

Old Village Ruins - Morell

Distance: 6 miles (10 km)
Time: Allow 3 hours
Grade: Moderate
Colour Code: Yellow

A very pleasant walk, gently climbing up through Glentarken Wood to the ruins of the old village, Morell, with lovely views over Loch Earn and the surrounding hills, returning via the Glentarken Track and the Loch Earn Railway Path.

This walk climbs to a height of 200 metres, at first on a vehicle track and then on narrow, muddy and uneven paths. Keeping at this height, the path faintly weaves its way across open moorland and then descends via another track to the railway path that leads back to St Fillans. Look out for red squirrels, deer and woodpeckers. Osprey can sometimes be seen searching for food over the waters of Loch Earn.

Starting at the Village Information Point by the footbridge (near the Village Store and opposite the Arran Brewery Hotel), walk west along the main road to The Four Seasons Hotel. Just beyond the hotel, fork right, up a 'tarmac' track that leads past the Hydro Electric Power Station.



Keep on this track past two concrete railway arches, climbing all the time, until you come level with the disused railway line on your right.

Pass through the opening,



join the railway path and continue west for about 300 metres.

Take a narrow path (signposted to Glentarken) that forks right off the railway path and angle up the slope through Glentarken Wood.



The Railway Path



Fork right off the old railway track



Continue gently climbing



Gently climbing in a westerly direction



Through Glentarken wood

and you will cross a burn by the small wooden Allt An Fhionn Bridge, built in 1996 by the 127 Field Squadron, 78 Engineers Regiment.



Allt An Fhionn Bridge

Keep to this path and where it meets the forestry track, continue uphill. (*The forestry track forking left downhill meets the disused railway path, and this can be used as a short cut back.*) Follow the track uphill, which gradually narrows to a single path and levels out.



Go up the forestry track to the right



Follow the track uphill

Eventually go through a deer fence gate that's almost at the brow of the hill.



The deer fence gate

The stone ruins of the old village of Morell can be seen on your left. *This is a lovely spot to stop for refreshments and enjoy the views over Loch Earn to Ben Vorlich, Stuc a' Chroin and beyond.*



The old village ruins of Morell



The old village ruins of Morell

Continue following the faint path, heading towards a cottage in the distance. Pass between the cottage and a ruined building (this old croft is known as Jerusalem) and pick up



The flag pole marks the way



Pass between the cottage and a ruined building

a track that descends down to an old wooden bridge that crosses the Glentarken Burn.



This track then rises and bears left & right to join the main Glentarken track. Turn left and follow the track zig-zagging down towards Loch Earn.



At the junction with the railway path, turn left and head back towards St Fillans.



Turn left and head back
towards St Fillans



Along the railway path



Across Glentarken bridge

Leave the old railway path by the access on your right (used on the way up) and join the parallel track. Follow this track down,



Leave the old railway path



Follow the track down

passing the Hydro Electric Power Station again and retracing your steps along the main road to the start.

Maps on next page

Map 1 (East end of walk)



Map 2 (West end of walk)

