

# Kinloch Rannoch Village Walks

The path network in and around the picturesque village of Kinloch Rannoch is made up of a series of five small sections, which can be walked separately or as figure of eight loop returning to the square, which has ample parking. A good walk to see woodland birds and possibly red squirrel.

**Start & Finish:** The Village Square, for bus stop and car parking.

## Buchanan Path

**Distance :** 500 metres/0.3 mile

**Approx time:** 15-30 minutes

**Path Promotion:** An interesting riverside walk

**Terrain:** Easy From the village square pass Buchanan monument, (1716-1767 evangelist, Gaelic scholar, and poet). This was the site of gallows in the days of Buchanan. Cross the road towards the bridge and take the path down steps towards the river and go right under the bridge. This Thomas Telford Bridge was built in 1764 after the 1745 rebellion to demonstrate the personal generosity of George 3rd. Stay on the gravel path and soon you are in birch woodland with the River Tummel to your left. As you leave the woodland you will see the weir and an information board explaining how our lochs are used to produce much needed green hydro electricity. Follow the cut grass path and join the access track for the Hydro sub-station. Heading away from the river, go through the gate and you come to the main road opposite the Health Centre. To get back to the village square turn right, alternatively turn left to continue your walk.

## Lochend Path

**Distance:** 300 metres/0.2 mile

**Approx time:** 5-15 minutes

**Path Promotion:** A field edge path, avoiding the road, with great views

**Terrain:** Easy (all users) Walking west towards Loch Rannoch cross the road and continue until you reach a field gate beside a smaller self-closing gate. Go through the smaller gate and follow the path keeping the drystone dyke on the left. Make sure to stop along this path to take in the view of Loch Rannoch looking west towards Rannoch Moor and Glen Coe. This path takes you towards the Highland Lodges and The Loch Rannoch Hotel (open to non-residents). To stay on the village loop at the end of this section, go through the self-closing gate on the right to the open hillside - the Meall Dubh Path.

## Meall Dubh Path

**Distance:** 650 metres/0.4 mile

**Approx time:** 15-30 minutes

**Path Promotion:** An uneven, hillside path, with great views

**Terrain:** Moderate This is a rugged path with great views over the village to Schiehallion, a Munro whose Gaelic name translates as Fairy Mountain of Caledonia. Look behind you for lovely views across Loch Rannoch. This path is not suitable for buggies or those less nimble. Take the well-trodden unsurfaced track and cross carefully over a boggy area using giant stepping-stones. Follow the line of the drystone dyke, in the shadow of a number of large trees as the path rises gently Some of these oaks have been around since this path was

used as a drover's road, when cattle were driven on foot to markets in the south. The path continues down stone steps and over a number of open drains eventually reaching a small stone building which covers a spring. This was a vital water source for the drovers and the community. It is marked as "Fountainhead" on maps in 1867. Follow the path till you get to a vehicular track and head downhill. As you reach the road and the garage you can turn right to head back to the village square or to continue your walk, turn left to join the Hillside Path.

## Hillside Path

**Distance:** 800 metres/0.5 mile

**Approx time:** 15-30 minutes

**Path Promotion:** A gentle walk, beside the road, through woodland

**Terrain:** Easy Heading away from the village towards Pitlochry cross carefully over the narrow road bridge. Take a moment to stop at the viewing area of the Falls of Allt Mor, after rain or in dry weather, the waterfall is always a beautiful sight. Follow the road past some impressive beech trees on the boundary of the Outdoor centre and look out for a narrow path rising up on the left. It is not suitable for buggies as there are a few steps along the way. This path runs parallel to the road and passes an old Oak tree, which may have been planted about 1765 by the Redcoats soldiers stationed at Barracks at Bridge of Gaur. Follow the path down steps between brambles, crossing a small footbridge before you enter mixed woodland. Go through the gate and follow the vehicular track to the right. Keep an eye out for red squirrels looking for their favorite food in impressive old Hazel woodland. Go through the field gate and follow the path down the hill passing the "wolf stone" At the bottom of the hill turn right and follow the deer fence, taking care across the road and down the step, to join the Riverside Path.

## Riverside Path

**Distance:** 800 metres/0.5 mile

**Approx time:** 15-30 minutes

**Path Promotion:** A pleasant riverside walk

**Terrain:** Easy This path leads you back upstream towards the village. River levels are controlled by the weir and this path is occasional closed because of flooding. From the layby, the unsurfaced path passes through mixed woodland until you reach a hard surfaced path at the back of some houses and then a bridge. Cross over the bridge and turn away from the river, following the Allt Mor burn to the school gates. Turn left, passing the village hall, until you reach the road opposite the garage. Turn left again, follow the pavement past the café and back to the village square.