

Welcome to Glen Esk

Glen Esk is one of a series of steep-sided glens that together with Glen Isla, Prosen, Lethnot and Clova form the Angus Glens. Natural forces of ice and water have shaped the glens in a similar fashion, though each has its own distinctive qualities.



Although its tempting to pass through Edzell to get to the wilder parts of Glen Esk, it is a good starting point for one of the most impressive walks in the area.

BLUE

Edzell to Rocks of Solitude

Path starts from village and leads through native woodland alongside the River North Esk. The river gorge becomes deeper and more impressive as you head north across the Highland Boundary Fault. Return the same way or get lift back from Rocks of Solitude (see map).

Distance: 6 miles (10 kms) return from Edzell, 3½ miles (5½ kms) return from the 'blue door'.

Approx Time: 3 hours return from Edzell, 2 hours return from the 'blue door'.

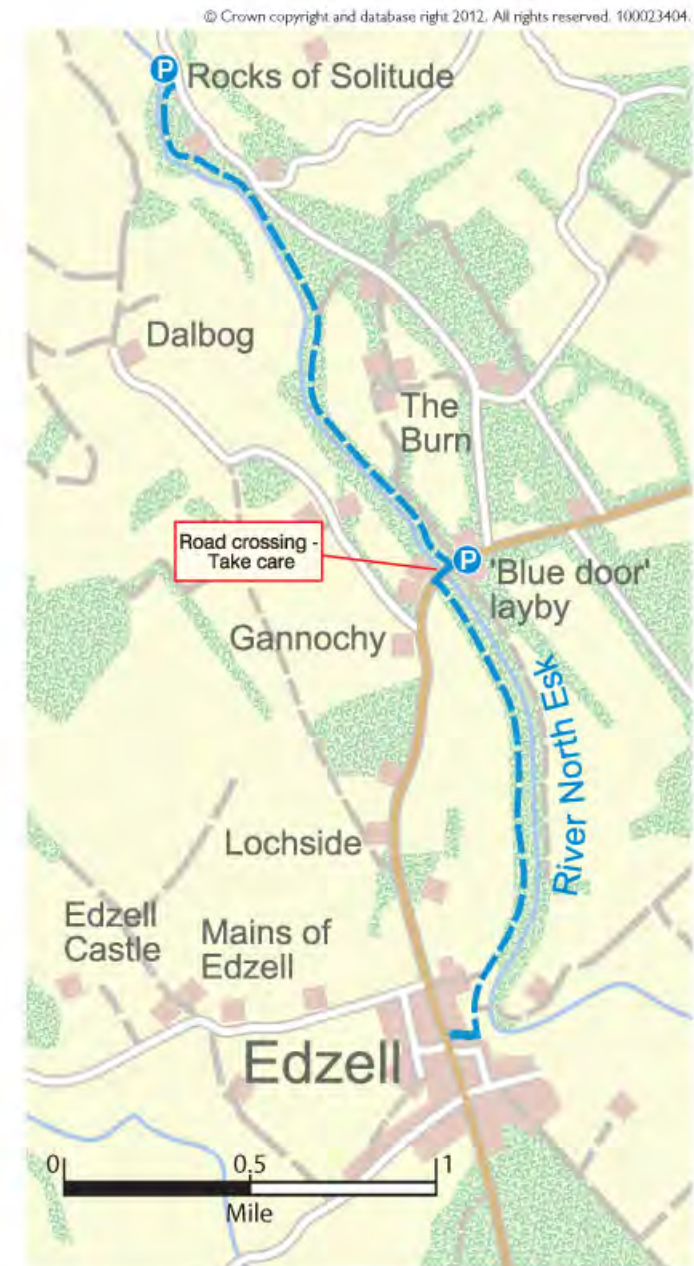
Start: Edzell Post Office, Rocks of Solitude layby or the 'blue door' layby at Gannochy Bridge.

Terrain: Unsurfaced path, care needed due to steep drops.



In the upper valley there are numerous corries and waterfalls that give the glen a wildness. Glen Esk still has a rich local history with Queens, castles and cattle rustlers all part of the story.

There is also abundant wildlife with the chance to see mountain plants and animals at home in the largest area of high ground in the country. Much of the upper part of Glen Esk lies within the Cairngorms National Park, the biggest National Park in the UK!



Glen Esk Paths

Glen Esk has a number of trails and paths that you can explore from low level routes through farmland to more strenuous expeditions onto the hills with the reward of fine views. This leaflet suggests four routes of varying length. Please take a few minutes to read the route descriptions on the map before you set out, just to make sure that your chosen route is suitable for you and your group. Timings are very approximate depending on how fast you walk and how much wildlife you see! You can also combine some of the trails to make a longer expedition.

PINK

Tarfside to Invermark Path

Easy walking with superb views, across moorland and through an old farming settlement, around north side of Hill of Rowan. Please keep dogs under close control or preferably on a lead. Return the same way (remember to add your return to given distances and times) or get picked up at Invermark car park.

Distance: 3 miles (4½ kms), each way.
Approx Time: 1½ hours, each way.
Start: Tarfside Car Park (see map).
Terrain: Unsurfaced farm tracks with gentle gradients.

RED

Queen's Well

Route follows the Mounth Road, an ancient drove road linking Glen Esk with Glen Tanar. The Queen's Well was built to commemorate a visit from Queen Victoria. Return the same way.

Distance: 5 miles (8 kms), return.
Approx Time: 2½ hours, return.
Start: Car park at Invermark (see map).
Terrain: Unsurfaced hill path and track.
Please note: The paths beyond Queens Well are not waymarked and lead into very steep and remote mountain country.

GREEN

Invermark to Loch Lee, Falls of Unich and Falls of Damff

A long, exciting expedition into the hills past the fortified tower of Invermark Castle and Loch Lee, to two spectacular waterfalls. Return the same way.

Distance: 10 miles (17km), return.
Approx Time: 5 hours, return.
Start: Car park at Invermark (see map).
Terrain: Hill track then rough hill path with steep climb to waterfall. Please take extra care on the slopes above the falls. Good boots and other hillwalking clothing and equipment essential.
Please note: The paths beyond the falls are not waymarked and lead into very steep and remote mountain country.



Much of the Glen is sheep grazing country, and also important for ground nesting birds. Keep your dog under proper control at all times.

Some of the paths lead towards high remote mountain areas with steep terrain. If you plan to go further, please ensure that you are suitably experienced and equipped.

Enjoy Scotland's outdoors responsibly

Everyone has the right to be on most land and inland water providing they act responsibly. Your access rights and responsibilities are explained fully in the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.

Whether you're in the outdoors or managing the outdoors, the key things are to:

- take responsibility for your own actions
- respect the interests of other people
- care for the environment.

Visit outdooraccess-scotland.com or contact your local Scottish Natural Heritage office.



The content of this publication can be made available in alternative formats or translated into other community languages.

Leaflets are also available for path networks in other parts of Angus.

Please contact the Council's ACCESSLine on 08452 777 778 for further information or email accessline@angus.gov.uk

For information on paths, local events, facilities and accommodation:

Visitor Information Centres:

Brechin Tourist Information Centre: 01356 623 050

Glen Esk Retreat Folk Museum: 01356 648070

www.gleneskretreat.co.uk

Glen Doll Ranger Base: 01575 550 233



Useful web sites: www.angusahead.com
www.angus.gov.uk
www.angusglens.co.uk
www.cairngorms.co.uk
www.visitcairngorms.co.uk

If you enjoyed exploring these 'Glen Esk Trails' then look out for other path leaflets to help you discover more of the Angus Glens and Cairngorms National Park.

Glen Esk Paths



Discover the Angus Glens

