

INVOLVING PEOPLE
Cairngorms Nature BIG Weekend

Starting out as a gathering of tents in Aviemore in 2013, and renamed in 2017, the Cairngorms Nature BIG Weekend is a key date in the calendar for nature lovers. With dozens of events and activities each year, the BIG Weekend attracts thousands of residents and visitors alike to experience the outstanding nature of the Cairngorms National Park.

Over the years we've welcomed Nick Baker, George Monbiot, BBC Landward and Mara the sea eagle to the event. The weekend is a vital part of our outreach work; connecting with communities, getting people involved in volunteering and offering guided experiences for the 'new to nature' audience to try.

Cairngorms Nature Schools Art Competition

This competition is a highlight of the BIG Weekend and attracts hundreds of entries from schools across the Park. We invite the shortlisted children to attend a special event where the overall winners are announced.

In 2018, the theme was 'mountains' and CairnGorm Mountain hosted the event for 31 children and their families to ride the funicular to the top of the mountain for refreshments and an art workshop. For some it was the first time they'd made the trip and it gave them an entirely new experience of the Cairngorms National Park!

