

Goats' Path Scree

Distance: 2 miles (3 km)
Time: Allow 1 hour
Grade: Moderate
Colour Code: Orange

A lovely circular walk, climbing about 140 metres onto the slopes behind St Fillans, giving superb views over Loch Earn.

Look out for red squirrels, deer and woodpeckers. Also, Osprey can sometimes be seen searching for food over the waters of the Loch.

This walk starts on roads but gains height via vehicle tracks, then onto an uneven and sometimes narrow slippery path that follows the contour above the village. The path weaves its way across the hillside, over a small section of loose scree and eventually joins and descends via another track to the old Railway Station (now a caravan park) and back to St Fillans.

From the Village Information Point, by the footbridge over the River Earn, walk west along the Main Road for about 400 metres to The Four Seasons Hotel. Just beyond the hotel, fork right up a 'tarmac' track that leads past the Hydro-Electric Power Station. Keep going for about 200 metres, climbing all the time, passed 'Fortrenn' and 'The Sheiling' until you reach a junction with another track on the right.

Take this track, locally known as The Peat Road, and continue climbing. In a short while pass over the disused railway line - now The Loch Earn Railway Path. Follow the track as it bends right just after the railway bridge and continue climbing (now in an easterly direction).

At the next bend, which turns sharp left, go straight on, through a gate in the deer fence, and follow the clear path.

This path meanders and traverses the hillside for about ½ mile (800 metres) past the scree slope above and to the left.

Then it passes through a 'kissing' gate, eventually emerging onto a wide 'forestry' track overlooking the Station Caravan Park ahead. Take this track down the hill, bending right between the old railway bridge abutments into Station Road.

After a few metres turn right along a tarmac path signposted 'Play Park and Rail Path West'.

The path runs between two fences and then bends up on to the dismantled track bed passing a crocodile on your left.

St Fillans Walks

Continue on this path for about 50 metres and then turn left into a smaller path (beside a Pensive Grouse), signposted 'St Fillans Play Park'.

Take this zig-zag path down towards the play park.

At the play park bear left and take the track out of the field through the gateposts on to Earn View and then on to Shoemaker's Lane and back to the Information Point on the main road.