Ferry Wood & Ord Hill

Ferry Wood: Follow the bridle trail to visit the 200-year-old brich site and get some great views of the Shin dam. The dam holds back 23-mile-long Loch Shin to power the nearby hydro-electric station. The Little Loch Shin trail passes a dramatic point above the water, and wanders along the west end of Little Loch Shin. Both trails are suitable for wheelchair and pushchairs.

Ord Hill: Starting from the ferrybridge Centre the path goes right past the main feature - a huge stone cairn. You also pass the remains of hot springs, ancient banks, burnt mounds, burial cairns and field clearance heaps. Take in the views north to Ben Klibreck from the top of the hill.

Gunn’s Wood

Also near Laig is Gunn’s Wood. Named after a local forester, Mr Gunn in 1846 this sheltered trail through mixed woodland is a great little loop to walk the dog.

Waymarked Trails

Little Loch Shin Trail
Grade
Red: 1 mile / 1.6 km. Allow 1 hour
Blue: ½ mile / 0.8 km. Allow ½ hour

Ord Hill Trail
Grade
Red: 3.5 miles / 5.6 km. Allow 3 hours
Blue: 2.5 miles / 4 km. Allow 2 hours

Gunn’s Wood

Famous salmon rivers. There are lovely views towards the Sutherland coast. As the forest has been opened up we have exposed many of the archaeological remains, look out for long houses and brochs. Keep your eyes open for local buzzards and Roe deer.

Ramster: Originally crofting ground, which was planted as a commercial timber crop in the 1940s, this forest is gradually changing. There are fine views over the North Sea coast. As the forest has been opened up we have exposed many of the archaeological remains. Look out for long houses and brochs. Keep your eyes open for local buzzards and Roe deer.

Waymarked Trails

Short forest loop: Green: 1 mile / 1.6 km. Allow 1 hour

Riverside Trail: Green: 1 mile / 1.6 km. Allow 1 hour

Pond Trail: Green: 1 mile / 1.6 km. Allow 1 hour

Longer forest loop: Green: 3 miles / 4.8 km. Allow 2 hours

Shin Falls Salmon Leap: Green: 1 mile / 1.6 km. Allow 1 hour

Achany - Falls of Shin

Achany: Start your visit to Achany forest from the falls of Shin visitor centre, which has a well-stocked shop, cafe and toilet facilities. Follow the longer green trail through the towering spruce trees if you want to work up more of an appetite!

The blue trail takes you through the native northern woodlands. These are great for wildlife. You’ll pass our green woodwork area, where we hold events and demonstrations. Look out for the shimmering of the aspen trees, home to the rare aspen hoverfly.

The Falls themselves are beautiful at any time of year, but look out for forest flowers in the spring and leaping salmon during summer and autumn. You may even spot otter if you’re lucky.

The blue trail takes you through the towering spruce trees if you want to work up more of an appetite!

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The forests...

...at a glance

1. Rosal
   - Grid ref: NC 699 049
   - Follow the AS87 south from Bettyhill, turning east towards Kinbrace at Stornoway. Just over the bridge you'll see the forest road on your right - the car park is 1½ miles along the road.

2. Borgie
   - Grid ref: NC 440 587
   - The car park is 6½ miles west of Bettyhill along the AS85. Follow the Borgie Forest signs.

3. Borgie Glen
   - Grid ref: NC 440 587
   - The car park is situated on the right of the AS85. Follow the Borgie Glen signs.

4. Rumster
   - Grid ref: NC 270 244
   - From the south, follow the A836 north from Bettyhill, then take the road south of the forest. Follow the sign for Achnasheen. Continue along this road for 3 miles.

5. Sibster
   - Grid ref: NC 155 54
   - Follow the A9 to Ullapool. 3½ miles west of Ullapool, turn left and follow the Sibster Forest signs.

6. Newtonhill
   - Grid ref: NC 227 50
   - From Ullapool, take the A882 then the minor road to the south. Follow the Sibster Forest signs.

7. Ferry Wood & Ord Hill
   - Grid ref: NC 377 642
   - From Inverness, follow the A832 and turn left at Ferneyhill Visitor Centre in Dingwall.

8. Achany - Falls of Shin
   - Grid ref: NC 872 10
   - From Langhale, take the A879 road, turn north into the forest and follow the Achnasheen signs to Falls of Shin.

9. Ravens Rock Gorge
   - Grid ref: NC 659 072
   - Take the A832 south from Bettyhill, turn left at the turn-off into the gorge, then follow the signs to Ravens Rock Gorge.

10. Balblair
    - Grid ref: NC 440 277
    - Take the A832 south from Bettyhill, turn left at the turn-off into the gorge.

11. Skelbo
    - Grid ref: NC 778 152
    - Take the A882 then the A99 to Wick. Just before the bridge, turn right on the A882 and follow the signs to Skelbo.

12. Camore
    - Grid ref: NC 686 08
    - Take the A882 then the A99 to Wick. Just before the bridge, turn right on the A882 and follow the signs to Skelbo.

End of leaflet...