

Welcome to Monikie

Monikie Country Park, with its reservoirs, woodland and parkland is an ideal location for a visit to the countryside. The scenic surroundings offer many opportunities to enjoy the outdoors at any time of the year.

The park is open throughout the year with the ranger centre open during most daylight hours.

Angus Ranger Service

We have bases at Crombie, Forfar Loch and Monikie Country Parks, Montrose Basin and Glen Clova. In addition, we are responsible for other sites around Angus. Wherever you are, Rangers are recognised by the national symbol worn on their uniforms.

At Monikie, Rangers look after all the needs of the park and its' visitors. They are on hand to give information, help and advice.

In an emergency contact details of the duty ranger are can be found at the Ranger Centre Reception Area.

Events

We offer activities, ranging from guided walks to children's fun weeks and from conservation projects to outdoor activities and team building. We can also tailor activities to your own individual or group requirements.

Education and Community Groups

The excellent indoor and outdoor resources have been developed to provide a base to study and explore our natural heritage. Rangers are available to lead groups in a safe and controlled environment.

They can also visit schools and other centres and help plan activities to suit your needs and provide advice with project work.

Recreation

The 'Old Park' is a popular attraction for picnickers. It is ideal for ball games and contains an adventure playground. Permanent orienteering and other trails are open on a daily basis and refreshments are available at the Byzantium Cafe Restaurant subject to opening hours.

Water Sports

The facility is registered with the Adventures Activities Licensing Services. It is also a designated RYA Centre.

We offer hire and instruction in windsurfing, sailing and canoeing between May and September. As well as all craft and equipment, changing rooms with hot showers are provided. You can also store or launch your own craft.

We can tailor our activities to suit your outdoor learning outcomes through the Curriculum For Excellence.

High Ropes

The High Ropes course is a high tree top activity that provides an exciting challenge for both young and old alike and is ideal for birthday parties and social events. This activity is run and lead by qualified instructors between April and October.

Monikie Clubs

- T15s, Windsurfing Club (8 – 14yrs)
- Sub Zero (10 – 16yrs) An introduction to Bush craft survival skills, running from Autumn through to Spring. New members welcome but must book in advance.

Booking is essential for all Outdoor Activities including Team Building and Rafting.

Wildlife

The former reservoirs are ideal habitats for a variety of birds and a myriad of aquatic life. In particular the Denfind Sanctuary is managed to attract both nesting and feeding birds. They can be closely observed from the purpose built hides.

The woodlands are home to the elusive red squirrel and stoat as well as many birds such as the long-tailed tit, woodpecker, tree creeper and bullfinch. At dusk the haunting screech of the tawny owl can often be heard.

Fly-Fishing

Fishing takes place through Monikie Angling Club. The ponds are stocked with rainbow trout.

To book for Monikie or Crombie, contact the duty Bailiff (March – November) at the following times: 9.00am until 10.30am, 1.00pm until 1.30pm, 5.00pm until 6.30pm.

The telephone number for booking is 01382 370300

For further information visit the website:
www.monikie-angling-club.org.uk



Care of the Countryside

You can help us look after Scotland's natural heritage by:

Taking only photographs and leaving only footprints!

Water Safety

- Swimming and paddling are not permitted.
- Supervise young children at all times.
- The reservoir banks are steep and slippery.
- The water is cold and deep.
- Keep off the ice in winter.

Read the advice and information on the notice boards around the park.

Dogs should be kept under control at all times with consideration given to wildlife. Pick up your dogs faeces and place it in the bins located at various strategic points around the park.

- Follow the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.

Guide dogs for the blind are welcome in all public areas.

For Information & Bookings Contact:

**The Ranger Centre
Monikie Country Park
Monikie
Angus
DD5 3QN**

Tel: (01382) 370202

E: monikiepark@angus.gov.uk

www.angus.gov.uk/leisure/ranger_service.htm

Illustration: Derek P. Thom

How to Get There (Grid Ref: NO 502383).

From Dundee - Take the A92 and turn left just north of Monifieth signposted Newbigging. Follow the road for about 3 miles then look for signs for the park.

From Forfar - Take the B9128 signposted to Carnoustie. After approximately 10 miles turn right at the Crombie crossroads onto the B961. From there the park is signposted.

By Bus - Contact Strathtay Scottish, (01382) 228054, for services from Dundee.

Charges

Most Ranger led activities are provided free: Guided Walks/Talk, Environmental Education, Trails and Adventure Playground. Charges and concessions for Outdoor Activities are posted in The Diary of Events, on the website or direct from the Ranger Centre.



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Monikie Country Park



Supporting a Greener,
Healthier, Wiser Scotland



Monikie Country Park

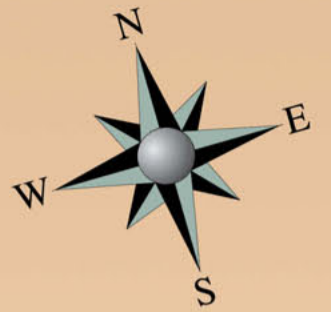
RYA Courses run between May and September

Registered with the Adventure Activities Licensing Service (AALS)

KEY

Walks and trails open daily.

available at the Byzantium Cafe Restaurant subject to opening times.



Crombie 3
Forfar 12



Illustration: Derek P. Thom

High Ropes

Watersports, Hire and Instruction.

Available during opening times.

Portable BBQ's are available for hire. Marquee available for hire May – Sept.

Parking Charges from Spring to Autumn. Contributions are welcomed for the upkeep of the park outwith this period.

Parking, toilets, cafe, trails, Ranger Centre are accessible for wheelchairs.

The Ranger Centre is open to take bookings & for help & advice. Rangers are on duty during most daylight hours.

Bird sanctuary.

Bookings for fly-fishing can be made by telephoning the duty bailiff (01382) 370300.

Creation of the Monikie Reservoirs

Inadequate water supplies at the beginning of the 19th century were contaminated with life-threatening diseases such as typhus and cholera. Work started on the reservoirs in 1845 and took teams of Irish navvies 20 years to complete.

The embankments were strengthened with locally quarried stone pitching and cut to shape on site. Clay was trampled in place by cattle creating a watertight seal to contain 500 million gallons (2,250 million litres) of water. For more than 100 years the system supplied the local population with 3 million gallons (13.5 million litres) of fresh water a day.

However demand continued to outstrip supply and by the 1970's Lintrathen and Backwater reservoirs were commissioned.

Monikie was taken out of commission in 1979 and in 1981 Monikie Country Park was opened to the public.