

Key:



**Saturday 16th** **10am – 4pm**

**BEHIND THE SCENES AT INSH** 

A leisurely five mile walk with the RSPB Insh Marshes Reserve Warden. This is a chance to see parts of the Reserve not normally visited, walking out along the banks of the River Spey where wading birds will be very active and returning through Inshriach Forest. Duration is 6 hours, bring a packed lunch along with suitable clothing and footwear. Dogs on leads or under close control only

**Booking:** Required (max 20)

**Contact:** Pete Moore on 01540 661518 or [pete.moore@rspb.org.uk](mailto:pete.moore@rspb.org.uk)

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Ivy Cottage in the village of Insh (TBC)

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**Saturday 16th May** **10am - 3pm**

**GIVE NATURE A FOREST**   

Come along to help RSPB Scotland plant aspen trees on the stunningly beautiful Abernethy reserve. After a scenic trailer ride with the possibility of spotting iconic wildlife, get digging as we plant trees at the forest edge. We'll have knowledgeable staff on hand to show you the tricks of the trade and inform you about our forest expansion project and why it is so important. A great family day out – suitable for the whole family esp children aged 10 and over (must be accompanied by an adult). Bring lunch, waterproofs and appropriate footwear. Followed by tea and cake back at Forest Lodge.

**Booking:** Required (max 25 people)

**Contact:** [jayne.stevenson@rspb.org.uk](mailto:jayne.stevenson@rspb.org.uk) or 01479 821 409

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Forest Lodge car park, Abernethy Reserve, PH25 3EF at 10am

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**Saturday 16th May** **11am – 2pm**

**THE DAZZLING DAMSELFLIES OF**

**CRAIGELLACHIE** 

We will walk from the Railway Station to the Reserve, this will take 20 mins. We will stop first at Loch Puladdern to look for damselflies and also do some pond dipping to find out what creatures we can find under the water. We will then head a little further up the hill to the Reservoir and see if we can find anything different there. Hopefully we will find the rare Northern Damselfly during our searches.

This walk has some narrow sections and steep grades, the nearest toilets are in Aviemore. Take warm, waterproof clothing and a pair of wellies.

**Booking:** Required (max 14, by 5pm 13 May)

**Contact:** [jonathan.willet@highland.gov.uk](mailto:jonathan.willet@highland.gov.uk)

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Aviemore Youth Hostel car park

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# CAIRNGORMS NATURE



AVIEMORE

Cairngorms Nature Festival, Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 May 2015

**Saturday 16th May**

**11am**

## **BALLIEFURTH FARM VISIT**



Balliefurth Farm is approximately 400 acres including 100 acres of mixed woodland and a bank of the Spey River. Currently we have 60 Shorthorn cows and 180 Highland Mule sheep. The cows are all born and bred on the farm. We have a great respect for the environment of the farm and manage our land to encourage wading birds to nest here in the Spring months. We look forward to welcoming you on a farm walk where we can explain more about how the food you eat is raised and our vision for the future.

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** Patrick Harrison

[patrickharrison@balliefurth.co.uk](mailto:patrickharrison@balliefurth.co.uk)

**Cost:** £3 voluntary contribution to Balliefurth's Environmental Fund

**Meet:** Balliefurth Farm, Nethy Bridge Road, Grantown on Spey, PH26 3NH

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**Saturday 16th May**

**2 - 4 pm**

## **HANDS ON CONSERVATION**



Come and have fun taking part in some conservation work, a great experience for all the family. Find out how the Forestry Commission is protecting and enhancing the native Caledonian pine forest.

**Booking:** Required by Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> May

**Contact:** 01479 861220

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Glenmore FCS Visitor Centre

**Cobbs Café at Glenmore are offering a 10% discount on all food and drink purchased at Glenmore Forest Café for those taking part in the Cairngorms Nature Festival. Please quote 'Cairngorms Nature Festival' to take advantage of this great offer.**

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**Saturday 16th May**

**2 - 4pm**

## **LET'S MAKE WILDLIFE HOMES!**



Some fun activities to create your very own wildlife homes for you to put in your garden.

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** Saranne Bish tel 01479 873914 or email

[saranne.bish@highland.gov.uk](mailto:saranne.bish@highland.gov.uk)

**Cost:** Adults £4, conc £3, family £11

**Meet:** The Town House, High Street, Grantown on Spey

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**Saturday 16th May**

**2pm**

## **LANDROVER 'behind the scenes' SAFARI**



Guided and driven by an experienced Rothiemurchus Ranger sit back, relax and discover the many different aspects that make Rothiemurchus so special. You will be given an in-depth look at the history, wildlife and land use on this extraordinary Highland Estate. Travel through varied terrain and visit the ancient Caledonian pinewood forest, Loch an Eilein, the Deer Farm and Highland Cattle. Sorry no dogs.

**Booking:** Required (min 2 people, max 6)

**Contact:** Rothiemurchus estate tel 01479 812 345

**Cost:** £30pp

**Meet:** Rothiemurchus Estate, Inverdrue, Aviemore, PH22 1QH

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AVIEMORE

# CAIRNGORMS NATURE



AVIEMORE

Cairngorms Nature Festival, Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 May 2015

**Saturday 16th May** 10am - 12pm

## BIO-BLITZ THE BOAT

Come and join **TV's Nick Baker** in the thrill of recording all the flora and fauna of the Milton Loch area in Boat of Garten. Moth trapping, bush beating, mini beast hunting and pond dipping are just some of the activities we will do. Then join us for a cuppa at the Community Hall to verify our records. **FULLY BOOKED**

**Booking:** Required (max 60 places, aged 7+)

**Contact:** [heather@cairngormwildlife.co.uk](mailto:heather@cairngormwildlife.co.uk)

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Milton Loch Bird Hide, Boat of Garten, Grid Ref: NH943193, 10am

**Dow's Store and Osprey Café at Boat of Garten are offering a 10% discount on all food and drink consumed in the Osprey Café on the weekend of the Festival. Please quote 'Cairngorms Nature Festival' to take advantage of this great offer.**

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**Saturday 16th May** 10.30am

## CAIRNGORM MOUNTAIN WALK

Explore the beauty of Cairn Gorm Mountain on foot with our spectacular guided walk. The mountain offers special arctic flora and fauna that will delight even the most casual observer as well as some of the world's most breath taking views.

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** Nic Bullivant tel 01479 861327 or email [n.bullivant@naturalretreats.com](mailto:n.bullivant@naturalretreats.com)

**Cost:** TBC

**Meet:** Cairn Gorm Mountain

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**Saturday 16th May** 10am - 4pm

## SMARTY ART

Come along to Smarty Art in Grantown on Spey to get involved in some family fun painting species that you might find in the Cairngorms. Please quote '**Cairngorms Nature Festival**' to take part in this offer.

**Booking:** Not required

**Contact:** [info@smartyart.co.uk](mailto:info@smartyart.co.uk)

**Cost:** TBC

**Meet:** Smarty Art, High Street, Grantown on Spey

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**Saturday 16th May** 11.30am & 2.30pm

## BREWERY TOUR & BEER TASTING

Pop along to the Cairngorm Brewery for a tour and some beer tasting. Sample some 'Caillie' – 15p of each case sold goes back into Cairngorms Nature Projects

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** 01479813303

**Cost:** £3 (for adults)

**Meet:** Cairngorm Brewery, Aviemore

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**Saturday 16th May** 6am – 10am

## BIRD RINGING

Take part in some bird ringing with SNH. Follow onto the Reserve from the signs from Aviemore Youth Hostel

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** Chris Donald 07808 126 584

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Craigellachie National Nature Reserve

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AVIEMORE

# CAIRNGORMS NATURE



AVIEMORE

Cairngorms Nature Festival, Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 May 2015

**Saturday 16th May**

**11am – 6pm**

## **GRANTOWN NATURE FESTIVAL**

In conjunction with Grantown 250 and hosted by the Bookmark Grantown on Spey, come along to the Grant Arms Hotel for a lively and unforgettable day with Scotland's foremost nature writers and speakers on our stunning landscapes, wildlife and sustainable ways to engage with our wild spaces. A rare opportunity to meet authoritative experts in conservation, biodiversity, species reintroductions, photography and foraging. Starring: Sir John Lister-Kaye, Jim Crumley, Fi Martynoga, Neil MacGregor and Chris Townsend.

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** 01479 873433

**Cost:** £10 (CONC £8)

**Meet:** Grant Arms Hotel, Grantown on Spey

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**Saturday 16th May**

**4.45 – 8pm**

## **EVENING OSPREY WATCH**

Come and join our fully guided evening Osprey Watching trip to our loch side hides within the Fishery. While you wait in anticipation our wildlife guide will be in radio contact with you to help to spot any ospreys that may visit the osprey pond to hunt for fish. This is a fantastic opportunity to watch ospreys at such close quarters.

Sorry no dogs.

**Booking:** Required (min 2 people, max 10)

**Contact:** Rothiemurchus estate tel 01479 812 345

**Cost:** £17.50pp

**Meet:** Rothiemurchus Estate, Inverdrue,  
Aviemore, PH22 1QH

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**Saturday 16th May**

**6.30 – 10pm**

## **AN EVENING WITH NICK BAKER**

Come and join **TV's Nick Baker** to hear about his life, experiences and passion. The evening will start at 6.30pm with a performance from the fantastic Fèis Spè Junior Ceilidh Band, followed by Nick talking about his amazing life as a wildlife presenter and his passion for nature.

**Booking:** Required [book here](#) -

<http://nickbakercnfestival.eventbrite.co.uk>

**Contact:** 01479 873535

**Cost:** £5

**Meet:** Boat of Garten Community Hall

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**Sat 16th & Sun 17th May**

**to suit**

## **GUIDED WILDLIFE WATCHING**

Join one of Speyside Wildlife's experienced guides for a day out in the Cairngorms National Park, for the best chance of catching up with capercaillie, ptarmigan, Scottish crossbill, golden eagle, red squirrel, black grouse and much more.

**Booking:** Required – [book here](#)

**Contact:** [enquiries@speysidewildlife.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@speysidewildlife.co.uk)  
or 01479 812498

**Cost:** Standard day £160, extended days £195 (if booked online). All transport included, for a max of 7 guests, pick up from local accom available.

**Meet:** Confirmed on booking

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AVIEMORE

# CAIRNGORMS NATURE



AVIEMORE

Cairngorms Nature Festival, Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 May 2015

**Sat 16 & Sun 17th May** 11am – 4pm

## WONDERFUL WADERS & WILD ART

Cairngorms Nature Festival events bring you lapwings, redshanks, snipe and oystercatcher. See the animals at the Highland Wildlife Park and get up close to some wonderful wild waders and their cute chicks as you drive through. Then let your imagination run riot as you create your very own wader works of art with RSPB Scotland and Royal Zoological Society of Scotland – no artistic ability needed, it's all about having fun!

**Booking:** Not required

**Contact:** [Catherine.Vis-Christie@rspb.org.uk](mailto:Catherine.Vis-Christie@rspb.org.uk)

**Cost:** Standard gate entry charge to the Highland Wildlife Park applies – activities are free.

**Meet:** Highland Wildlife Park, Kincaig

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**Sunday 17th May** 6pm – 8pm

## WILDLIFE OF SPEYSIDE

A tour through our unique habitats and exciting wildlife. In conjunction with Speyside Wildlife, come along to hear Duncan Macdonald talk about the animals and birds of the Cairngorms National Park. Canapes and refreshments will be served.

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** [info@muckrach.com](mailto:info@muckrach.com) or 01479 851227

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Muckrach Country House Hotel, Dulnain Bridge, PH26 3LY

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**Sunday 17th May** 11am – 3pm

## SPEYFANTASTIC

Everything you ever wanted to know about the mighty River Spey and the creatures that live in and depend upon it. Learn how to count fish, do some detective work and find out more about the 2<sup>nd</sup> biggest river in Scotland.

Electrofishing demos will be held at 11am, 12pm, 1.30pm and 2.30pm – no booking necessary.

**Booking:** Not required

**Contact:** Liz Henderson

[l.henderson@speyfisheryboard.com](mailto:l.henderson@speyfisheryboard.com)

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** car park at Inverdrue, Rothiemurchus, Aviemore, grid ref: NH 901 110

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**Sunday 17th May** 12pm - 4pm

## SMARTY ART

Come along to Smarty Art in Granttown on Spey to get involved in some family fun painting species that you might find in the Cairngorms. Please quote 'Cairngorms Nature Festival' to take part in this offer.

**Booking:** Not required

**Contact:** [info@smartyart.co.uk](mailto:info@smartyart.co.uk)

**Cost:** TBC

**Meet:** Smarty Art, High Street, Granttown on Spey

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**Sat 16 & Sun 17 May** 10am – 4pm

## SPOT THE DIFFERENCE!

Come and find out about the Cairngorms Scenic Photo Posts Project. This is a new project and it's all about using photography to study how our landscapes change. We will be at Glenmore Forestry Commission Scotland Visitor Centre with our cameras, computers, maps and games.

**Booking:** Not required

**Contact:** CNPA 01479 873535

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Glenmore FCS Visitor Centre

**Cobbs Café at Glenmore are offering a 10% discount on all food and drink purchased at Glenmore Forest Café for those taking part in the Cairngorms Nature Festival. Please quote 'Cairngorms Nature Festival' to take advantage of this great offer.**

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**Sunday 17th May** 2.30pm

## BREWERY TOUR & BEER TASTING

Pop along to the Cairngorm Brewery for a tour and some beer tasting. Sample some 'Caillie' – 15p of each case sold goes back into Cairngorms Nature Projects.

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** 01479813303

**Cost:** £3 (for adults)

**Meet:** Cairngorm Brewery, Aviemore

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AVIEMORE

# CAIRNGORMS NATURE



AVIEMORE

Cairngorms Nature Festival, Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 May 2015

**Sunday 17th May**

**10am**

## **LANDROVER 'behind the scenes' SAFARI**

Guided and driven by an experienced Rothiemurchus Ranger sit back, relax and discover the many different aspects that make Rothiemurchus so special. You will be given an in-depth look at the history, wildlife and land use on this extraordinary Highland Estate. Travel through varied terrain and visit the ancient Caledonian pinewood forest, Loch an Eilein, the Deer Farm and Highland Cattle. Sorry no dogs.

**Booking:** Required (min 2 people, max 6)

**Contact:** Rothiemurchus estate tel 01479 812 345

**Cost:** £30pp

**Meet:** Rothiemurchus Estate, Inverdrue, Aviemore, PH22 1QH

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**Sat 16 & Sun 17th May**

**anytime**

## **SELF-GUIDED WALKS**

Take to the hills – explore Craigellachie NNR and hike to the viewpoint to take in the majesty of the Caledonian pine forest.

If hill walking is not your thing then explore Aviemore Park and enjoy a walk along the River Spey.

Let the train take the strain – book your bike on the Strathspey Steam Train to Boat of Garten then cycle back along the Speyside Way.

**Booking:** Not required

**Contact:** [View all the walks here](#)

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Aviemore

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**Sat 16th & Sun 17th May**

**8.30pm**

## **EVENING MAMMAL WATCHING**

Come and enjoy our famous dusk wildlife, in the comfort of a purpose built and warm hide, with one of our professional wildlife guides. A chance to see pine marten, badger, red and roe deer and much more at close quarters. Sorry no dogs.

**Booking:** Required – [book here](#) or in person at the Rothiemurchus Centre, PH22 1QH

**Contact:** [enquiries@speysidewildlife.co.uk](mailto:enquiries@speysidewildlife.co.uk) or 01479 812498 /812345

**Cost:** adults £20, 8-10 yrs £10 (if booked online)

**Meet:** Confirmed on booking

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**Sat 16th May**

**10am**

## **MOUNTAIN WALK!**

As part of the **Kingussie Walking Festival** come and walk the mountains with experienced leader Gordon Stewart. This is an all day walk with a chance to see red deer, mountain hare, grouse and smaller birds such as wheatear, meadow pipit and golden plover.

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** 01540 661228 or [www.kcdc.co.uk](http://www.kcdc.co.uk)

**Cost:** free

**Meet:** Ardvonie carpark, Kingussie

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AVIEMORE

# CAIRNGORMS NATURE



AVIEMORE

Cairngorms Nature Festival, Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 May 2015

**Sat 16th May**

**10am**

## **WETLANDS WALK!**

As part of the **Kingussie Walking Festival** join us at RSPB Insh Marshes National Nature Reserve for a unique walk through one of the UK's most important wetlands, a view of Badenoch that few have had the opportunity to enjoy. Join the warden and site expert who will interpret the landscape and wildlife all around you while helping you navigate a path through the marsh. Spring is a wonderful vocal time to visit the Marshes, displaying lapwing, red shank and curlew, create a constant sound track for your journey. This walk will take 4-5 hours.

**Booking:** Required – places are limited

**Contact:** 01540 661518

**Cost:** free

**Meet:** RSPB Office Insh

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**Sat 16th May**

**10am – 3.30pm**

**Sun 17th May**

**12pm – 3.30pm**

## **TREEZONE SPECIAL OFFER!**

Only available during the weekend of the **Cairngorms Nature Festival** – have a complimentary second lap of the Buzzard Course immediately after you have finished (subject to satisfactory completion of your first go). This offer usually costs £10 – please quote **'Cairngorms Nature Festival'** to take advantage of it! **Booking:** Required

**Contact:** 01479 811 426 or [www.treezone.co.uk](http://www.treezone.co.uk)

**Cost:** please check website

**Meet:** Treezone, Rothiemurchus, Aviemore

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**Sat 16th & Sun 17th May**

## **Please check with Centre for times CAIRNGORMS ON HORSEBACK**

Newtonmore Riding Centre is located within the Cairngorms National Park and the scenery and wildlife will astound most visitors. With direct access to countryside only 100m from the centre with wild goats and red roe deer right on our doorstep this is an opportunity not to be missed. As part of the Cairngorms Nature Festival Newtonmore Riding Centre are offering 20% off all activities during the weekend of the Cairngorms Nature Festival. Please quote **'Cairngorms Nature Festival'** to take advantage of it!

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** 01540 670 000 or

[www.newtonmoreridingcentre.com](http://www.newtonmoreridingcentre.com)

**Cost:** please check website

**Meet:** Newtonmore Riding Centre, Fort William Road, Newtonmore

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**Sat 16th & Sun 17th May**

## **GERRY'S TAXI'S AVIEMORE**

**Are offering a 15% discount on metered fares for Cairngorms Nature Festival visitors over the Festival weekend. Please quote 'Cairngorms Nature Festival' to take part of this great offer.**

AVIEMORE

# CAIRNGORMS NATURE



BALLATER

Cairngorms Nature Festival, Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 May 2015

Key:



Family Fun



Nature Lovers



Food & Drink



Get Involved

**Saturday 16th May** 10am – 12pm

**WINGED WONDERS** .....

**OF THE NIGHT** 

Encounter the amazing diversity of moths and learn about their roles in nature. We will unveil last night's live moth trap catch to see some spring-flying species found in the area.

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** [marr.ranger@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:marr.ranger@aberdeenshire.gov.uk) or tel 013398 80868

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Burn o' Vat Visitor Centre, near Dinnet, AB34 5NB

**Saturday 16th May** 10am - 12.30pm

**FLY FISHING** 

Give fly fishing a go with the River Dee Trust Open to young people aged 8 – 16 years old – accompanied by an adult.

**CANCELLED**

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** Joanna Dick [joanna@riverdee.org.uk](mailto:joanna@riverdee.org.uk)

**Cost:** £5 per angler paid on the day

**Meet:** Tullich Fishery, Ballater, AB35 5SB

**Saturday 16th May** 10am - 4pm

**HANDS ON CONSERVATION** 

A one day/fun day introduction to practical conservation for volunteers. Tools and training provided. Wear suitable clothing and bring a packed lunch. U18's must be accompanied.

**Booking:** Not required

**Contact:** Eric Baird [ranger@glentananar.co.uk](mailto:ranger@glentananar.co.uk)

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Visitor Centre, Glen Tanar, AB34 5EU

**Saturday 16th May**  
10.30am – 12pm & 12.30 – 2pm

**WHOOO AM I? ALL ABOUT OWLS** 

Why are there different kinds of owls? How do they hunt in the dark – and for what? Dissect a pellet, fascinate over feathers and be amazed by all things owl.

**Booking:** Not required. Drop-in sessions

**Contact:** 01224 627853 or

[aileen.meek@rspb.org.uk](mailto:aileen.meek@rspb.org.uk)

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Beaton Craigie Room, Victoria & Albert Halls, Ballater, AB35 5QB

**Saturday 16th May** 1 - 4pm

**FORAGING WALK** 

Join local bushcraft expert Willow Lohr in a foraging walk to find out about the plants our ancestors ate and used.

**Booking:** Required (max 10 people)

**Contact:** Catriona Reid on 013398 81667

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Burn o'Vat Visitor Centre, Muir of Dinnet AB34 5NB

**Saturday 16th May** 2 - 4pm

**WINGED WONDERS OF THE DAY** 

Discover our native butterflies and find out how you can help them. We will take a short walk (up to 2miles/3km) to look for butterflies and other insects, including the Pearl-bordered Fritillary, a specialty of the Cairngorms. Bring outdoor clothing suited to weather, stout footwear and binoculars if you have them.

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** [marr.ranger@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:marr.ranger@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Cambus O'May Forest Walks car park, near Ballater, AB35 5SD

BALLATER



# CAIRNGORMS NATURE



BALLATER

Cairngorms Nature Festival, Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 May 2015

**Saturday 16th May** 12.30 – 1.30pm

## BEAUTIFUL BUGS & BUTTERFLIES

Come along and make butterfly themed arts and crafts in the forest.

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** 01466 794 161 or

[morayaberdeenshire@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:morayaberdeenshire@forestry.gsi.gov.uk)

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Cambus O'May Forest Walks car park, near Ballater, AB35 5SD

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**Saturday 16th May**

10.30am – 12pm & 1.30 – 3pm

## ROW, ROW, ROW YOUR BOAT!

Come for a splashy adventure with Mandy Tulloch of Mud Pies. Collect some natural treasures from around the wonderful Muir of Dinnet National Nature Reserve and use them to make a little raft. We will then head over to the bridge on the burn. Will your boat float merrily down the stream?! There will also be time towards the end of the session to visit the Vat itself.

Sorry no dogs.

**Booking:** Required – ages under 8

**Contact:** Mandy Tulloch 07929 465 680 or

[info@mudpieadventures.co.uk](mailto:info@mudpieadventures.co.uk)

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Burn O'Vat, Muir of Dinnet, AB35 5HB

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**Saturday 16th May** 2 – 4pm

## CAIRNGORMS NATURE EXPLORERS

Come and join the rangers to build some wildlife homes and learn about the tracks and signs that some of the National Parks wildlife leaves behind.

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** Glyn Jones 013397 55059

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Loch Muick, 8 miles from Ballater, AB35 5SU

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**Saturday 16th May** 10am – 12noon

## RED SQUIRRELS IN THE CAIRNGORMS NATIONAL PARK

Join one of the team from Saving Scotland's Red Squirrels for a walk in the woods of Deeside. Look for signs the animals are around and learn how the project surveys for squirrels. We might even find a few red squirrels!

Sorry no dogs.

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** Stephen Willis tel: 01224 266526 or email [swillis@scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk](mailto:swillis@scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk)

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Cambus o'May car park, AB35 5SD

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**Saturday 16th May** 1pm

## SECRET LIFE OF MAMMALS

Come along to hear about the secret life of mammals in the North East of Scotland – camera traps will be used to provide a window on our wildlife.

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** Rose Toney [rose.toney@hutton.ac.uk](mailto:rose.toney@hutton.ac.uk)

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Mike Sheridan Room, Victoria & Albert Halls, Ballater, AB35 5QB

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**Saturday 16th May** 2pm

## RECORDING LOCAL WILDLIFE

Go on a wildlife walk in Ballater with Glenn Roberts of the North East Scotland Biological Records Centre and learn how to record the wildlife that you see and how to submit any sightings to NESBReC. Suitable for all ages and levels of experience but children must be accompanied by an adult. Bring a pencil, binoculars (if you have them), walking shoes and waterproofs.

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** Glenn Roberts

[glenn.roberts@aberdeenshire.gov.uk](mailto:glenn.roberts@aberdeenshire.gov.uk)

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** outside the Library in Station Square, Ballater, AB35 5QB

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BALLATER

# CAIRNGORMS NATURE



BALLATER

Cairngorms Nature Festival, Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 May 2015

Sat/Sun 16/17 May Time TBC

## SCOTLAND'S NATURAL LARDER

Discover the richness and flavours of our nature through the seasons. Scotland can boast a wealth of wild, natural food. We aim to reconnect people with local and natural produce that has been harvested or hunted, encouraging Best Practice and responsible use of natural food resources.

**Booking:** Not required

**Contact:** Chris Donald, SNH

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** The Green, Ballater

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Sat 16 & Sun 17 May 10am – 4pm

## SPOT THE DIFFERENCE!

Come and find out about the Cairngorms Scenic Photo Posts Project. This is a new project and it's all about using photography to study how our landscapes change. We will be at Braemar Visitor Information Centre with our cameras, computers, maps and games.

**Booking:** Not required

**Contact:** CNPA 01479 873535

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Braemar Visitor Information Centre

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Sat 16 & Sun 17 May anytime

## SELF-GUIDED WALKS

Follow the line: cycle the Old Deeside Line to Cambus O'May and enjoy a cup of tea at the café or sniff out the cheese factory for a wee look. If hiking is your thing then hike up Craigendarroch for some fabulous views of Lochnagar. Or take to the river and follow the all abilities trail alongside the golf course.

**Booking:** Not required

**Contact:** [View all walks here](#)

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Ballater

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Saturday 16th May 11am - 3pm

## PEREGRINE WATCH

Join the Ranger on a guided walk in Glen Doll to view the world's fastest flying bird, watch them bring prey to feed their young. Stout shoes, warm clothing, waterproofs and packed lunch required. Telescope available, bring binoculars if you have.

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** 01575 550233

or [GlenDollRanger@angus.gov.uk](mailto:GlenDollRanger@angus.gov.uk)

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Glen Doll Ranger Base car park, DD8 4RD.

Parking - £2 per day

**NOTE:** this event is approx 2 hours from Blair Atholl

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Sunday 17th May 10am & 2pm

## WILDLIFE TRIPS

Visit the beautiful Invermark Estate in Glenesk in the company of gamekeeper Andy Malcolm who has walked and worked these hills for 27 years. Travel by landrover then on foot into the Cairngorms where you are likely to see red deer, mountain hares and red squirrels and an array of birds of prey; perhaps even a golden eagle. Sorry no dogs.

**Booking:** Required (Max 4 people)

**Contact:** Andy Malcolm

[andymalcolm1@btinternet.com](mailto:andymalcolm1@btinternet.com)

**Cost:** adults £10, children £5

**Meet:** The Glenesk Retreat, DD9 7YT

**NOTE:** this event is approx 2 hours from Blair Atholl

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BALLATER

# CAIRNGORMS NATURE



BLAIR ATHOLL

Cairngorms Nature Festival, Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 May 2015

Key:



Family Fun



Nature Lovers



Food & Drink



Get Involved

**Saturday 16th May & Sunday 17th May**

**WILD NIGHT OUT!**  

Sleep out and experience the night-time sights and sounds of nature. Join us on our family camping event with ranger activities on Sat night and Sun morning. Bring your own camping gear.

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** Polly Freeman 01796 481355

or [pf@athollestates.co.uk](mailto:pf@athollestates.co.uk)

**Cost:** adults £12, children £6

**Meet:** Blair Atholl - details given on booking

**Saturday 16th May**

**2 - 4pm**

**MINIATURE KILLIECRANKIE**  

Discover the miniature world of Killiecrankie. Look closely at the plants and flowers; find out who or what is hiding in the undergrowth.

**Booking:** Not required

**Contact:** Ben Notley [bnotley@nts.org.uk](mailto:bnotley@nts.org.uk)

**Cost:** Children £2, accompanying adults free

**Meet:** Killiecrankie Visitor Centre, PH16 5LG

**Saturday 16th May**

**11am - 3pm**

**PEREGRINE WATCH** 

Join the Ranger on a guided walk in Glen Doll to view the world's fastest flying bird, watch them bring prey to feed their young. Stout shoes, warm clothing, waterproofs and packed lunch required. Telescope available, bring binoculars if you have.

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** 01575 550233

or [GlenDollRanger@angus.gov.uk](mailto:GlenDollRanger@angus.gov.uk)

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Glen Doll Ranger Base car park, DD8 4RD.

Parking - £2 per day

**NOTE:** this event is approx 2 hours from Blair Atholl

**Sunday 17th May**

**10am & 2pm**

**WILDLIFE TRIPS** 

Visit the beautiful Invermark Estate in Glenesk in the company of gamekeeper Andy Malcolm who has walked and worked these hills for 27 years. Travel by landrover then on foot into the Cairngorms where you are likely to see red deer, mountain hares and red squirrels and an array of birds of prey; perhaps even a golden eagle. Sorry no dogs.

**Booking:** Required (Max 4 people)

**Contact:** Andy Malcolm

[andymalcolm1@btinternet.com](mailto:andymalcolm1@btinternet.com)

**Cost:** adults £10, children £5

**Meet:** The Glenesk Retreat, DD9 7YT

**NOTE:** this event is approx 2 hours from Blair Atholl

BLAIR ATHOLL

# CAIRNGORMS NATURE



BLAIR ATHOLL

Cairngorms Nature Festival, Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 May 2015

**Sunday 17th May** 10.30am – 12.30pm

## SPRING EXPLORERS SAFARI

Explore the Pass of Killiecrankie on foot and discover some of its secret corners. Learn about wildflowers and trees and find out about the larger animals that inhabit the woodland. There will be an opportunity to see our live mammal traps in action and handle some animal skins and skulls.

**Booking:** Not required

**Contact:** Emma O'Shea [eoshea@nts.org.uk](mailto:eoshea@nts.org.uk)

**Cost:** Adults £4, children £2

**Meet:** Killiecrankie Visitor Centre, PH16 5LG

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**Sunday 17th May** 10am – 2pm

## BECOME A CITIZEN SCIENTIST!

Come along and find out all about bugs and other OPAL citizen science projects. Become a Citizen Scientist and take part in a Bugs Count challenge (from 11 – 11.45am) to find as many bugs as you can. Or come along at 1.15 – 2pm to take part in an Air Quality Survey looking for lichens on trees to discover more about air pollution and local air quality (suitable from age 7+).

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** Anne-marie Robinson  
[annierobinson@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:annierobinson@abdn.ac.uk)

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Blair Atholl Tourist Information Centre

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**Sat/Sun 16/17th May** anytime

## WOOLLY WOODS

Come and see our woolly wildlife in the park and woods around the visitor centre. Contact the ranger service in advance for a pack so that you can help us make the woods and park teem with woollen wildlife. All knitted, crocheted and fabric craft most welcome. Our theme is local wildlife.

**Booking:** Not required

**Contact:** Polly or Mark 01796 481355

or [pf@athollestates.co.uk](mailto:pf@athollestates.co.uk)

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Blair Atholl Tourist Information Centre

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**Sunday 17th May** 1.30 pm – 2.30pm

## CAN'T- DANCE-CAMERON

Cameron the capercaillie is the worst dancer in the Cairngorms, but maybe with the help of his new friend Hazel the red squirrel, he'll learn some great moves!

*Can't-Dance-Cameron* is a brilliant story about believing in yourself, full of fun actions, sounds and dancing.

**Booking:** Not required

**Contact:** Aunty Emily

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Blair Atholl Caravan Park Reception

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**Sunday 17 May** 11am – 3.30pm

## FLYING HIGH!

### BIRDS IN THE UPLANDS

What's life like for wildlife in the Cairngorms? Join the RSPB for a range of family activities to discover more about our special upland birds. Find out how to track an eagle with the radio tracking game, get crafty and make a bird kite or take part in our Explorer Challenge and learn what it takes to live in the uplands.

**Booking:** Not required

**Contact:** Lauren on 01738 783233

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Blair Atholl Tourist Information Centre

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**Sat 16 & Sun 17 May** 10am – 4pm

## SPOT THE DIFFERENCE!

Come and find out about the Cairngorms Scenic Photo Posts Project. This is a new project and it's all about using photography to study how our landscapes change. We will be at the Tourist Information Centre with our cameras, computers, maps and games.

**Booking:** Not required

**Contact:** CNPA 01479 873535

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Blair Atholl Tourist Information Centre

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BLAIR ATHOLL

# CAIRNGORMS NATURE



BLAIR ATHOLL

Cairngorms Nature Festival, Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 May 2015

**Sat 16 & Sun 17 May** anytime

## SELF-GUIDED WALKS

Follow in the footsteps of Rabbe Burns – from the House of Bruar follow the course of the Bruar to the falls.

Or enjoy a walk by the River Tilt – find the wishing well and watch out for witches rock on this tour of the River Tilt

**Booking:** Not required

**Contact:** [View all walks here](#)

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Blair Atholl

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BLAIR ATHOLL

# CAIRNGORMS NATURE



TOMINTOUL

Cairngorms Nature Festival, Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 May 2015

Key:



**Saturday 16th May** 9am – 12pm

## BIRD IDENTIFICATION

For beginners and improvers. Interested in birds but lacking confidence in your identification skills? Come along and pick up some tips on how to identify what you are seeing and hearing. An audio visual presentation will prime your senses and a walk outdoors (weather permitting) will put your skills to the test.

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** Anne Cotton [scot.info@bto.org](mailto:scot.info@bto.org)

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Balfour Manor Hotel, Tomintoul

**Sat 16th & Sun 17th May** 10am – 5pm

## ANIMAL ART FOR KIDS!

Get creative and learn about local wildlife. Join us for a fun-filled day making animal masks & birds of prey or insect finger puppets to take home.

**Booking:** Not required

**Contact:** [museum@tgdt.org.uk](mailto:museum@tgdt.org.uk) or 01807 580 285

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Tomintoul Museum & VIC

**Saturday 16th May** 1pm – 5pm

## BIRD SURVEY TECHNIQUES

Make your bird watching count! If your bird ID skills are reasonable or better, then you ought to be thinking about how your sightings could make a difference. This training course starts with an indoor intro to the principles of the Breeding Bird Survey and the BirdTrack recording platform followed by time outside to practice the methods (weather permitting).

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** Anne Cotton [scot.info@bto.org](mailto:scot.info@bto.org)

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Balfour Manor Hotel, Tomintoul

**Saturday 16th May** 10am – 2pm

## BECOME A CITIZEN SCIENTIST!

Come along and find out all about bugs and other OPAL citizen science projects. Become a Citizen Scientist and take part in a Bugs Count challenge to find as many bugs as you can (from 11.15 – 12.00).

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** Anne-marie Robinson  
[annierobinson@abdn.ac.uk](mailto:annierobinson@abdn.ac.uk)

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Tomintoul Museum & VIC

**Saturday 16th May** 9.30am – 4pm

## SURVIVAL SKILLS

Come along and learn some survival skills including: protection/shelter; fire-craft – friction fire; water acquisition, filtration and purification; wild food – foraging and preparation. Drop in sessions throughout the day and 2 set sessions running 10-11.30am and 1.30 – 3pm.

**Booking:** Not required

**Contact:** Neil [info@backcountrysurvival.co.uk](mailto:info@backcountrysurvival.co.uk) or 07769 355005

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Tomintoul Museum & VIC

**Saturday 16th May** 9 – 11.30am

## A WALK IN WELLIES WITH WADERS

Join us on a walk to marvel at the looping lapwing, calling curlew and drumming snipe. This guided walk will take in the sights and sounds of the breeding waders along the Conglass Water. Wellies or walking shoes/boots are recommended.

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** [karen.cunningham@rspb.org.uk](mailto:karen.cunningham@rspb.org.uk) or 07753 775 996

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Meeting point at car park where the trees have been recently removed (NJ17271889), just outside the village.

TOMINTOUL

# CAIRNGORMS NATURE



TOMINTOUL

Cairngorms Nature Festival, Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 May 2015

**Saturday 16th May**

11am - 12.30pm & 1.30 - 3pm

## BIRD BOXES & INSECT HOMES

Join the Rangers to help make some bird boxes and insect homes, drop in at anytime during the sessions.

**Booking:** Not required

**Contact:** Vicky Hilton

[vicky.hilton@thecrownestate.co.uk](mailto:vicky.hilton@thecrownestate.co.uk)

or 01479 870070

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Tomintoul Museum & VIC

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**Saturday 16th May**

10am

## DAY TREK – TOMINTOUL AREA

Starting and finishing in Tomintoul, with the aim of viewing some stunning areas such as Glen Avon and the Ailnack Gorge.. Some equipment can be provided for this (rucksacks, midge nets) but please take own waterproofs, warm clothing and footwear.

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** [info@cairngormtreks.co.uk](mailto:info@cairngormtreks.co.uk)

**Cost:** £20pp (£15 for U16's)

**Meet:** Tomintoul Museum & VIC

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**Sat 16 & Sun 17th May**

9am – late

## NATURE V PEOPLE – WHICH TOOL IS

## BEST?

Come and discover the scientific tools being developed and tested in the Cairngorms National Park to help manage the interactions and conflicts between nature and people. Tools to help plan areas for food production, wildlife and recreation will be on show including a tool using the results of a Glenlivet resident survey reporting the recreational value of the Estate. But are the tools useful? An interactive quiz will guide young and old through the principles and results and allow you to tell the scientists if they are on the right tracks. All age groups welcome – free tea/coffee or juice.

**Booking:** Not required

**Contact:** Jan Dick [jand@ceh.ac.uk](mailto:jand@ceh.ac.uk)

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Glen Avon Coffee Shop, The Square, Tomintoul, AB37 9ET

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**Sat/Sun 16/17th May**

## HIGHLAND HILLTOP EXPERIENCE

A guided trek amongst the heather hilltops of beautiful Glenlivet Estate from the comfort and safety of an Argocat 8 wheel drive vehicle. Learn about local history, encounter native wildlife and view spectacular scenery.

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** 01807 590372 or

[info@glenlivethilltrek.com](mailto:info@glenlivethilltrek.com)

**Cost:** TBC

**Meet:** Crown Estate Car Park at Blairfindy  
Grid Ref: MR GRNJ 190285

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**Saturday 16th May**

7 – 8pm

## HIGHLAND SPRING WATCH TALK

Come along and enjoy an evening wildlife talk. Learn about the famous Black Grouse and other local wildlife.

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** [museum@tgdt.org.uk](mailto:museum@tgdt.org.uk) or 01807 580 285

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Tomintoul Museum & VIC

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TOMINTOUL

# CAIRNGORMS NATURE



TOMINTOUL

Cairngorms Nature Festival, Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 May 2015

**Sunday 17th May** 4.30am

## DAWN LEK SAFARI

Leaving shortly before sunrise, we visit a remote glen to watch the courtship rituals of this rare member of the grouse family. During the Black Grouse Watch we usually see curlew, lapwing and oystercatcher as well as the Black Grouse. We may also spot roe deer, mountain hare, brown hare, raven or red deer in addition to a number of other more common species.

**Booking:** Required (max 6 people) [book here](#)

**Contact:** Dave Newlands

[david@eastercorrie.com](mailto:david@eastercorrie.com)

**Cost:** £20 per person

**Meet:** Easter Corrie, Glenlivet, AB37 9JB

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**Sunday 17th May** 10.30am

## WILD CAMP

Starting in Tomintoul and taking a short walk to a wild camp area where we will set up our equipment to show how comfortable a night in the wild can be! We will demonstrate the lightweight tents, sleeping bags and sleeping mats, rucksacks and all of the other gear we provide.

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** [info@cairngormtreks.co.uk](mailto:info@cairngormtreks.co.uk)

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Tomintoul Museum & VIC

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**Sunday 17th May** 2pm

## WALKING & WILD CAMP DROP-IN

Drop-in to get advice on walking and wild camping

**Booking:** Not required

**Contact:** [info@cairngormtreks.co.uk](mailto:info@cairngormtreks.co.uk)

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Tomintoul Museum & VIC

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**Sunday 17th May** 7pm

## SUNSET/NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY

Come and join us for a session on evening/night photography with our award winning local photographer and guide Myrddin Irwin.

**Booking:** Not required

**Contact:** [info@cairngormtreks.co.uk](mailto:info@cairngormtreks.co.uk)

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Tomintoul Museum & VIC

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**Sunday 17th May** 2.30pm

## HIGHLAND SPRINGWATCH SAFARI

Join us for an unforgettable tour of the Upper Livet and Ladder Hills. A great opportunity to see red grouse, mountain hare, black grouse and red deer. After descending to the floor of the glen we will have a chance to see many nesting wetland birds and waders.

**Booking:** Required (max 6 people) [book here](#)

**Contact:** Dave Newlands

[david@eastercorrie.com](mailto:david@eastercorrie.com)

**Cost:** £35 per person

**Meet:** Easter Corrie, Glenlivet, AB37 9JB

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**Sat 16 & Sun 17 May** 10am – 4pm

## SPOT THE DIFFERENCE!

Come and find out about the Cairngorms Scenic Photo Posts Project. This is a new project and it's all about using photography to study how our landscapes change. We will be at the Tourist Information Centre with our cameras, computers, maps and games.

**Booking:** Not required

**Contact:** CNPA 01479 873535

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Tomintoul Museum & VIC

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TOMINTOUL



# CAIRNGORMS NATURE



TOMINTOUL

Cairngorms Nature Festival, Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 May 2015

Sat 16 & Sun 17 May anytime

## SELF-GUIDED WALKS

Enjoy Glenlivet's purpose built mountain bike trails – fantastic fun packed, flowing single track trails, spectacular scenery and stunning views.

If walking is more your thing then take to the Tomintoul Circular Walk to hear the curlews cry and the oyster catchers piping.

Or take to the adventure playground at the Ranger base.

**Booking:** Not required

**Contact:** [View all walks here](#)

**Cost:** Free

**Meet:** Tomintoul

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Saturday 16th May 2 - 4pm

## LET'S MAKE WILDLIFE HOMES!

Some fun activities to create your very own wildlife homes for you to put in your garden.

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** Saranne Bish tel 01479 873914 or email [saranne.bish@highland.gov.uk](mailto:saranne.bish@highland.gov.uk)

**Cost:** Adults £4, conc £3, family £11

**Meet:** The Town House, High Street, Grantown on Spey

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Saturday 16th May 11am

## BALLIEFURTH FARM VISIT

Balliefurth Farm is approximately 400 acres including 100 acres of mixed woodland and a bank of the Spey River. Currently we have 60 Shorthorn cows and 180 Highland Mule sheep. The cows are all born and bred on the farm. We have a great respect for the environment of the farm and manage our land to encourage wading birds to nest here in the Spring months. We look forward to welcoming you on a farm walk where we can explain more about how the food you eat is raised and our vision for the future.

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** Patrick Harrison

[patrickharrison@balliefurth.co.uk](mailto:patrickharrison@balliefurth.co.uk)

**Cost:** £3 voluntary contribution to Balliefurth's Environmental Fund

**Meet:** Balliefurth Farm, Nethy Bridge Road, Grantown on Spey, PH26 3NH

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Saturday 16th May 11am – 6pm

## GRANTOWN NATURE FESTIVAL

In conjunction with Grantown 250 and hosted by the Bookmark Grantown on Spey, come along to the Grant Arms Hotel for a lively and unforgettable day with Scotland's foremost nature writers and speakers on our stunning landscapes, wildlife and sustainable ways to engage with our wild spaces. A rare opportunity to meet authoritative experts in conservation, biodiversity, species reintroductions, photography and foraging.

Starring: Neil MacGregor, Fi Martynoga, Chris Townsend Sir John Lister-Kaye and Jim Crumley

**Booking:** Required

**Contact:** 01479 873433

**Cost:** Day ticket £10 (conc£8)

**Meet:** Grant Arms Hotel, Grantown on Spey

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TOMINTOUL