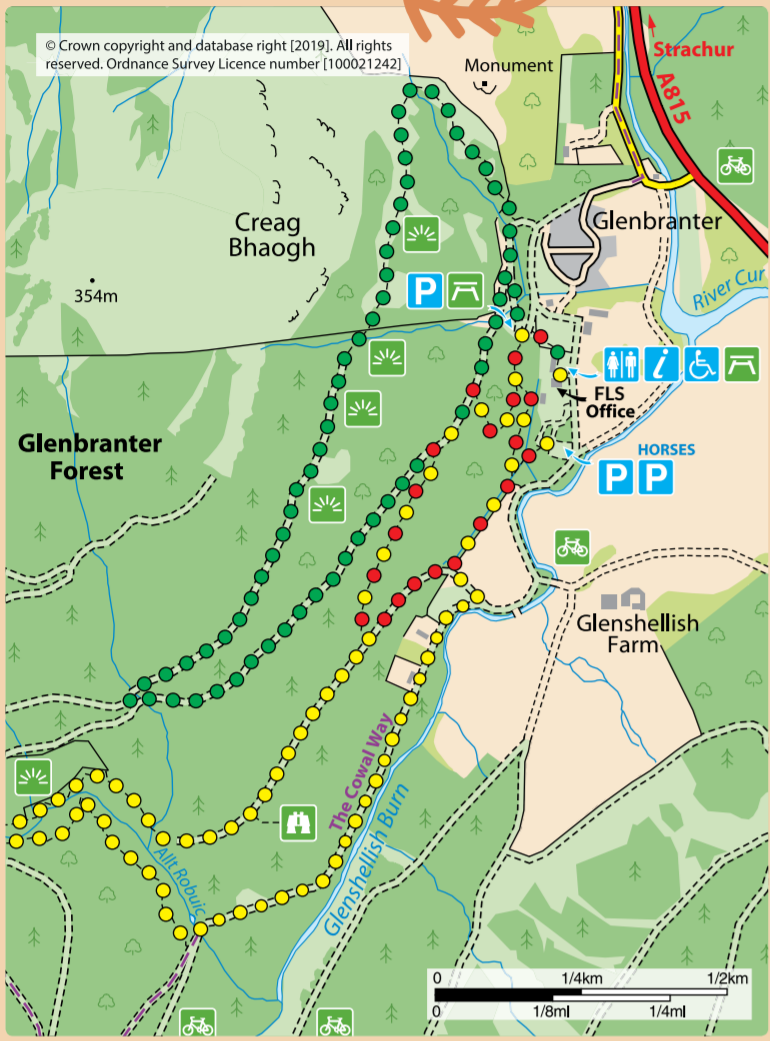
Forestry and Land Scotland	Information
Land	Parking
Woodland	Easy access facilities
Other Woodland	Toilets
Forest Park Boundary	Cycling
National Park Boundary	Picnic table
Main road	Viewpoint
Secondary road	Wildlife viewing
Minor road	Non-FLS parking
Forest road	Non FLS Caravan site
Track road	Non FLS toilets
Path	Non FLS easy-access facilities
Forest trails (colour waymarked)	
Start of forest trails	
Other forest trails	
West Highland way	
Other long distance trails	
Cycle route	

**Take care on the hills**  
Please remember that the weather on the hills can change very quickly. Even in summer, conditions on the tops of hills are often much colder and windier than at low levels, despite clear skies.

## 4 Glenbranter

Discover **spectacular waterfalls** in the lush Allt Robuic gorge, **towering conifers** and views over **Loch Eck** in this stunning woodland. The estate was once owned by **music hall star Sir Harry Lauder**, who sold it to the Forestry Commission in 1921.

Take your bike the **9 miles (14.5km)** along the undulating **West Loch Eck Trail** between Glenbranter and Benmore.



### Broadleaves Trail ●●●

A charming wander through native oak, birch and hazel woodland, and a fine avenue of cypress and beech that was planted for the Glenbranter Estate.

Firm but uneven gravel surface throughout. Includes some steep slopes and a flight of steps.



1 mile / 1.5 km  
Allow ¼ hour

### Glen Eck Trail ●●●

The stiff but rewarding ascent below Creag Bhaogh reveals wonderful views across Glen Eck to Beinn Bheula and Beinn Mhòr.

Long steep slopes for up to 500m. Firm gravel and grassy surface throughout. Includes some short flights of steps.



2 miles / 3.2 km  
Allow 1½ hours

### Waterfall Trail ●●●

A dramatic route up the Allt Robuic gorge, where native oakwoods cloak a series of spectacular waterfalls.

Uneven gravel paths with exposed tree roots and narrow or muddy sections. Includes a number of steep slopes with flights of uneven steps. Several bridges.



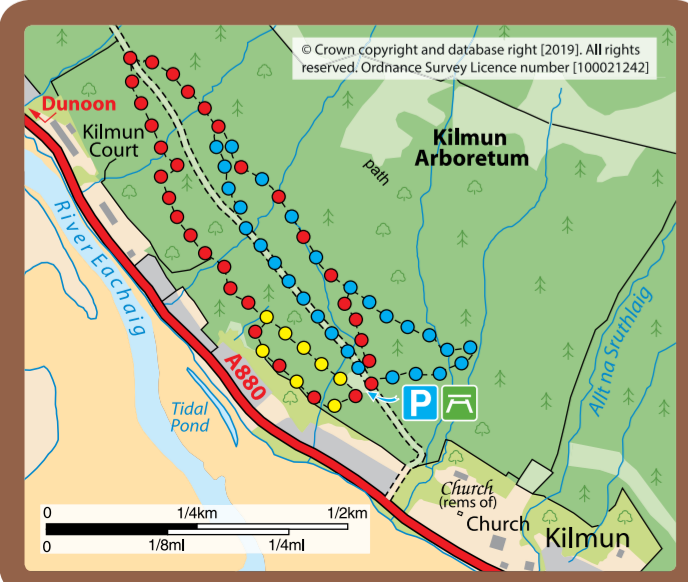
2½ miles / 3.6 km  
Allow 1½ hours

## 8 Kilmun

Wander the woodlands of the world in this **remarkable hillside arboretum**. Since the 1930s, **hundreds of species** have been planted here to test their worth as **timber producers**. Many thrived – see for yourself as you explore Kilmun's **well-maintained paths**. In the summer heat, the **different scents** are as striking as the different shapes and

Direach bho chionn ghoirid, b' i sgìre Ghàidhlig dha-rìribh a bh' ann an Comhghall, loma-làn de sgeulachdan, òrain, is eachdraidh, is gun e ach ceum beag biodach bho ùpraid a' bhàile mhòir.

Just a short time ago Cowal was a truly Gaelic district, brimful of stories, songs, and history, and just a little step from the uproar of the city.



### John Jackson Trail ●●●

A brief introduction to the exotic species of the arboretum, taking in ornamental maples, Japanese cedars and Himalayan spruces.

Firm gravel surface throughout with some slightly uneven sections. First section is wide and easy-going, the return includes short steep slopes and one bridge 0.9m wide.



¼ mile / 0.4 km  
Allow ¼ hour

### Conifer Trail ●●●

Climb the hillside to encounter redwoods and sequoias from California and monkey puzzles from South America, as well as great views over Holy Loch and the mountains of Cowal.

Firm but uneven gravel surface, with some grassy sections. Some long steep slopes.



¼ mile / 1.3 km  
Allow ½ hour

### Eucalyptus Trail ●●●

Visit some guests from Down Under on this breathtaking circuit of the arboretum. On a warm day, the wonderful aroma will transport you to the Australian bush.

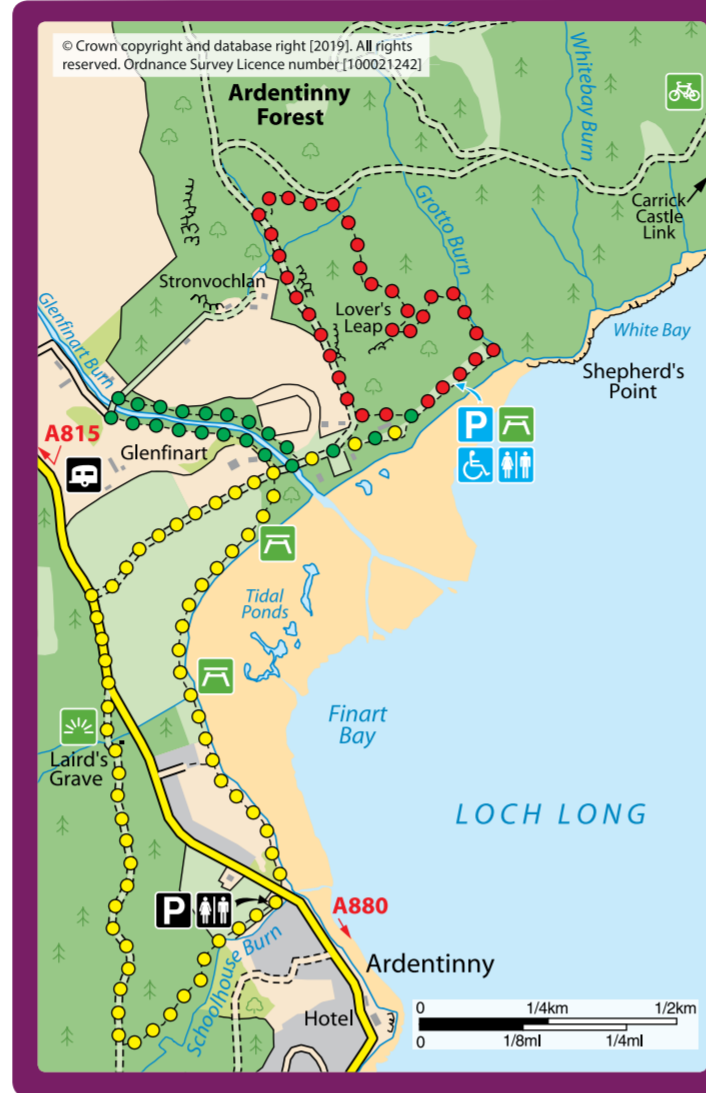
Uneven gravel paths with some grassy sections. Some long steep slopes and bridges.



1 mile / 1.6 km  
Allow ¾ hour

## 5 Ardentinn

Explore **stunning woodland** on routes once the preserve of Ardentinn's foresters who nurtured seedlings here. The beach is washed by the waters of Loch Long, **familiar to Viking fleets, Gaelic raiders, wartime Commando assault boats and nuclear submarines**. A 4.75-mile (7.6km) path leads to Carrick Castle.



### Riverside Trail ●●●

Enjoy a gentle stroll along Glenfinart Burn to the Arched Bridge beneath exotic monkey puzzles, cypresses, and firs.

Firm tarmac and gravel surface throughout, with some loose stones. Generally flat with one short fairly steep ramp or adjacent steps. Look out for vehicles along the access road.



¾ mile / 1.3 km  
Allow ½ hour

### Birchwood Trail ●●●

A short walk that climbs through native birch and oak woodland above the crags of Lover's Leap, before returning down Grotto Burn.

Firm but uneven surface, with grassy and rocky sections that are narrow and potentially muddy in places. Long steep slopes for 400m and some steps.



1 mile / 1.6 km  
Allow ¾ hour

### Laird's Trail ●●●

A varied route around the attractive shoreline of Finart Bay. Climb through the larch forest to the Laird's Grave for great views across Loch Long.

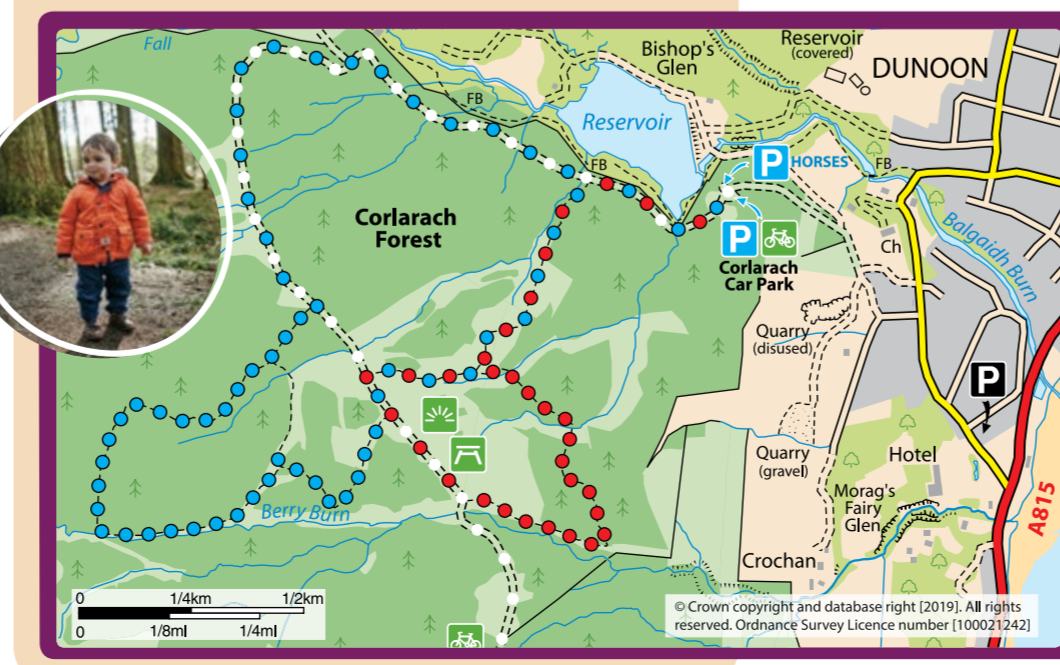
Wide, firm tarmac and gravel surface, with some loose stones and a slightly uneven section. Some fairly steep slopes. Includes two openings 0.9m wide and a section along the road.



2 miles / 3.3 km  
Allow 1 hour

## 9 Corlarach

Look down over Dunoon, the capital of Cowal, from this **network of hillside paths**. There are unforgettable, **panoramic views** of the **Firth of Clyde coast**. Remains of **old farms** survive among the trees that provide shelter for **abundant wildlife**.



### Berry Burn Trail ●●●

Meander up through the young conifers for great views over Dunoon and the Clyde.

Uneven gravel and earth paths, with some narrow and muddy sections. Includes some long fairly steep slopes and two openings 1.1m wide.



2 miles / 3.3 km  
Allow 1½ hour

### Balgaidh Burn Trail ●●●

Climb to the top of the forest for superb panoramic views across Cowal and the Firth of Clyde. Return via the charming mixed woods along Balgaidh Burn.

Long steep slopes for up to half a mile. Uneven gravel paths, with earthy and rocky sections. Includes two openings 1.1m wide.



3 miles / 4.8 km  
Allow 2 hours

## 6 Benmore

### Puck's Glen 7

Discover a **magical trail** through **Puck's Glen**, a deep, woodland gorge with **acascade of enchanting waterfalls**. At nearby Benmore, walk under **mighty conifers**, including **Californian redwood**, and marvel at the **blooming rhododendrons** in May and early June.



### Big Tree Trail ●●●

Walk beneath (and indeed over) some towering Douglas firs, cypresses and silver firs planted in the nineteenth century. Some great views from the top.

Uneven gravel and earth paths with exposed tree roots and muddy sections. Some long steep slopes and low trees to duck under.



1½ miles / 1.9 km  
Allow 1 hour

### Black Gates Trail ●●●

A full tour of Benmore Forest that combines the giant conifers of Benmore with the spectacular gorge of Puck's Glen and provides great views across the valley.

Narrow and rough rocky sections in Puck's Glen that may be wet. Several steep slopes with long flights of uneven steps. Includes a number of bridges.



3 miles / 4.8 km  
Allow 2 hours

### Puck's Glen Gorge Trail ●●●

A magical trail that winds along a Victorian walkway up the dramatic rocky gorge that is said to be home to mischievous spirits. Pass several waterfalls beneath the towering Douglas firs. During your visit, keep a sharp eye out and you might just spot the mystical Ghillie Dhu!

Firm but uneven gravel paths, with some rough, rocky and narrow sections. Several steep slopes and long flights of rough steps. Includes numerous bridges and some wet sections after rain.



1½ miles / 2.8 km  
Allow 1 hour

## 10 Ardyne

Enjoy **exceptional views** to the **Western Isles** and some surprising **oriental scenery**. A **cycle trail** links Ardyne with the Corlarach car park.

### Chinese Ponds Trail ●●●

Amid bright gorse and rhododendrons, discover these fabulous ponds and arched bridges built to mimic scenes on willow pattern crockery.

Mostly firm gravel surface, with uneven grassy sections. Includes some muddy patches and steep slopes.



1½ miles / 2.6 km  
Allow 1 hour

Cladaichean àlainn no bruaichean casa nam beann? Ceumannaan socair simplidh no cuairtean-rothair cama cruaidhe? Gheibh thu sgriob anns na coilltean a fheargras ort. Siuthad, gabh cuairt!

Lovely shorelines or steep mountainsides? Easy paths or challenging cycle-tracks? You'll find something to suit you in the forests. Go on and take a trail!

