

Itinerary Easter 2010

Day Programme 4 Days Walking Holiday

2. – 5 April 2010

Friday

Transfer from Glasow 9am for Loch Lomond's West Highland Way & Inchcailloch Island

- Don't miss this splendid hike on Scotland's famous long path
- Boat to a lovely island: wild deer, birds, 13th century ruins

This walk is an excellent introduction to the Scottish Highlands. A gentle elevation with ever changing views over the hills and a first sense of the wide, expansive landscapes Scotland has to offer.

The peak of Conic Hill (361m) marks the spectacular geological Highland fault line and offers panoramic views as far as the coast, the Isle of Arran and the Highland mountains. **(7km, 3 hours)**

After picnic lunch we take a short boat ride from Balmaha across to the romantic island of Inchcailloch where we walk its magic woods and come across ancient history of local clans and hermit saints and the most wonderful views over the loch to the big mountains. **(3 km, 1.5 hrs, 87 m)**

Saturday

The Arrochar Alps - craggy peaks and glaciated valleys & Inveraray Castle

- Explore Buttermilk Glen and conquer Bealach a'Mhaim pas
- Experience wild glaciated valleys and craggy mountains
- Visit the magnificent castle of the chiefs of the Campbell Clan

Straight from the sea rise the bizarre and domineering formations of the Arrochar Alps to the west of Loch Lomond. Inconquerable as they seem it is a delight on good paths to hike amongst this mass of rock and experience a whole array of different landscapes with spectacular views across the wide estuary of the Clyde and wild mountains to the west.

An invigorating and satisfying walk covering a hight of 500m. You will want to come back for those peaks next time! **(10 km, 4 hours)**

In the afternoon we visit the magnificent 18th century Inveraray castle of the Duke of Argyll is a masterpiece of Scottish Georgian Architecture which is splendidly furnished and contains an interesting selection of trophies, memorabilia, documents and weaponry - and an excellent insight into Scottish history.

Sunday

Ben A'an in the Trossachs & cycling along Loch Katrin's shores

- Climbing this mini volcano is fun and offers grand views
- Enjoy a fabulous cycle ride along the shore of Loch Katrine

This ancient volcanic plug offers superb views of the Trossachs and is an excellent introduction to the geography of the area. A great hike, too of about 3.5 hours.

After lunch you have the choice of a fabulous cycle ride along the scenic shores of Loch Katrine or you can walk it, if you prefer. Great activities for families and kids!!

Monday

Loch Lomond - Waterfalls, Wild Goats, Kilts in Glen Falloch

- Spot some feral goats and ancient ruins in wild country
- Catch a boat for a dram in one of Scotland's oldest pubs

This delightful and gentle walk along an old cattle drovers' path takes you past the great Ben Glass waterfall to the rugged hills of Loch Lomond's northern end. Wild goats are roaming these lovely forests of birch-, oak- and hazel trees and ruins of old settlements point to a lively history of the area. There are grand views, particularly when Loch Lomond appears like a discovery. Once at the shore we signal the ferryman who is to rescue us back to civilization.

You benefit from a drive along the complete length of Loch Lomond's western shore and you have the opportunity to enjoy a pint or a wee dram in one of Scotland's oldest and most popular pubs, the Drover's Inn. Here the sight of a Highlander dressed in a kilt is guaranteed!
(1 hour's drive along Loch Lomond's western shore, 10 km hike, 4 hours)

Transfer to Glasgow and end of tour.