

East Creag Mhor

Distance: 5 kms (3 miles)

Time: 1.5 hours

Grade: Moderate

A circular walk on forestry tracks that climbs to about 200 metres (650 ft) on the slopes behind St Fillans, giving lovely views over the village and along Loch Earn.

Starting at the Village Information Point (by the river footbridge near the Village Store), cross the Main Road and enter Shoemaker's Lane opposite. At the top of the Lane, go between the gateposts into the playing field area behind the Village. At the Play Park Information Sign, turn right and follow the path that skirts the Play Park and then zig-zags up the old railway embankment on to the Railway Path.

Here turn right, signposted towards Comrie and Dalchonzie, and follow the path down to Station Road, passing a crocodile on the way.

At the road, turn left and immediately pass between the old railway abutments. At the top of a short ramp ahead, fork left onto a forestry track angling Westwards up the hillside.

Keep to this track, passing through a deer fence gate as it zig-zags up the hill.

As the track starts levelling off, there is a bench on the left with a view point looking East over the village, the Golf Course and the Glen beyond.

Continue on to find a picnic table and a small cairn, defining the highest point of this walk, with stunning views over Loch Earn to the hills beyond. This is an ideal spot to pause for refreshments and to enjoy the scenery in all directions.

The same track now starts to descend and in about 400 metres reaches another deer fence gate at a 'T' junction with the Glentarken Track. Go through the gate and turn left, zig-zagging all the way down to an old bridge over the dismantled railway track. (The 'Loch Earn Railway Path' running under this bridge is in the process of being upgraded to an all-ability route between Comrie, St Fillans and Lochearnhead.)

In about another 50 metres you will meet a junction with another track; turn left and head East downhill, passing the Hydro-Electric Power Station on your left, to the Main Road at the Four Seasons Hotel, with the Loch opening out before you. Continue heading East along the Main Road, with the Loch on your right, and back to the start at the Information Point.