Welcome to Bennachie

Bennachie offers you lots of things to see and experience. Choose from these walks to get you started - there is something for all ages and abilities.

Forestry Commission walks are graded according to the type of path conditions and severity of slope which visitors should expect. If in doubt be prepared for ‘bad’ weather - particularly on high ground.

Wild Wood Trail
A moderate forest trail which passes through pine and larch woodland. Look for sculptures along the way to discover more about the wildlife. A circular route, returning to the car park or linking to the longer Mither Tap Quarry Trail. Allow 1 hour.

Working Wood Trail
Take this trail to discover the life cycle of a tree and the resources forests provide us with. This is a circular route, returning to the car park or linking to the longer Mither Tap Quarry Walk. Allow 1 hour.

Mither Tap Quarry Trail
The longest route to the Mither Tap, this trail leads through the forest up onto the hill. It climbs Little Oxen Craig where the remains of a nineteenth-century granite quarry still stand, and continues over Bennachie’s highest peak, Oxen Craig. Allow 3½ hours.

Mither Tap Maiden Causeway
This challenging trail to the Mither Tap follows the route of the Maiden Causeway. Legend tells that this was built by the Devil to win a bet for a maiden’s hand. He turned her to stone when she fled, now said to be the nearby Pictish Maiden Stone. Allow 2½ hours.

Mither Tap Timeline Trail
A fairly demanding route providing a ‘trail back in time’. The path ascends the hill, leaving forest planted in the 1950s to wander through a landscape formed over (1000) years since the last Ice Age. Allow 2½ hours.

Turnpike Trail
A low-level route which follows the line of the old Turnpike road through Pittodrie Estate. It links the Bennachie Visitor Centre to Bennachie Rowan Tree. Allow 2 hours.

Millstone Hill Trail
This route winds through forest before climbing out onto Millstone Hill, providing wonderful 360 degree views of Bennachie to the north and the River Don to the south. Allow 2½ hours.

Gordon Way Trail
This challenging long distance route runs from Bennachie Centre to Suie in the west. Allow a day to complete the full trail or, for a shorter route, walk part of it along the ridge of Bennachie. Allow 5-6 hours each way.

Colony Trail
A fairly demanding route providing a ‘trail back in time’. The path ascends the hill, leaving forest planted in the 1950s to wander through a landscape formed over (1000) years since the last Ice Age. Allow 2½ hours.

Temple Trail
A low-level route which follows the line of the Temple Trail through Pittodrie Estate. Allow 2 hours.

Sensible footwear
Waterproof footwear
Hillwalking boots
Easy-going (muscle-loosener)
Moderate-going (muscle-stretcher)
Demanding (muscle-builder)

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