



GREAT GLEN WALKS

Caledonian Canal Sea-Lock to Banavie Swing Bridge: 1 hour (2 miles)

This one is on the flat all the way. Turn right out of the park and continue 1½ miles into Corpach. Just after the Co-op Shop turn right, go down the hill, cross the railway and park by the canal basin. Keep on this side of the canal. The towpath will lead you all the way to the main road at Banavie swing bridge. Take care when crossing the railway lines and keep your dog on a short lead in this area. Do not cross the road but take the footpath over the bridge to cross the canal. Return on the opposite towpath. Take bread for the ducks. If you wish to walk further just cross the road at the swing bridge and continue on the original towpath to view Neptune's Staircase. From there, if you want to explore even further, just continue on the towpath for about another ¾ mile and take the only gravel track going steeply downhill to your left. After only 50 yards walk under the canal through the right hand tunnel (the one without the stream in it - spooky). At the other end turn left, jump carefully over the stream and go back uphill towards the canal. Go through the gate, turn left and return to base.

Glen Loy: 2 hours (4 miles)

Turn right out of the park and continue towards Fort William. After 2½ miles take the first turn on your left after you leave Corpach village onto the B8004, signposted Gairloch. This is a narrow road with passing places. After Muirshearlich, the vista opens up with splendid views of the North face of Ben Nevis. Just after you pass a large farm house on the right called Strone overlooking the canal the road initiates a steep descent. Stop here and park neatly in the forestry track entrance on the left. If you reach the signpost for Glen Loy you have gone 200 yards too far.

The forestry track takes you through a gate and into the pine forest. It climbs steadily for a mile and then takes a bend to the right as it starts going downhill. At each junction keep right. This will eventually take you through another gate and onto the Glen Loy tarmac single track road which follows the River Loy. It is delightful. You will eventually reach the main road and your car is 200 yards uphill on your right but, before you go there, cross the road and follow the track UNDER the canal. There are 2 tunnels, one for the river, one for vehicular traffic. Take care: it is wet, a bit slippery and unlit, although you can see the other side. But it is fun.

Loch Arkaig: 2½ hours (5½ miles)

Start as for the Glen Loy walk above but continue on the B8004 road towards Gairloch and at a fork continue straight on towards Achnacarry and Clunes. Do not turn left into Achnacarry Estate, the seat of our local Laird, Cameron of Locheil, but keep right towards the shore of Loch Lochy. At Clunes the road will turn sharp left towards Loch Arkaig down the Dark Mile, a wonderful mossy tunnel. After 12½ miles driving you will reach the end of the Dark Mile. Park at the bridge and Chia-aig waterfall on your right.

To start the walk, continue on foot along the road for 200 yards or so, cross the wooden bridge at the head of the Loch Arkaig and turn right. The path follows the left bank until Inver Mallie cottage. Turn back here (unless you wish to continue exploring for another 3½ miles to the ruins of Glen Mallie cottage).