

Culter Hillwalking Club

Sunday 3rd November 2024

Longer Walk – Cairn Vachich (651m) and Geal Charn (674m)

A circular route near Corgarff which starts from the Goodbrand and Ross carpark (NJ 284086). Head north on track to pass Burnside cottage, then contour west above the field boundaries on the slopes of Carn Iain. After a minor burn crossing, join the track heading north on to open ground and eventually reach Cairn Vachich (651m) with extensive views over Corgarff and the Cairngorms. Descend north on track to the ford over the Ernan Water (or via a nearby bridge if necessary) to reach the estate buildings at Fairy Hillock. Then, heading southeast along a narrow section of Glen Ernan, cross the river by a bridge and ascend, initially steeply, out of the glen and onwards to reach Geal Charn (674m). The descent from here is off path over short heather, passing grouse butts and meeting the main track at an estate hut. Then a gentle descent on track all the way to the car park where the café will be ready to welcome us for refreshments. The route is mostly on track, often pleasantly grassy, but with a couple of rougher off-track sections. A **moderate level of fitness** is required.

Total Distance 13.5km, duration 5 hrs, Ascent 605m,

Meet at 08:00am for car sharing at St Peter's Heritage Centre Car Park, Peterculter.

Book with Long Walk Coordinator John Adams by end of Thursday 31st October,
indicating whether you are willing to drive and offer lifts or prefer a lift.

Glen Esk - Craig Crane NO519790

This walk starts at the car park at NO541790 and follows the grassy path that leaves the Glen Esk road at Fernybank until a stile is reached at the top of the field. This gives access to a track that goes past the tower at NO526787 and carries on to the summit of Craig Crane 337m and downhill over easy ground to the junction of paths close to the Mile Cairn at NO511800. Here we have already turned to the east and continue on the path to Wester Acheen NO529800 where a grassy path leads down to the road at NO536797. From here it's an easy walk back to the cars.

This is an easy, short walk for the shorter days with lots of interest and good views all round. There will be plenty of time for a tea or coffee and cakes etc at the Arch Café and Bistro, Fettercairn on the way home.

Total Dist 7km, Asc 227m, 4hrs. Meet at the start-of-walk car park at 10:30am

Bookings to by Friday Nov 1st and say if you want to stop in Fettercairn afterwards.

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Walkers must wear walking boots (gaiters essential), carry WARM and waterproof clothing, hat and gloves and take plenty of food and liquids.

Culter hillwalking club has no members who are qualified leaders or instructors. Therefore anyone volunteering to assist the club on a walk cannot be held responsible for other members' welfare. Members must be aware they are solely responsible for themselves at all times. Hillwalking and mountaineering are activities with a danger of personal injury and death. Those participating in these activities should be aware of the risks and accept the responsibility for their own actions and involvement. No responsibility can be accepted by Culter Hillwalking club committee, members, guests or co-ordinators of walks for any mishap, which may occur, during a walk. Dog owners must ensure that their dogs are on a short lead at all times.

www.culterhillwalking.org.uk