



THE CAIRNGORMS NATIONAL PARK

Badenoch & Strathspey Corridor Study



This report was produced by Matthew Eastwood, Vipre UK on behalf of the Cairngorms National Park Authority and Aviemore and the Cairngorms Destination Management Organisation.

The project was part-financed by the Scottish Government and the European Community (Cairngorms Local Action Group) LEADER 2007-2013 Programme.

The project was also supported by the Energy Saving Trust and with assistance from the Highland Council.

John Thorne
Economic Development Officer
Cairngorms National Park Authority
14 The Square
Grantown-on-Spey
Morayshire PH26 3HG

T: +44 (0) 1479 873 535
F: +44 (0) 1479 873 527
E: johnthorne@cairngorms.co.uk
W: www.cairngorms.co.uk

Matthew Eastwood
Senior Consultant
Vipre UK
Edinburgh Business Centre
11 Maritime Street
Edinburgh EH6 6SB

T: +44 (0) 131 624 8907
F: +44 (0) 131 624 8901
E: meastwood@vipre.com
W: www.vipre.com



Executive Summary

The Cairngorms National Park Authority (CNPA) Aviemore and the Cairngorms Destination Management Organisation (ACDMO) and key stakeholders managing tourism in the Cairngorms National Park recognise the need to address the balance between the needs of visitors, the environment and local communities and to conserve and promote the special qualities of the Park as the basis of tourism. There is however a gap between the aspirations to develop, promote and maintain the National Park as a sustainable tourism destination and current tourist travel patterns and transport provision within the Park.

This study came out of a desire to conduct a transport study looking at current travel patterns and transport provision at key visitor attractions along the Badenoch and Strathspey corridor. In particular, the purpose of this work was to identify opportunities to improve sustainable transport provision and promote more sustainable travel to, from and within the Badenoch and Strathspey area of the National Park.

The car dominates visitor travel to, from and around the National Park and there are a number of challenges in providing alternatives to car use, including:

- The comparatively small and dispersed population of the Badenoch and Strathspey area presents a significant challenge in providing financially sustainable public transport services;
- The geography of the Badenoch and Strathspey transport corridor and the location of many tourist attractions make it difficult to provide public transport to many attractions;
- Lack of connectivity between public transport services can limit the attractiveness of public transport compared to car use and can inconvenience public transport users;
- The lack of facilities that allow easy interchange and the limited provision for the carriage of cycles on most public transport services also restricts the utility of cycling as a mode of transport that can be used to access parts of the National Park. This can make access to a car necessary for some journeys;
- Many of the activities and attractions that draw visitors to the Cairngorms National Park involve walking and cycling but these modes of transport are often not viewed as ways to travel to and around the National Park.

While almost all the tourist attractions within the National Park are designed primarily around access by car, many do provide active travel infrastructure such as segregated pedestrian and cycle routes and dedicated cycle parking of some form. While few sites are well served by public transport, around half are located within comfortable walking distance of a bus stop and a large number are accessible by public transport in combination with walking and/or cycling.

A significant proportion of visitors to the Cairngorms National Park are not aware of all available public transport options. While there are a variety of sources of information



available, there is no overall communications strategy for promoting sustainable modes of transport.

If the CNPA, ACDMO and key stakeholders are going to achieve their aim of seeing the National Park becoming a sustainable destination they will need to:

- Explore ways to improve connectivity between bus and train services, including:
 - Improving connectivity between bus and train services ensuring schedules are timed to minimise waits between connecting services;
 - Improve connectivity by identifying opportunities for integrated ticketing for bus and train services operating within and to the National Park;
 - Engage in further detailed discussions with the operators of key tourist attractions and transport operators with regards the feasibility of running a pilot scheme offering combined public transport tickets and attraction entry fees.
- Explore ways to improve interchange between active travel modes and public transport, including:
 - Improving facilities such as cycle parking at public transport interchanges (e.g. bus stops and train stations) or surfaced all-weather paths connecting bus stops that are in relatively close proximity to, but not directly serving, popular tourist destinations;
 - Improve the provision for bicycles on bus and train services operating within Badenoch and Strathspey in terms of capacity and ease of booking.
- Explore ways of improving public transport provision to and from key tourist destinations, including:
 - Identify a number of potential revisions or extensions to existing public transport services that would allow key tourist destinations to be served more effectively;
 - Identify a number of potential new public transport routes that could serve key tourist destinations seasonally or throughout the year, should funding be available in the future.

There may be an opportunity for the CNPA, ACDMO, key stakeholders and tourist attractions to work collectively to identify clusters of tourist attractions (such as the Glenmore Area) that can be supported through the provision of additional, or more frequent, public transport services and improved walking and cycling facilities. Glenmore already has an adequate hourly bus service, but more could be done to integrate the service with local attractions. The aim would be to create a unique selling point for those attractions, enabling visitors to travel to and from the National Park by coach or rail and around key tourist attractions by bus, bike and/or on foot. This would offer visitors the opportunity to enjoy the natural environment of the National Park while helping to conserve it.

Information plays a key role. One option may be to provide a web-based resource, possibly utilising the VisitCairngorms: www.visitcairngorms.com site, to provide an online 'one-stop-shop' to allow potential visitors to plan journeys to the Cairngorms National Park, providing information on how to travel both to and around the Park sustainably and providing links to



journey planning websites and the websites of transport operators. Such a site might act as an online version of the Cairngorms Explorer booklet.

There may be an opportunity for the CNPA, ACDMO, key stakeholders and tourist attractions to work collectively to attract visitors drawn not only by the existing attractions the National Park has to offer but by the *sustainability* of holidays in the National Park where it is possible to use sustainable transportation for the duration of their stay. This approach could be adopted in conjunction with improvements to walking, cycling and public transport provision to a particular cluster of tourist attractions within the National Park and expanded to cover the whole of the park if this approach proves to be successful.

General destination marketing such as VisitScotland, accommodation providers and visitor attractions could then refer visitors to this 'one-stop-shop' for travel information rather than provide and maintain detailed travel information on their own sites.

General destination marketing of the Cairngorms National Park should:

- Identify the National Park as a sustainable tourism destination;
- Identify sustainable travel options such as walking, cycling and public transport as *the* way to travel around the National Park;
- Direct visitors to more detailed travel information to aid journey planning.

Individual tourist attractions and accommodation providers should be encouraged to provide travel information such as:

- Providing copies of the Cairngorms Explorer booklet to guests;
- Providing links to the websites of public transport providers and transport information providers;
- Incorporating the Transport Direct page landing service on to their own websites (see: www.transportdirect.info/web2/Tools/BusinessLinks.aspx for further details).

Individual tourist attractions within the National park should also be assisted in developing their own detailed 'access maps' for inclusion in published leaflets. These maps should identify local bus stops, core paths, cycle parking, approximate walking times and contact details for further information on walking, cycling and public transport.



Contents

Executive Summary	3
1 Introduction	8
1.1 Sustainable Transport.....	8
1.2 Sustainable Tourism	8
1.3 How This Study Came About.....	10
1.4 Study Aims.....	10
1.5 Study Partners	11
1.6 Funding Assistance.....	12
1.7 Structure of This Document	13
2 Programme of Work.....	14
3 The Badenoch & Strathspey Corridor.....	16
3.1 The Study Area	16
3.2 The Transport Corridor	19
3.3 The Road Network	20
3.4 Local Public Transport Provision	21
3.5 Active Travel Provision	25
3.6 Current Visitor Travel Patterns.....	26
4 Promoting Sustainable Transport to Visitors.....	29
4.1 General Destination Marketing	29
4.2 Specific Travel Information	30
4.3 Gaps in Information Provision.....	31
5 Key Tourist Attractions in Badenoch & Strathspey.....	33
5.1 Cairn Gorm Mountain.....	35
5.2 Glenmore Forest Park.....	36
5.3 Glenmore Lodge	37
5.4 Loch Morlich Watersports	38
5.5 Cairngorm Reindeer Centre	39
5.6 The Cairngorm Sleddog Centre	40
5.7 The Funhouse, Hilton Coylumbridge.....	41
5.8 The Rothiemurchus Estate, The Rothiemurchus Centre	42
5.9 The Rothiemurchus Estate, Loch an Eilein	43
5.10 The Cairngorm Brewery.....	44
5.11 Craigellachie National Nature Reserve	45
5.12 Inshriach Nursery.....	46
5.13 Loch an Eileen Pottery.....	47
5.14 Strathspey Railway, Aviemore Station	48
5.15 Strathspey Railway, Boat of Garten Station.....	49
5.16 Strathspey Railway, Broomhill Station (Nethy Bridge)	50
5.17 The Alvie and Dalraddy Estates.....	51



5.18	Loch Insh Watersports	52
5.19	Working Sheepdogs Leault Farm.....	53
5.20	Glenfeshie Hostel.....	54
5.21	The Frank Bruce Sculpture Trail	55
5.22	The Highland Wildlife Park.....	56
5.23	Ruthven Barracks	57
5.24	Grantown Museum.....	58
5.25	Revack Estate	59
5.26	Dalnain Bridge Roches Moutonnee	60
5.27	Explore Abernethy	61
5.28	Nethybridge Pottery	62
5.29	Auchgourish Gardens, Boat of Garten	63
5.30	Castle Roy	64
5.31	Speyside Heather Visitor and Garden Centre.....	65
5.32	Landmark Forest Adventure Park	66
5.33	Carrbridge Studios	67
5.34	Loch Garten RSPB Osprey Centre and RSPB Abernethy Forest Nature Reserve.....	68
5.35	Cromdale and the Speyside Way	69
5.36	Kingussie Camanachd (Shinty) Club	70
5.37	RSPB Insh Marshes Nature Reserve.....	71
5.38	The Highland Folk Museum	72
5.39	The Clan Macpherson Museum.....	73
5.40	Newtonmore Craft Centre and Gallery	74
5.41	The Wildcat Trail	75
5.42	Newtonmore Camanachd (Shinty) Club.....	76
5.43	The Falls of Truim	77
5.44	Strathmashie Forest.....	78
5.45	Laggan Wolftrax	79
5.46	Dun da Lamh, Spey Dam and Kinloch Laggan	80
5.47	Dalwhinnie Distillery	81
5.48	Pass of Drumochter-Dalwhinnie A9 lay-by	82
5.49	Gaick Pass and Glen Tromie	83
5.50	Tomintoul	84
5.51	Bridge of Brown Tearoom	85
5.52	Key Site Features	86
6	Study Findings	88
6.1	Key Challenges – Infrastructure and Provision.....	88
6.2	Key Challenges – Information and Awareness	90
7	Recommendations	92



1 Introduction

1.1 Sustainable Transport

The way we travel has a huge impact on our economy, health, environment, and the resources available for future generations. It is currently estimated that 28%¹ of all greenhouse gas emissions in the UK are transport related² and congestion is estimated to cost the UK £20 billion every year through reduced efficiency and damage to the environment.³ Within Scotland, private car use accounts for approximately 90% of tourism travel.⁴ This traffic makes a significant contribution to UK greenhouse gas emissions, but also to airborne and waterborne pollutants, as well as noise pollution. It can also pose a danger to both people and wildlife. For this and other reasons it is easy to see why encouraging sustainable transport for tourism is important.

1.2 Sustainable Tourism

The Cairngorms National Park is home to 16,000 people and attracts around 1.4 million visitors from around the UK and overseas each year. It makes a significant contribution to the regional and national economy, with tourism accounting directly and indirectly for a significant proportion of the local economy.⁵

The Cairngorms National Park has a large area of arctic mountain landscape at its heart, with diverse communities surrounding it. The Park stretches from Grantown-on-Spey to the heads of the Angus Glens, to Ballater, Dalwhinnie and Drumochter, including much of the Laggan area in the southwest and a large area of the Glen Livet estate and the Strathdon/Glen Buchat area.

The Park is also home to 25% of Britain's threatened species. It includes unique mountainous areas of wild land, moorlands, forests, rivers, lochs and glens. Sites designated as of importance to natural heritage take up 39% of the land area and two thirds of these are of Europe-wide importance.⁶ To be of lasting benefit, tourism needs to be sustainable and growth in tourism needs to be balanced with protection for the environment, which is tourism's major attraction.

A key challenge for those who manage the National Park is to promote and increase visitor numbers whilst protecting and enhancing the natural environment of the Park.

¹ Scotland produced 44.619 million tonnes CO₂ in 2005. In total end user emissions from transport in Scotland accounted for 2.372 million tonnes CO₂ or 27.7% of Scotland's total emissions.

² Source: Local & Regional CO₂ Emissions for 2005 for the UK, DEFRA 2007:

www.defra.gov.uk/environment/statistics/globalatmos/globalghg.htm.

³ Source: Scottish Executive Publications, Costs of Congestion: Literature Based Review of Methodologies and Analytical Approaches, 2006.

⁴ Transport Tourism and the Environment in Scotland, 2000. Scottish Natural Heritage Commissioned Report F00NC17: www.snh.org.uk/pdfs/publications/commissioned_reports/f00nc17.pdf

⁵ Cairngorms National Park Authority Corporate Plan 2005 – 2008

⁶ Source: www.cairngorms.co.uk/



The Cairngorms National Park Authority's (CNPA) *Strategy and Action Plan for Sustainable Tourism* defines sustainable tourism as:

*Sustainable tourism can be said to be tourism that takes account of its current and future economic, social and environmental impacts, addressing the needs of visitors, the industry, the environment and host communities. Making tourism more sustainable means taking these impacts and needs more fully into account in the planning, development and operation of tourism.*⁷

The CNPA has an aspiration for the National Park to be a world-class sustainable tourism destination.⁸ In July 2005 the Cairngorms National Park was awarded the European Charter for Sustainable Tourism by the Europarc Federation. The Charter recognises that the management of tourism in the Cairngorms National Park addresses the balance between the needs of visitors, the environment and local communities and emphasises the need to conserve and promote the special qualities of the Park as the basis of tourism.⁹ The CNPA's Strategic Objectives for Sustainable Tourism are to:

- Raise awareness of the Park as a premier, year-round, rural tourism destination, recognising its outstanding natural heritage and its National Park status;
- Improve and maintain the quality of experience in the Park for all visitors, communities and those working within the tourism industry;
- Maintain a high quality environment by encouraging sound environmental management by all those involved in tourism in the Park;
- Ensure effective involvement by all stakeholders in the planning, development and management of tourism in the Park and maintain good communication between them;
- Strengthen and maintain the viability of the tourism industry in the Park and the contribution that it makes to the local and regional economy;
- Develop and maintain a wide range of opportunities for visitors to experience and enjoy the special qualities, distinctiveness and natural and cultural heritage of the Park;
- Ensure that visitors to the Cairngorms are aware of the range of opportunities, places to visit and things to do throughout the Park and appreciate and respect its special qualities;
- Encourage an optimum flow and spread of visitors across the Park and minimise social and environmental impact including traffic generated by visitors and conflicts between different forms of recreation;
- Ensure that visitor information is targeted at specific audiences and encourages resource protection, responsible access, visitor safety and the health benefits of regular outdoor exercise;
- Ensure a cohesive Park-wide approach to ranger services which meets the needs of

⁷ A Strategy and Action Plan for Sustainable Tourism, 2005:

www.cairngorms.co.uk/resource/docs/publications/01022006/CNPA.Paper.193.A%20Strategy%20and%20Action%20Plan%20for%20Sustainable%20Tourism.pdf

⁸ See: www.cairngorms.co.uk/parkauthority/nationalparkplan/national_park_plan_2007.php

⁹ See: www.europarc.org/home/



visitors, communities and land managers;

- Collate, analyse and use the best available information on visitor numbers, distribution, activities and perceptions to inform visitor management.¹⁰

The challenge for the CNPA is to put sustainable tourism measures into practice by providing information, support and infrastructure to help visitors to the Cairngorms National Park to choose to walk, cycle, take public transport, or lift share rather than travel to and around the Park by car.

1.3 How This Study Came About

In July 2008 the CNPA successfully applied to the Energy Saving Trust (EST) for a grant for site specific travel plan advice, and in September 2008 the Aviemore and the Cairngorms Destination Management Organisation (ACDMO) Limited successfully applied for LEADER funding to help fund a transport study looking at key trip attractors along the Badenoch and Strathspey corridor.

The CNPA and ACDMO were keen to build on the findings of the 2006 Cairngorms National Park Public Transport Audit and to conduct a transport study looking at current travel patterns and transport provision at key visitor attractions along the Badenoch and Strathspey corridor. In particular, the purpose of this work was to identify opportunities to improve sustainable transport provision and promote more sustainable travel to, from and within the National Park. The Highland Council already spend a large amount on subsidising local bus services, which are hourly on some main routes, and the work was to look at how these services are delivered and might be 'tweaked' or improved to help serve visitors better. Vipre UK carried out this study on behalf of the CNPA and ACDMO working with key tourist attractions and key Stakeholders to draw together this report.

1.4 Study Aims

The aim of this study was to examine key destinations and visitor traffic to attractions along the Badenoch and Strathspey corridor in the Cairngorms National Park in order to:

- Review the transport provision to 51 key visitor attractions & outdoor recreational hotspots and the five main-line railway stations within the area, and engage with those who manage them;
- Review active travel infrastructure, e.g. cycle shelters;
- Assess these attractions in terms of their accessibility by foot, cycling, public transport and private car and overlay Core Paths to ensure linkages;
- Identify and assess the options for reducing car use and, by doing so, reduce the Park's carbon footprint;

¹⁰ Cairngorms National Park Authority Corporate Plan 2005 – 2008



- Identify existing monitoring at sites, and establish baselines where practical;¹¹
- Identify management options for car parks in the study area;
- Identify opportunities for integrated ticketing and packaging combined travel and entry fees to attractions;
- Identify opportunities to promote more sustainable travel - such as walking, cycling, public transport and lift sharing - to visitors (including residents from elsewhere in the Park) travelling to key sites in the study area, and;
- Encourage larger sites to subsequently develop Travel Plans (possibly supported through EST consultancy assistance).

1.5 Study Partners

Several organisations worked together to make this study possible, including contributing staff time towards completion of the study, and each of these are detailed below.

Cairngorms National Park Authority¹²

The Cairngorms is the UK's largest National Park and was made a National Park in September 2003 to help protect the unique wildlife and countryside it contains and for the people that live in it, manage it and visit it. The Cairngorms National Park has the largest area of arctic mountain landscape in the UK at its heart, with diverse communities around it. It is home to 16,000 people and 25% of Britain's threatened birds, animals, and plants. It includes moorlands, forests, rivers, lochs and glens.

The statutory purpose of the Park Authority is to ensure that the four aims of the Park are achieved collectively and in a co-ordinated way. Those aims are to:

- Conserve and enhance the area's natural and cultural heritage;
- Promote sustainable use of the area's natural resources;
- Promote understanding and enjoyment of the Park's special qualities; and
- Promote sustainable economic and social development of local communities.

To do this, the CNPA employs approximately 58 officers and is directed by a board comprising 25 members, some of whom are appointed by Local Authorities, some of whom are nominated by the Scottish Government and some of whom are elected locally.

¹¹ It was acknowledged from the outset that there would be differing levels of knowledge at different sites

¹² Source: www.cairngorms.co.uk/



Aviemore and the Cairngorms Destination Management Organisation¹³

ACDMO is Scotland's first not-for-profit, private-sector led destination management organisation whose activities are directed towards community benefits from tourism. The Company has evolved with the support of public sector and community interest groups. It is led by a group of Directors from local businesses driven by their interest in corporate social responsibility.

The Highland Council¹⁴

The Highland Council is one of 32 unitary authorities in Scotland which came into being in 1996 following ratification of the Local Government etc. (Scotland) Act 1994. The Highland Council is the largest local authority in Scotland, covering an area of approximately 26,484 square kilometres, similar in size to the country of Belgium. It is divided into 22 wards, each of which elects three or four member wards, totalling 80 councillors across the area who are elected by single transferable vote.

Highland Council serves a population of approximately 211,340. The Council provides its constituent population with a range of services including transport, education, social work, housing, waste management, conservation, leisure and economic development, and is the largest employer in Highland, employing approximately 12,500 staff to provide these services.

1.6 Funding Assistance

This study was made possible by funding from two sources, each of which is detailed below.

Energy Saving Trust Site Specific Travel Advice¹⁵

In July 2008 the CNPA successfully applied to the Energy Saving Trust (EST) for assistance to help fund a transport study looking at key trip attractors within the Cairngorms National Park along the Badenoch and Strathspey Corridor. EST runs a Site Specific Advice Scheme, funded by the Scottish Government, offering organisations throughout Scotland fully subsidised consultancy assistance to look at travel and transport arrangements. EST funded 10 days of consultancy assistance to contribute towards the completion of this study.

LEADER Grant Funding¹⁶

In September 2008 ACDMO successfully applied for LEADER¹⁷ funding for this study. Managed locally by the Cairngorms Local Action Group, LEADER is an initiative funded by

¹³ Source: www.visitaviemore.com/

¹⁴ Source: www.highland.gov.uk/

¹⁵ For further details see: www.energysavingtrust.org.uk/scotland/transport

¹⁶ For further details see: www.cairngorms-leader.org/



the European Commission and run by the Scottish Government with funding support from the Cairngorms National Park Authority and Scottish Natural Heritage.

The fund provides an opportunity for communities to realise ideas and ambitions and its overall aim is to increase the capacity of local rural communities and business networks to build human capital, innovate and co-operate in order to tackle local development objectives. The main aims of the new fund are:

- Revitalising communities, and;
- Encouraging progressive rural economies.

LEADER Grant Funding provided 15 days of consultancy assistance to contribute to the completion of this study.

1.7 Structure of This Document

This report is structured as follows:

- Section 2 provides a detailed programme of work based on the time available for this study;
- Section 3 provides details of the Badenoch and Strathspey area, including the nature of the area and transport provision;
- Section 4 looks at current information provision for visitors to the Cairngorms National Park;
- Section 5 provides the results of a site audit survey of the 51 key trip attractors in the National Park;
- Section 6 identifies the study's key findings, and;
- Section 7 summarises the key recommendations.

In addition, three appendices provide further information:

- Appendix 1 provides useful transport links;
- Appendix 2 provides a Site Survey Summary, and;
- Appendix 3 provides maps of key trip attractors with 1 mile and 3 mile radii to illustrate approximate comfortable walking and cycling distances.

¹⁷ LEADER stands for: **L**iaisons **E**ntre **A**ctions de **D**eveloppement de **L'**Economie **R**urale (Links between actions for the development of the rural community)



2 Programme of Work

Table 1 below provides a detailed breakdown of how Vipre UK used the 25 days consultancy time available to carry out this study and identifies contributions from each of the study partners.

Table 1 – Programme of work.

Task	Description	Output	Time	Who
Inception	Inception meeting to finalise study proposal, firm up timescales and form steering group comprising CNPA, ACDMO, Highland Council and Vipre UK.	Study timescales and study outcomes agreed and steering group identified.	1½ days	Vipre UK and Study Partners
Literature Review	A Literature Review collating existing transport information on the study area provided by key stakeholders to inform the next stage of the study.	Transport information on study area informs next stage of the study.	3 days	Vipre UK
Develop Electronic Site Audit Questionnaire	Electronic Site Audit Questionnaire developed by Vipre to gather information on key destinations, identifying information such as the nature of the site, the number visitors, transport links, etc.	Electronic Site Audit Questionnaire developed.	2 days	Vipre UK
Site Audit Questionnaires distributed	Electronic Site Audit Questionnaire is distributed to 51 key destinations and 5 main-line Railway Stations, with invitation to participate issued by CNPA. Where destinations do not have a specific person responsible for their management, data will be gathered from key stakeholders.	Questionnaires distributed and completed.	-	CNPA
Site Audit Questionnaire returns analysed	Data from completed questionnaires is collated and additional information is gathered for larger sites. CNPA follow up where no questionnaire is returned and where 2 attempts to contact site management prove unsuccessful or where there is insufficient consultancy time available due to a low return rate. CNPA will make 2 further attempts and/or a site visit and provide Vipre with the available information.	Detailed information on the transport arrangements at each site as well as visitor numbers, modal split, and accessibility information where available. Provide a baseline for future reviews of transport in the study area.	10 days	Vipre UK and CNPA



Badenoch & Strathspey Corridor Study

January 2009

Task	Description	Output	Time	Who
Follow-up Consultation	Follow-up phone calls to selected destinations to prompt survey completion and clarify responses as appropriate. CNPA provide additional support where appropriate (see above).	Prompt survey completion and clarify responses.	1 day	Vipre UK and CNPA
Consultation with key stakeholders	Telephone based consultation with local transport operators and other stakeholders identified by CNPA, to identify issues, opportunities and fill gaps in available information in the study area.	Provide stakeholder engagement, identify issues, opportunities and fill gaps in available information in the study area.	1 ½ days	Vipre UK
GIS Mapping	Map the key destinations in study area including distance isochrones to identify walking and cycling opportunities and key public transport routes.	Map the key destinations in study area to provide additional access information.	-	CNPA / The Highland Council
Draft Report	Draft a Badenoch and Strathspey Corridor Study Report incorporating all the above and identifying a number of key recommendations.	Draft Report circulated to study partners for comment.	4 ½ days	Vipre UK
Feedback on Draft Report	Study partners provide feedback on Draft Report.	Final Report incorporates study partner feedback.	-	Study Partners
Final Report	Final Report drafted incorporating study partner feedback.	Final Report used to inform decision making on transport issues in the study area.	1 ½ days	Vipre UK
TOTAL:			25 days	



3 The Badenoch & Strathspey Corridor

The following sections provide background information on the study area, including current transport provision.

3.1 The Study Area

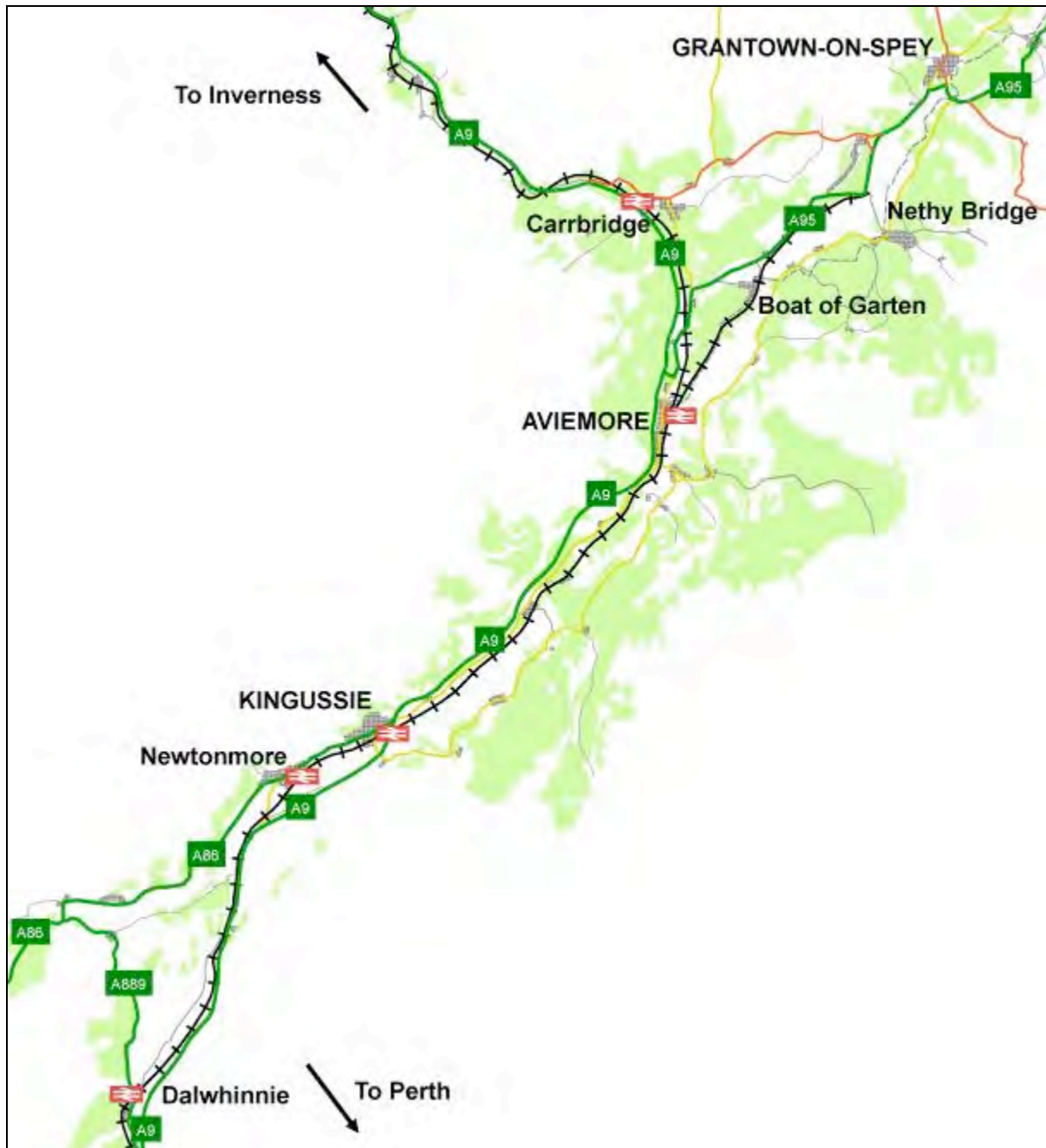


Figure 1 – Badenoch and Strathspey corridor, including the A9 and the Highland main line.



The Badenoch and Strathspey corridor was chosen as the study area because it provides a distinct research area and is the National Park's major population centre as well as a centre of economic activity.

The area covers the approximate area of the Highland Council's Badenoch and Strathspey Council Ward, one of 22 wards within the Highland Council area. Badenoch and Strathspey has a population of approximately 12,272, the main population centres being Aviemore and Grantown-on-Spey.¹⁸ The key settlements in the area along with their approximate populations are as follows:

- Aviemore - 2600 (including Coylumbridge and Glenmore)
- Grantown-on-Spey - 2170
- Kingussie - 1400
- Newtonmore - 1000
- Boat of Garten - 700
- Carrbridge - 700
- Nethy Bridge – 500
- Dalwhinnie - 100¹⁹

Tourism plays a key role in the local economy and the Badenoch and Strathspey ward has the highest proportion of jobs in tourism in the Highland region, with just over 36% in the distribution, hotels and restaurants employment sectors.²⁰

Aviemore

Aviemore is the largest village in the Badenoch and Strathspey area and plays a key role in providing access to a wide range of tourist attractions and activities located in west of the Cairngorms National Park, and is a regional centre for shopping, accommodation and recreation in its own right.

The Glenmore Area

The Glenmore area (referred to locally as the Cairngorms, Rothiemurchus and Glenmore [CRAG] area) runs from the B970 at Coylumbridge, following the 'Ski Road' through Glenmore Forest Park, to the Cairn Gorm Mountain. The area includes tourist attractions such as:

- Glenmore Forest Park
- Glenmore Lodge
- Loch Morlich Watersports
- Cairngorm Reindeer Centre
- The Cairngorm Sleddog Centre
- The Funhouse, Hilton Coylumbridge
- The Rothiemurchus Estate

¹⁸ Source: www.highland.gov.uk/yourcouncil/yourward/ward21/

¹⁹ Source: Cairngorms National Park Visitor Guide 2008

²⁰ Source: www.highland.gov.uk/yourcouncil/yourward/ward21/ward-21-z-wardstats.htm



Kingussie

Kingussie is the traditional capital of Badenoch, the area of the upper Spey Valley and is a centre for local activities such as:

- Kingussie Camanachd (Shinty) Club
- Ruthven Barracks
- RSPB Insh Marshes Nature Reserve

There are also a number of attractions located between Aviemore and Kingussie along the route of the A9 near Kincaig including:

- Loch Insh Watersports
- The Highland Wildlife Park
- The Frank Bruce Sculpture Trail

Newtonmore

Newtonmore is southern-most of the larger settlements along the River Spey, and offers a number of museums and outdoor activities being styled as a haven for walkers, including:

- The Highland Folk Museum
- Newtonmore Craft Centre and Gallery
- The Clan Macpherson Museum
- The Wildcat Trail

The Laggan Area

Laggan is a small settlement in the south-west of the National Park surrounded by the Monadhliath and Grampian mountains, providing a start point for local walking and cycling activities, including:

- Strathmashie Forest
- Dun da Lamh, Spey Dam and Kinloch Laggan
- Laggan Wolftrax



The Dalwhinnie Area

Dalwhinnie is a small settlement in the south of the National Park and forms the southern gateway to the Cairngorms. Local tourist attractions include:

- Dalwhinnie Distillery
- Pass of Drumochter
- Gaick Pass and Glen Tromie

Grantown on Spey

An 18th century planned town, Grantown-on-Spey is the original 'capital' of Strathspey. Grantown-on-Spey and the settlements Nethy Bridge and Speybridge offer a number of visitor attractions on or near the Spey River, including local museums and outdoor activities such as:

- Grantown Museum
- Revack Estate
- Explore Abernethy
- Dulnain Bridge Roche Moutonnee
- Speyside Heather Visitor and Garden Centre

The Tomintoul Area

Tomintoul is located between Deeside and Speyside, between the high Cairngorms and Glenlivet and is one of the highest villages in the Highlands. Tomintoul has a number of local attractions and is close to the Lecht Ski Centre, the Tomintoul Glenlivet Estate and is the start point many walking and cycling routes.

3.2 The Transport Corridor

The west of the National Park sits on the mainline rail network and A9 coach routes, with road and rail links primarily running north to south. The Badenoch and Strathspey area acts as a key transport corridor and the primary access route to the Cairngorms National Park from the north and south. Transport links within the Park, particularly east-west, are however, less well developed.

The A9

The A9 forms part of the M9/A9 Edinburgh - Stirling - Thurso Trunk Road. The A9 has both dual-carriageway (1km of dual carriageway within the Park) and single-carriageway sections and runs from central Scotland to Thurso through settlements in the Cairngorms National Park including Dalwhinnie, Kingussie, Aviemore and Carrbridge. The Scottish CityLink and Megabus M91 coach services follow the general route of the A9, linking Perth to Inverness,.



running through the Cairngorms National Park and stopping at Newtonmore, Kingussie and Aviemore.

The Highland Main Line

The Highland Main Line links Perth and Inverness and runs through the Cairngorms National Park, as well as Dalwhinnie, Newtonmore, Kingussie, Aviemore and Carrbridge railway stations, which are located within the Park. Much of the Highland Main Line is single track, with services timed to arrive at stations at the same time to utilise passing loops. Services operated by First ScotRail and National Express East Coast (NEXC) running between Inverness and Edinburgh, Glasgow and London use the Highland Main Line.

National Cycle Network Route 7

Route 7 of the National Cycle Network (NCN), linking Sunderland and Inverness and between Glasgow and Inverness, is branded as the 'Lochs & Glens North' as well as NCN Route 7, and passes through both the Loch Lomond & The Trossachs and the Cairngorms National Parks. NCN Route 7 largely follows the general route of the A9, on and off road, through the study area and passes through Dalwhinnie, Newtonmore, Kingussie, Aviemore and Carrbridge.²¹

3.3 The Road Network

The A9 and the Highland Main Line play a key role in visitors accessing the Park. There is also a local road network connecting settlements and key trip attractors as well as more peripheral areas of the National Park.

The road network in the Badenoch and Strathspey area consists of local roads and trunk roads. Roads that form the trunk road network are managed by Transport Scotland using Transerv Scotland Ltd and BEAR Scotland Ltd. The trunk roads in the area include:

- The A9 (described above) forming part of the M9/A9 Edinburgh - Stirling - Thurso Trunk Road and running through the Cairngorms National Park and the Badenoch and Strathspey area;
- The A889 running between the A86 and Drumgask, through Dalwhinnie to the A9;
- The A86 running from the A9, through Kingussie, Newtonmore to the A82 and Spean Bridge, and;
- The A95 running north and east from the A9 to the A96 and Keith.

²¹ Source: www.sustrans.org.uk/default.asp?SID=1095346028093



The Highland Council is responsible for the local road network, including improvements and maintenance throughout Badenoch and Strathspey.²² Key local roads in the area include:

- The B9152 following the original route of the A9 starting at Kingussie and passing through Aviemore, now bypassed by the new route of the A9;
- The B970 starting at Kingussie and running north to the west of the River Spey to Nethy Bridge and Spey Bridge;
- The B9102 running from the A95 through Grantown-on-Spey to the A939;
- The A938 running from the A9 and Carrbridge to Dulnain Bridge and the A95 towards Grantown-on-Spey;
- The A939 running north from the A95 and Grantown-on-Spey to Nairn, and;
- The A939 running south and east from the A95 to the A93 and Ballater.

3.4 Local Public Transport Provision

The following sections identify rail, coach, local bus and seasonal services that facilitate travel to, from and within the Badenoch and Strathspey area.

Rail Services

Rail services are provided along the Highland Main Line, linking Perth and Inverness and running through the National Park, including stops at Dalwhinnie, Newtonmore, Kingussie, Aviemore and Carrbridge Railway Stations (), each of which is located within the Park. See Table 2 below for further details, see www.firstgroup.com/scotrail/travelinfo/station-info.html

²² Source: www.highland.gov.uk/NR/rdonlyres/A0607B33-17BA-486B-9CD1-43F1C7D0823B/0/RoadsinBadenochandStrathspey.pdf



Table 2 – Highland Mainline Railway Stations.

Highland Mainline Railway Stations						
Highland Mainline Railway Station	Annual visitor numbers ²³	Shared site	Cycle parking Provision	Accessible by bus	Distance to closest bus stop	Staffing
Dalwhinnie	1,975	×	3 cycle racks	✓	<100 metres	Unstaffed halt
Newtonmore	7,062	×	3 cycle racks	✓	<100 metres	Unstaffed halt
Kingussie	33,427	×	5 cycle spaces	✓	<100 metres	Staffed part time
Aviemore	115,542	✓	3 cycle racks	✓	<100 metres	Staffed for most trains
Carrbridge	5,437	×	3 cycle racks	✓	<1 km	Unstaffed halt

Services operating on the Highland Main Line include:

- First ScotRail operated service between Inverness and Perth and on to either Glasgow Queen Street or Edinburgh Waverley: www.firstgroup.com/scotrail.
- First ScotRail also operate an overnight sleeper service known as 'The Caledonian Sleeper' between Inverness and London Euston via the West Coast Main Line: www.firstgroup.com/scotrail/caledoniansleeper/index.html.
- NXEC operates a service known as 'The Highland Chieftain' between Inverness and London Kings Cross via the East Coast Main Line: www.nationalexpresseastcoast.com.
- Kingussie, Aviemore and Carrbridge Railway Stations also form part of the Invernet Project with the aim of developing a suburban network for the Highland capital, Inverness: www.invernet.info.

Express coach services

Express coach services operate along the route of the A9, linking Perth to Inverness, running through the National Park and stopping at Newtonmore, Kingussie and Aviemore. Express coaches on the A9 run a seven-day service and there are up to 9 services each way each day including:

- Scottish CityLink/Megabus M90/M91 and M10: www.citylink.co.uk/timetables.html.
- National Express 588 and 538: www.nationalexpress.com/coach/index.cfm.

²³ Annual visitor numbers courtesy of First Scotrail.



- Parks of Hamilton M91: www.parksofhamilton.co.uk/cgi-bin/index.pl.

Local bus services

Most local bus services in the Badenoch and Strathspey area are subsidised by The Highland Council and operated by Highland Bus and Coach, which is due to be re-launched and rebranded as 'Stagecoach in Inverness' following the acquisition of The Rapsons Group by The Stagecoach Group.²⁴ Table 3 below identifies local bus services, routes and operators.

Table 3 – Local Bus Services in Badenoch and Strathspey.

Route Number	Route Detail	Operator
15/15X	Inverness - Granttown - Aviemore	Highland Country Buses
33/33A	Aviemore - Granttown - Tormore	Highland Country Buses
34/34B	Cairngorm - Aviemore - Granttown	Highland Country Buses
34C	Aviemore - Granttown	Highland Country Buses
35	Inverness - Carrbridge - Aviemore - Newtonmore	Highland Country Buses
36	Aviemore - Granttown	Highland Country Buses
37	Glenmore - Kingussie High School	Highland Country Buses
38/38A/38B	Aviemore - Newtonmore	Highland Country Buses
39/39A	Kinlochlaggan - Kingussie	Highland Country Buses
209	Granttown - Aviemore / Newtonmore	Bremners
338 / 338A	Granttown - Aberlour	Maynes / Speyside
501	Ballater - Granttown	Coopers Tourmaster / Stagecoach
Dial-a-Bus	Granttown on Spey Area	Strachans

The Highland Council produces a free Public Transport Map for the Highlands and Islands and 6 local 'Highlands Guides' timetables in partnership with local transport operators, which are available from the Highlands Council free of charge. Highlands Guide 2 covers Badenoch and Strathspey.²⁵

Some accommodation providers and tourist attractions also provide their own limited transport; ferrying visitors between their site and local car parks and train stations, etc.

Seasonal services

In addition to local services, there are also a number of seasonal bus services that cater for tourist traffic during the peak tourist season. These include:

²⁴ For further details see: www.rapsons.co.uk/

²⁵ See: www.rapsons.com/images/Area%20Book%20%20September%202007.pdf further details.



- The 500 Strathspey Stroller - a seasonal service supported by Moray Council, which runs from Cullen to Cairngorm via Buckie, Elgin, Dufftown, Aberlour, Grantown and Aviemore. It runs Saturdays and Sundays only from mid-May to late September. Unfortunately the service did not operate during 2008 due to budgetary constraints.²⁶
- The 501 Heather Hopper - a seasonal service, supported by the CNPA, Aberdeenshire Council and The Highland Council. The Heather Hopper connects Ballater and Grantown-on-Spey, going right through the centre of the National Park. It runs twice a day in the summer, connecting with the 502 service to Aberdeen and Aberfeldy and the 503 service to Aberdeen and Perth.²⁷
- Occasional bus services – services run to support special events such as the Angus Glens Walking Festival, and the Spirit of Speyside whisky festival.²⁸

The challenges and limitations of current provision

The comparatively small and dispersed population of the Badenoch and Strathspey area creates the significant challenge of providing financially sustainable public transport services due to the absence of economies of scale, present in more populous and less dispersed settlements.

As identified above, most local bus services in the study area are subsidised by The Highland Council and are therefore, understandably, primarily timetabled to facilitate resident, rather than visitor, traffic. Services in the study area are not specifically designed to serve tourist attractions but rather resident travel between residential areas and primary locations of employment and services. Tourist attractions are generally only served where their location coincides with the routes designed to serve the needs of Badenoch and Strathspey residents.

The geography of the Badenoch and Strathspey transport corridor also presents a challenge for the provision of public transport. The transport corridor forms a linear route along which residential areas, the locations of employment and services and key tourist attractions are distributed, rather than a central 'hub' around which services can be arranged as in many more urban areas. In addition many key tourist attractions are located in the 'hinterland' away from the main transport corridor making it difficult for them to be effectively served by public transport.

The Highland Council provide services to all the local villages, and an hourly service runs from Grantown-on-Spey via Aviemore to Cairngorm during the week. Other services are less frequent, but are supplemented by the express coach services and mainline train line.

²⁶ See: www.moray.gov.uk/moray_standard/page_1678.html#Service_500 for details.

²⁷ See: www.aberdeenshire.gov.uk/publictransport/timetables/detail.asp?ServiceID=226 for details.

²⁸ See: Cairngorms National Park Public Transport Audit Final Report, Colin Buchanan, December 2006.



The visitor numbers and seasonal nature of many tourist attractions in the National Park also makes it difficult for them to support financially sustainable public transport services. There may however be opportunities to look at providing more frequent public transport services to particular 'clusters' of tourist attractions located in close proximity within the National Park.

A key issue highlighted by a previous study,²⁹ and also highlighted as a concern of the operators of key tourist attractions in the National Park through consultation associated with this study, are the way trains and buses interconnect. Lack of connectivity between public transport services can limit the attractiveness of public transport compared to car use and inconvenience public transport users due prolonged waits between connecting services. This is a difficult issue to overcome with infrequent services, and train services especially are constrained, mainly due to the single line nature of the rail infrastructure. The council and train operators do work together to minimise 'near misses', however early trains and late trains often do not connect to onward bus travel. There is also a lack of services on Sundays, with no Grantown-on-Spey to Aviemore service.

The acquisition of Rapsons by Stagecoach may provide an opportunity to improve integrated ticketing within the National Park. However, a key barrier may be integrating ticketing between bus and rail services. Whilst PlusBus (See: www.plusbus.info for further information) offers discount price bus tickets at the start, the finish, or both ends of a train journey, this offer currently only covers Inverness and Fort William in the Highlands.

3.5 Active Travel Provision

Active travel modes such as walking and cycling are ideal forms of transport for shorter journeys or as part of a longer journey by other modes of transport. Many of the activities and attractions that draw visitors to the Cairngorms National Park involve walking and cycling but these modes of transport are often not viewed as ways to travel to and around the National Park (see Section 3.6 below for further information on visitor travel patterns).

In addition to NCN Route 7 identified above, provision for pedestrians and cyclists includes the core paths network. Key walking and cycle facilities and routes within and between communities throughout Badenoch and Strathspey include pedestrian paths, off-road cycle routes and recommended cycle streets.

The location of the Badenoch and Strathspey area relative to the rest of Scotland and the nature of the transport network locally and between the area and other parts of Scotland mean that walking and cycling are unlikely to be the primary means of transport around the National Park for more than a very small proportion of visitors. Therefore walking and cycling are best promoted in conjunction with other modes of transport and through the provision of easy carriage on and interchange with other modes of transport.

²⁹ Cairngorms National Park Public Transport Audit Final Report, Colin Buchanan, December 2006.



Core Paths Plan

The CNPA has produced a draft Core Paths Plan identifying an 879km path network across the National Park. The draft Core Paths Plan divides the Badenoch and Strathspey area in two, identifying **142 core paths in lower, and 35 in upper** Badenoch and Strathspey.³⁰

The aim of developing a Core Paths Plan is to identify a network of paths that will provide opportunities for walkers, cyclists, horse riders and canoeists and will enable people of all ages and abilities to move around their area, whether for leisure or as part of their daily activities. The long term aim is for the process to lead to a widespread and highly visible network of paths that are attractive and easy to use.³¹

At the time of writing, the CNPA Core Paths Plan has yet to be finalised and therefore only indicative popular pathways are identified in maps in this report.

Interchange with other modes of transport

For longer journeys, facilities that allow easy interchange with other modes of transport may provide the best option for facilitating and encouraging greater uptake of active travel options. This can include facilities such as cycle parking at public transport interchanges (e.g. bus and train stations) or surfaced all-weather paths connecting bus stops and at car parks in proximity to, but not directly serving, popular tourist destinations. It also includes improved provision for bicycles on buses and trains.

Advance reservations for bicycles are mandatory on most trains operating on the Highland Mainline as cycle parking space tends to be limited.³² Most bus services within Badenoch and Strathspey do not carry bicycles. There is a Highland Cycle Bus, with a covered trailer that can carry 11 cycles and a tandem, which operates outside the study area between Inverness to Durness and Smoo Cave via Ullapool, Ledmore Junction, Lochinver, Scourie, Kinlochbervie and onto Durness.³³ A similar service may be of benefit within the study area.

The lack cycle provision on most public transport services limits the utility of cycling as a mode of transport that can be used to access parts of the National Park. This makes access to a car necessary for some journeys.

3.6 Current Visitor Travel Patterns

The following section looks at current travel patterns in the Badenoch and Strathspey area and the Highlands more generally.

³⁰ Source:

www.cairngorms.co.uk/resource/docs/publications/31032008/CNPA.Paper.576.Draft%20Core%20Paths%20Plan.pdf

³¹ See www.cairngorms.co.uk/access/corepaths/index.php?h=core%20paths for further details.

³² For further details See: www.firstgroup.com/scotrail/travelinfo/cycle-info.html

³³ See: www.timdearmancoaches.co.uk/cyclebus.htm



Modal split

The car dominates the Highland transport system. According to the 2001 Census, 75% of households in the Highlands area own 1 or more cars or vans³⁴ and according to the Scottish Household Survey results for 2005 and 2006, 68% of journeys to work are by car.³⁵

This high level of car dependence partly reflects the largely rural nature of much of the area and (as suggested above) the limits to which comparatively sparsely populated areas can support commercially sustainable public transport services. At the same time it is important to bear in mind that there are a significant number of people in the study area with limited or no access to a car.

The visitor survey conducted for the 2006 Cairngorms National Park Public Transport Audit found that 85% of visitors travelled to the Cairngorms National Park by car. See Table 4 below for details.

Table 4 – Mode of Transport to the Cairngorms National Park.³⁶

Mode of Transport	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Private Car (Driver)	306	61%
Private Car (Passenger)	119	24%
Tour Coach	9	2%
Public Bus	29	6%
Rail	33	7%
Cycle	8	2%
Foot	7	1%
Other	17	3%

The survey also found that and 82% of visitors travelled within the Park by car. See Table 5 below.

Table 5 – Mode of Transport within the Park.³⁷

Mode of Transport	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Private Car (Driver)	289	58%
Private Car (Passenger)	122	24%
Tour Coach	9	2%
Public Bus	43	9%
Rail	18	4%
Cycle	59	12%
Foot	113	23%
Other	11	2%

³⁴ Source: www.highland.gov.uk/yourcouncil/highlandfactsandfigures/highlandprofile.htm

³⁵ Source: www.scotland.gov.uk/Publications/2007/11/29142052/29

³⁶ Source: Cairngorms National Park Public Transport Audit Final Report, Colin Buchanan, December 2006.

³⁷ Ibid.



The results of the 2006 visitor survey conducted for the Cairngorms National Park Public Transport Audit therefore also suggest that the car dominates visitor travel to and around the Cairngorms National Park.

Awareness of public transport options

The 2006 visitor survey found that awareness of public transport provision in the Park was low, with 37% of respondents reporting that they were 'not aware at all' of public transport within the Cairngorms National Park and 45% reporting that they were 'generally aware of public transport availability but not aware of specific details'.³⁸

Table 6 below also shows that 42% of respondents reported that they were not aware of and did not use any public transport information sources.

Table 6 – Awareness and Use of Public Transport Information sources.³⁹

Information Source	Number of respondents	Percentage
Cairngorms Explorer	80	16%
Bus Operators Timetable Booklet	150	30%
ScotRail Timetable Booklet	129	26%
Traveline (Phone or Internet)	59	12%
Transport Direct (Internet)	24	5%
Other	39	8%
None	213	42%

The percentage of visitors that access the Cairngorms National Park by public transport (13% discounting coach tours), the percentage that use public transport to travel within the park (also 13% discounting coach tours) and the low level of awareness of public transport options (18%), all suggest that there is significant amount of work required if visitors are to be encouraged to access the Cairngorms National Park more sustainably.

Cycling

The visitor survey shows that, while just 2% of visitors access the Cairngorms National Park by bicycle, 12% use the bicycle as their primary mode of transport whilst travelling in the Park. 9% of respondents to the Visitor Survey also reported a desire to have public transport within the park cater for bicycles, suggesting that improving facilities for cycles both on and off public transport may serve to encourage cycling within the Cairngorms National Park.

³⁸ Ibid.

³⁹ Source: Cairngorms National Park Public Transport Audit Final Report, Colin Buchanan, December 2006.



4 Promoting Sustainable Transport to Visitors

With 85% of visitors travelling to and 82% travelling around the Cairngorms National Park by car, there is a significant potential to encourage modal shift by visitors away from the private car to journeys via public transport, cycling and walking. This shift to more sustainable modes of transport can help reduce the environmental impact of leisure travel to, from and within the Park and can play a significant role in making the Park a more sustainable tourism destination.

The following sections briefly identify key sources of general and transport-specific information available to visitors planning journeys to and within the National Park.

4.1 General Destination Marketing

A variety of general destination marketing exists, promoting the Cairngorms National Park as a tourist attraction and available to visitors planning journeys to the National Park. This includes:

- VisitBritain: www.visitbritain.co.uk, providing useful general information, primarily catering to the international market but lacking the detailed travel information necessary to plan more sustainable journeys.
- VisitScotland: www.visitscotland.com also providing general information primarily catering to the international market but also lacking the detailed travel information necessary to plan more sustainable journeys.
- VisitAviemore: www.visitaviemore.com providing detailed information on local activities, attractions and accommodation. The site has a 'how to get here' section which provides some limited information, including the Traveline Scotland page landing service.
- VisitCairngorms: www.visitcairngorms.com is the new Park visitor website. Launching in 2009, it will have detailed information on how to get to and around the Park without a car, and links to travel planning websites.
- A large number of visitor attractions and accommodation providers within the Park have their own websites and produce their own printed material providing information and contact details to visitors.
- The CNPA produces a range of marketing and information material, including the Cairngorms National Park Visitor Guide, providing details of key Park attractions

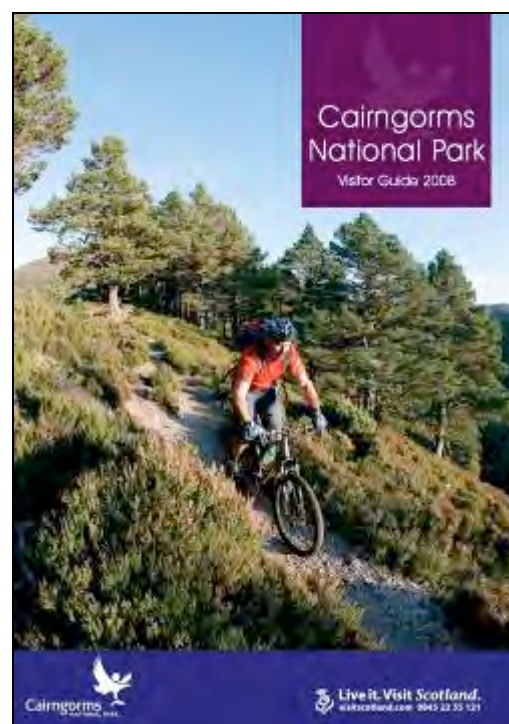


Figure 2 – Cairngorms National Park Visitor Guide 2008.

including contact details and descriptions including opening hours, entry fees and how to obtain further information. The Guide also incorporates a section on 'How to be a Green Visitor', including some general suggestions on how to travel around the Park without a car.

- Travel agents also serve as a key source of information as can Tourist Information Centres located within the National Park and in towns and cities throughout Scotland which are operated by Visit Scotland. Park Ranger Services also provide an important source of information for visitors.

4.2 Specific Travel Information

There are a variety of sources of transport information available to visitors planning journeys to the Cairngorms National Park. These include:

- The Cairngorms Explorer booklet, published by the CNPA with the aim of bringing together all the information visitors need to get around the Park without a car. This booklet divides the Park into 4 colour coded areas (Badenoch and Strathspey; Tomintoul, Strathdon and District; Deeside, and; Angus Glens), detailing public transport provision and identifying suggested walking and cycling routes linked with local services.
- 6 'Highlands Guides' produced by the Highland Council in partnership with local transport operators. Highlands Guide 2 details public transport in the Badenoch & Strathspey area.
- Traveline Scotland: www.travelinescotland.com is a public transport information and journey planning service that is also available 24/7 over the phone by its phone enquiry service on 0871 200 22 33.
- Transport Direct: www.transportdirect.info is a public transport information and journey planning service that also allows users to plan car journeys and calculate CO₂ emissions.
- National Rail Enquiries: www.nationalrail.co.uk is rail journey planner website that also allows users to buy a variety of different tickets.
- Ifyoucareshare.com: ifyoucareshare.com is a free lift sharing scheme set up by the regional transport partnerships HITRANS and ZetTrans and as such covers the

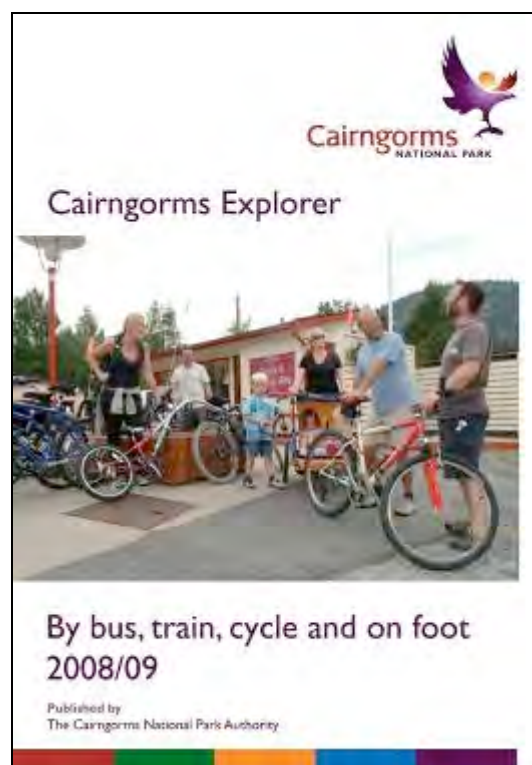


Figure 3 – The Cairngorms Explorer 2008/09.

Badenoch and Strathspey area and allows users to organise lift sharing arrangements.

- Most public transport operators' websites - such as for Citylink, National Express, MegaBus, First Scotrail, The Caledonian Sleeper and NXEC - also provide information about their services and allow users to book tickets. Services such as www.raileasy.co.uk and www.thetrainline.com allow train journeys to be planned. www.journeycheck.com/firstscotrail lets travellers check for rail-related delays.

4.3 Gaps in Information Provision

Information has a key role to play in encouraging visitors to the Cairngorm National Park to travel to and within the Park more sustainably more often. Despite the aspiration for the Cairngorms National Park to be a destination for sustainable tourism, the majority of visitors to the Cairngorms National Park travel by car. If visitors are to be encouraged to travel more sustainably, the alternatives to travel by car need to be more effectively highlighted and actively marketed.

General destination marketing of the Cairngorms National Park as a tourist destination should:

- Identify the National Park as a sustainable tourism destination.
- Identify sustainable travel options such as walking, cycling and public transport as *the* way to travel around the National Park.
- Direct visitors to more detailed travel information to aid journey planning.

Marketing the National Park as a sustainable tourism destination should be a way of generating new business, as well as a way of re-focusing current tourism business to become more sustainable.

There is an opportunity for the CNPA, ACDMO, key stakeholders and tourist attractions to work collectively to attract visitors drawn not only by the existing attractions the National Park has to offer but by the *sustainability* of holidays in the National Park where it is possible to use sustainable transport for the whole duration of their stay

For example, many tourists may be attracted by the possibility of being able to travel to the Park by coach or rail and around the park by bus or bike. The ability to enjoy the natural environment of the National Park while helping to conserve it is a marketable commodity that can enhance economic activity from tourism as well as the sustainability of that tourism.

One option may be to provide a web-based resource, possibly utilising the VisitCairngorms: www.visitcairngorms.com site, to provide an online 'one-stop-shop' to allow potential visitors to plan journeys to the Cairngorms National Park, providing information on how to travel both to and around the Park sustainably and providing links to journey planning websites and the websites of transport operators. Such a site might act as an online version of the Cairngorms Explorer booklet.



General destination marketing such as that offered by VisitScotland, accommodation providers and visitor attractions could then refer visitors to this 'one-stop-shop' for travel information rather than provide and maintain detailed travel information on their own sites.



5 Key Tourist Attractions in Badenoch & Strathspey

The following sections provide information about 51 key visitor attractions and outdoor recreation areas within the Cairngorms National Park. The CNPA identified and compiled this list of key tourist attractions in the Badenoch and Strathspey area using data from the Cairngorms Visitor Guide and the Moffat Attractions Monitor. These 51 attractions are not intended to be an exhaustive list of attractions in the Badenoch and Strathspey area but an indicative and manageable selection based on the resources available for the study.

A key aim of this study was to review the transport provision to key visitor attractions located along the Badenoch and Strathspey transport corridor and engage with those responsible for managing each site, gathering information to review transport provision and providing a baseline for future reviews of transport in the area.

A web-based site audit questionnaire was developed to gather information on each site, identifying information such as the nature of the site, the number of visitors, transport links, and so on. Those responsible for managing each attraction were then contacted by the CNPA and invited to participate and provided with a link to this questionnaire. Where destinations did not have a specific person responsible for their management, data was gathered from key stakeholders.

Data from completed questionnaires was collated and additional information was gathered for some larger sites as appropriate. Two attempts were made to contact sites where no questionnaire was returned and CNPA Officers supplied information where this proved unsuccessful.

The following sections provide information on each of the 51 visitor attractions identified by the CNPA. Most attractions are identified on a map provided by The Highland Council with a highlighted 1 mile radius (indicative of comfortable walking distance for most able bodied adults) and identifying bus stops and popular paths where this information is available. Each site also includes a table showing information provided by those responsible for managing each attraction or other key stakeholders.



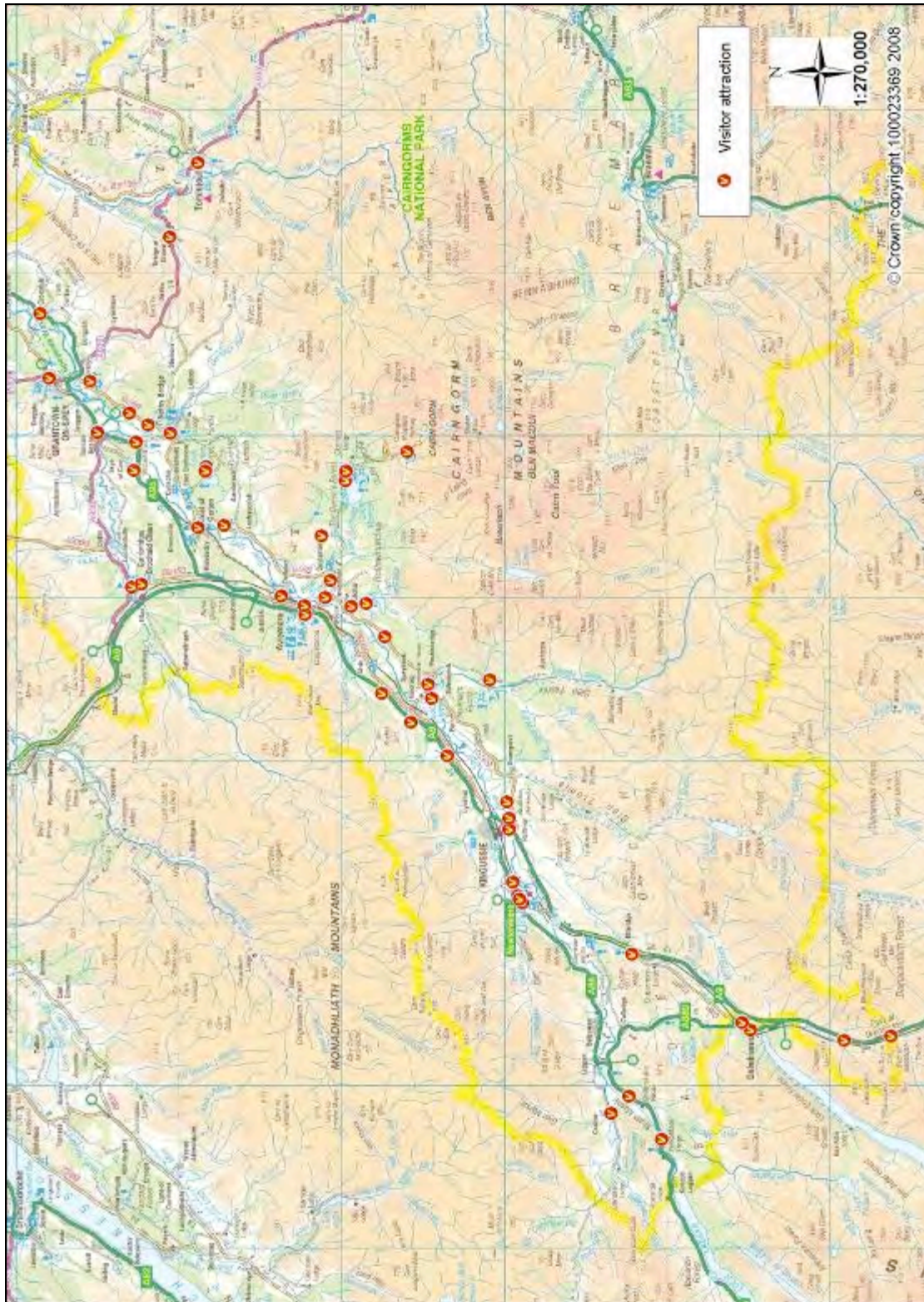


Figure 4 – The distribution of key tourist attractions within the Cairngorms National Park along the Badenoch and Strathspey Corridor.



5.1 Cairn Gorm Mountain

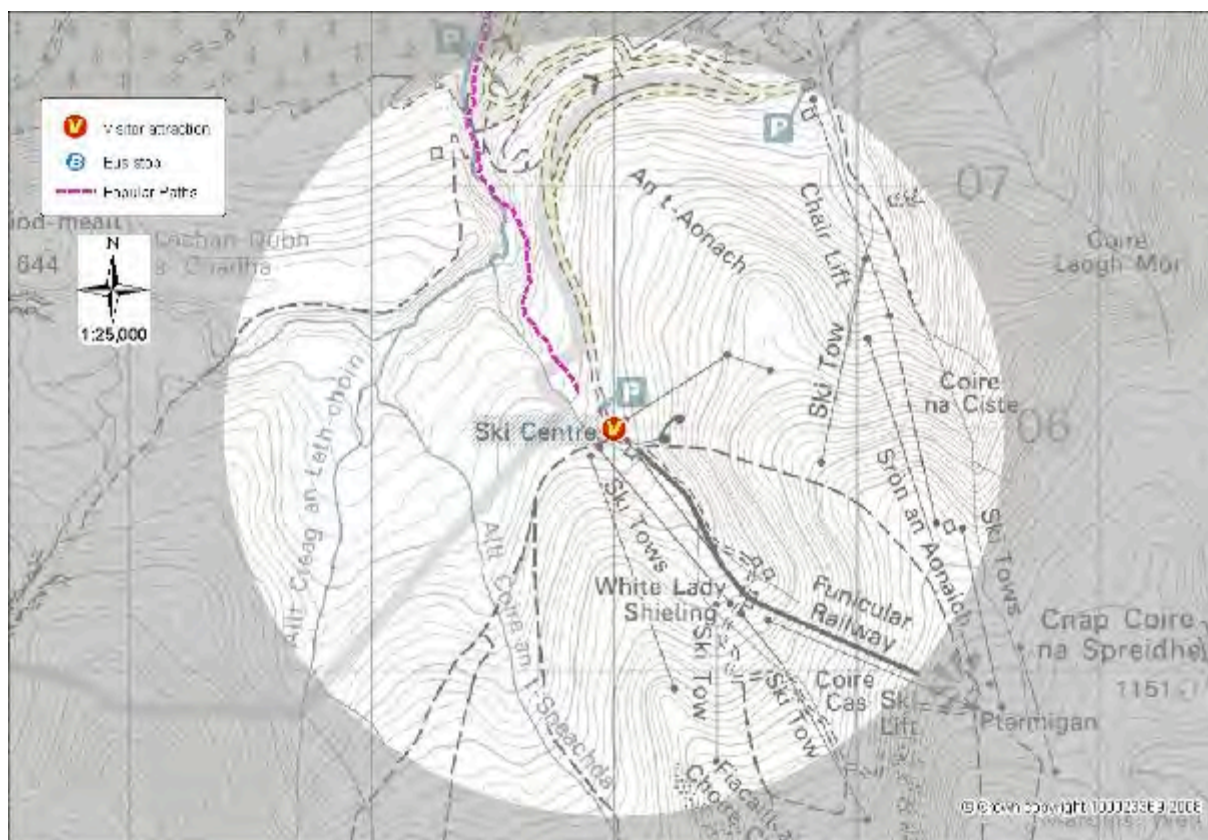


Figure 5 - Cairn Gorm Mountain.

Cairn Gorm Mountain (www.cairngormmountain.org.uk) is a year round visitor attraction with a funicular railway, offering Ranger walks, events, weddings, and ceilidhs in summer and offering a range of snow sports in the winter. Cairn Gorm Mountain is one of the ten highest summits in the UK and is synonymous with The Cairngorms mountain range.

CairnGorm Mountain Ltd											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
210,000	1	x	✓	x	✓	✓	<100 metres	✓	x	✓	x
Transport and travel related concerns:											
Road safety, poor public transport links and car park at capacity at peak times.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
There is an hourly service to Aviemore and on to Grantown. But bus timetable accuracy and the frequency of services during evenings and Sundays could be improved.											



5.2 Glenmore Forest Park

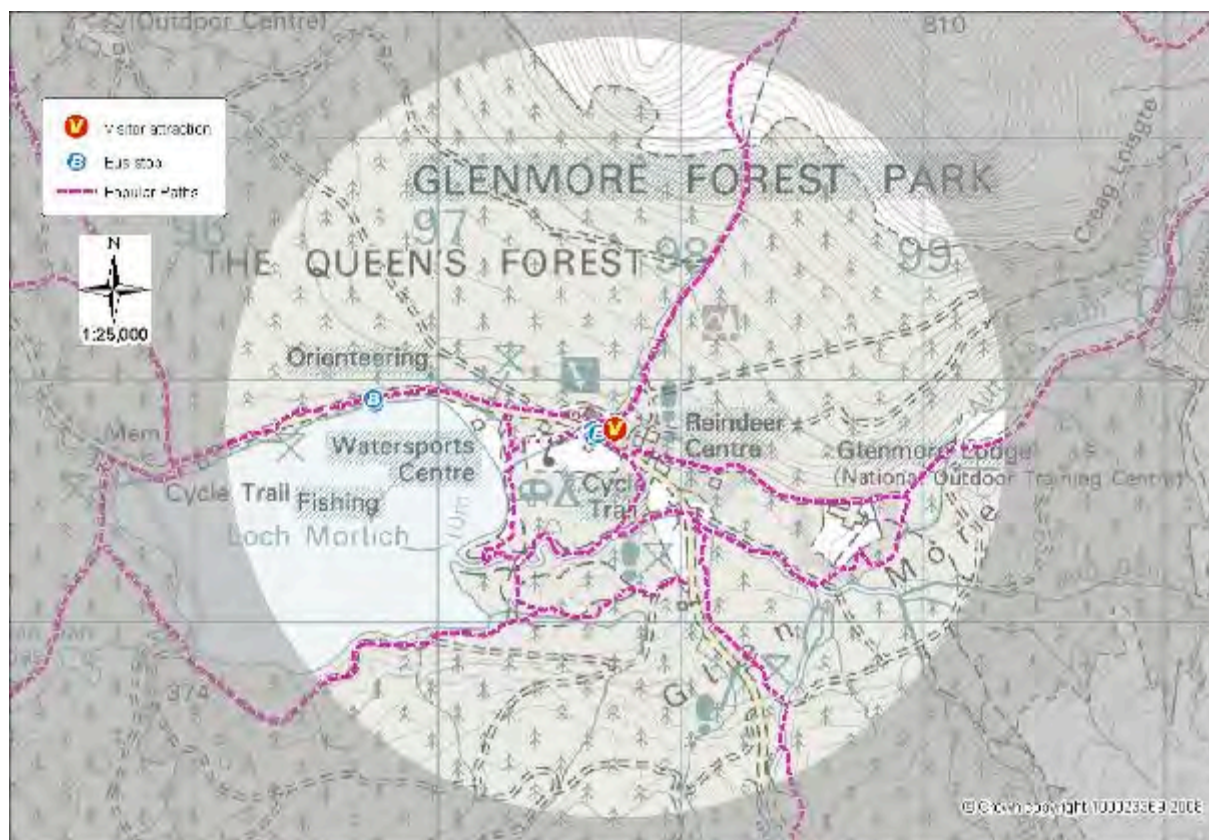


Figure 6 - Glenmore Forest Park.

Created in 1948, Glenmore Forest Park is a woodland, covering 3,500 hectares, located between Coylumbridge and Cairn Gorm Mountain. managed by the Forestry Commission. (www.forestry.gov.uk/website/Recreation.nsf/LUWebDocsByKey/ScotlandHighlandGlenmoreForestPark). The Park is one of the few remaining pockets of ancient Caledonian Pinewood in Scotland. Major work is underway to preserve this important habitat.

Glenmore Forest Park												
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy	
300,000	5	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	<100 metres	✓	x	✓	x	
Transport and travel related concerns:												
Road safety, unauthorised parking and damage to the physical environment.												
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:												
There is an hourly service on the Aviemore-Cairngorm route, which could cater for cyclists.												



5.3 Glenmore Lodge

Glenmore Lodge (www.glenmorelodge.org.uk) is located in Glenmore Forest Park close to Cairn Gorm Mountain in the heart of the National Park. Glenmore Lodge is a training centre in outdoor pursuits such as mountaineering, kayaking, canoeing, sea kayaking, rock climbing, ski mountaineering and rescue for beginners, leaders and instructors.

Glenmore Lodge												
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy	
6,000	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1-3 Km	✓	x	✓	✓	
Transport and travel related concerns:												
Road safety concerns, unauthorised parking can block forest track to emergency vehicles such as mountain rescue, poor public transport links, car park at capacity and bus times limited to season and during schools term.												
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:												
There is an hourly service on the Aviemore-Cairngorm route, which could be upgraded to include bicycles. A new off-road route to Aviemore has greatly increased provision for cyclists.												



5.4 Loch Morlich Watersports

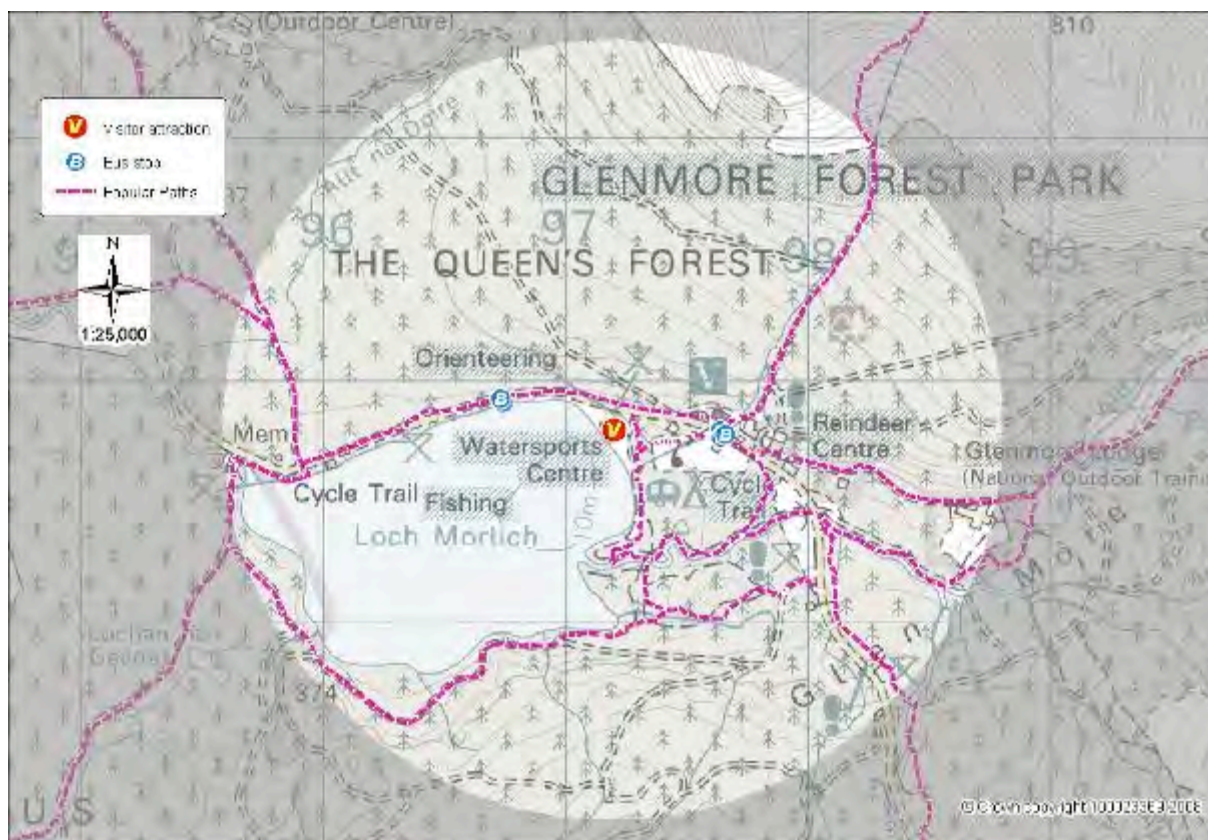


Figure 7 – Loch Morlich Watersports

Loch Morlich (www.lochmorlich.com) is situated in Glenmore Forest Park and at the foot of the Cairn Gorm Mountain in the heart of the National Park. The site includes a watersports centre and cafe.

Loch Morlich Watersports											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
Not available	4	x	✓	✓	x	✓	<100 metres	✓	✓	✓	✓
Transport and travel related concerns:											
Car park at capacity.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
More and better bike racks on buses.											



5.5 Cairngorm Reindeer Centre

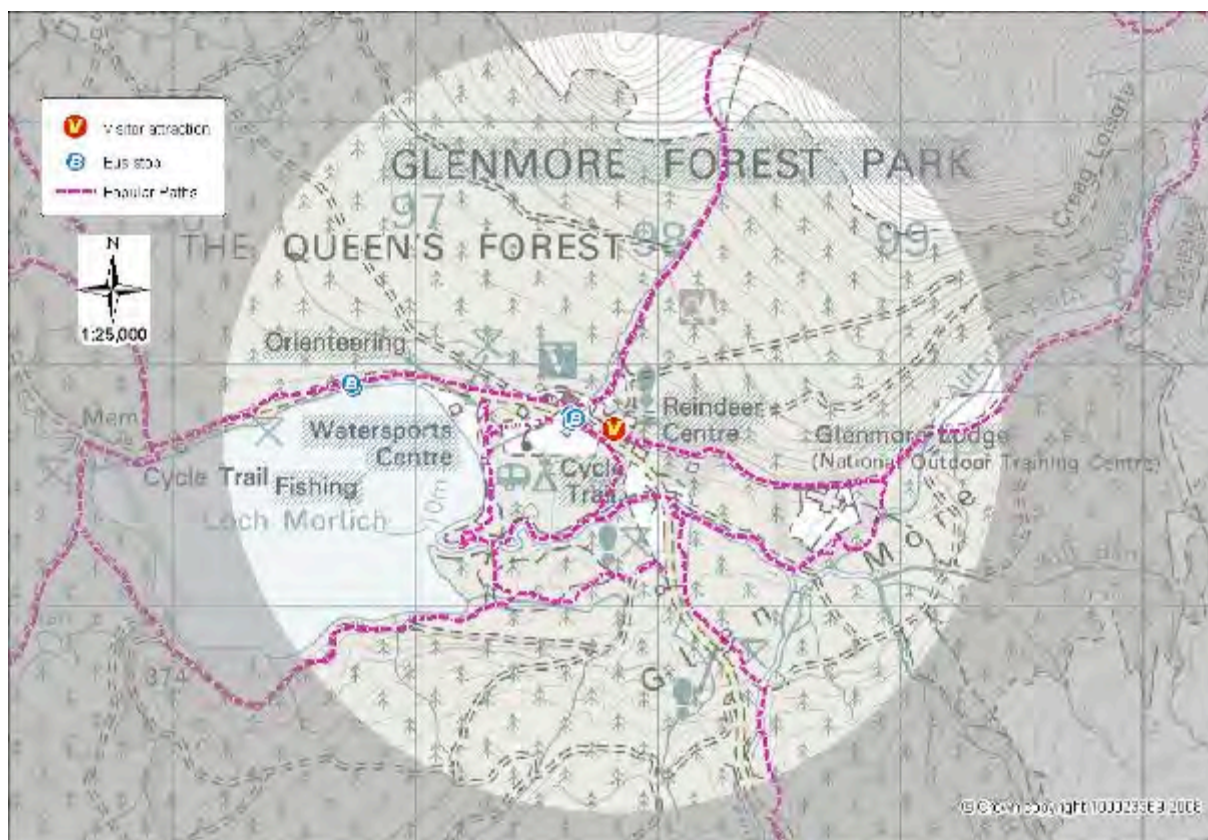


Figure 8 – The Cairngorm Reindeer Centre.

The Cairngorm Reindeer Centre (www.reindeer-company.demon.co.uk) is situated in Glenmore Forest Park. The Centre is home to Britain's only free ranging herd of reindeer, which live on the Northern slopes of the Cairngorms.

Cairngorm Reindeer Centre												
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy	
20,000	1	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	<1 Km	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Transport and travel related concerns:												
Road safety concerns, traffic congestion entering and leaving site, congestion on local roads, high level of parking in local streets and lack of dedicated car park for visitors to Centre. Visitors park their cars on the "ski road" and walk up to the Reindeer Centre.												
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:												
Cheaper public transport fares and better information about sustainable transport on attraction website and brochures.												



5.6 The Cairngorm Sleddog Centre

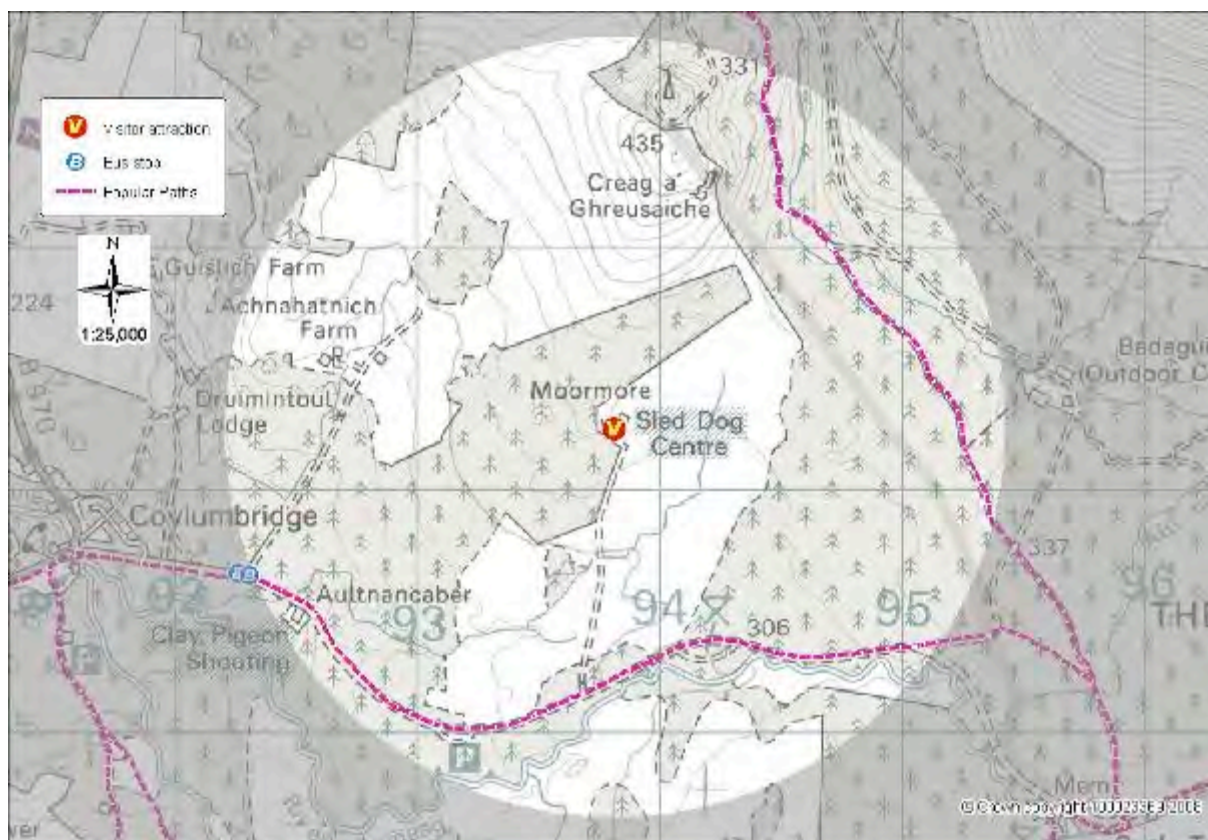


Figure 9 – The Cairngorm Sleddog Centre.

The Cairngorm Sleddog Centre (www.sled-dogs.co.uk) is situated within Rothiemurchus at the foot of the Cairngorm Mountains, The Cairngorm Sleddog Centre offers a wide range of activities, from kennel and museum Tours to sleddog trips and safaris.

The Cairngorm Sleddog Centre												
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy	
1,000	2	✓	x	x	x	✓	1-3 Km	✓	x	✓	x	
Transport and travel related concerns:												
No designated pedestrian / cycle route - however road is wide / sight lines are good / traffic levels low.												
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:												
Visitor shuttle bus from local settlement/public transport stop, cheaper public transport fares, package deals that include travel to site by sustainable modes, and discounted entrance fee to sites for visitors travelling by sustainable modes.												



5.7 The Funhouse, Hilton Coylumbridge

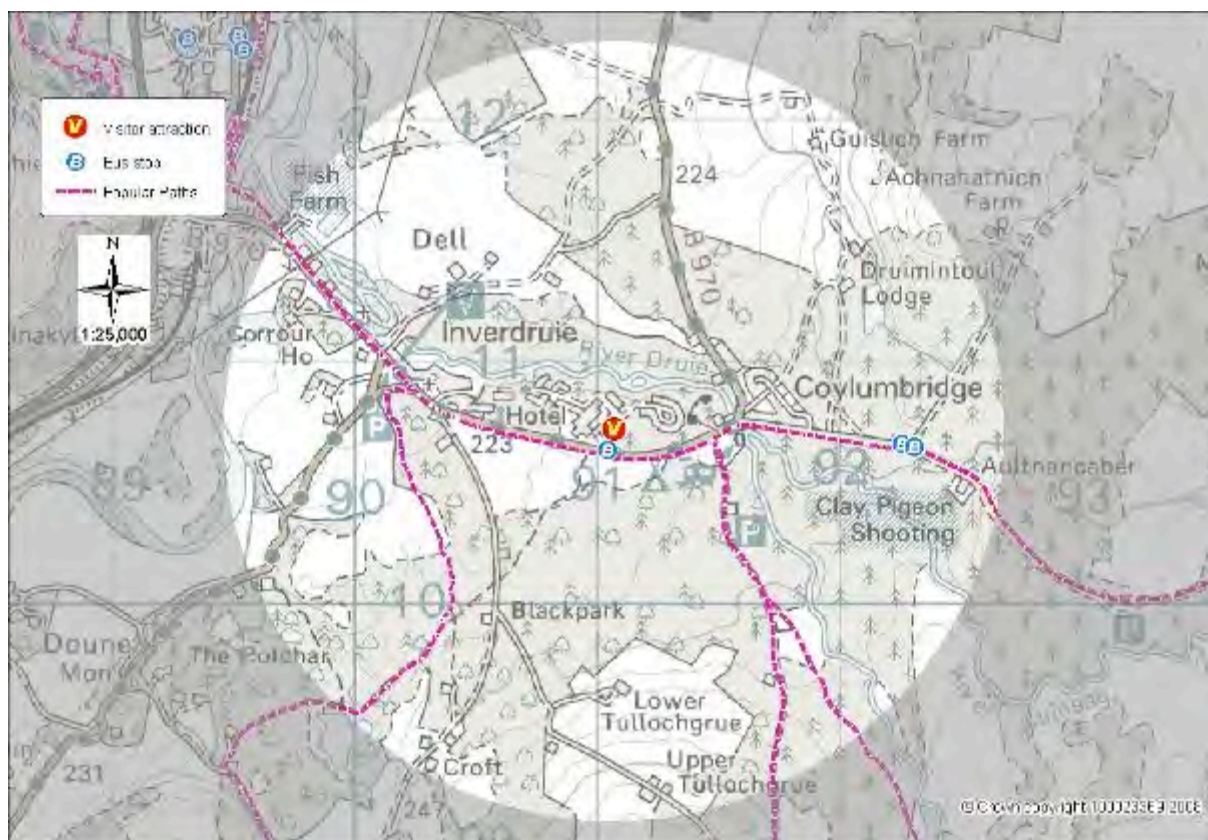


Figure 10 – The Funhouse, Hilton Coylumbridge.

The Fun House is located in the Hilton Coylumbridge hotel in Coylumbridge (www.hilton.co.uk/property/1212_ServiceDetails.jsp?hid=11001807&fid=11001945). The Fun House is an indoor children's facility, offering soft-play activities, indoor/outdoor golf, arcade including bowling, an American diner and a crèche offering a childcare and babysitting service.

The Funhouse, Hilton Coylumbridge												
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy	
50,000	1	✓	x	x	✓	✓	<100m	✓	✓	✓	x	
Transport and travel related concerns:												
Congestion on local roads. No Sunday bus service.												
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:												
More frequent public transport services, better public transport service information at bus stops and train stations and better information about sustainable transport options on website and brochures.												



5.8 The Rothiemurchus Estate, The Rothiemurchus Centre

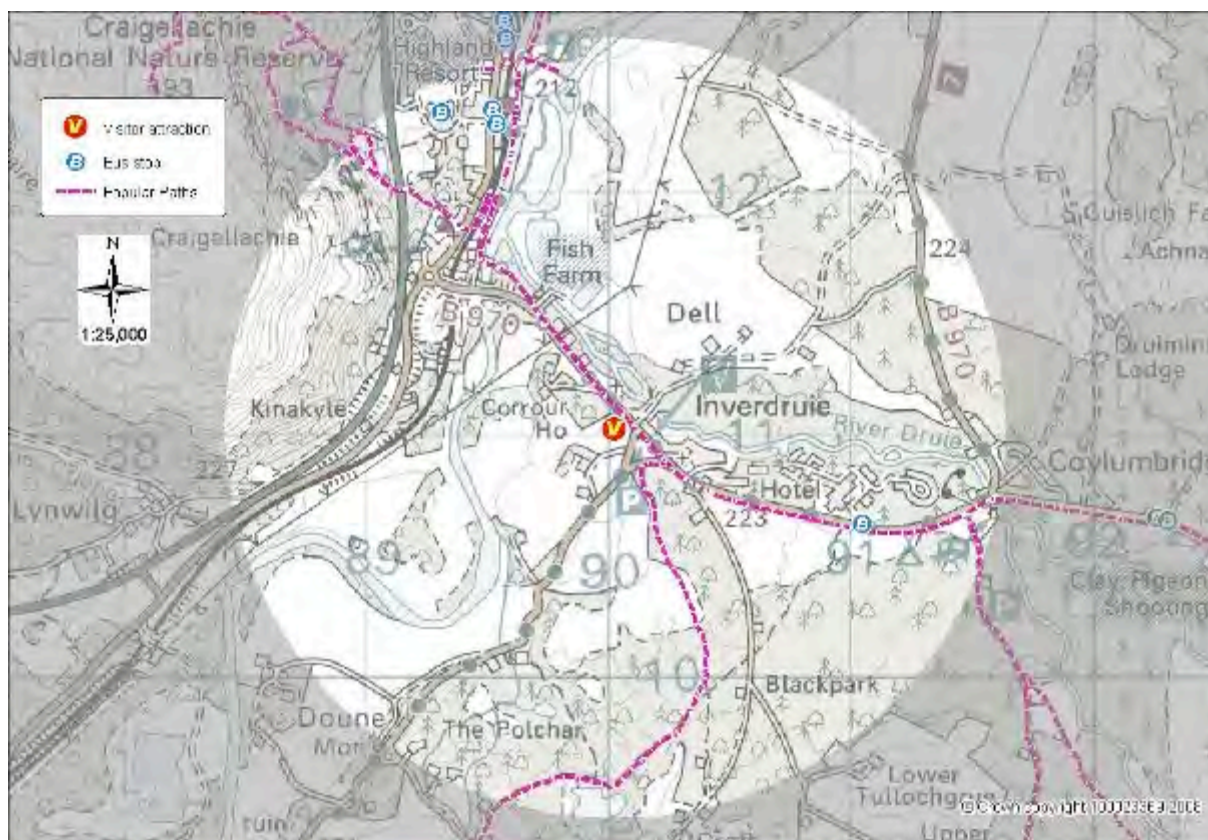


Figure 11 – The Rothiemurchus Centre.

The Rothiemurchus Estate (www.rothiemurchus.net) is located between Aviemore and Cowlumbridge on the B970. The Estate has two visitor centres; Rothiemurchus Centre and Loch an Eilein. Rothiemurchus Centre has a gift shop and cafe, and offers local information, activity bookings. It is the start of walking and cycling routes and other outdoor activities.

Rothiemurchus Centre											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
250,000	3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1-3km	✓	✓	✓	x
Transport and travel related concerns:											
Small carpark which can fill at peak times.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
Better public transport information and improved quality waiting facilities at bus stops and train stations, enhanced information about sustainable transport options on website and brochures.											



5.9 The Rothiemurchus Estate, Loch an Eilein

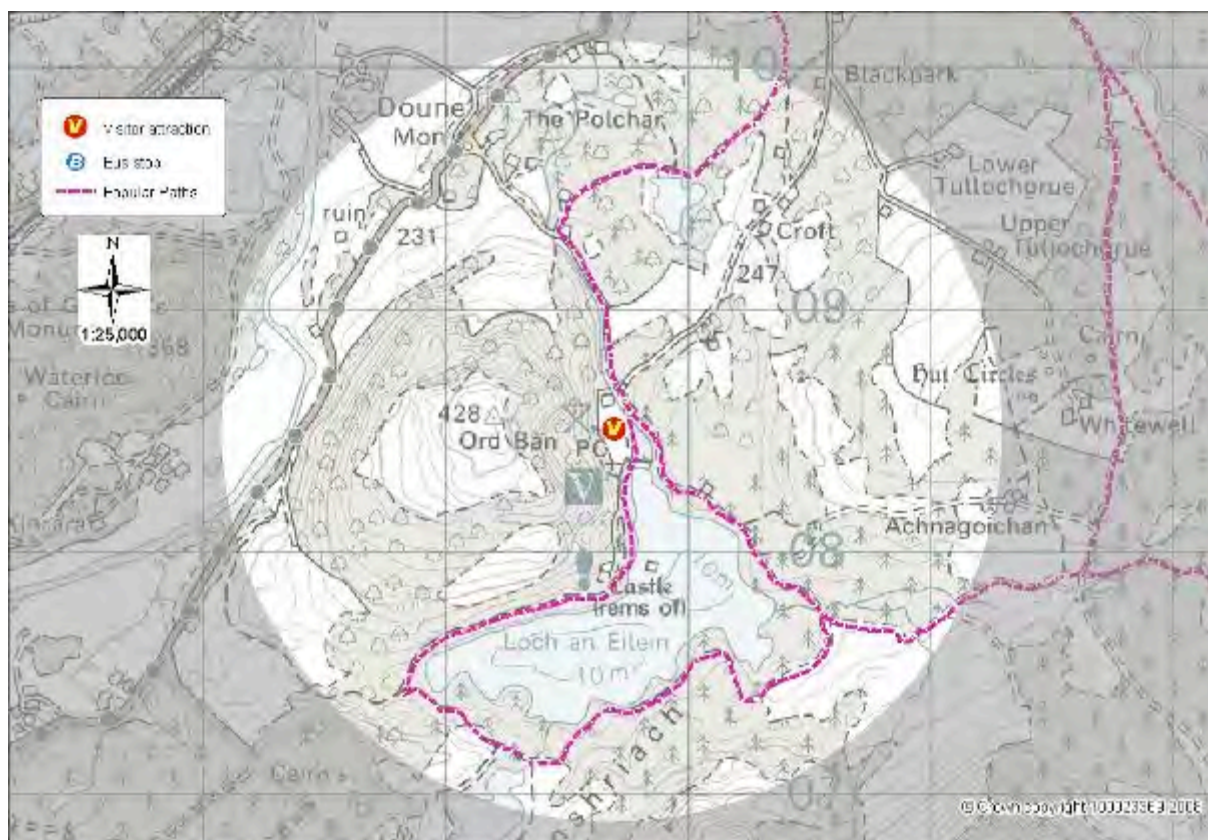


Figure 12 – Loch an Eilein.

Loch an Eilein, provides access to picturesque walking routes and Loch an Eilein Castle. The Loch an Eilein Visitor's Centre also provides a seasonal gift shop and a special 'Touch corner' for children with information about flora and fauna on the estate.

Loch an Eilein											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
250,000	3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	4km	✓	✓	✓	x
Transport and travel related concerns:											
No direct bus service, nearest is at Rothiemurchus Centre on Aviemore-Cairngorm route.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
Better public transport service information at bus stops and train stations, better quality waiting facilities at bus stops and train stations, better information about public transport, walking, cycling and car sharing schemes on attraction website and brochures											



5.10 The Cairngorm Brewery

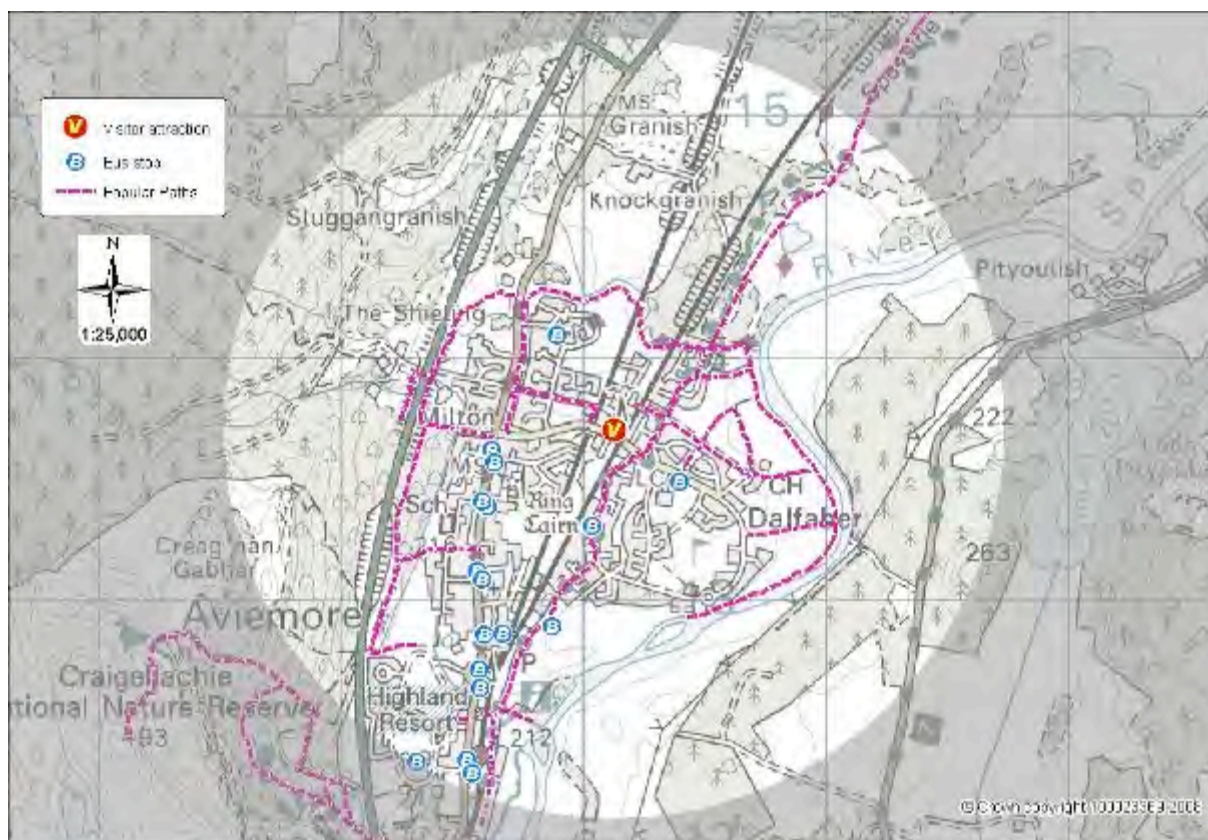


Figure 13 – The Cairngorm Brewery.

The Cairngorm Brewery Company, (www.cairngormbrewery.com) established in 2001 and situated on an industrial park in Aviemore, is a 10-barrel brewery, producing 360 gallons (1620 litres) of traditional and new ale each day. The Cairngorm Brewery has a range of permanent and seasonal cask beers, 8 of which are available throughout the year in 500ml bottles. Cairngorm Brewery includes a small retail area for sales and a tour reception and tasting area, taking up to 15 people at a time.

Cairngorm Brewery, Aviemore											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
1,000	1	x	x	x	x	✓	<100m	✓	✓	✓	x
Transport and travel related concerns:											
The brewery is well situated to take more advantage of Aviemore train and bus services.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
No Response.											



5.11 Craigellachie National Nature Reserve

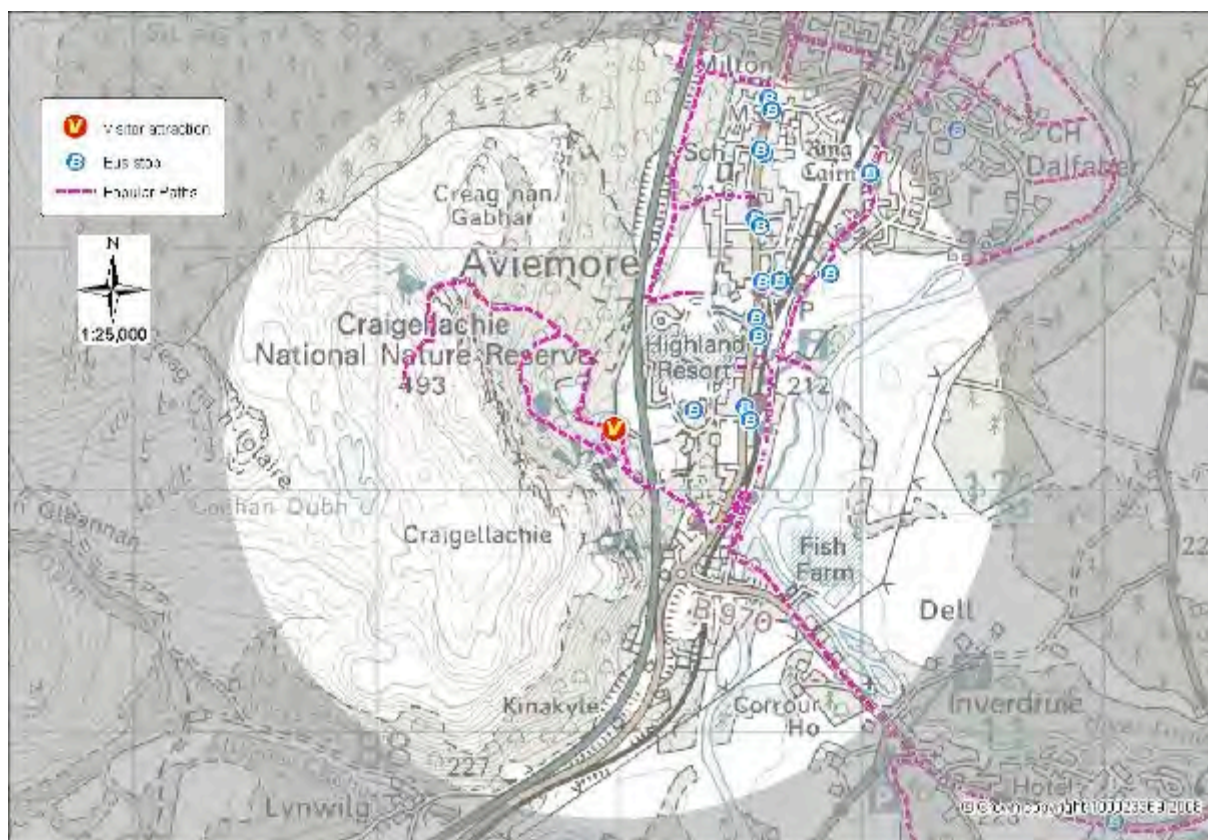


Figure 14 – Craigellachie National Nature Reserve.

Craigellachie is a national nature reserve managed by Scottish natural heritage. (www.snh.org.uk/nnr-scotland/reserve.asp?NNRId=18) The Nature Reserve is located directly to the west of Aviemore on the hill of Craigellachie, the lower slopes of which are cloaked in mature birch woodland.

Craigellachie National Nature Reserve												
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy	
10,000	1	✓	✓	x	x	✓	<1 km	x	✓	✓	x	
Transport and travel related concerns:												
Poor pedestrian access, paths are not ideal for cyclists, there may be conflicts with walkers, and Craigellachie has no designated parking and no signage from the centre of Aviemore.												
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:												
More frequent public transport services, cheaper public transport fares, improved/provision of secure storage facilities/lockers and better information about sustainable transport on website and brochures.												



5.12 Inshriach Nursery

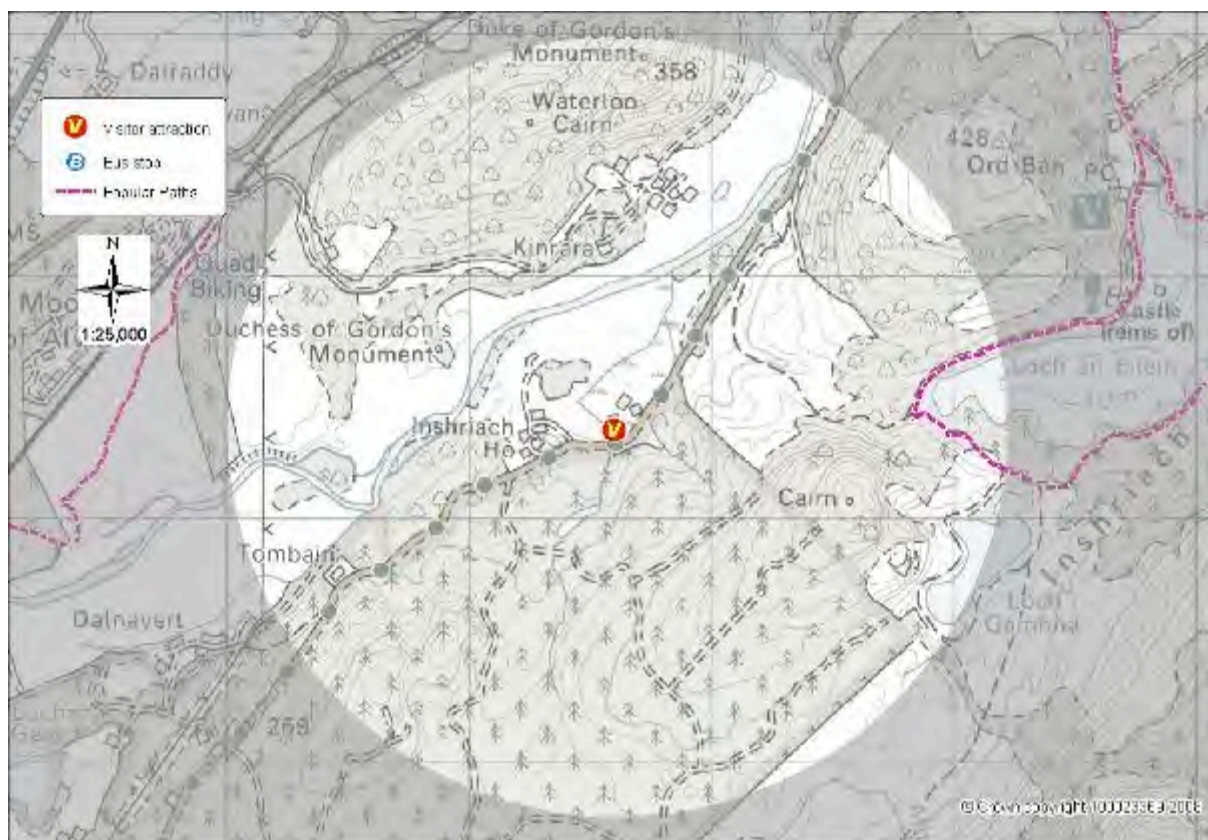


Figure 15 – Inshriach Nursery.

Inshriach Nursery is open mid-February to mid-November and offers a wide range of plants, gardens, a bird wildlife area and catering facilities.

Inshriach Nursery											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
Not Available	1	x	x	x	x	x	4km	✓	x	x	x
Transport and travel related concerns:											
No local bus stop, nearest is 4km away on the CairnGorm road at Rothiemurchus. 6km away is Aviemore train station. The road to the nursery, the B970, is narrow and winding but is suitable for cycles. It is on NCN Route 7.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
Some bus services could be adapted, to run a bus service to the site, linking Aviemore and Kingussie; better cycle signage and facilities.											



5.13 Loch an Eileen Pottery

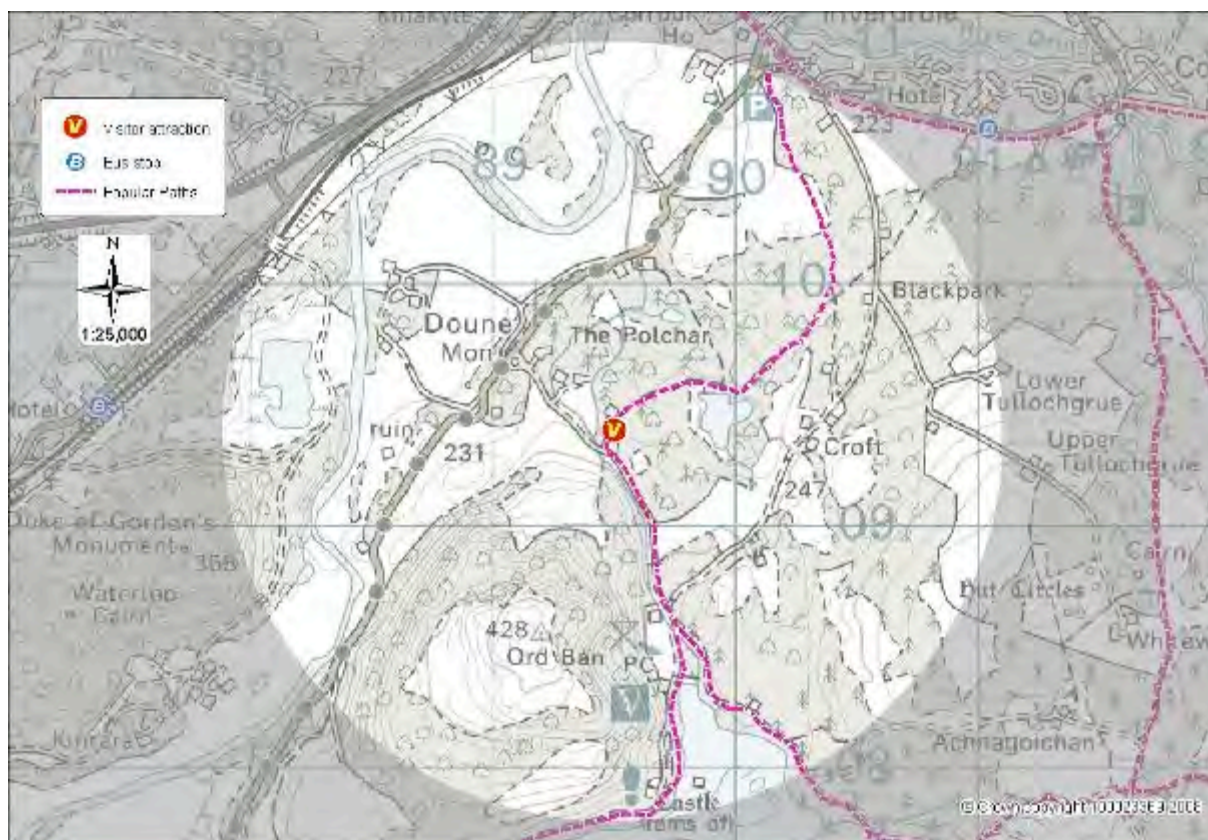


Figure 16 – Loch an Eileen Pottery.

Loch an Eileen Pottery is a popular visitor shop.

Loch an Eileen Pottery											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
Not Available	1	x	x	x	x	x	4km	✓	x	x	x
Transport and travel related concerns:											
The pottery is about 4km from the CairnGorm road and bus services, and 6km from Aviemore and more bus and train links. It is near NCN Route 7.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
Running a bus from Rothiemurchus to Kinraig or Kingussie along the B970 and into the Loch area.											



5.14 Strathspey Railway, Aviemore Station

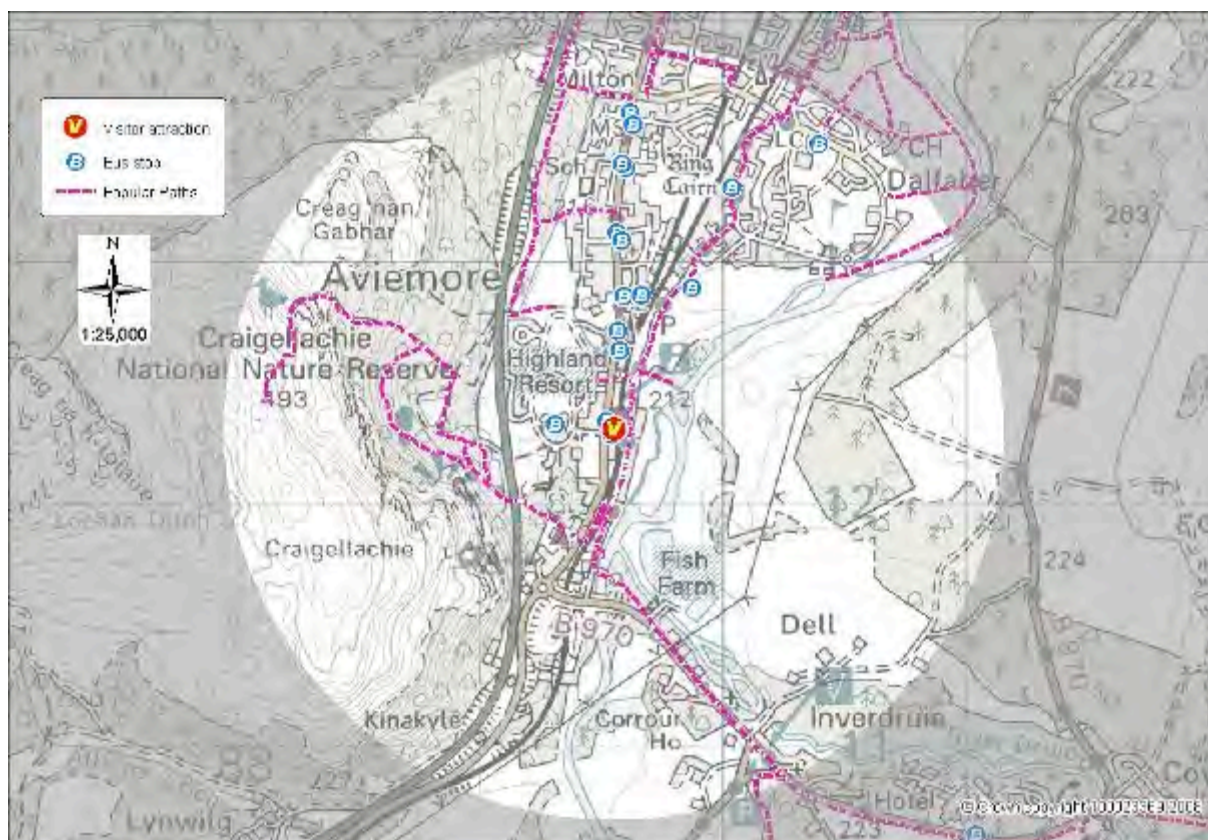


Figure 17 – Strathspey Railway, Aviemore Station.

The Strathspey Railway (www.strathspeyrailway.co.uk) is a heritage railway run almost entirely by volunteers. Aviemore Station shares the First ScotRail managed Aviemore Station on the Highland Mainline in Aviemore, off the B9152 / Grampian Road.

Strathspey Railway, Aviemore Station											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
100,000	2	✓	x	x	x	✓	<100 metres	✓	✓	✓	x
Transport and travel related concerns:											
Access to the steam railway is over the mainline railway. Better signage would help attract visitors											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
More frequent public transport services, better quality waiting facilities at bus stops and train stations, better information about public transport, walking, cycling and car sharing schemes on attraction website and brochures and package deals that include travel to site by sustainable modes.											



5.15 Strathspey Railway, Boat of Garten Station

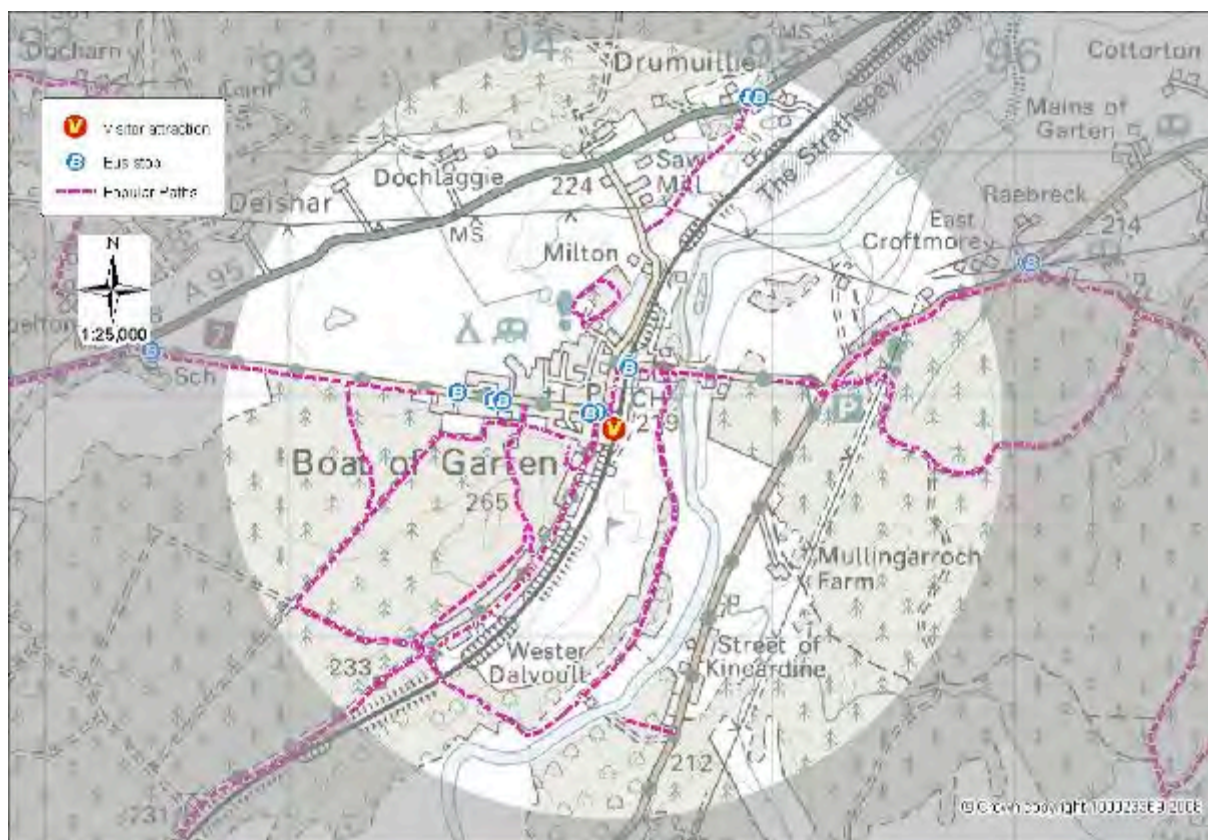


Figure 18 – Strathspey Railway, Boat of Garten Station.

Boat of Garten Station is located in Boat of Garten between the A95 and B970, a short distance from the centre of Boat of Garten.

Strathspey Railway, Boat of Garten												
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy	
100,000	2	x	✓	x	x	✓	<100 metres	✓	✓	✓	x	
Transport and travel related concerns:												
Poor public transport links, high level of parking in local streets and difficulty in attracting visitors.												
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:												
More frequent public transport services, there is no service on Sunday which is generally the busiest day, better quality waiting facilities at bus stops and train stations, improved/provision of secure storage facilities/lockers, better information about public transport, walking, cycling and car sharing schemes on attraction website and brochures and package deals that include travel to site by sustainable modes.												



5.16 Strathspey Railway, Broomhill Station (Nethy Bridge)

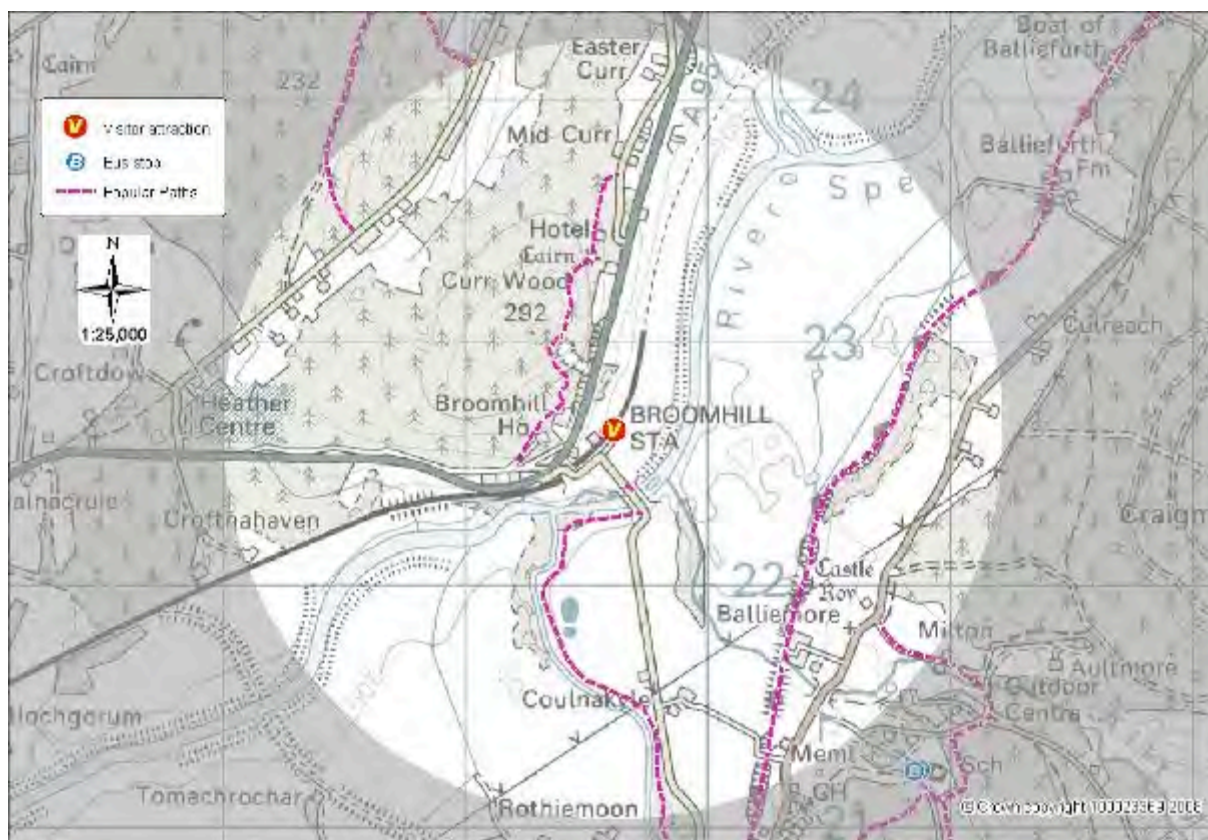


Figure 19 – Strathspey Railway, Broomhill Station.

Strathspey Railway, Broomhill Station terminus is located close to the A95 roughly half-way between the villages of Nethy Bridge and Dulnain Bridge.

Strathspey Railway, Broomhill Station												
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy	
100,000	1	x	x	x	x	✓	1-3 Km	✓	✓	✓	x	
Transport and travel related concerns:												
Poor public transport links, high level of parking in local streets and difficulty in attracting visitors.												
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:												
More frequent public transport services, there is no service on Sunday which is generally the busiest day, better quality waiting facilities at bus stops and train stations, improved/provision of secure storage facilities/lockers, better information about public transport, walking, cycling and car sharing schemes on attraction website and brochures and package deals that include travel to site by sustainable modes.												



5.17 The Alvie and Dalraddy Estates

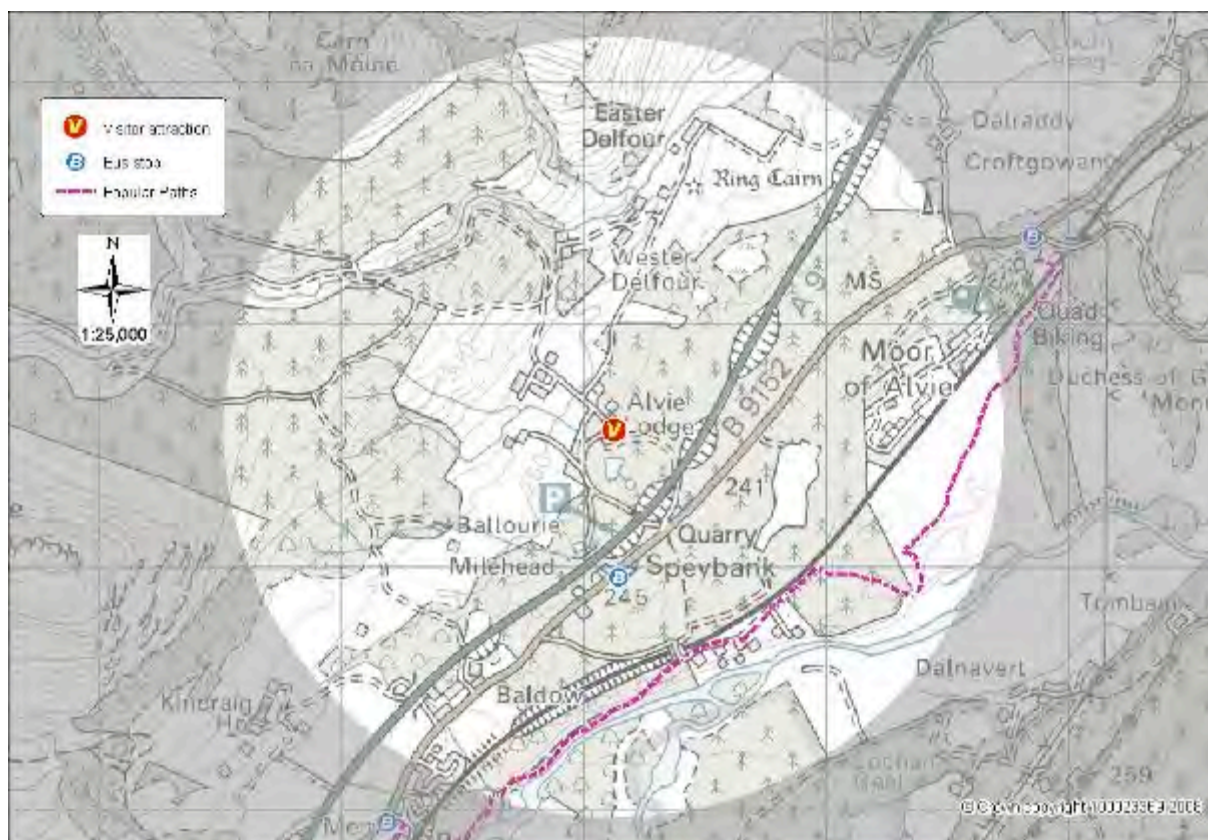


Figure 20 – The Alvie and Dalraddy Estates.

The Alvie and Dalraddy Estates (www.alvie-estate.co.uk) are located off the A9 and B9152 between Aviemore and Kincaig and are traditional Highland Estates extending into the Monadhliath hills from the River Spey. Activities on the estates include grouse, hare and rough shooting, clay pigeon shooting, archery, horse riding, fishing and estate tours.

Alvie and Dalraddy Estates											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
300	4	x	x	x	x	✓	<1km	✓	x	✓	x
Transport and travel related concerns:											
Poor pedestrian access, poor cycle access, road safety concerns and limited public transport links.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
Visitor shuttle bus from local settlement/public transport stop, cheaper public transport fares, better public transport service information at bus stops and train stations and improved/provision of pedestrian/cycle paths.											



5.18 Loch Insh Watersports

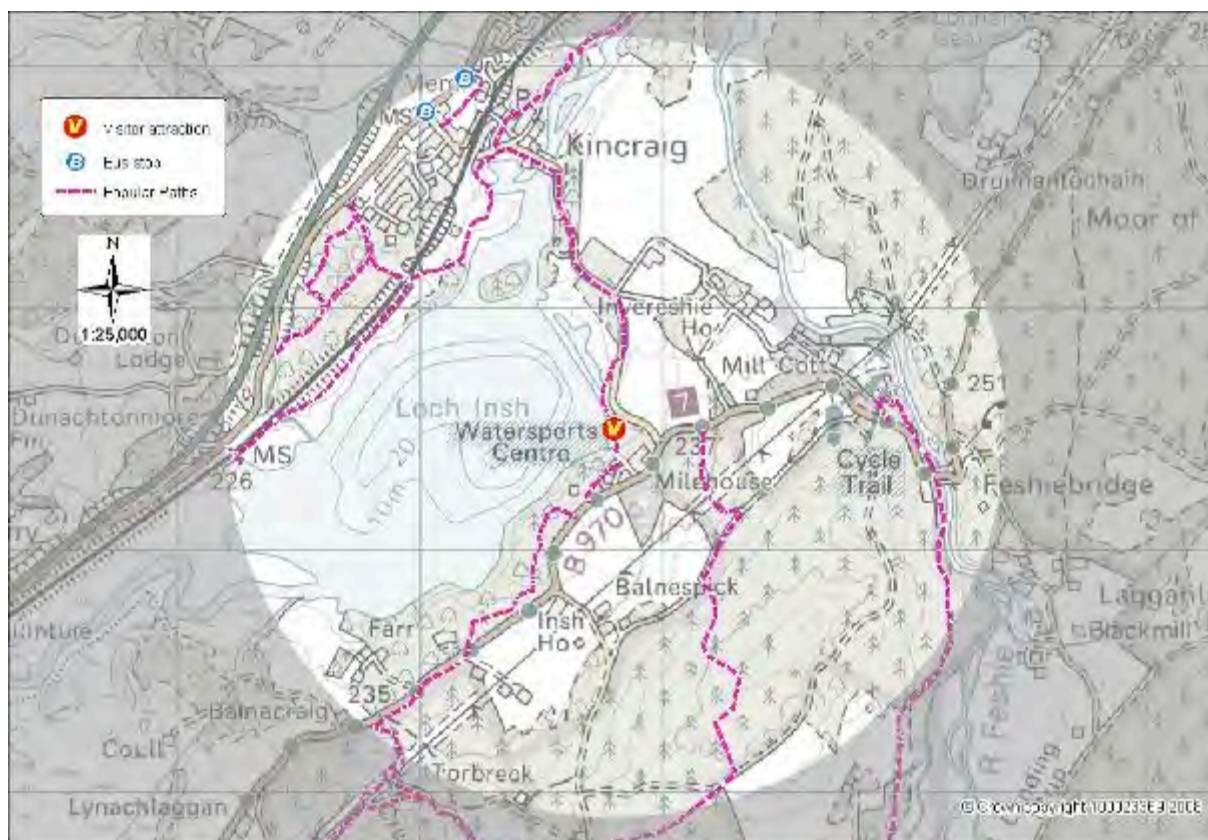


Figure 21 – Loch Insh Watersports.

Loch Insh Watersports (www.lochinsh.com) is located between the A9 / B9152 and the B970 next to Kinraig between Aviemore and Kingussie. Loch Insh Watersports offer Watersports, winter sports, archery mountain biking and hill walking, 3 children's play areas, basket ball and volley-ball courts. The site also offers a shop, restaurant, as well as bed and breakfast and chalets accommodation.

Loch Insh Watersports											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
100,000	1	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	1-3km	✓	✓	✓	✓
Transport and travel related concerns:											
Lack of public transport provision, there are no convenient local services except the school bus.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
Spey Valley bus between Aviemore and Newtonmore.											



5.19 Working Sheepdogs Leault Farm

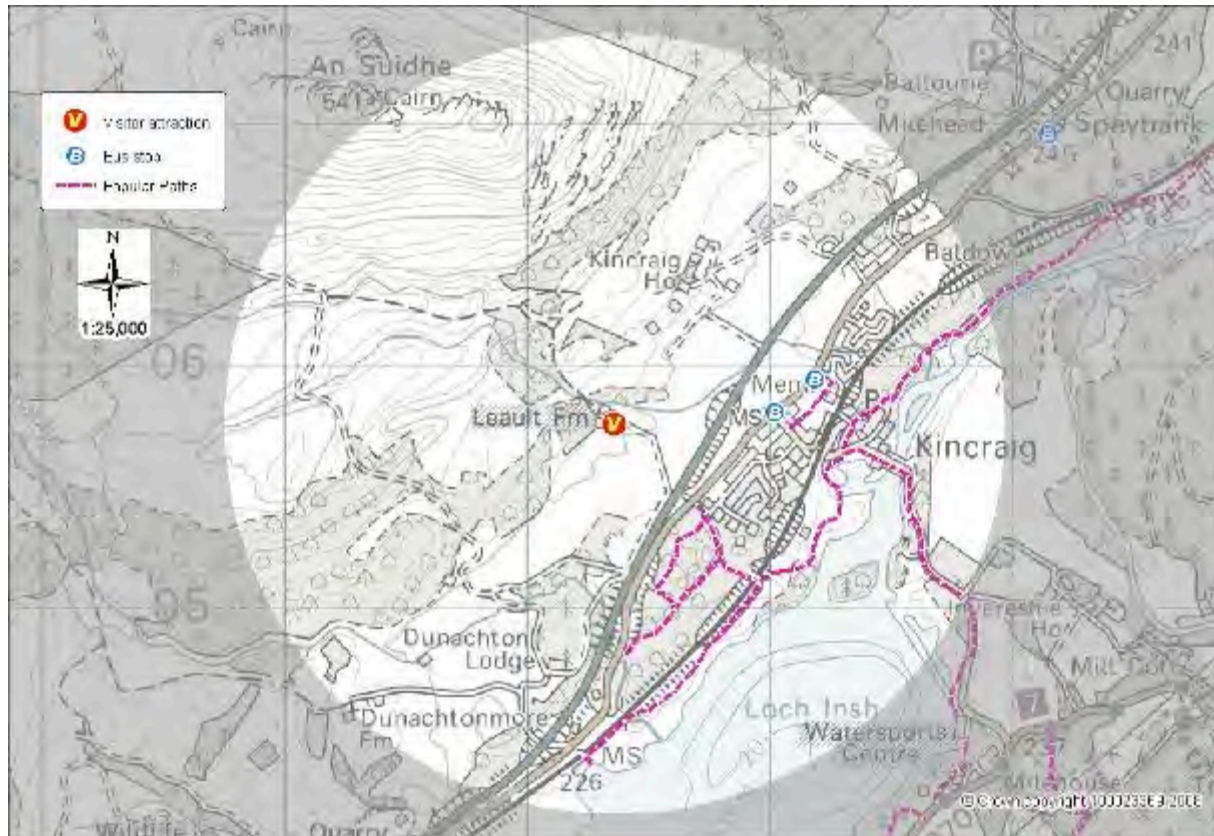


Figure 22 – Working Sheepdogs Leault Farm.

Leault Farm is located on the A9 and B9152 between Aviemore and Kingussie at Kinraig. The farm offers visitors the opportunity to participate in the working day of a highland shepherd and his dogs, watch up to 8 dogs working sheep and ducks, help to shear a sheep, bottle feed orphan lambs and meet friendly collie pups.

Working Sheepdogs Leault Farm											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
Not Available	1	x	x	x	x	x	1-3km	x	x	✓	x
Transport and travel related concerns:											
Poor pedestrian, access poor cycle access and poor public transport links.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
More frequent public transport services and more direct public transport routes and improved/provision for pedestrians and cyclists.											



5.20 Glenfeshie Hostel

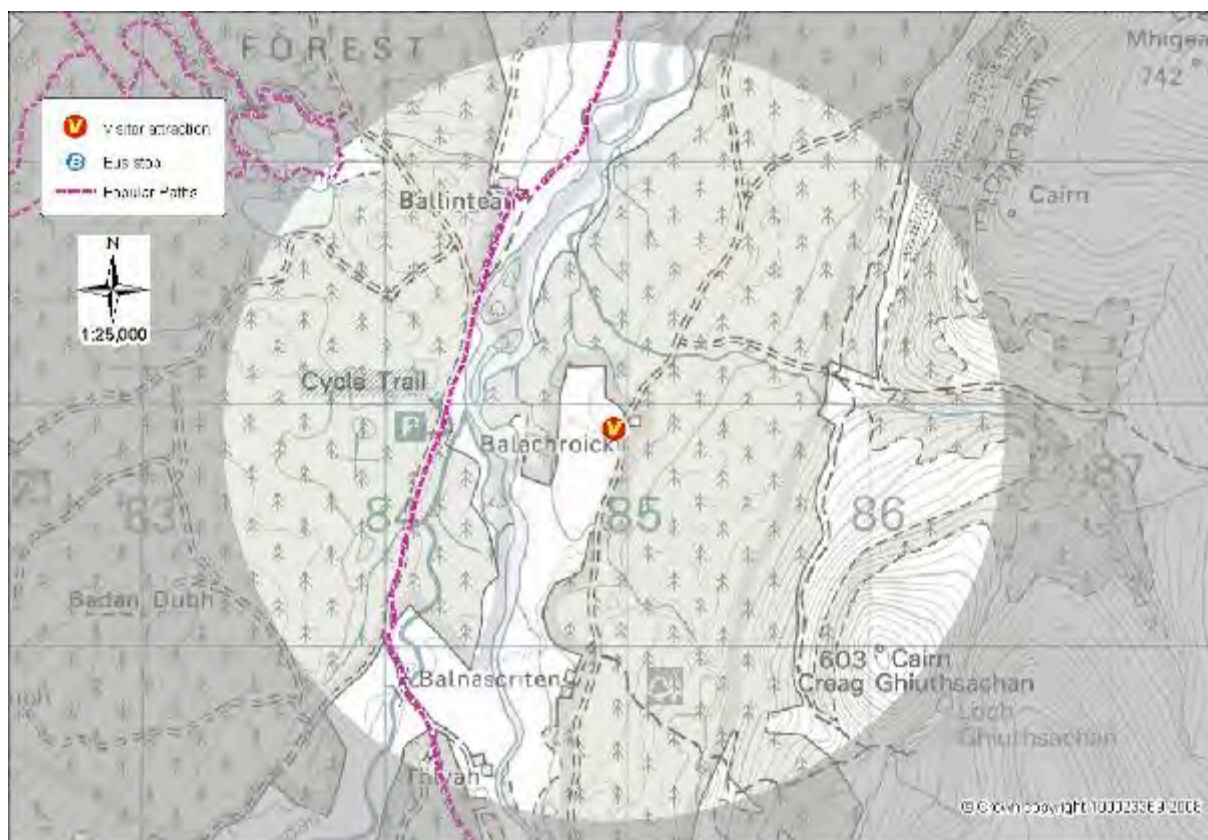


Figure 23 – Glenfeshie Hostel.

The Glenfeshie Hostel is located approximately 2km from Kinraig and provides access to a wealth of walking and cycling opportunities.

Glenfeshie Hostel											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
Not Available	1	✓	×	×	×	✓	7km	✓	✓	✓	×
Transport and travel related concerns:											
Both Aviemore and Kingussie rail and bus links are around 15km away. A bus stops in Kinraig 7km from the hostel. NCN Route 7 goes through Glenfeshie.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
Glenfeshie would be better served by a visitor bus going up the Glen and better links through Kinraig.											



5.21 The Frank Bruce Sculpture Trail

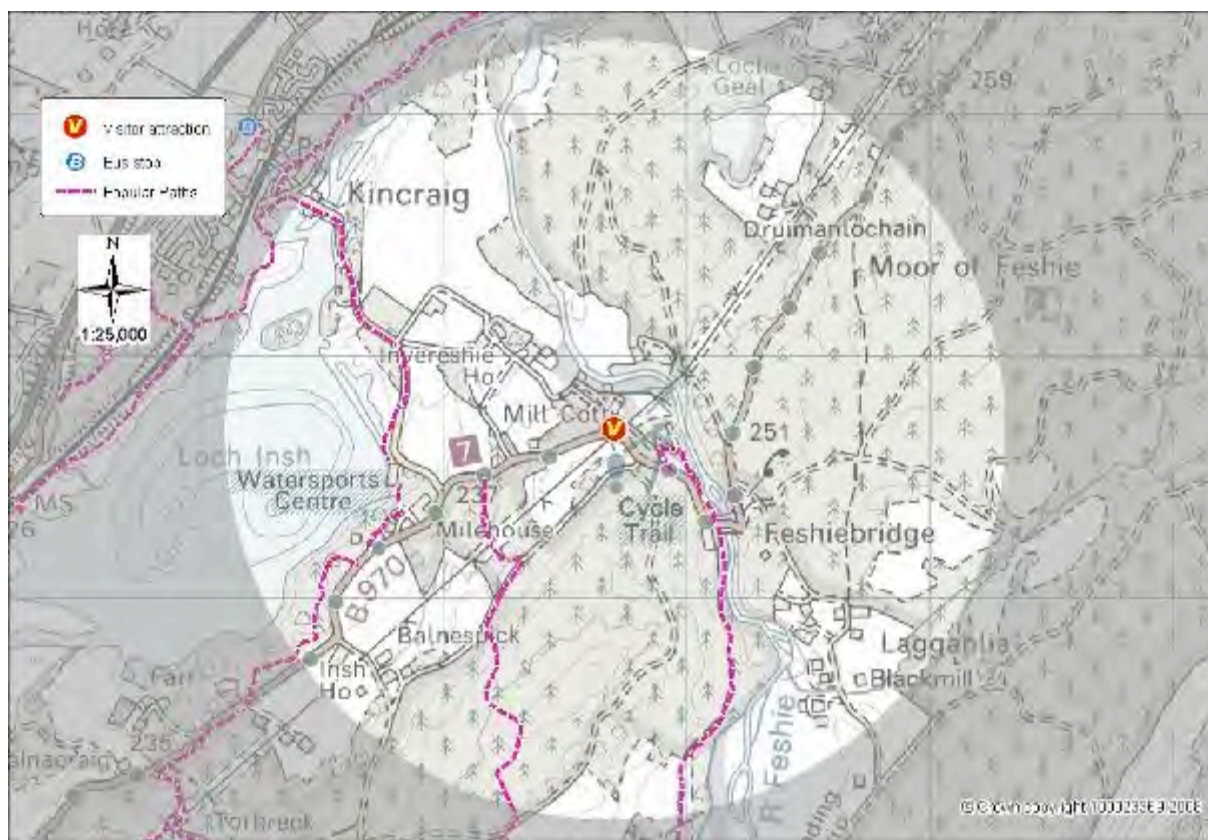


Figure 24 – The Frank Bruce Sculpture Trail.

The Frank Bruce Sculpture Trail (www.frank-bruce.org.uk) is situated 10km south of Aviemore in the Cairngorms National Park, and provides a set of sculptures by Frank Bruce accessible via paths that are and suitable for buggies and wheelchairs.

Frank Bruce Sculpture Trail												
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy	
8,000	3	x	x	x	x	x	3-5 km	x	✓	✓	x	
Transport and travel related concerns:												
Some local cycle trails, but can be poor access for pedestrians and cyclists, poor public transport links, difficulty in attracting visitors.												
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:												
More frequent and more direct public transport routes, closer stops with better service information and better quality waiting facilities, improved/provision for pedestrians and cyclists including sheltered cycle parking and better information on sustainable transport on attraction website and brochures.												



5.22 The Highland Wildlife Park

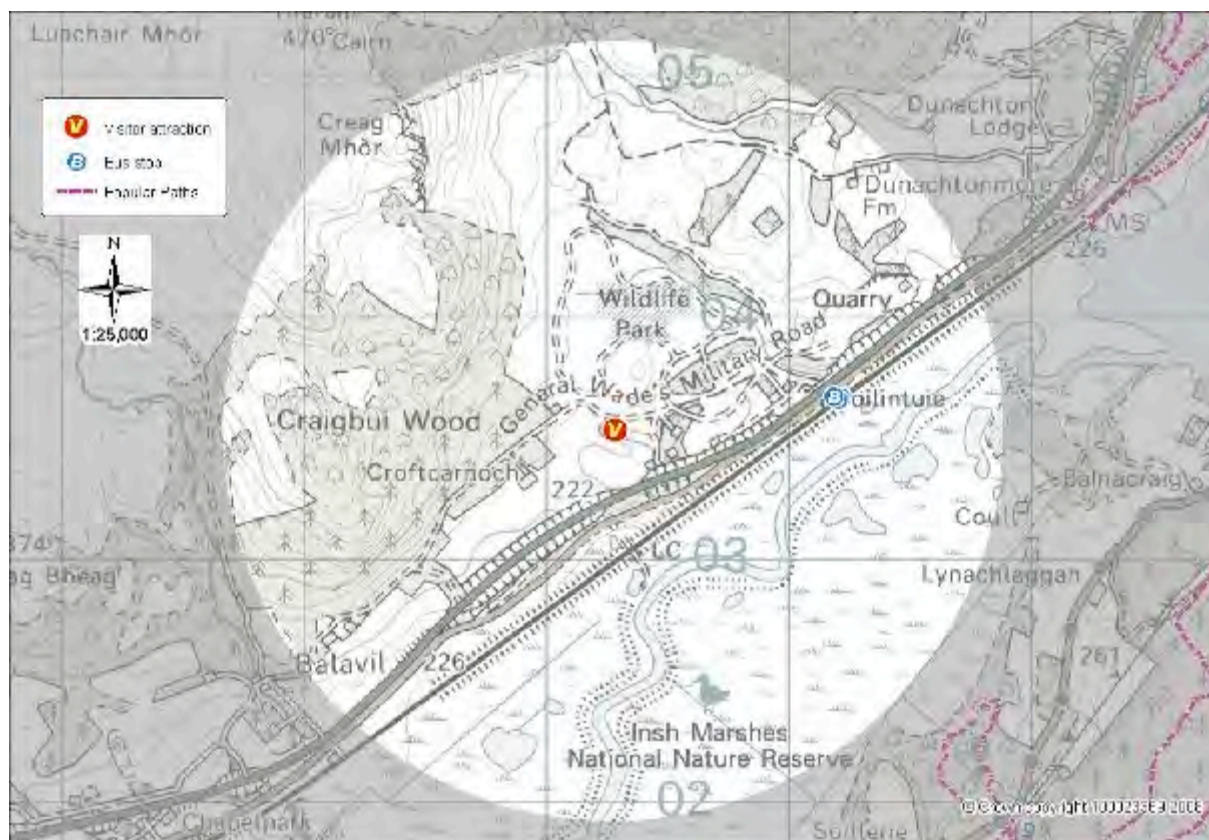


Figure 25 – The Highland Wildlife Park.

The Highland Wildlife Park (www.highlandwildlifepark.org) opened in 1972 and is run by the Royal Zoological Society of Scotland. The Wildlife Park is located between Aviemore and Kingussie near Kinraig and includes a visitor centre, shop and cafe.

The Highland Wildlife Park												
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy	
65,000	2	x	x	x	x	✓	<1km	✓	x	✓	x	
Transport and travel related concerns:												
Poor pedestrian and cycle access, road safety concerns, no public transport links and car park at capacity.												
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:												
More frequent and a direct public transport link, a visitor shuttle bus, improved/provision of pedestrian/cycle paths and package deals that include travel to site by sustainable modes.												



5.23 Ruthven Barracks

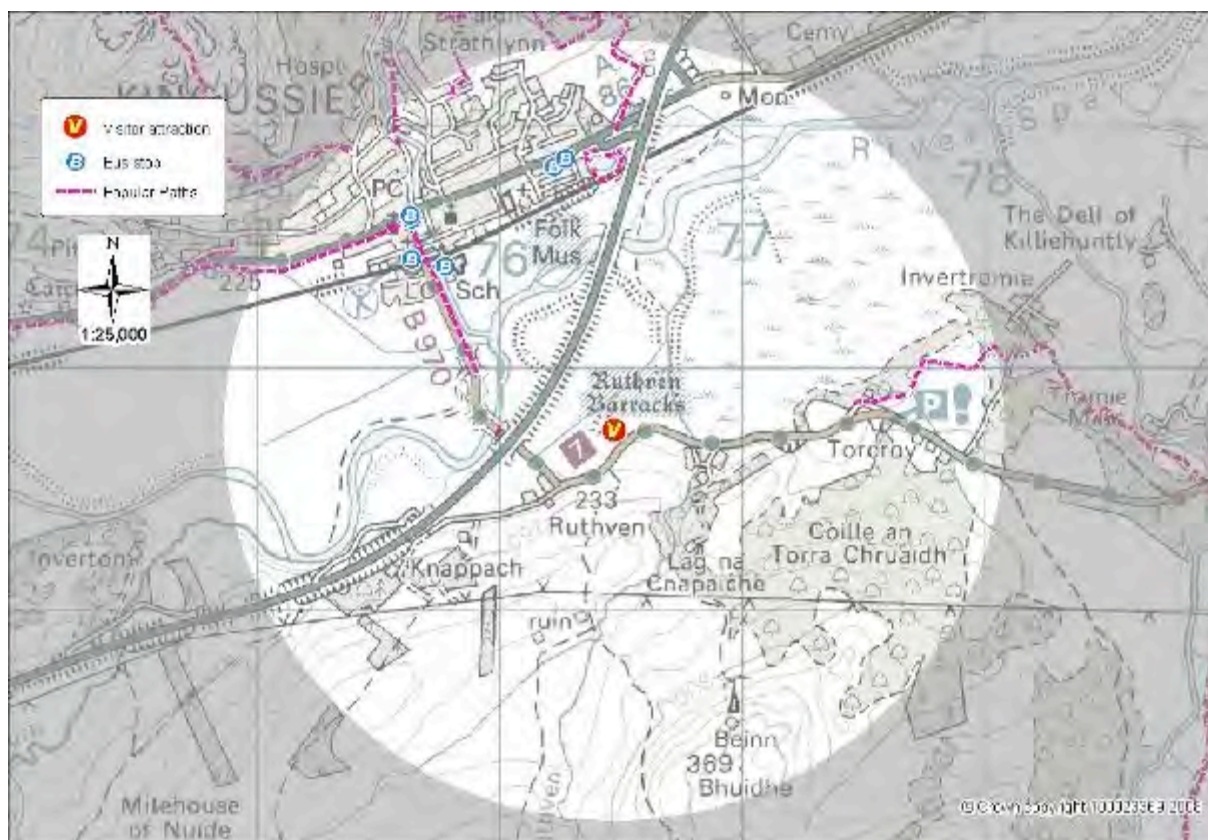


Figure 26 – Ruthven Barracks.

Ruthven Barracks (www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/kingussie/ruthvenbarracks) is located on the B970 between Kingussie and Insh, approximately half a mile outside Kingussie. Ruthven Barracks is open to the public and is the ruin of a military barracks completed in 1721 to house British troops opposing the Jacobites.

Ruthven Barracks											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
Not Available	1	x	✓	✓	x	x	1-3 km	x	✓	x	x
Transport and travel related concerns:											
Links at Kingussie for public transport trains and express coaches, but no direct service.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
More direct public transport services and more direct public transport routes.											



5.24 Grantown Museum

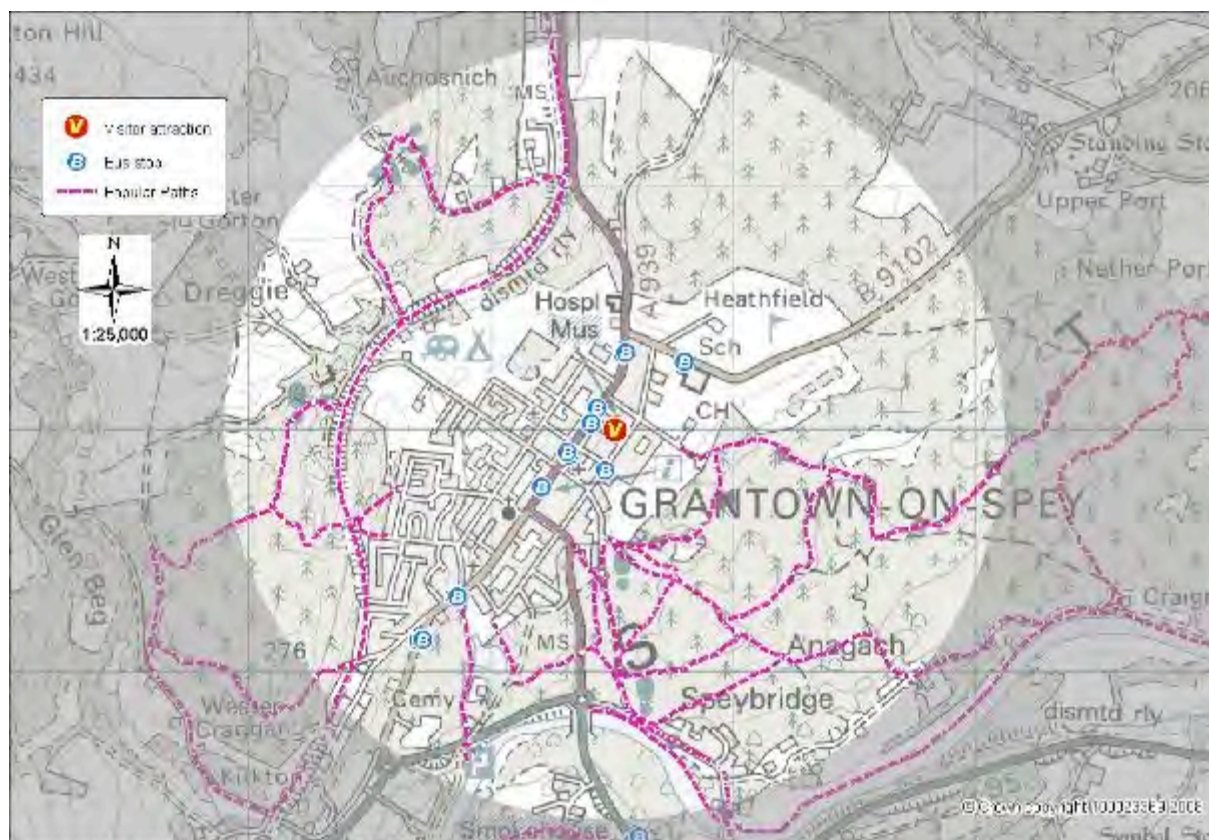


Figure 27 – Grantown Museum

Grantown Museum (www.grantownmuseum.co.uk) is located in Grantown-on-Spey and tells the story of the town's beginnings, hosts meetings of the Grantown Society, houses its archives and provides research facilities for genealogy and local history.

Grantown Museum												
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy	
6,000	1	x	x	x	x	✓	<100 metres	✓	✓	✓	x	
Transport and travel related concerns:												
Poor pedestrian access, road safety concerns, hourly weekday service between Aviemore and Grantown												
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:												
Highlight public transport services available, and provide more cycle parking.												



5.25 Revack Estate

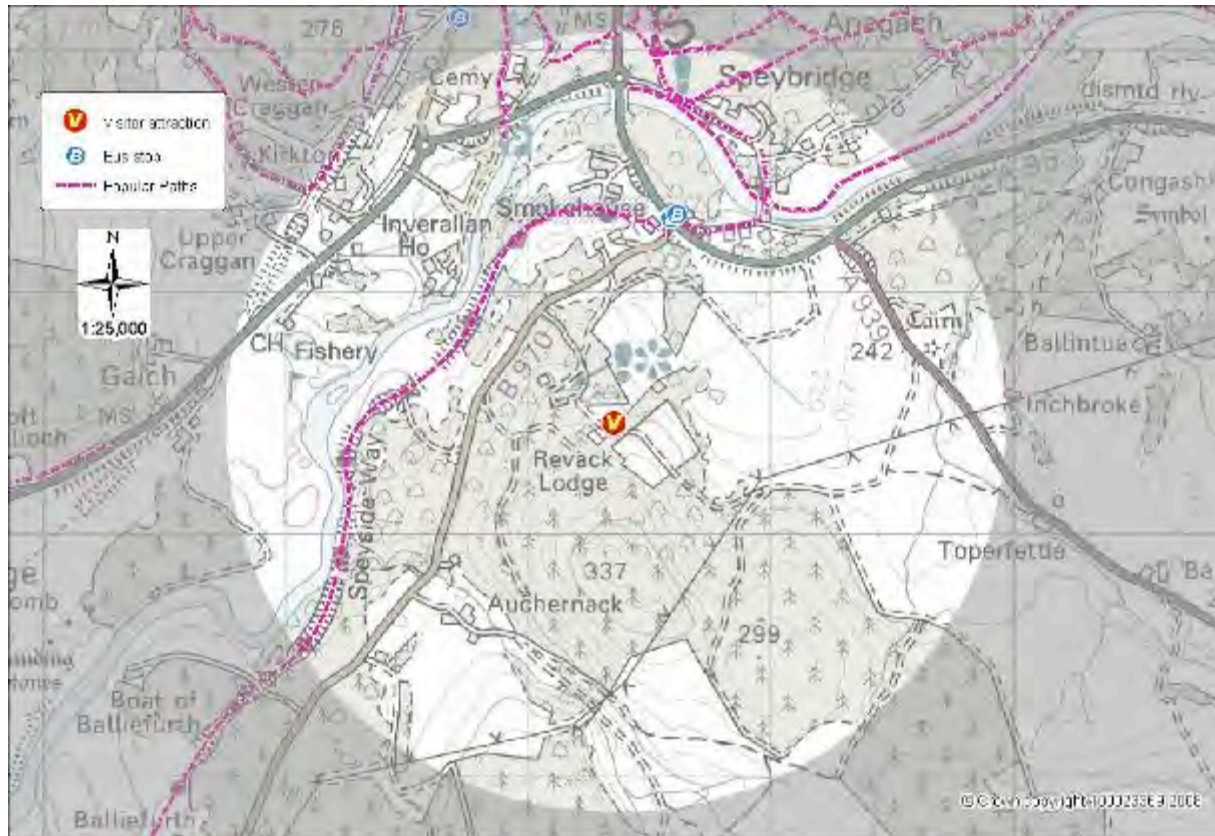


Figure 28 – Revack Estate.

Revack Estate is located on the B970 between Nethy Bridge and Speybridge. Revack Estate is a visitor attraction set in 350 acres of outstanding scenery, offering a walled garden, ornamental lochs, 10 miles of walks and trails, an adventure playground, a stocked fishing area, a garden centre, exotic orchid houses, a gift shop and a licensed restaurant.

Revack Estate											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
25,000	1	x	✓	x	x	✓	1-3 km	✓	x	✓	x
Transport and travel related concerns:											
About 2km walk or cycle from Grantown, some of which is on the main A95. There is an hourly service to Grantown, and a less frequent service passes by the entrance to Revack.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
More frequent bus service, and the estate promoting bus travel.											



5.26 Dulnain Bridge Roches Moutonnee

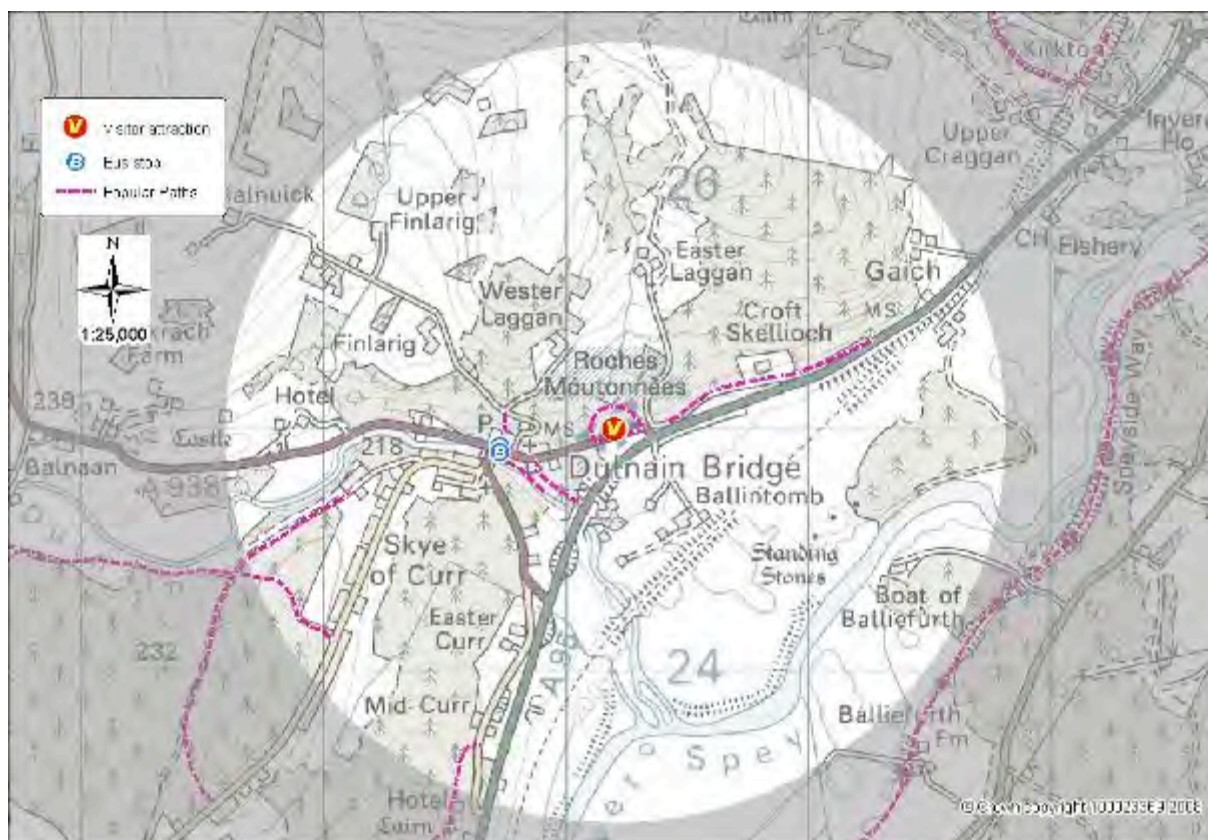


Figure 29 – Dulnain Bridge Roche Moutonnee.

Dulnain Bridge is a small village about 4km from Grantown-on-Spey on the bus link from Grantown-on-Spey to Inverness and some Grantown-on-Spey to Aviemore services. The Roches Moutonnee are a glacial, geological feature located just off the main road before the centre of the village.

Dulnain Bridge Roches Moutonnee											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
Not Available	1	x	✓	x	x	✓	<1km	x	✓	x	x
Transport and travel related concerns:											
The village is served by buses to Inverness, Grantown-on-Spey and Aviemore. The Roches Moutonnee has a lay-by and pre-arrival and on-site signage to encourage visitors to stop.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
Cycle parking provision.											



5.27 Explore Abernethy

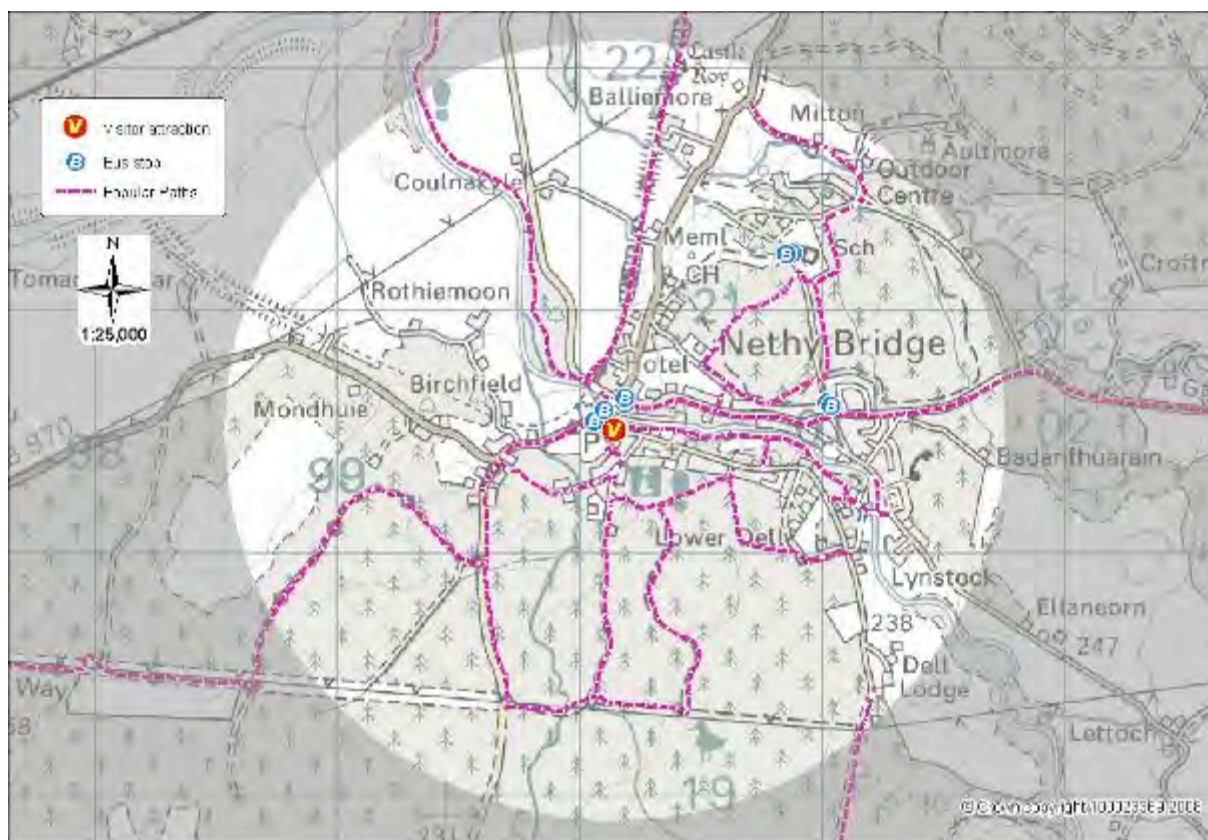


Figure 30 – Explore Abernethy.

The Explore Abernethy Visitor Centre (www.exploreabernethy.co.uk) is located in the Nethy Bridge Community Centre and provides a ranger service, tourist information and maintains eight way-marked walks in and around Nethy Bridge. Guided walks and events also take place in the summer months.

Explore Abernethy												
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy	
2200	5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	<100 metres	✓	✓	✓	x	
Transport and travel related concerns:												
The village is served by buses to Grantown and Aviemore, but has no Sunday service.												
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:												
More frequent public transport services, improved/provision of secure and sheltered cycle parking and better information about sustainable transport on website and brochures.												



5.28 Nethybridge Pottery

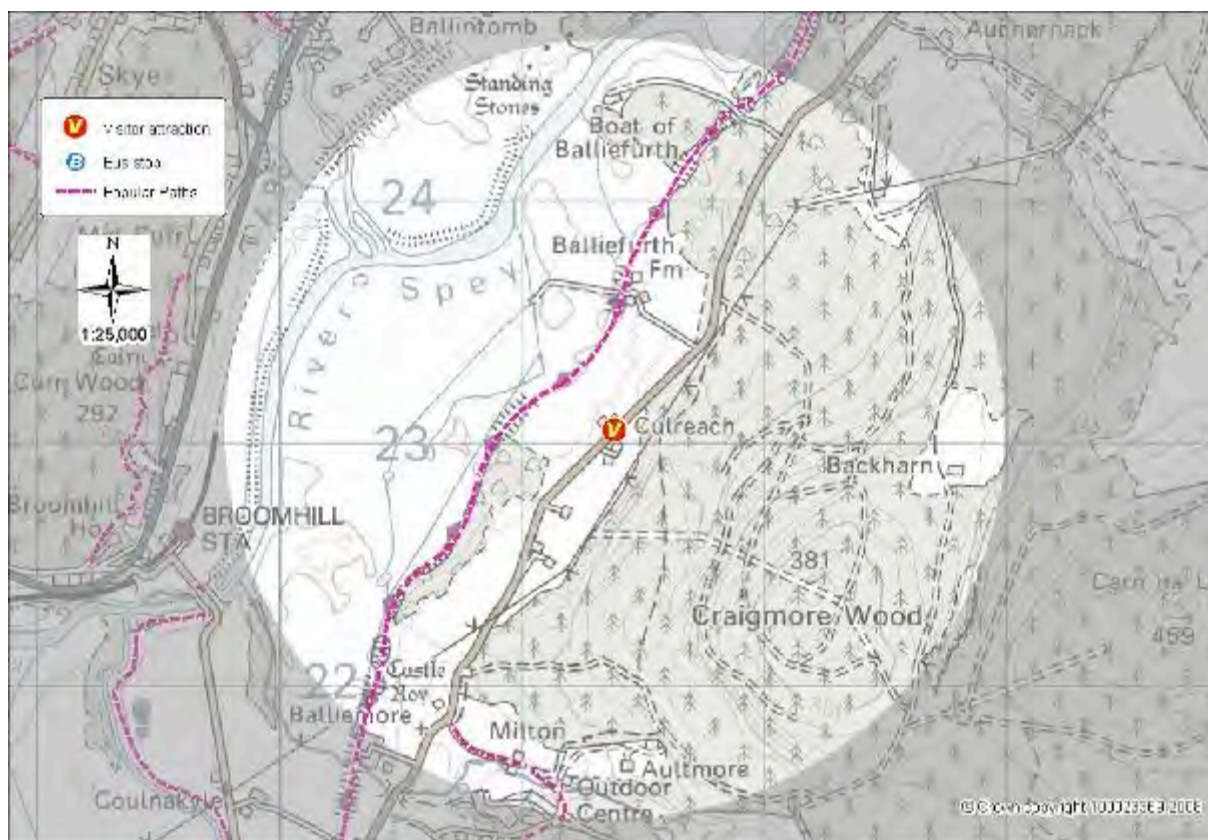


Figure 31 – Nethybridge Pottery.

Nethybridge Pottery (www.nethybridgepottery.co.uk) is located around 1km from Nethybridge.

Nethybridge Pottery											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
Not Available	1	x	x	x	x	✓	1-3km	x	✓	✓	x
Transport and travel related concerns:											
There is a direct bus to Aviemore and Grantown-on-Spey. NCN Route 7 runs through the village.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
Nethybridge is well served during the day, but like the rest of B&S has no late evening or Sunday public transport											



5.29 Auchgourish Gardens, Boat of Garten

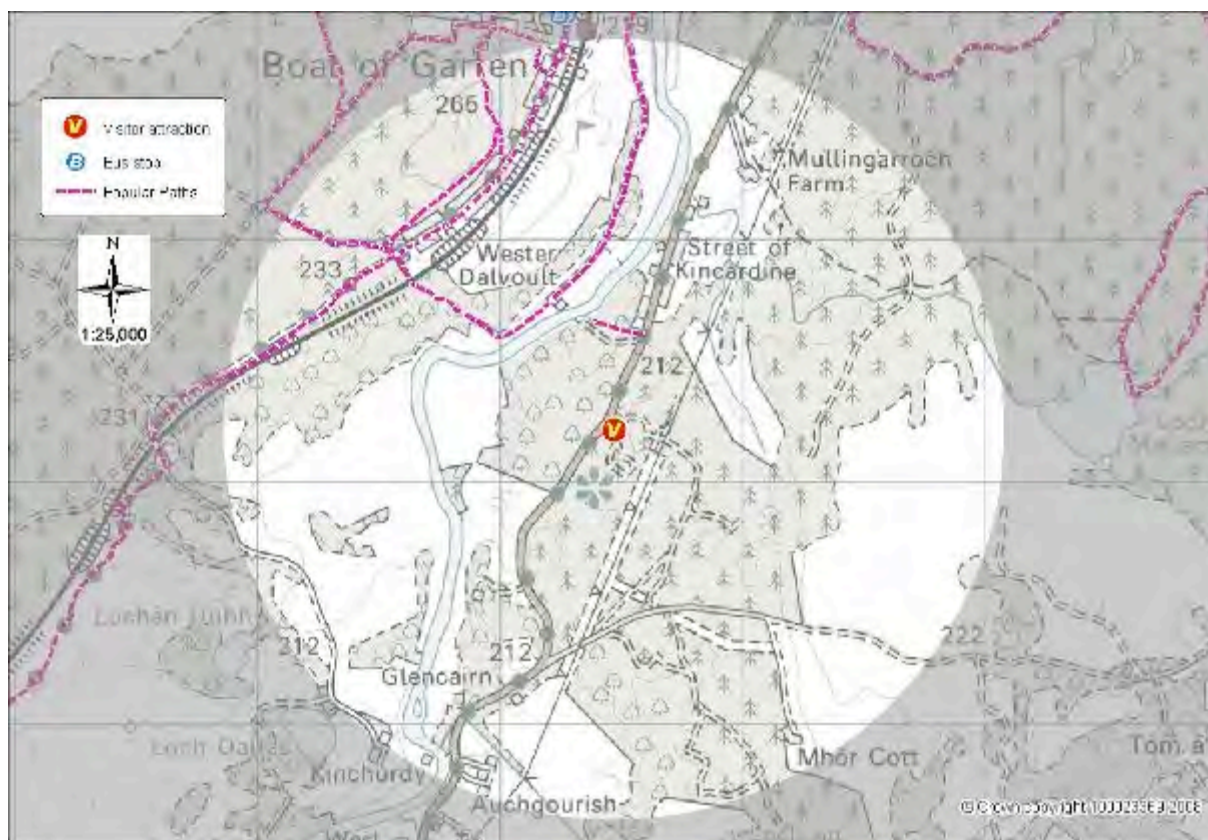


Figure 32 – Auchgourish Gardens, Boat of Garten.

Auchgourish Gardens (www.auchgourishgardens.org) are the most northerly botanical gardens in Scotland and cover 4 hectares. Open April to October.

Auchgourish Gardens, Boat of Garten											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
Not Available	1	x	x	x	x	x	6km	x	x	✓	x
Transport and travel related concerns:											
Boat of Garten is around 6km from the Gardens, where there is a bus stop. Aviemore train and bus links are around 10km. It is on NCN Route 7, on a section of narrow road.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
Running bus service to the site, linking Boat of Garten to Coylumbridge.											



5.30 Castle Roy

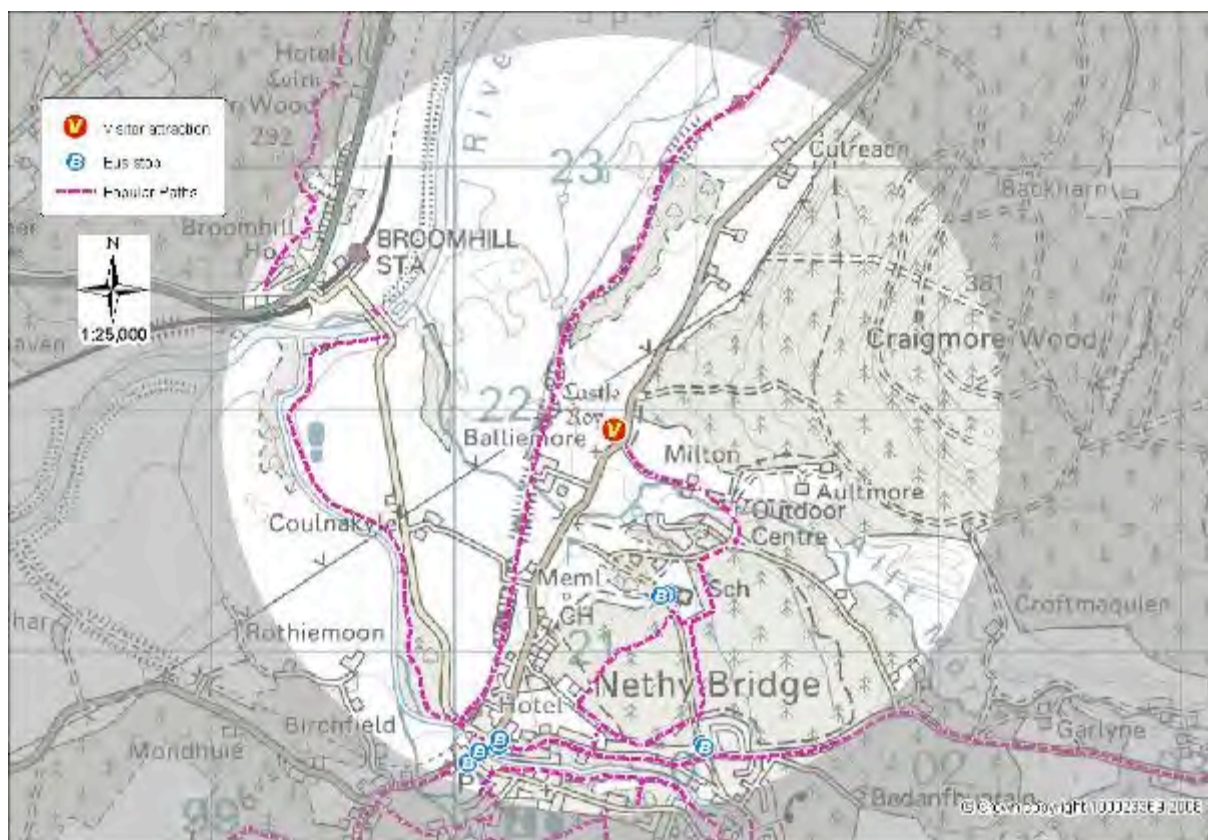


Figure 33 – Castle Roy.

Castle Roy (www.nethybridge.com/html/community/castleroy.php#trust) is one of the simplest and oldest thirteenth-century fortresses in Scotland. Situated on the edge of Nethy Bridge, the castle is managed by the local community through the Castle Roy Trust with the ultimate aim of preserving the castle as a visitor attraction for future generations.

Castle Roy											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
Not available	1	x	x	x	x	✓	3-5 km	x	✓	x	x
Transport and travel related concerns:											
The site is near Nethybridge, which has a bus service to Grantown and Aviemore. There is no pavement for walkers, but cycling access is easy from the village.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
More frequent public transport services, better pedestrian access.											



5.31 Speyside Heather Visitor and Garden Centre

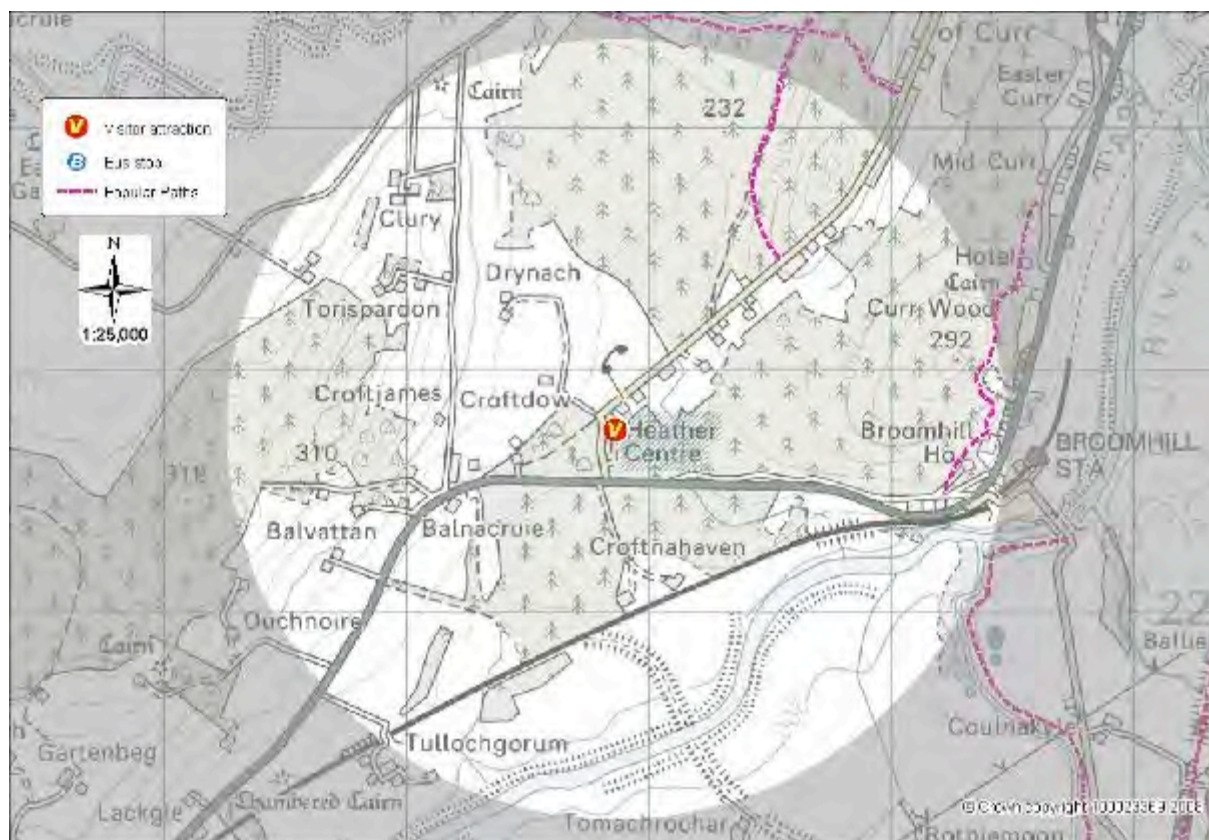


Figure 34 – Speyside Heather Visitor and Garden Centre.

Speyside Heather Visitor and Garden Centre (www.heathercentre.com) is located at Skye of Curr, near Dulnain Bridge on the A95 between Aviemore to Granttown on Spey. Speyside Heather includes a heather story exhibition, wildlife viewing stations, a gift shop, art gallery, antiques shop, heather trail, garden centre and the Clotie Dumpling Restaurant.

Speyside Heather Visitor and Garden Centre											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
Not Known	Not Known	✓	✓	✓	x	x	1-3 km	✓	x	✓	x
Transport and travel related concerns:											
The Centre is on the main Aviemore to Granttown road and bus services,											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
Bus stop at the centre. Better promotion of services available, Sunday service.											



5.32 Landmark Forest Adventure Park

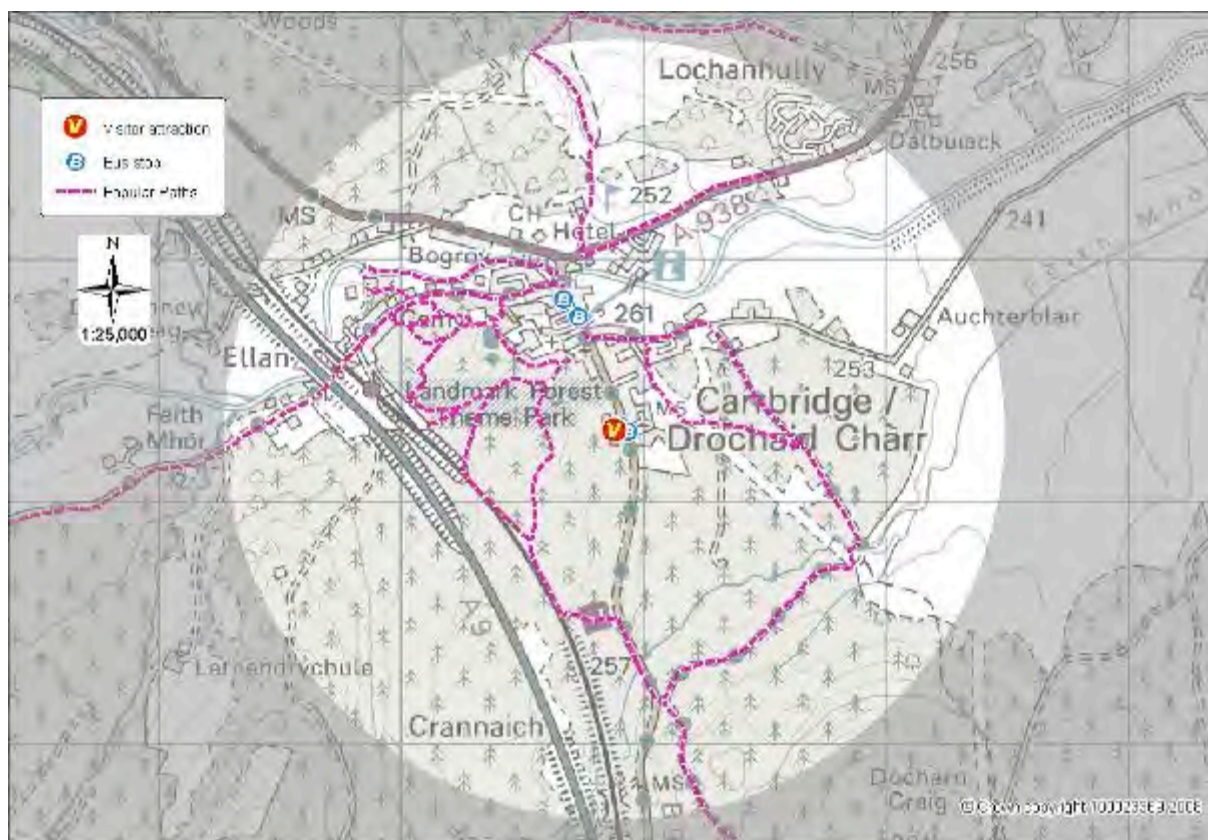


Figure 35 – Landmark Forest Adventure Park.

Landmark Forest Adventure Park (www.landmark-centre.co.uk) is situated to the south of Carrbridge, just off the A9. The Adventure Park offers a range of indoor and outdoor activities.

Landmark Forest Adventure Park											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
125,000	3	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	<100 metres	✓	✓	x	x
Transport and travel related concerns:											
The site is on the no15 bus route to Inverness, and there is a train station within walking distance.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
More frequent and more direct public transport routes, visitor shuttle bus from local settlement/public transport stop, cheaper public transport fares, better public transport service information at bus stops and train stations and better quality waiting facilities at bus stops and train stations.											



5.33 Carrbridge Studios

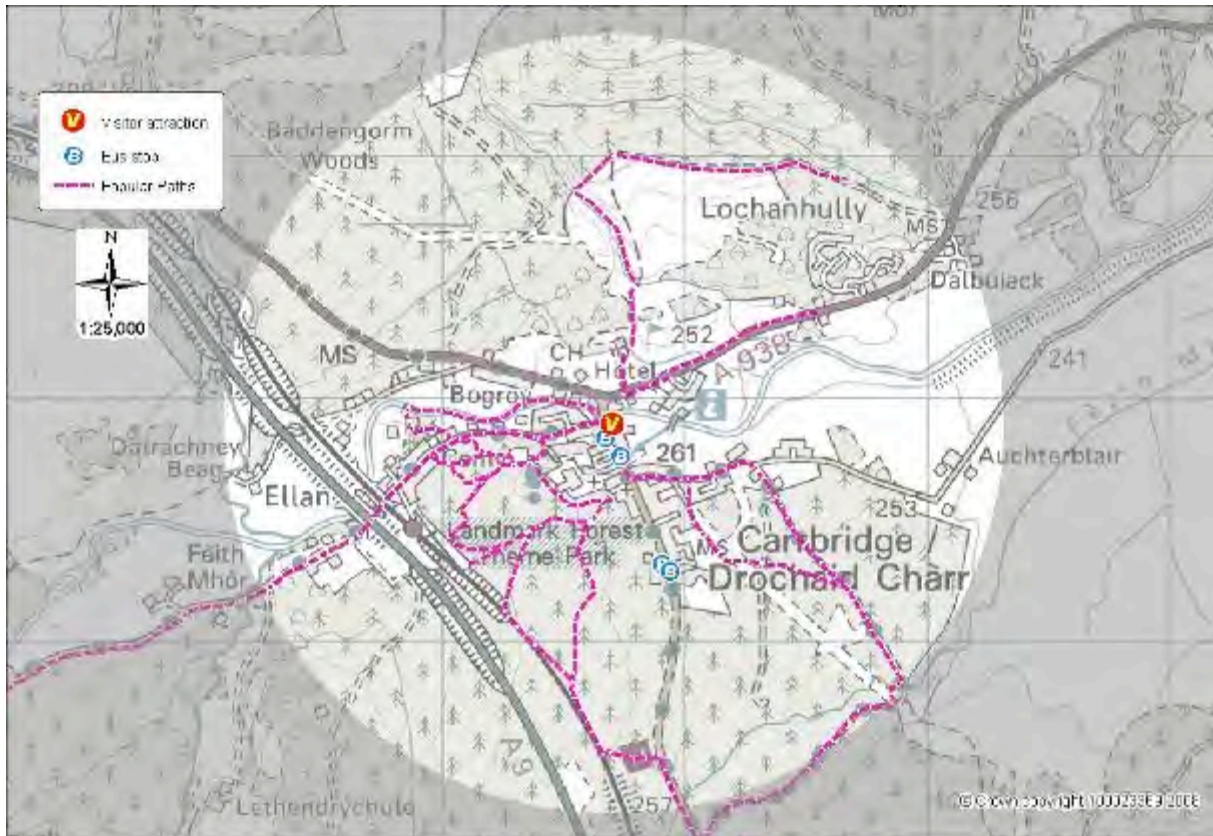


Figure 36 – Carrbridge Studios.

Carrbridge Studios (www.carrbridgestudios.com) is devoted to the work of landscape/wildlife artist Jeff Buttress and Potter/Sculptress Alice Buttress.

Carrbridge Studios											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
Not Available	1	x	x	x	x	✓	<100 metres	✓	✓	x	x
Transport and travel related concerns:											
The site is on the 15 bus route to Inverness, and there is a train station within walking distance											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
Carrbridge has no Sunday bus service, and trains stop less frequently there than at larger stations in the Park. Better promotion of public transport alternatives would help visitors use their car less.											



5.34 Loch Garten RSPB Osprey Centre and RSPB Abernethy Forest Nature Reserve

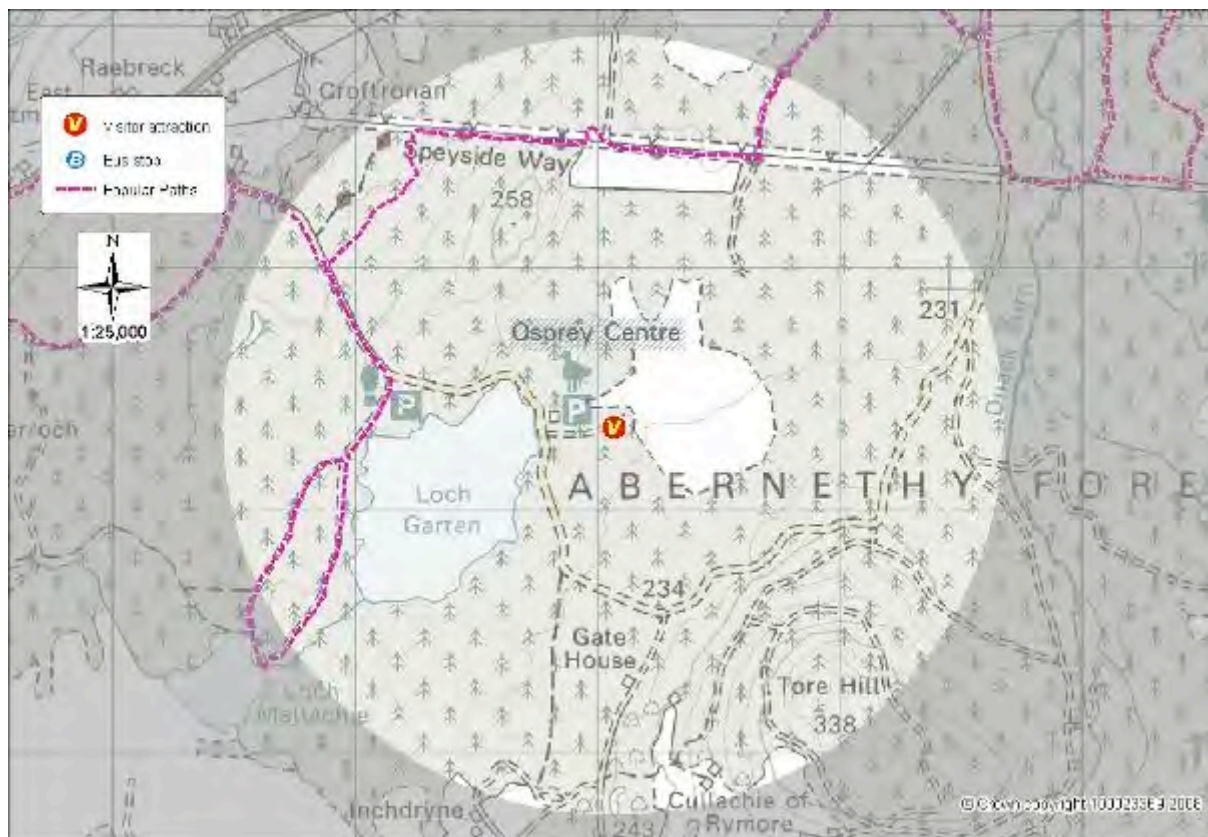


Figure 37 – Loch Garten RSPB Osprey Centre.

Loch Garten and the RSPB Abernethy Forest Nature Reserve (www.rspb.org.uk/reserves/guide/l/lochgarten/index.asp) are located off the B970 near Boat of Garten. The RSPB Osprey Centre is open daily from April to the end of August.

Loch Garten RSPB Osprey Centre											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
Not Available	2	x	✓	✓	Not Available	✓	1-3 km	✓	x	✓	✓
Transport and travel related concerns:											
The bus from Grantown to Aviemore stops 2km from site. The Speyside Way runs past the site.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
A more direct public transport route and better promotion of the existing service.											



5.35 Cromdale and the Speyside Way

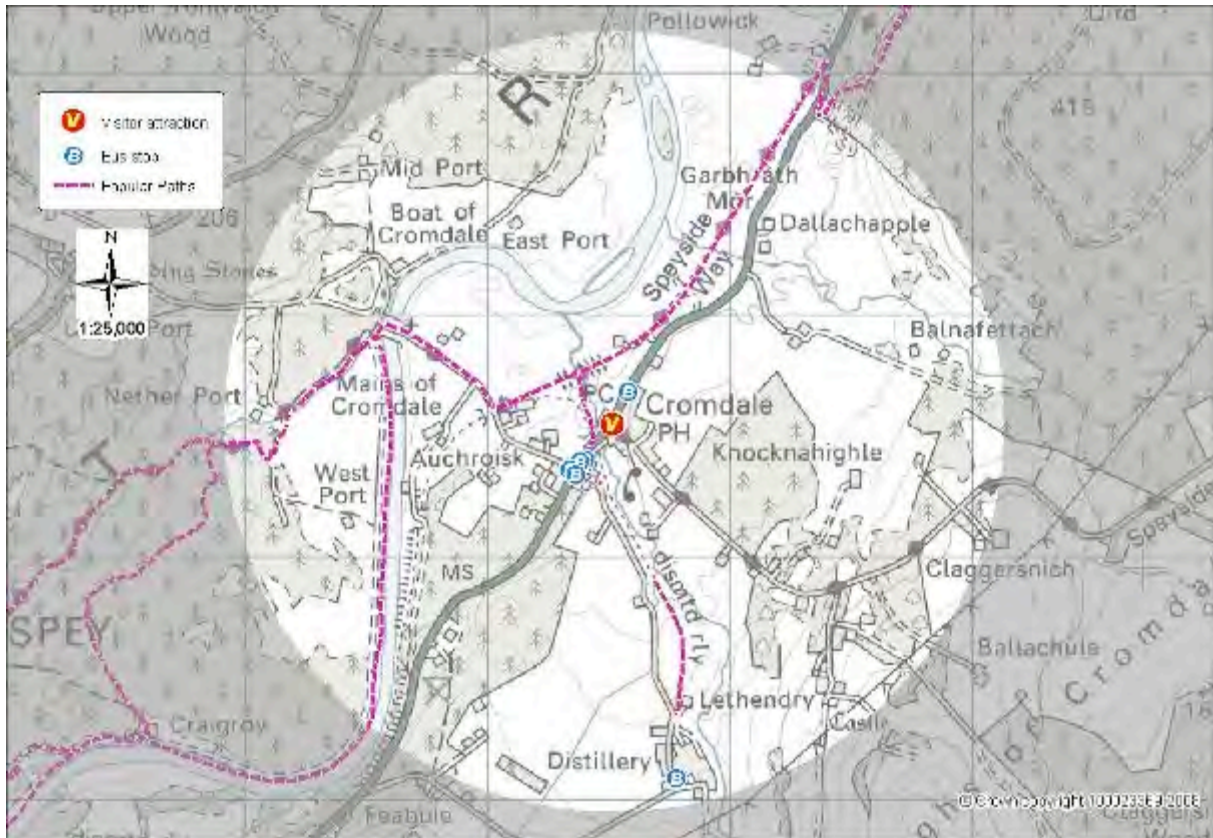


Figure 38 – Cromdale and the Speyside Way.

The Speyside Way runs from the Moray coast to Aviemore and through the small village of Cromdale. There is a hotel and distillery in the village.

Cromdale and the Speyside Way											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
Not Available	6+	✓	✓	x	x	✓	<100m	✓	✓	x	x
Transport and travel related concerns:											
A limited bus service runs from Aviemore to Granttown-on-Spey through the village. The nearest train station is at Aviemore, 28km away.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
More cycling infrastructure would help cyclists to stop in Cromdale, as would more bus carriage on buses. Walkers and cyclists on the Speyside Way could be encouraged to rest or transfer at Cromdale.											



5.36 Kingussie Camanachd (Shinty) Club

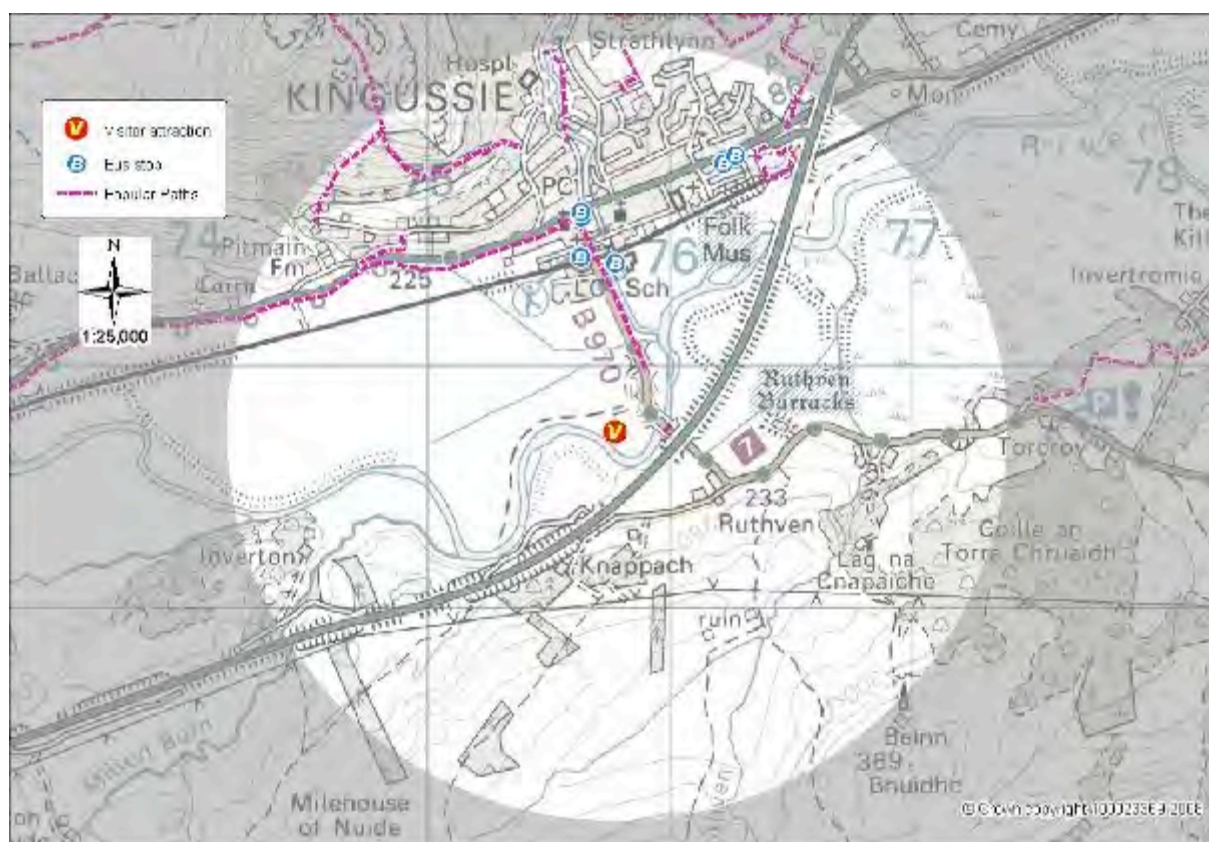


Figure 39 – Kingussie Camanachd (Shinty) Club.

Shinty is a major sport in the Highlands, drawing many visitors and residents to games. Kingussie Camanachd (Shinty) Club (www.kingussie-shinty-club.co.uk) is one of the top clubs in Scotland and plays at The Dell, Kingussie.

Kingussie Camanachd (Shinty) Club											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
Not Available	1	x	x	x	x	✓	<1km	✓	✓	✓	x
Transport and travel related concerns:											
Kingussie is well served by a mainline train service, and twice hourly Citylink buses between Inverness and the central belt. It is on NCN Route 7.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
Better public transport information and special buses on match days.											



5.37 RSPB Insh Marshes Nature Reserve

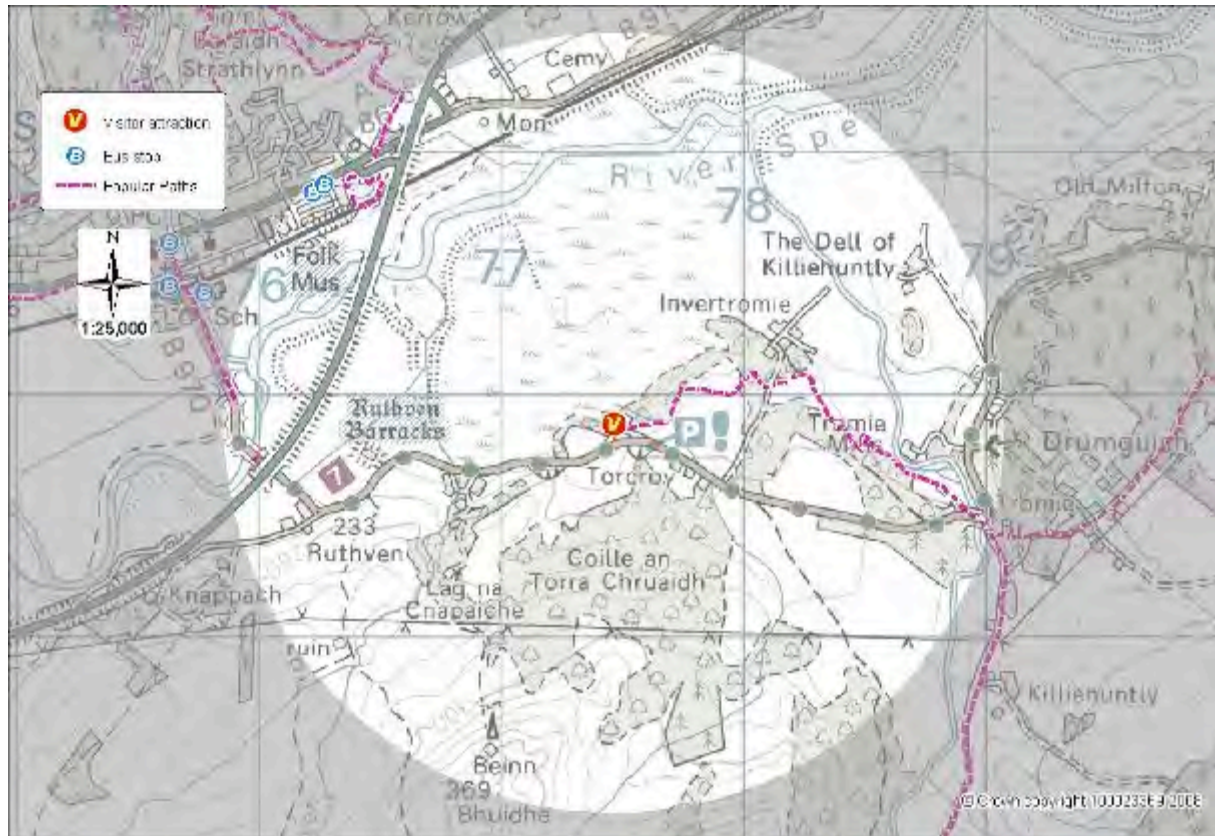


Figure 40 – RSPB Insh Marshes Nature Reserve

RSPB Insh Marshes Nature Reserve (www.rspb.org.uk/reserves/guide/i/inshmarshes) is one of the most important wetlands in Europe and provides a seasonal home for nesting lapwings, redshanks and curlews.

RSPB Insh Marshes Nature Reserve												
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy	
15,000	1	x	x	x	x	✓	1-3km	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Transport and travel related concerns:												
No local bus stop, nearest is 1.5km away in Kingussie, where there is also a train station. It is on NCN Route 7.												
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:												
Running bus service to the site, better cycle signage and facilities.												



5.38 The Highland Folk Museum

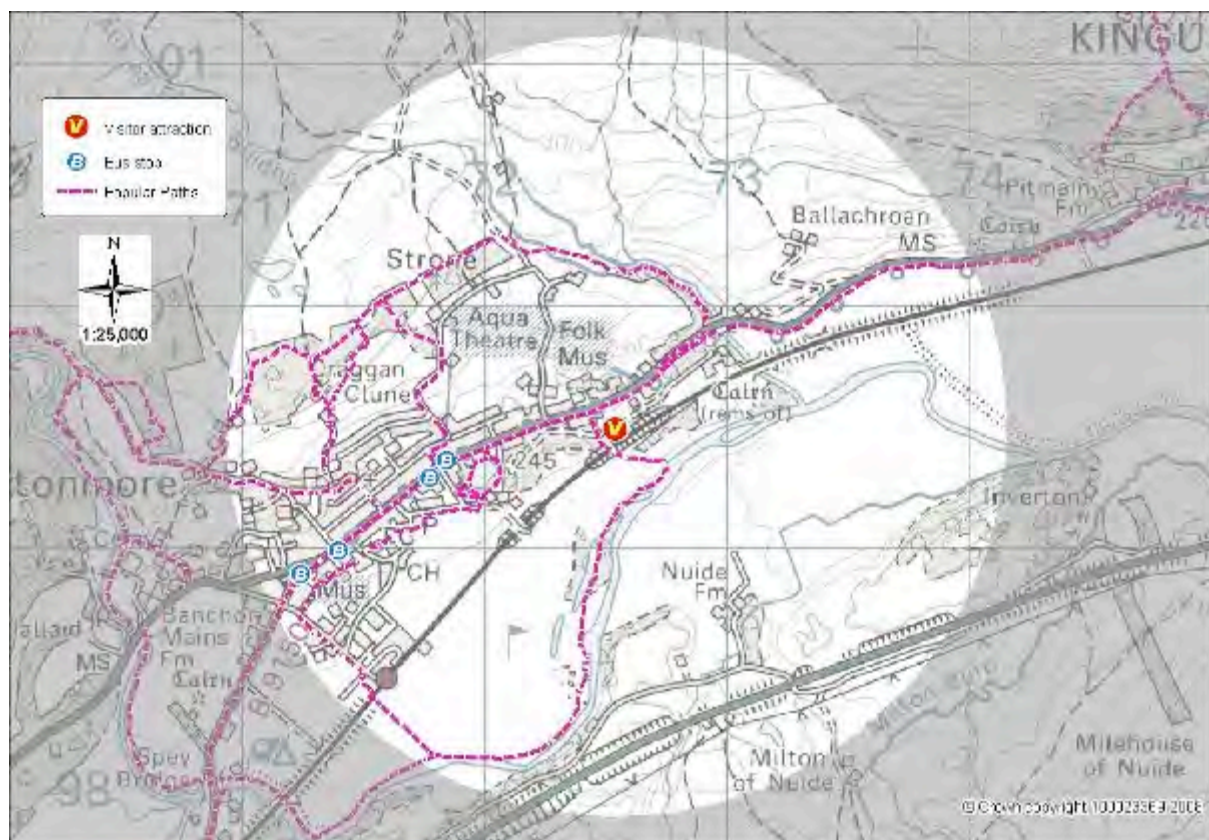


Figure 41 – The Highland Folk Museum.

The Highland Folk Museum (www.highlandfolk.com) is located in Newtonmore. An award winning 80 acre attraction, the Museum offers visitors the opportunity see how the population of the Highland lived from the 1700's to the present day.

The Highland Folk Museum												
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy	
35,000+	3	x	x	x	✓	✓	<1 km	✓	✓	✓	x	
Transport and travel related concerns:												
Newtonmore is served by the express coach service north and south on the A9 but users are required to walk to Newtonmore from bus stop.												
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:												
More frequent public transport services, more direct public transport routes, closer bus stops, visitor shuttle bus from local settlement/public transport stop and bicycles available to hire from nearest settlement/ public transport stop.												



5.39 The Clan Macpherson Museum

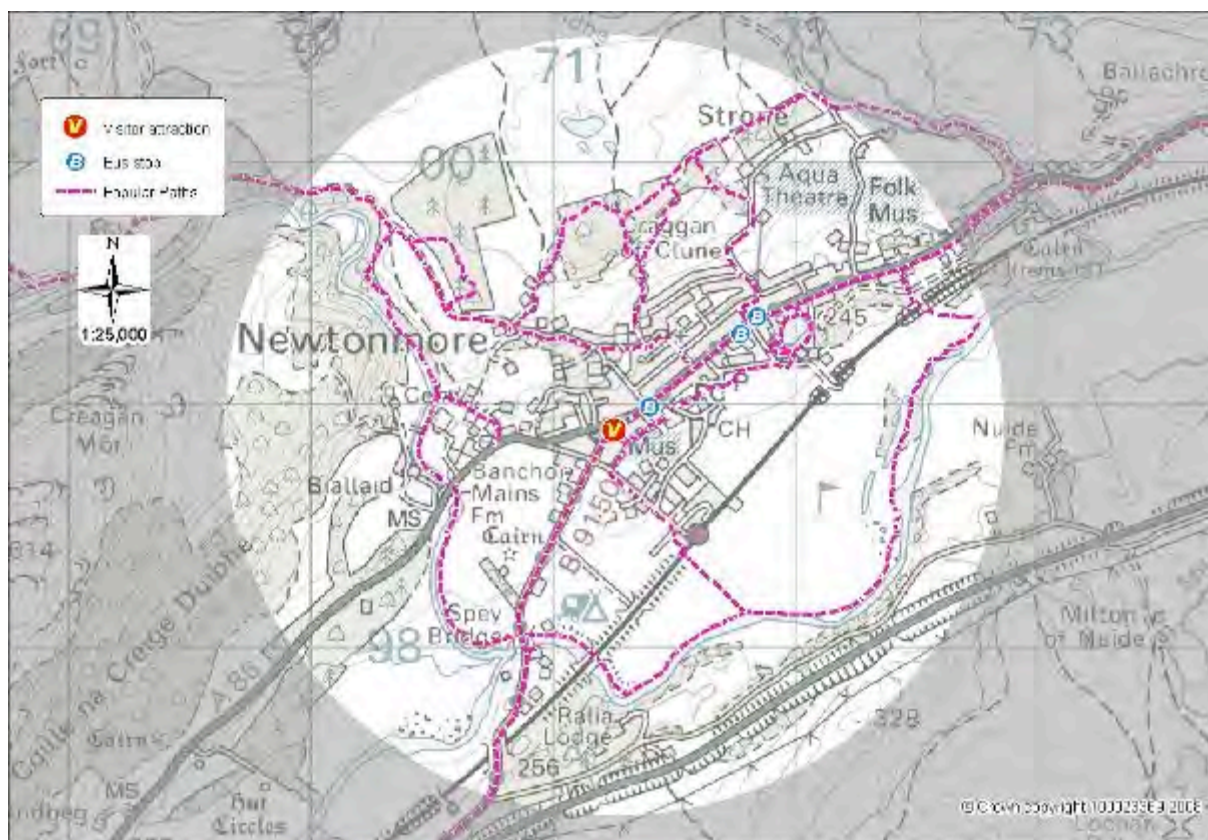


Figure 42 – The Clan Macpherson Museum.

The Clan Macpherson Museum (www.clan-macpherson.org/clan4.php) is located in Newtonmore. The Museum offers the chance to explore the history of the Clan Macpherson and its families.

Clan Macpherson Museum											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
4,000	2	x	x	x	✓	✓	<100 metres	✓	✓	✓	x
Transport and travel related concerns:											
Difficulty in attracting visitors, particularly encouraging visitors off the A9 to visit Newtonmore. There are now large signs on the A9 and this has increased visitor numbers.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
Better publicised public transport routes and cheaper public transport fares.											



5.40 Newtonmore Craft Centre and Gallery

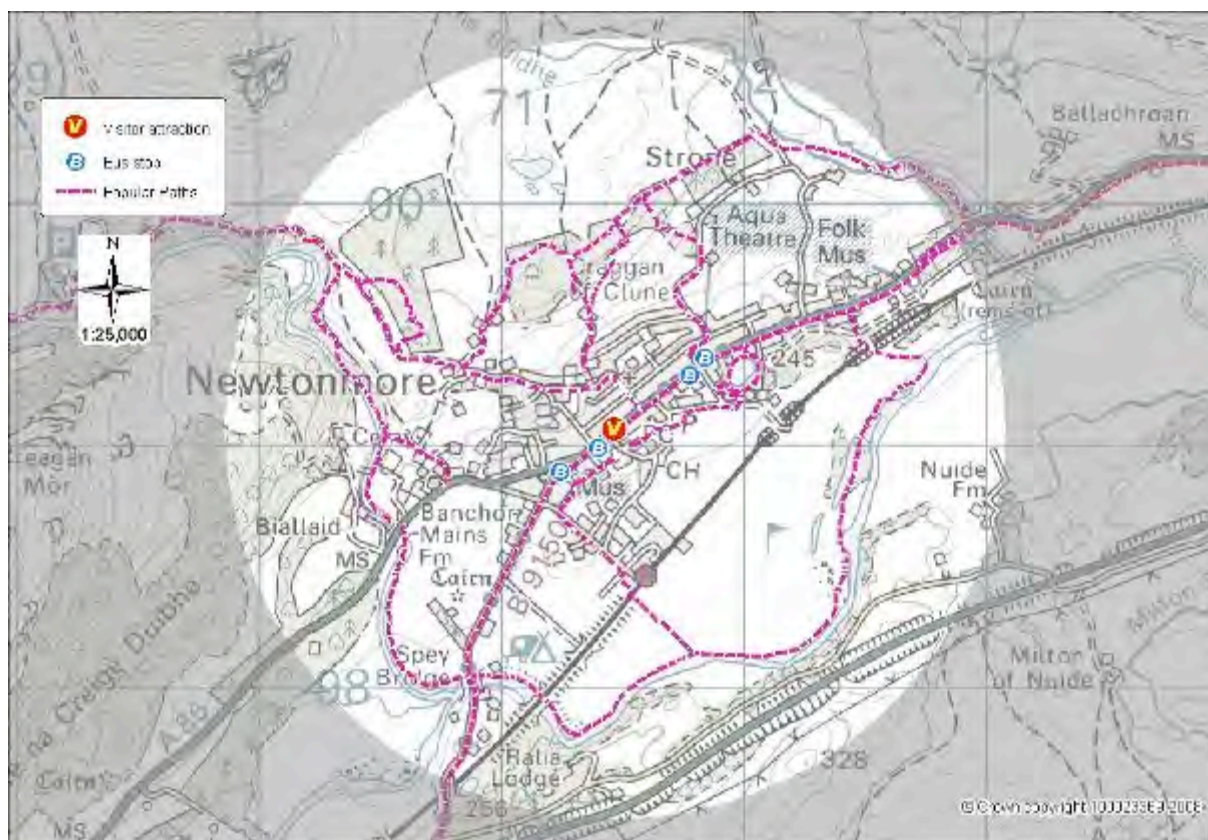


Figure 43 – Newtonmore Craft Centre and Gallery.

Newtonmore Craft Centre and Gallery (www.newtonmore.com/craftcentre) offers Scottish and Celtic crafts, gifts, knitwear, original paintings and prints by resident artists.

Newtonmore Craft Centre & Gallery											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
Not Available	1	✓	✓	x	x	✓	<100m	✓	✓	✓	x
Transport and travel related concerns:											
There is a direct Citylink bus to Perth (and south) and Inverness. There is no service bus, but the Citylink continues on to Aviemore. NCN Route 7 runs through the village.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
Newtonmore is not on the main service bus route. It would benefit from a link between Aviemore and Fort William, and increased Citylink and train services.											



5.41 The Wildcat Trail

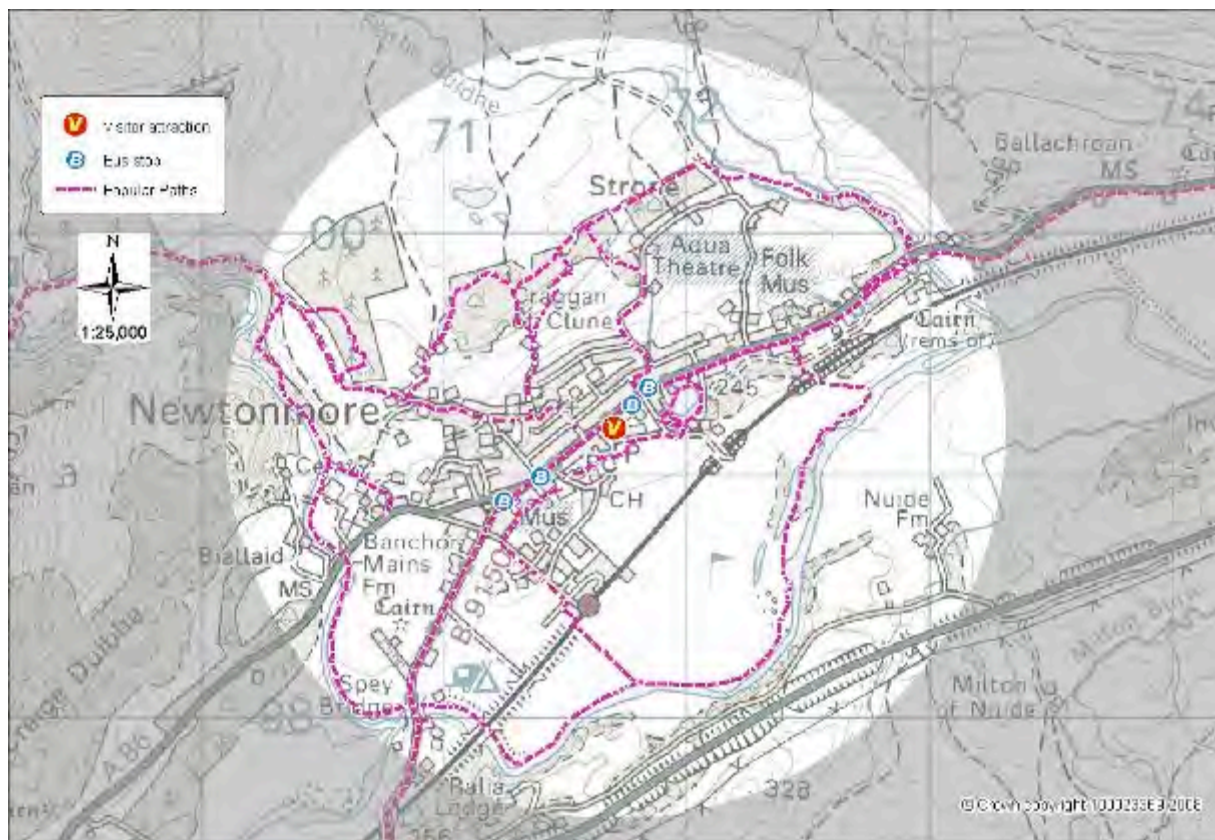


Figure 44 – The Wildcat Trail.

The Wildcat Trail (www.newtonmore.com/wcat.htm) is located in Newtonmore and is a 10 kilometre walk encircling the village running through native woodlands and moorland. The Wildcat Centre provides information on the Trail and facilities in Newtonmore.

The Wildcat Trail											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
Not available	14	x	✓	x	x	✓	<100m	✓	✓	✓	x
Transport and travel related concerns:											
Express coach and train service, but no local service bus, local bus stop shelters are rarely cleaned, timetables are not up-to-date.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
More frequent public transport services, cheaper public transport fares, better public transport service information.											



5.42 Newtonmore Camanachd (Shinty) Club

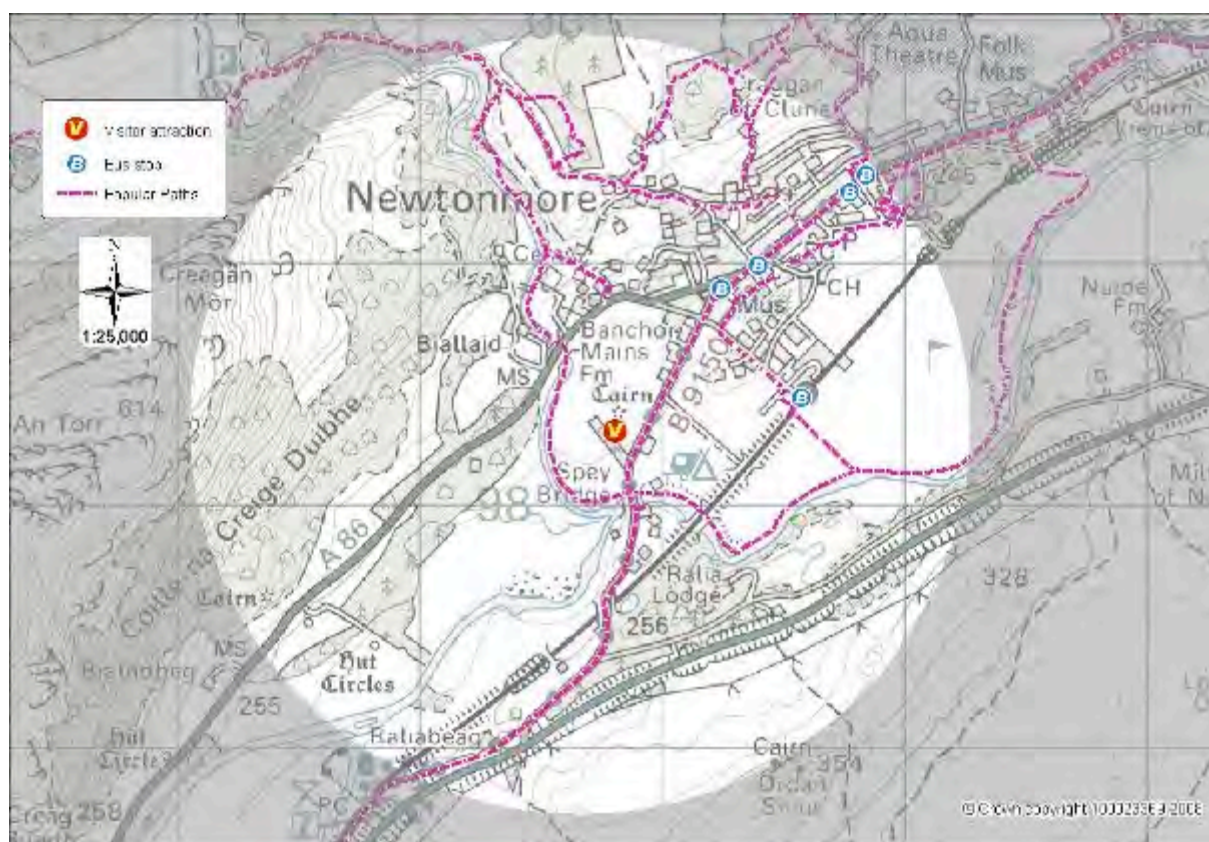


Figure 45 – Newtonmore Camanachd (Shinty) Club.

Shinty is a major sport in the Highlands, drawing many visitors and residents to games. Newtonmore Camanachd (Shinty) Club (www.newtonmoreshinty.com) is one of the top clubs in Scotland and plays at The Eilan, Newtonmore.

Newtonmore Camanachd (Shinty) Club											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
13,000	1	x	✓	x	x	✓	<1km	✓	✓	✓	x
Transport and travel related concerns:											
Newtonmore is on the mainline train service, and express coach route between Inverness and the central belt. The Club's ground is immediately off NCN Route 7. There are disabled toilets, and food available on match days.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
Better public transport information and special buses on match days.											



5.43 The Falls of Truim

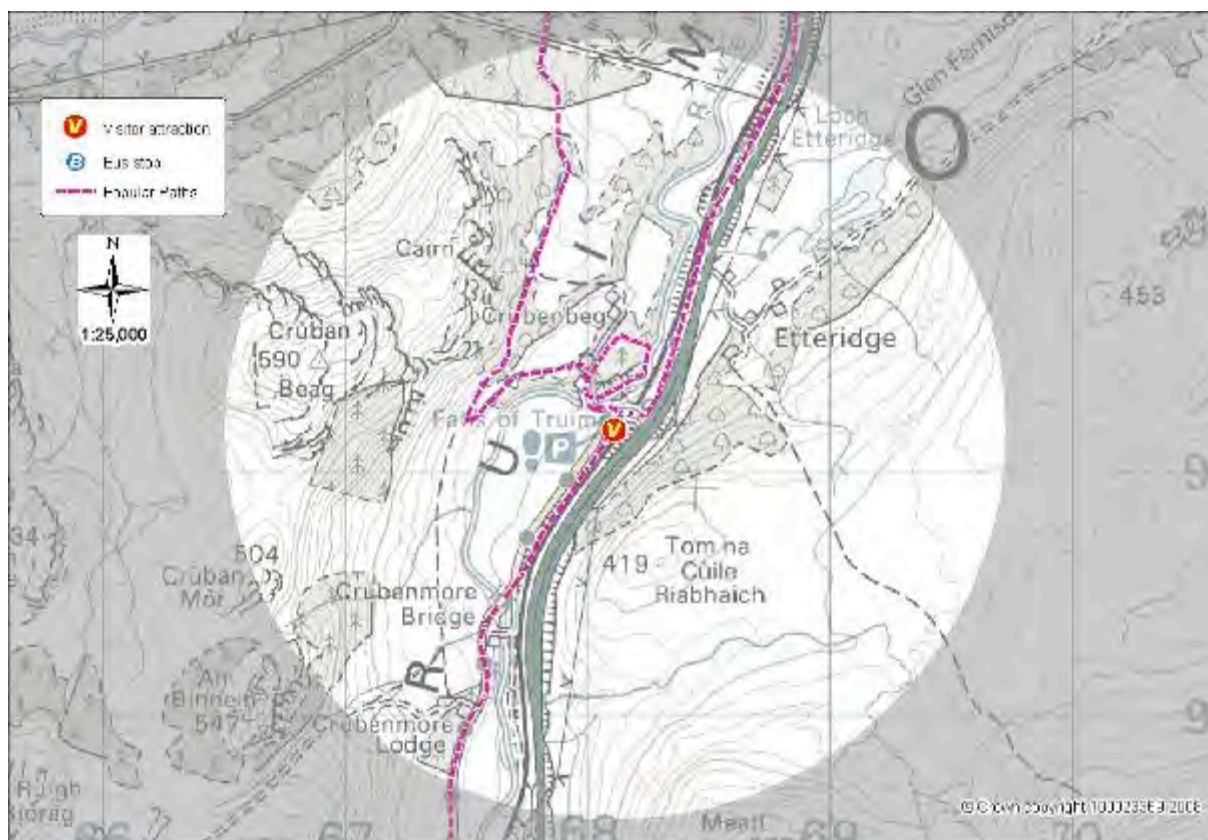


Figure 46 – The Falls of Truim.

The Falls (www.walkhighlands.co.uk/cairngorms/falls-of-truim.shtml) are a popular kayaking point and a picturesque walk located near Newtonmore on the A9 between Newtonmore and Dalwhinnie.

The Falls of Truim											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
Not Available	1	x	x	x	x	x	10km	x	x	x	x
Transport and travel related concerns:											
Newtonmore is about 10km away, but the inter-city bus may stop closer, if requested, to the site on the A9. There are no facilities or information on site.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
Better bus link from Newtonmore, perhaps as part of a wider visitor service.											



5.44 Strathmashie Forest

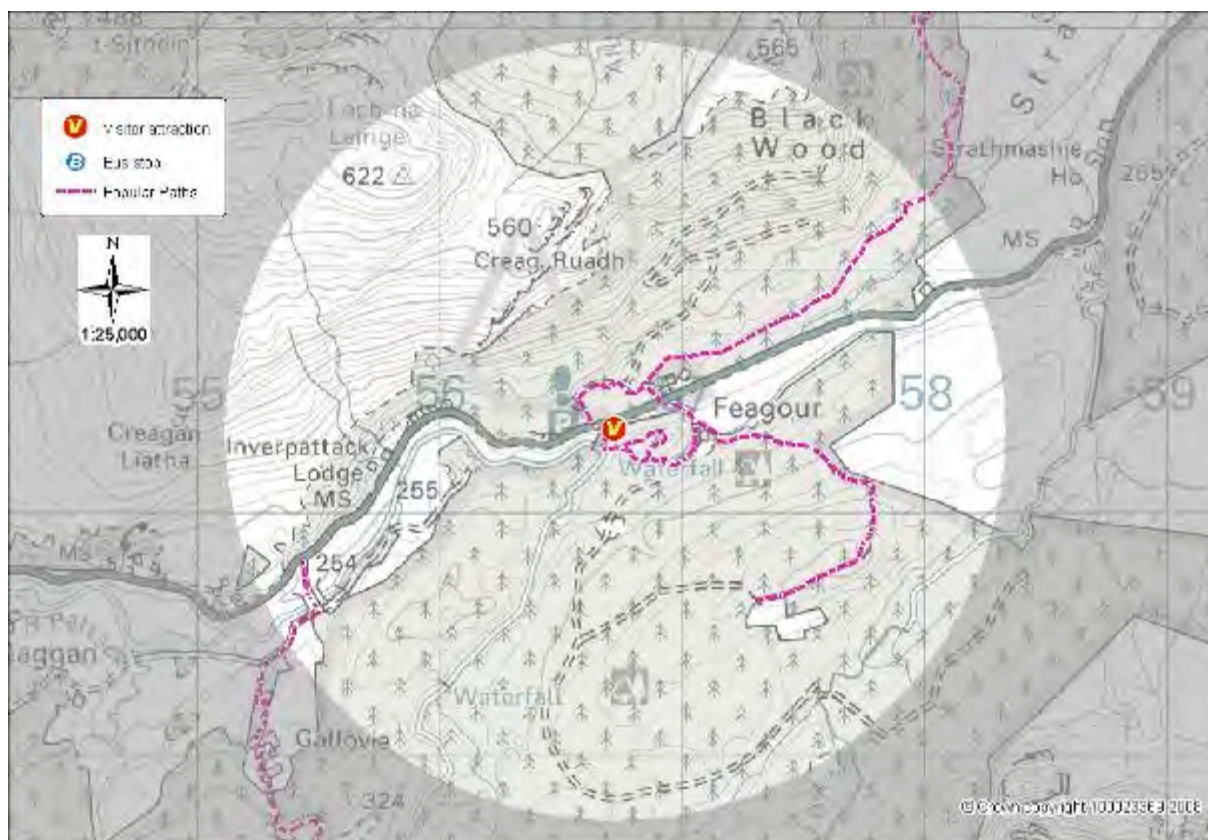


Figure 47 – Strathmashie Forest.

Strathmashie Forest (www.laggan.com/forestwalks.htm) is located on the A86 and is managed through a community-led partnership between Laggan Forest Trust and the Forestry Commission, providing opportunities for public access and a number of way-marked walks, including routes to the Falls of Pattack.

Strathmashie Forest											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
100,000	5	✓	✓	✓	x	x	5-10 km	✓	x	✓	x
Transport and travel related concerns:											
No public transport link. The A9 express coach and train at Dalwhinnie and Newtonmore pass closest.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
A service linking Fort William and Speyside would pass this site and provide a service. Alternately, a visitor shuttle bus could run from local settlement/public transport stop.											



5.45 Laggan Wolftrax

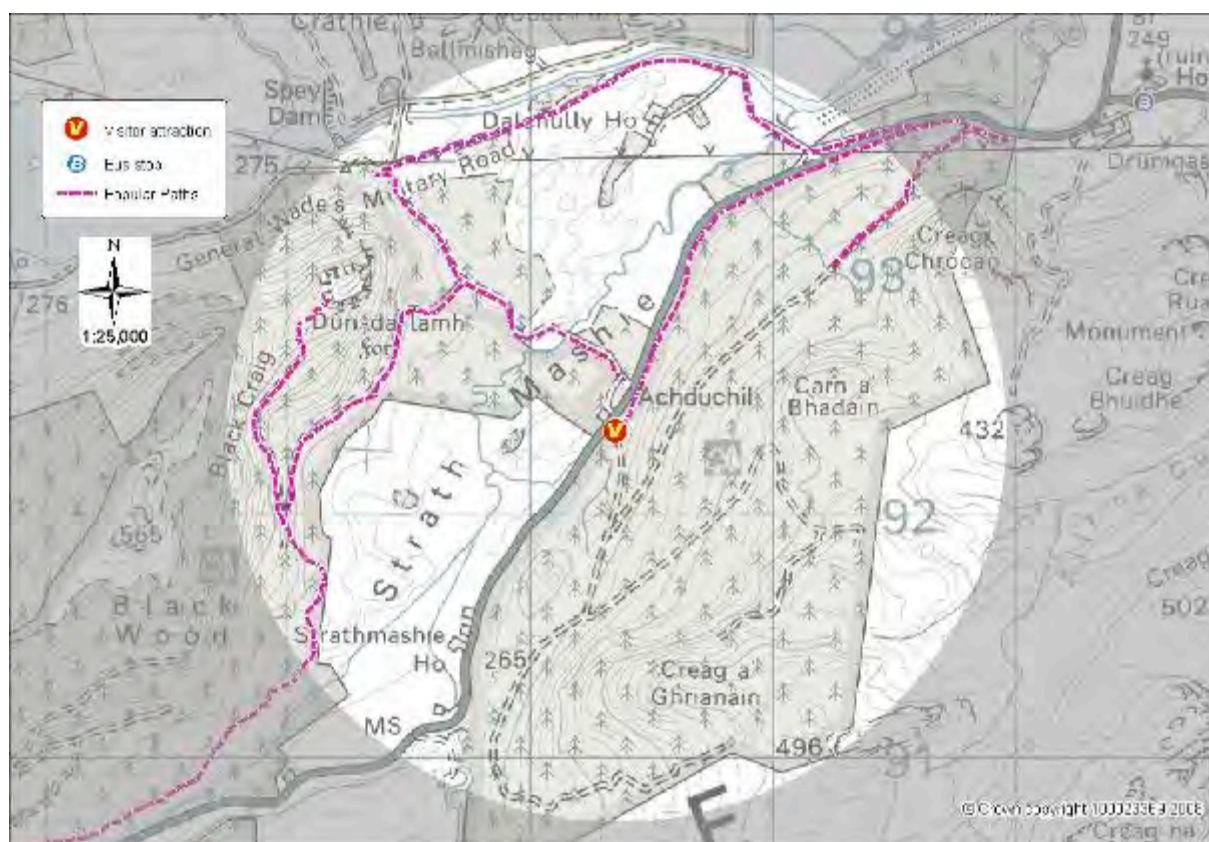


Figure 48 – Laggan Wolftrax.

Laggan Wolftrax (www.forestry.gov.uk/forestry/INFD-66BK4T) is located in Strathmashe Forest off the A86 and A889 and provides mountain bike trails for novices through to the most skilled riders over nearly 35km of year-round single track. Wolftrax includes a base camp providing cycle hire, a spares and repair shop, a cafe, showers, toilets and a bike wash.

Laggan Wolftrax												
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy	
30,000	2	✓	x	✓	✓	x	5-10 km	✓	x	✓	x	
Transport and travel related concerns:												
Poor public transport links – nearest at Dalwhinnie and Newtonmore.												
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:												
A visitor service bus with cycle provision would encourage less car use. There is the possibility to promote the relatively quiet road route to the centre to cyclists.												



5.46 Dun da Lamh, Spey Dam and Kinloch Laggan

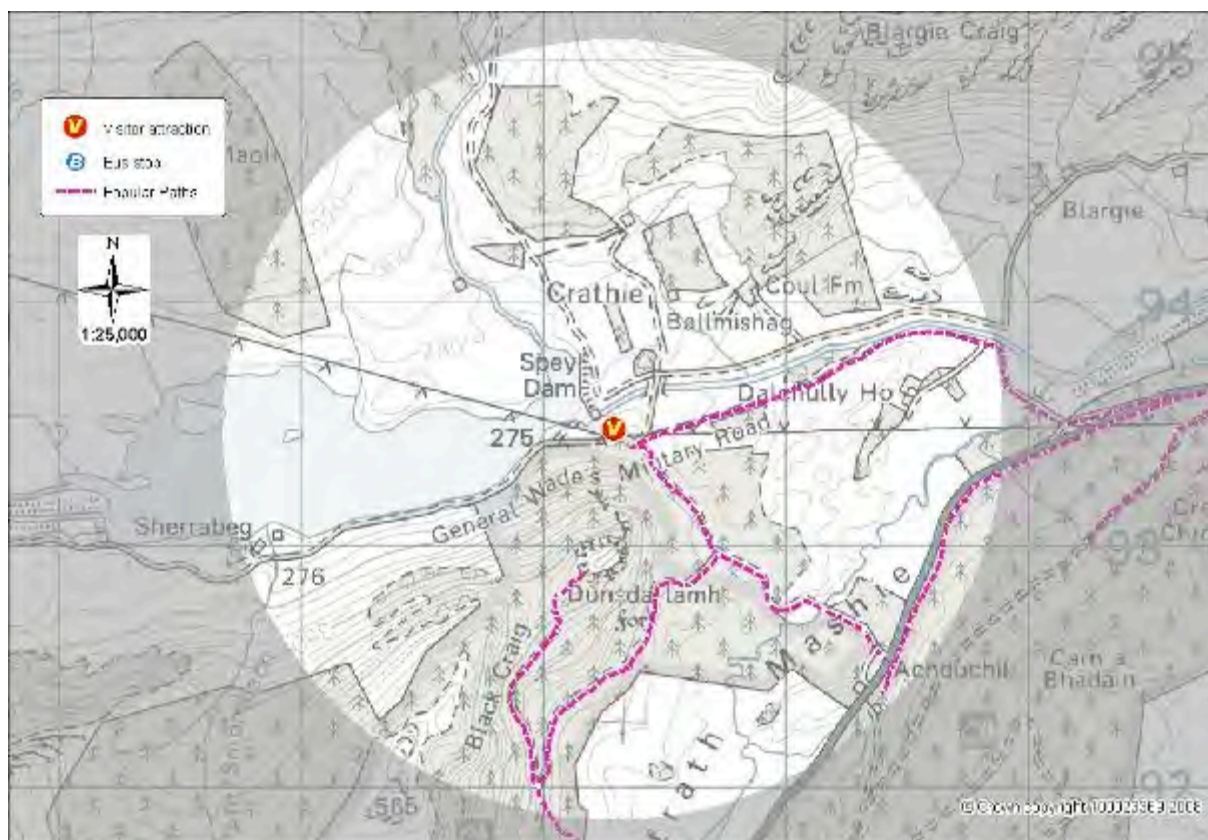


Figure 49 – Dun da Lamh, Spey Dam and Kinloch Laggan.

Dun da Lamh, Spey Dam and Kinloch Laggan are three sites located near Laggan. Dun da Lamh is a Pictish Hill Fort 4km from Laggan, Spey Dam is around 3km from Laggan up a minor road and Kinloch Laggan is a series of houses at the head of Loch Laggan, 10km from Laggan on the A86 towards Fort William.

Dun da Lamh, Spey Dam and Kinloch Laggan											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
Unknown	1	✓	x	x	x	x	13km	x	x	✓	x
Transport and travel related concerns:											
Newtonmore and Dalwhinnie train stations are both about 13km from Laggan. Buses stop at Newtonmore and taxis are available to go on to Laggan. It is otherwise poorly served by public transport.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
Running bus service to the site, and from Kingussie to Fort William, better cycle signage and facilities.											



5.47 Dalwhinnie Distillery

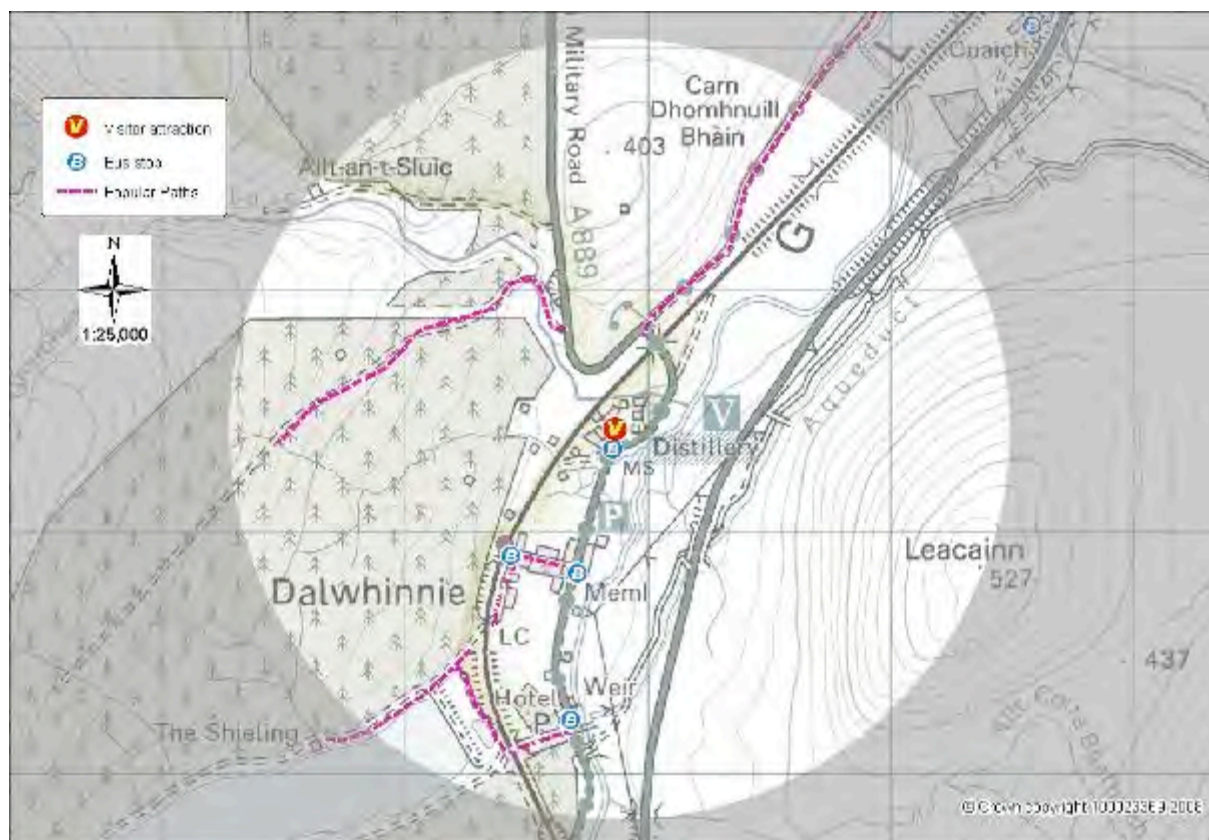


Figure 50 – Dalwhinnie Distillery.

Dalwhinnie Distillery (www.discovering-distilleries.com/dalwhinnie) is located on the A889 in Dalwhinnie close to Dalwhinnie Railway Station. Operated by Diageo, Dalwhinnie Distillery re-opened in March 1995 after a £3.2 million refurbishment. The distillery offers a visitor centre, shop and 'flavours experience' tours.

Dalwhinnie Distillery											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
30,000	2	x	x	x	x	✓	<100 metres	✓	✓	✓	x
Transport and travel related concerns:											
Dalwhinnie is served by the express coach service on the A9, but entails a walk in from the main road. There is a mainline train station, and visitors can walk from there to the distillery, about 1km.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
Express coach coming into Dalwhinnie on request would assist public transport users.											



5.48 Pass of Drumochter-Dalwhinnie A9 lay-by

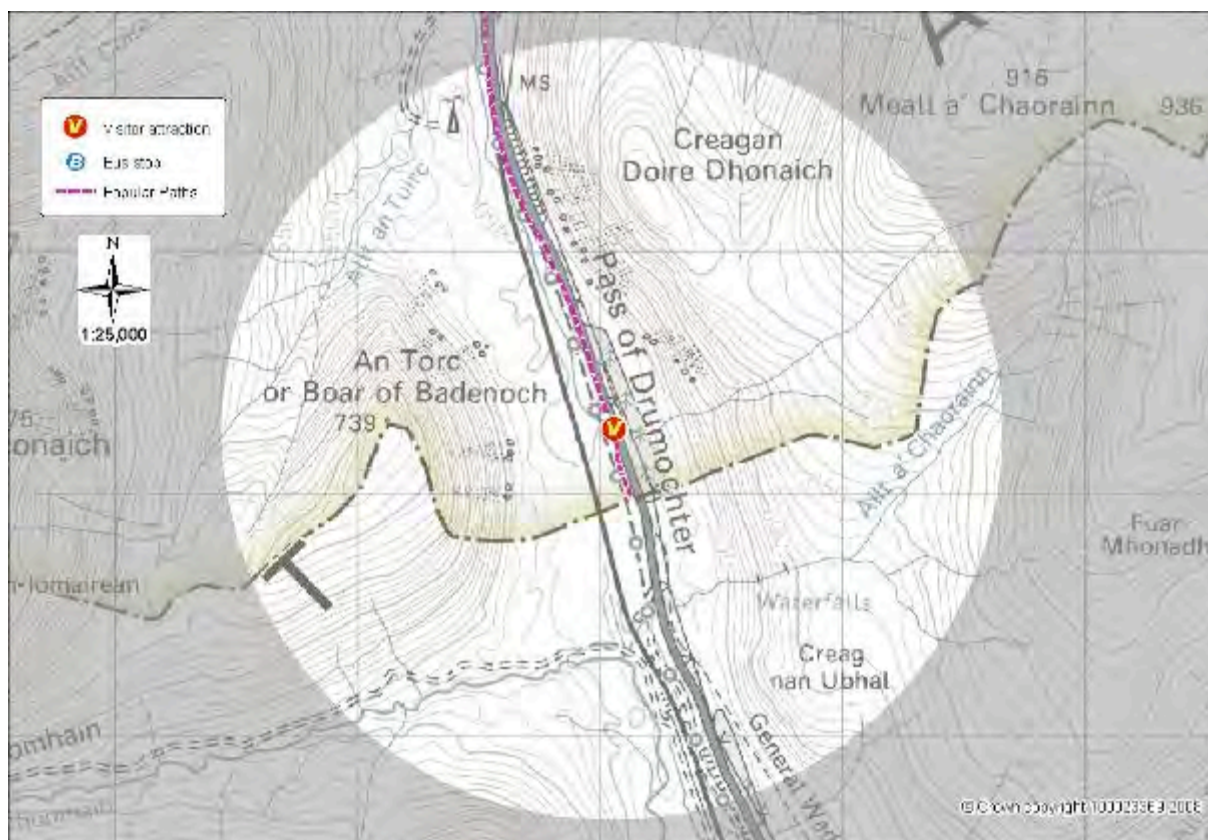


Figure 51 – Pass of Drumochter-Dalwhinnie A9 lay-by.

The Pass of Drumochter-Dalwhinnie A9 lay-by is a popular starting point for walkers trekking into the southern hills in the National Park.

Pass of Drumochter-Dalwhinnie A9 lay-by											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
Not Available	1	x	x	x	x	✓	1-3km	x	x	x	x
Transport and travel related concerns:											
The main link is to the Citylink bus which runs along the A9. The nearest train station is at Dalwhinnie around 6km away. It is adjacent to NCN Route 7.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
It would assist cyclists to do some of the route if more coaches carried bicycles, and trains had increased capacity for cycles.											



5.49 Gaick Pass and Glen Tromie

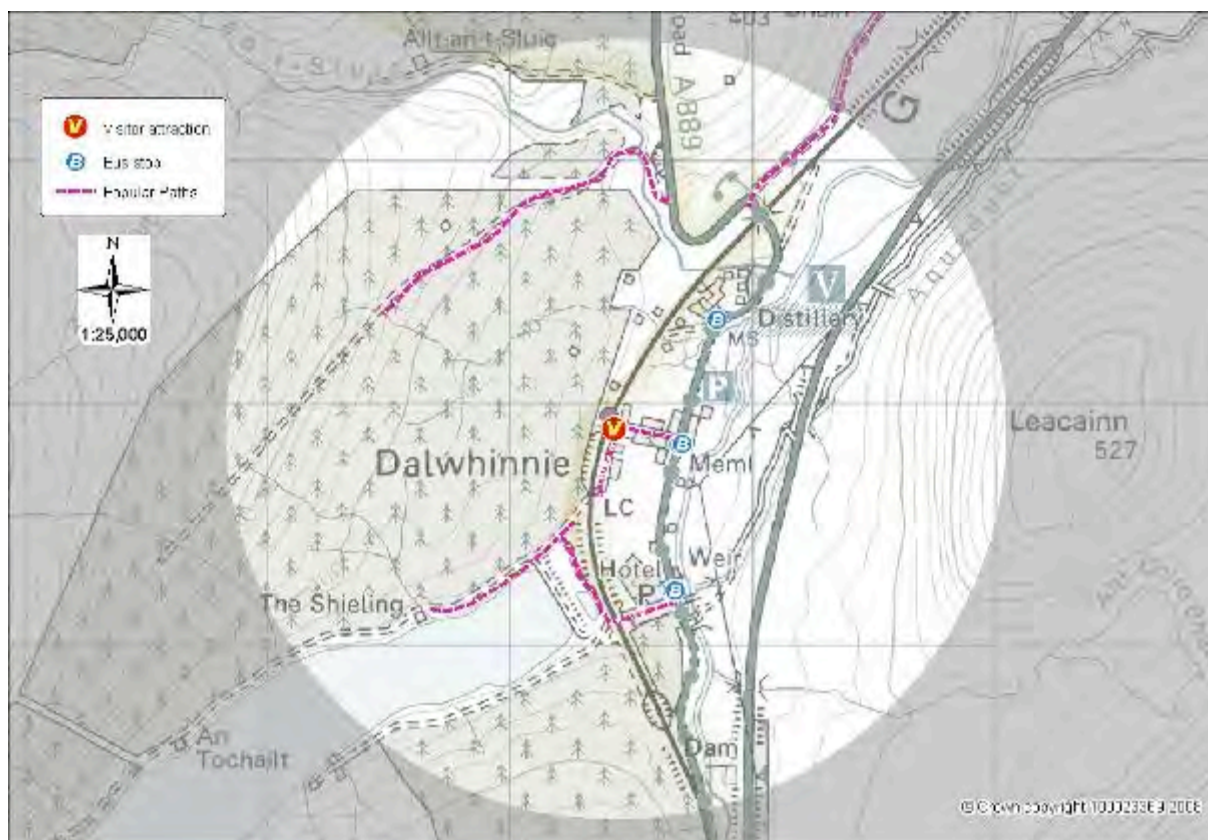


Figure 52 – Dalwhinnie leading to Gaick Pass and Glen Tromie.

The Gaick Pass and Glen Tromie lie to the east of Dalwhinnie and are both popular recreational start-off points. The Gaick Pass connects Dalnacardoch Lodge on the A9 with Kingussie, running into Glen Tromie near Kingussie.

Gaick Pass and Glen Tromie											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
Not Available	1	✓	x	x	x	✓	<100m	x	x	x	x
Transport and travel related concerns:											
The Citylink bus runs along the A9 and connects onto the route. It links to NCN Route 7.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
It would assist travellers if trains to Dalwhinnie and buses on the A9 carried more cycles.											



5.50 Tomintoul

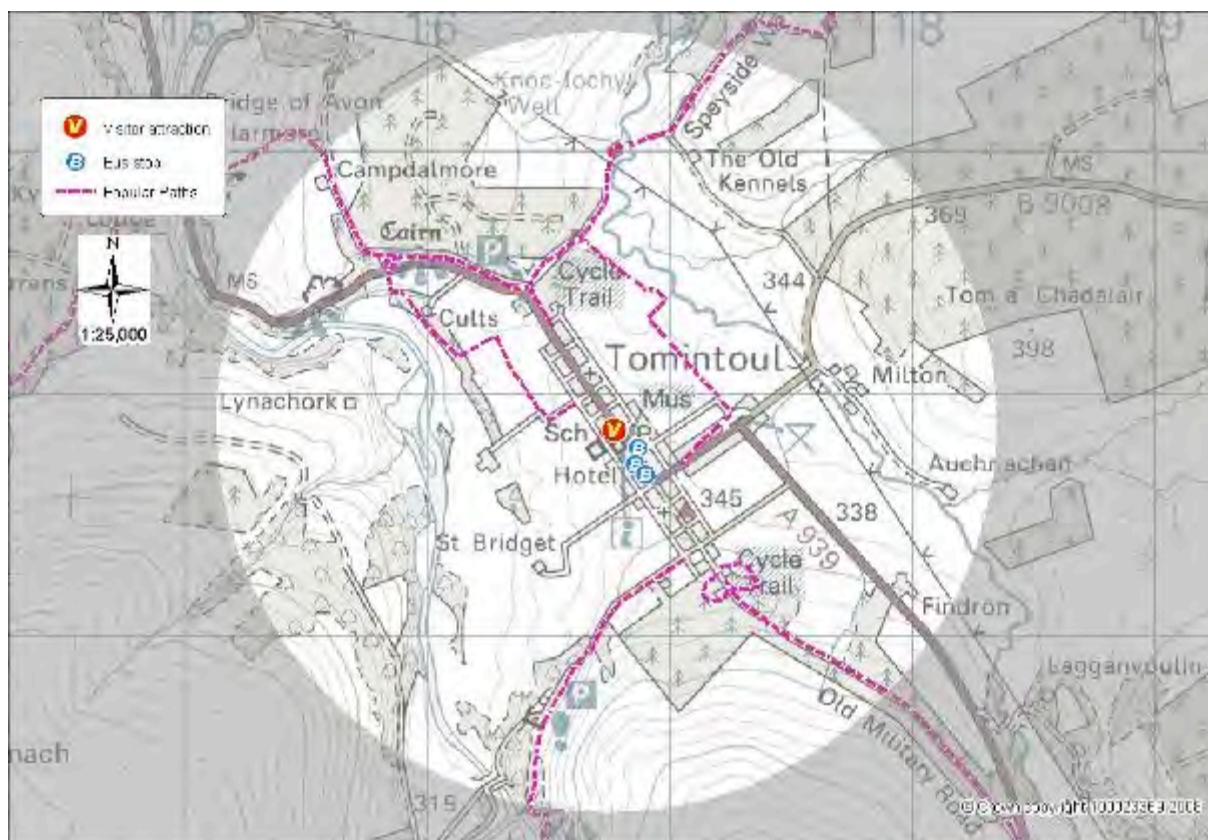


Figure 53 – Tomintoul.

Tomintoul has a number of local attractions and is close to the Lecht Ski Centre, the Tomintoul Glenlivet Estate and is the start point many walking and cycling routes.

Tomintoul											
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
Not Available	2	✓	✓	x	x	✓	<100m	✓	✓	✓	x
Transport and travel related concerns:											
Tomintoul has a poor bus service, based mainly on school buses. There is a Summer Heather Hopper service twice daily to Grantown and Ballater. The Strathspey Stroller north to Elgin was axed in 2008.											
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:											
More frequent public transport services; using Tomintoul as a Hub for public transport, rather than placing it at the 'end of the line'.											



5.51 Bridge of Brown Tearoom

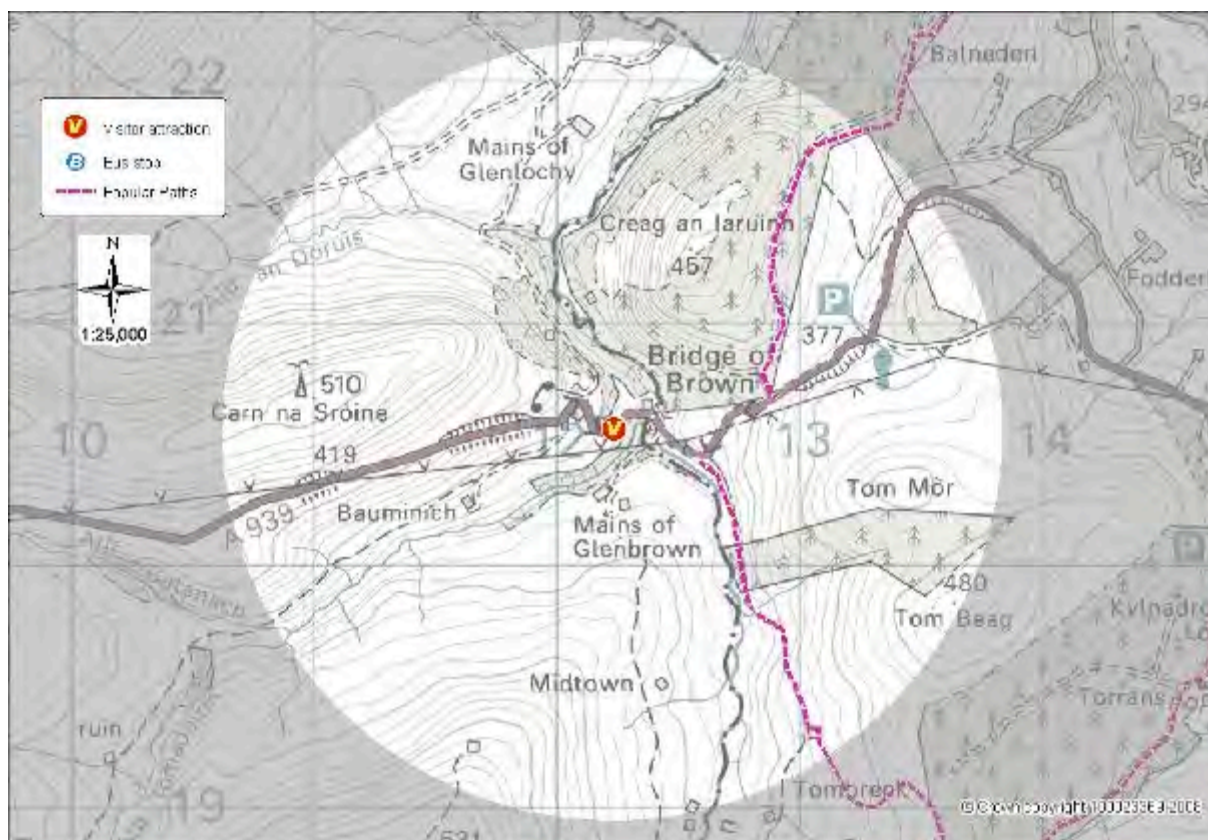


Figure 54 – Bridge of Brown Tearoom.

Bridge of Brown Tearoom is a tearoom and gift shop located in Bridge of Brown on the A939 between Tomintoul and Grantown on Spey. Bridge of Brown Tearoom offers homemade cakes and pastries, teas and coffees with varying opening times depending on the season.

Bridge of Brown Tearoom												
Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy	
2,000	1	x	x	x	x	✓	5-10 km	✓	x	x	x	
Transport and travel related concerns:												
Road safety concerns; narrow road, steep decent, and blind corners. Nearest public transport is at Grantown. Unauthorised parking; visitors parking in tearoom car park and leaving for extended walks. Problem during busy periods due to small car park, car park at capacity.												
Measures might encourage visitors to travel more sustainably:												
More frequent public transport services, more direct public transport routes, closer public transport stops and better public transport service information at bus stops.												



5.52 Key Site Features

The following section summarises key findings from the site survey responses, information provided by the CNPA and other key stakeholders and some additional follow-up consultation. A summary of the survey results is also available in Appendix 2 of this report.

As might be expected, given their location in the Badenoch and Strathspey area, most sites are rural in nature and location. In part because of this, most sites are also primarily designed around access by private car and it should be noted that a number of tourist attractions were identified as having car parks that were at or close to capacity during the peak tourist season. While most sites record visitor numbers, none of the sites currently record mode of transport or other useful travel information.

Active travel infrastructure:

- 22 (or 44%) of sites can be accessed by a segregated pedestrian route;
- 14 (or 28%) can be accessed by a segregated cycle route;
- GIS Mapping shows that most sites are within close proximity to a popular path and, potentially, part of the core path network within the National Park;
- The majority of sites do not have dedicated cycle parking, with only 12 (24%) sites providing dedicated cycle parking of some form.

Public Transport infrastructure:

- 25 (50%) of the sites have a bus stop located with 1 kilometre (comfortable walking distance for most adults); about half are located a significant distance from a bus stop;
- While a large number of sites may not be directly accessible by public transport, a large number are accessible in combination with walking and/or cycling and could be far more accessible without a car if buses carried more cycles;
- The frequency of services and lack of Sunday services also poses a significant barrier to using public transport to access some attractions;
- Most sites are located a significant distance from local train stations;
- 11 (22%) of the sites were reported as not being accessible by public transport;
- A number of sites identified an interest in packages combining travel by public transport and the entry fees to attractions and this should be explored in more detail in the future.

Travel Information and transport policies:

- Most sites provide travel information such as directions to visitors, with 12 (24%) of the sites not providing information (although in some case this was due to the unmanaged nature of the attraction);



- In most cases the information provided was primarily aimed at those travelling by car, often with less detailed information, or no information, for those travelling by other modes of transport. Bus and train information should be presented first, and often isn't;
- Only 6 sites (12%) reported having a travel plan or other transport policy with only sites operated by the RSPB having a travel plan;
- A significant number of respondents reported an interest in developing a travel plan.



6 Study Findings

The following section reviews the key study findings and identifies a number of recommendations which are then summarised in Section 7.

6.1 Key Challenges – Infrastructure and Provision

The CNPA and key stakeholders managing tourism in the Cairngorms National Park recognise the need to address the balance between the needs of visitors, the environment and local communities and to conserve and promote the special qualities of the Park as the basis of tourism. There is however a gap between the aspirations to develop, promote and maintain the National Park as a sustainable tourism destination and current tourist travel patterns and transport provision within the Park.

The car dominates visitor travel to, from and around the National Park and provision of alternatives to the car present many challenges, not least with the Highland Council's budget. Subsidising services in remote areas is expensive and Council resources are stretched thinly. Some routes are well served (Grantown-Aviemore), whilst others have no service, a limited one, or rely on express coach services.

The comparatively small and dispersed population of the Badenoch and Strathspey area creates the significant challenge of providing financially sustainable public transport services due to the absence of economies of scale, than areas with larger and less dispersed populations. The geography of the Badenoch and Strathspey transport corridor also presents a challenge in providing public transport to many attractions. The seasonal nature of many attractions in the National Park also makes it difficult for them to support financially sustainable public transport services. Lack of connectivity between public transport services can limit the attractiveness of public transport compared to car use and inconvenience public transport users due to prolonged waits between connecting services.

Active travel such as walking and cycling are ideal modes of transport for shorter journeys or as part of a longer journey mixed with other modes of transport. Many of the activities and attractions that draw visitors to the Cairngorms National Park involve walking and cycling but these modes of transport are often not viewed as ways to travel to and around the National Park. The lack of facilities that allow easy interchange and cycle provision on most public transport services also limit the utility of cycling as a mode of transport that can be used to access parts of the National Park and makes access to a car necessary for some journeys.

Most tourist attractions within the National Park are designed primarily around access by car. At the same time many do provide or have ready access to active travel infrastructure such as segregated pedestrian and cycle routes and dedicated cycle parking in some form. While few sites are well served by public transport, around half are located within comfortable walking distance of a bus stop and a large number are accessible by public transport in combination with walking and/or cycling, although the frequency of public transport services can present a significant barrier.



Detailed recommendations for improvements to transport infrastructure and provision within the Badenoch and Strathspey area are beyond the scope of this report. However if the CNPA and key stakeholders are going to achieve their aim of seeing the National Park become a sustainable tourism destination they should identify a related key objective, such as:

Improve the provision and integration of active travel modes and public transport within the Badenoch and Strathspey Corridor to enable these modes to compete more effectively with travel by car in terms of coverage, frequency, travel time and convenience.

To achieve this objective the CNPA and key stakeholders need to:

- Explore ways to improve connectivity between bus and train services, including:
- Improve connectivity between some bus and train services ensuring schedules are timed to minimise waits between connecting services and that early and late services have onward travel options;
- Improve connectivity by identifying opportunities for integrated ticketing between bus and train services operating within the National Park;
- Engage in further detailed discussions with the operators of key tourist attractions and transport operators with regards the feasibility of running a pilot scheme offering combined public transport tickets and attraction entry fees.
- Explore ways to improve interchange between active travel modes and public transport, including:
- Improve facilities such as cycle parking at public transport interchanges (e.g. bus and train stations) and/or surfaced all-weather paths connecting bus stops in proximity to, but not directly serving, popular tourist destinations;
- Improve the carrying provision for bicycles on bus and train services operating within Badenoch and Strathspey in terms of capacity and ease of booking.
- Explore ways of improving public transport provision to, from and between key tourist destinations, including:
- Identify a number of potential revisions or extensions to existing public transport services that would allow key tourist destinations to be served more effectively;
- Work with councils and operators to see where new services to support visitors could also have positive effects for residents;
- Identify a number of potential new public transport routes that could serve key tourist destinations seasonally or throughout the year, should funding be available in the future.

There may be an opportunity the CNPA, ACDMO, key stakeholders and tourist attractions to work collectively to identify clusters of tourist attractions (such as the Glenmore Area) that can be supported through the provision of additional, or more frequent, public transport services and improved walking and cycling facilities. The aim would be to create an unique selling point for those attractions, enabling visitors to be travel to and from the National Park



by coach or rail and around key tourist attractions by bus, bike and/or on foot. This would offer visitors the opportunity to enjoy the natural environment of the National Park while helping to protect it.

6.2 Key Challenges – Information and Awareness

Information has a key role to play in encouraging visitors to the Cairngorms National Park to travel to, from and within the Park more sustainably more often. A significant proportion of visitors to the Cairngorms National Park are not aware of and do not use any public transport information sources.

If visitors are to be encouraged to travel more sustainably, the alternatives to travel by car need to be highlighted and actively marketed. There are a variety of sources of information available but there is no overall strategy for promoting the National Park as a sustainable tourism destination and for encouraging visitors to access the park sustainably.

One option may be to provide a web-based resource, possibly utilising the VisitCairngorms: www.visitcairngorms.com site, to provide an online 'one-stop-shop' to allow potential visitors to plan journeys to the Cairngorms National Park, providing information on how to travel both to and around the Park sustainably and providing links to journey planning websites and the websites of transport operators. Such a site might act as an online version of the Cairngorms Explorer booklet.

General destination marketing carried out by VisitScotland, accommodation providers and visitor attractions could then refer visitors to this 'one-stop-shop' for travel information rather than provide and maintain detailed travel information on their own sites.

General destination marketing of the Cairngorms National Park as a tourist destination should:

- Identify the National Park as a sustainable tourism destination and promote the links between the environment and getting here;
- Identify sustainable travel options such as walking, cycling and public transport as *the* way to travel around the National Park;
- Direct visitors to more detailed travel information to aid journey planning.

Marketing the National Park as a sustainable tourism destination is a way of generating new business, as well as a way of re-focusing current tourism businesses to become more sustainable.

There is an opportunity for the CNPA, ACDMO, key stakeholders and tourist attractions to work collectively to attract visitors drawn not only by the existing attractions the National Park has to offer but by the *sustainability* of holidays in the National Park where it is possible to



use sustainable transport for the whole duration of their stay. This approach could be adopted in conjunction with improvements to walking, cycling and public transport provision to a particular cluster of tourist attractions within the National Park and expanded to cover the whole of the park if this approach proves to be successful.

Many tourists may be attracted by the possibility of being able to travel to the Park by coach or rail and around the park by bus or bike. The ability to enjoy the natural environment of the National Park while helping to conserve it is a marketable commodity that can enhance economic activity from tourism as well as the sustainability of that tourism.

Individual tourist attractions and accommodation providers should be encouraged to provide travel information such as:

- Providing copies of the Cairngorms Explorer booklet to guests.
- Providing links to the websites of public transport operators and transport information providers.
- Incorporating the Transport Direct page landing service on to their own websites (See: www.transportdirect.info/web2/Tools/BusinessLinks.aspx for further details).

Individual tourist attractions within the National Park should also be assisted in developing their own detailed 'access maps', identifying local bus stops, core paths, cycle parking, approximate walking times and contact details for further information on walking, cycling and public transport



7 Recommendations

This section summarises the recommendations identified in Section 6 above.

Table 6 – Study Recommendations.

Recommendation	Comments
<p>Explore ways to improve connectivity between bus and train services</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve connectivity between some bus and train services ensuring schedules are timed to minimise waits between connecting services, and that early and late services have onward connections; • Improve connectivity by identifying opportunities for integrated ticketing involving bus and train services operating within the National Park; • Engage in further detailed discussions with the operators of key tourist attractions and transport operators with regards the feasibility of running a pilot scheme offering combined public transport tickets and attraction entry fees.
<p>Explore ways to improve interchange between active travel modes and public transport</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improve facilities such as cycle parking at public transport interchanges (e.g. bus stops and train stations) and / or surfaced all-weather paths connecting bus stops in proximity to, but not directly serving, popular tourist destinations; • Improve the carriage provision for bicycles on bus and train services operating to and within Badenoch and Strathspey in terms of capacity and ease of booking.
<p>Explore ways of improving public transport provision to and from key tourist destinations</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify a number of potential new public transport routes that could serve key tourist destinations seasonally or throughout the year, should funding be available in the future; • Identify a number of potential revisions or extensions to existing public transport services that would allow key tourist destinations to be served more effectively, whilst potentially providing a higher level of service to residents.
<p>Provide a central source of up-to-date transport information for the National Park</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide a web-based resource, possibly utilising www.visitcairngorms.com to provide an online 'one-stop-shop' to allow potential visitors to plan journeys to the Cairngorms National Park, providing information on how to travel both to and around the Park sustainably and providing links to journey planning websites and the websites of transport operators. Such a site might act as an online version of the Cairngorms Explorer booklet.
<p>Improve the sustainable message provided by general destination marketing of the Cairngorms National Park</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify the National Park as a sustainable tourism destination; • Identify sustainable travel options such as walking, cycling and public transport as <i>the</i> way to travel around the National Park; • Direct visitors to more detailed travel information to aid journey planning.



Recommendation	Comments
Encourage individual tourist attractions and accommodation providers to supply visitors with travel information	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Providing copies of the Cairngorms Explorer booklet to guests;• Providing links to the websites of public transport providers and transport information providers;• Incorporating the Transport Direct page landing service onto their own websites;• Develop 'access maps' - published leaflets providing maps identifying local bus stops, core paths, cycle parking, approximate walking times and contact details for further information on walking, cycling and public transport.



Appendices



Appendix 1 –Useful Transport Links

General tourist information:

- VisitBritain: www.visitbritain.co.uk
- VisitScotland: www.visitscotland.com
- VisitAviemore: www.visitaviemore.com
- VisitCairngorms: www.visitcairngorms.com

Transport information providers:

- Traveline Scotland: www.travelinescotland.com
- Transport Direct: www.transportdirect.info
- National Rail Enquiries: www.nationalrail.co.uk
- Ifyoucareshare.com: www.ifyoucareshare.com

Transport operators:

- Stagecoach: www.stagecoachbus.com/highlands
- First ScotRail: www.firstgroup.com/scotrail
- First ScotRail Caledonian Sleeper: www.firstgroup.com/scotrail/caledoniansleeper/index.html
- NXC: www.nationalexpresseastcoast.com
- Rapsons: www.rapsons.co.uk
- Scottish CityLink: www.citylink.co.uk/timetables.html
- National Express: www.nationalexpress.com/coach/index.cfm
- Park's of Hamilton: www.parksofhamilton.co.uk/cgi-bin/index.pl

Other transport organisations:

- HITRANS: www.hitrans.org.uk
- Transport Scotland: www.transportscotland.gov.uk
- Transform Scotland: www.transformscotland.org.uk
- Sustrans: www.sustrans.org.uk
- Paths to Health: www.pathsforall.org.uk/pathstohealth
- Traffic Scotland: www.trafficscotland.org



- The Invernet Project: www.invernet.info
- PlusBus: www.plusbus.info
- The Highland Rail Partnership: www.highlandrail.org/about.htm
- Road Safety Scotland: www.road-safety.org.uk
- European Mobility Week: www.mobilityweek-europe.org



Appendix 2 – Site Survey Summary

The following section provides a summary of key visitor attractions located along the Badenoch and Strathspey Corridor.

Survey Summary													
Site Name	Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy	
CairnGorm Mountain Ltd	210,000	1	x	✓	x	✓	✓	<100 metres	✓	x	✓	x	
Glenmore Forest Park	300,000	5	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	<100 metres	✓	x	✓	x	
Loch Morlich Watersports	Not Available	4	x	✓	✓	x	✓	<100 metres	✓	✓	✓	✓	
Cairngorm Reindeer Centre	20,000	1	✓	✓	✓	x	✓	<1 Km	✓	✓	✓	✓	
The Cairngorm Sleddog Centre	1,000	2	✓	x	x	x	✓	1-3 Km	✓	x	✓	x	
Glenmore Lodge	6,000	4	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	1-3 Km	✓	x	✓	✓	
The Funhouse, Hilton Coylumbridge	50,000	1	✓	x	x	✓	✓	<1 Km	✓	✓	✓	x	
Rothiemurchus Centre	250,000	3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Not Available	✓	✓	✓	x	
Loch an Eilein	250,000	3	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	Not Available	✓	✓	✓	x	
Cairngorm Brewery,	1,000	1	x	x	x	x	✓	<1 Km	✓	✓	✓	x	

Survey Summary												
Site Name	Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
Aviemore												
Craigellachie National Nature Reserve	10,000	1	✓	✓	x	x	✓	<1 km	x	✓	✓	x
Inshriach Nursery	Not Available	1	x	x	x	x	x	4km	✓	x	x	x
Loch an Eileen Pottery	Not Available	1	x	x	x	x	x	4km	✓	x	x	x
Strathspey Railway, Aviemore Station	100,000	2	✓	x	x	x	✓	<100 metres	✓	✓	✓	x
Strathspey Railway, Boat of Garten	100,000	2	x	✓	x	x	✓	<100 metres	✓	✓	✓	x
Strathspey Railway, Broomhill Station	100,000	1	x	x	x	x	✓	1-3 Km	✓	✓	✓	x
Alvie and Dalraddy Estates	300	4	x	x	x	x	✓	1-3 km	✓	x	✓	x
Loch Insh Watersports	100,000	1	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	1-3 km	✓	✓	✓	✓
Working Sheepdogs Leault Farm	Not Available	1	x	x	x	x	x	3-5 km	x	x	✓	x

Survey Summary													
Site Name	Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy	
Glenfeshie Hostel	Not Available	1	✓	x	x	x	✓	7km	✓	✓	✓	x	
Frank Bruce Sculpture Trail	8,000	3	x	x	x	x	x	3-5 km	x	✓	✓	x	
The Highland Wildlife Park	65,000	2	x	x	x	x	✓	<100 metres	✓	x	✓	x	
Ruthven Barracks	Not Available	1	x	✓	✓	x	x	1-3 km	x	✓	x	x	
Grantown Museum	6,000	1	x	x	x	x	✓	<100 metres	✓	✓	✓	x	
Revack Estate	25,000	1	x	✓	x	x	✓	1-3 km	✓	x	✓	x	
Dalnain Bridge Roaches Moutonnees	Not Available	1	x	✓	x	x	✓	<1km	x	✓	x	x	
Explore Abernethy	2,200	5	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	<100 metres	✓	✓	✓	x	
Nethybridge Pottery	Not Available	1	x	x	x	x	✓	<1km	x	✓	✓	x	
Auchgourish Gardens	Not Available	1	x	x	x	x	x	6km	x	x	✓	x	
Castle Roy	Not available	1	x	x	x	x	✓	3-5 km	x	✓	x	x	
Speyside Heather Visitor and Garden Centre	Not Available	Not Available	✓	✓	✓	x	x	1-3 km	✓	x	✓	x	

Survey Summary													
Site Name	Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy	
Landmark Forest Adventure Park	125,000	3	x	✓	✓	✓	✓	<100 metres	✓	✓	x	x	
Carr Bridge Studios	Not Available	1	x	x	x	x	✓	<100 metres	✓	✓	x	x	
Loch Garten RSPB Osprey Centre	Not Available	2	x	✓	✓	Not Available	✓	1-3 km	✓	x	✓	✓	
Cromdale and the Speyside Way	Not Available	6+	✓	✓	x	x	✓	1km	✓	✓	x	x	
Kingussie Camanachd (Shinty) Club	Not Available	1	x	x	x	x	✓	<1km	✓	✓	✓	x	
RSPB Insh Marshes Nature Reserve	15,000	1	x	x	x	x	✓	1.5km	✓	✓	✓	✓	
The Highland Folk Museum	35,000+	3	x	x	x	✓	✓	<1 km	✓	✓	✓	x	
Clan Macpherson Museum	4,000	2	x	x	x	✓	✓	<100 metres	✓	✓	✓	x	
Newtonmore Craft Centre and Gallery	Not Available	1	✓	✓	x	x	✓	<1km	✓	✓	✓	x	
The Wildcat Trail	Not available	14	x	✓	x	x	✓	<1 km	✓	✓	✓	x	

Survey Summary

Site Name	Annual visitor numbers	Site entrances	Shared site	Segregated pedestrian route	Segregated cycle route	Cycle parking	Accessible by public transport	Distance to closest bus stop	On site facilities	Local facilities within walking distance	Travel information provided to visitors	Travel plan or other transport policy
Newtonmore Camanachd (Shinty) Club	13,000	1	x	✓	x	x	✓	<1km	✓	✓	✓	x
The Falls of Truim	Not Available	1	x	x	x	x	x	10km	x	x	x	x
Strathmashie Forest	100,000	5	✓	✓	✓	x	x	5-10 km	✓	x	✓	x
Laggan Wolftrax	30,000	2	✓	x	✓	✓	x	5-10 km	✓	x	✓	x
Dun da Lamh, Spey Dam and Kinloch Laggan	Not Available	1	✓	x	x	x	x	13km	x	x	✓	x
Dalwhinnie Distillery	30,000	2	x	x	x	x	✓	<100 metres	✓	✓	✓	x
Pass of Drumochter-Dalwhinnie A9 lay-by	Not Available	1	x	x	x	x	✓	1km	x	x	x	x
Gaick Pass and Glen Tromie	Not Available	1	✓	x	x	x	✓	1km	x	x	x	x
Tomintoul	Not Available	2+	✓	✓	x	x	✓	<1km	✓	✓	✓	x
Bridge of Brown Tearoom	2,000	1	x	x	x	x	✓	5-10 km	✓	x	x	x

Appendix 3 – Key Tourist Attractions with 1 Mile and 3 Mile Radii

This appendix provides maps of key trip attractors with 1 mile and 3 mile radii to illustrate (respectively) approximate comfortable walking and cycling distances.

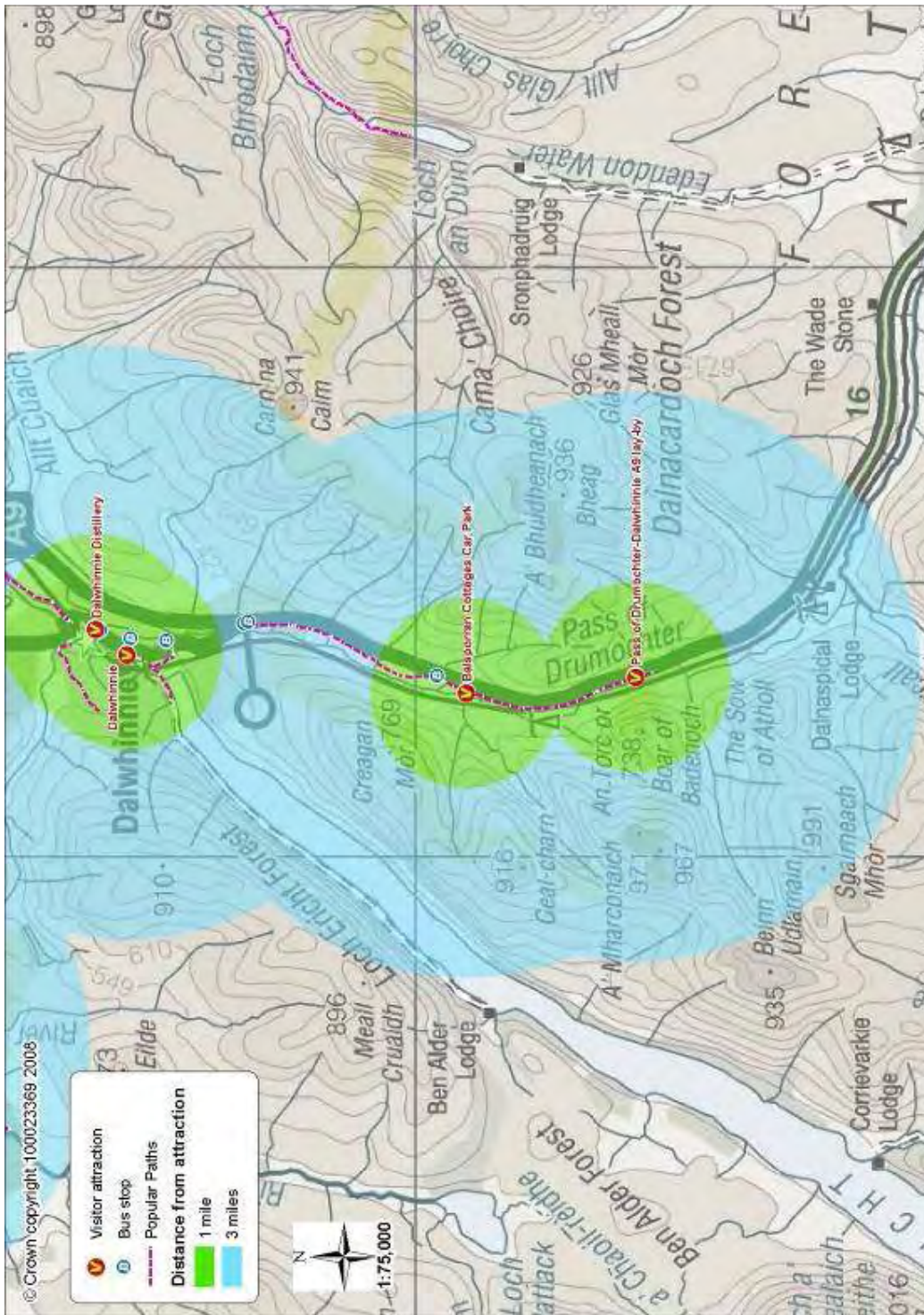


Figure 1 – Attractions in the Dalwhinnie area.

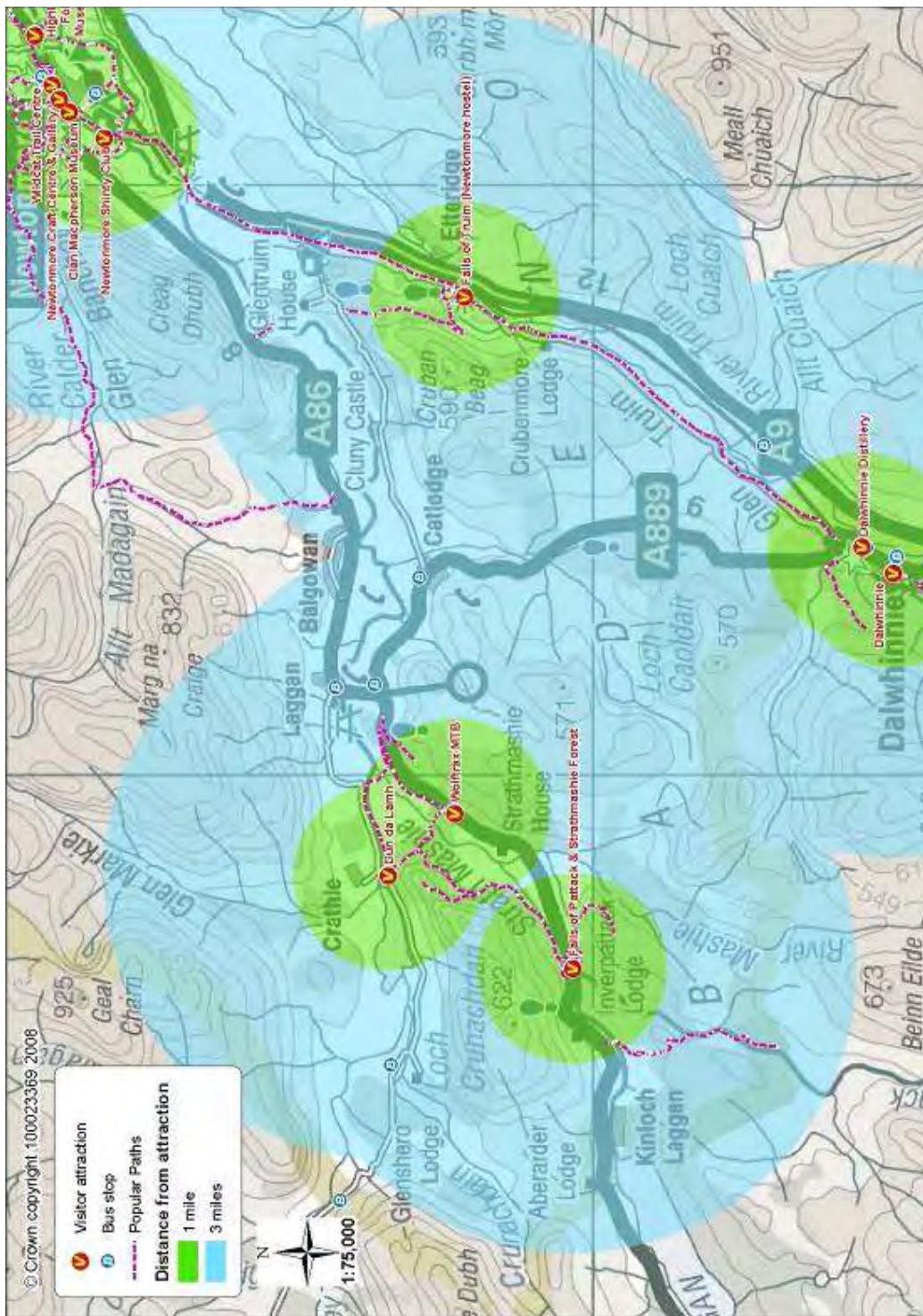


Figure 2 – Attractions between Dalwhinnie and Newtonmore

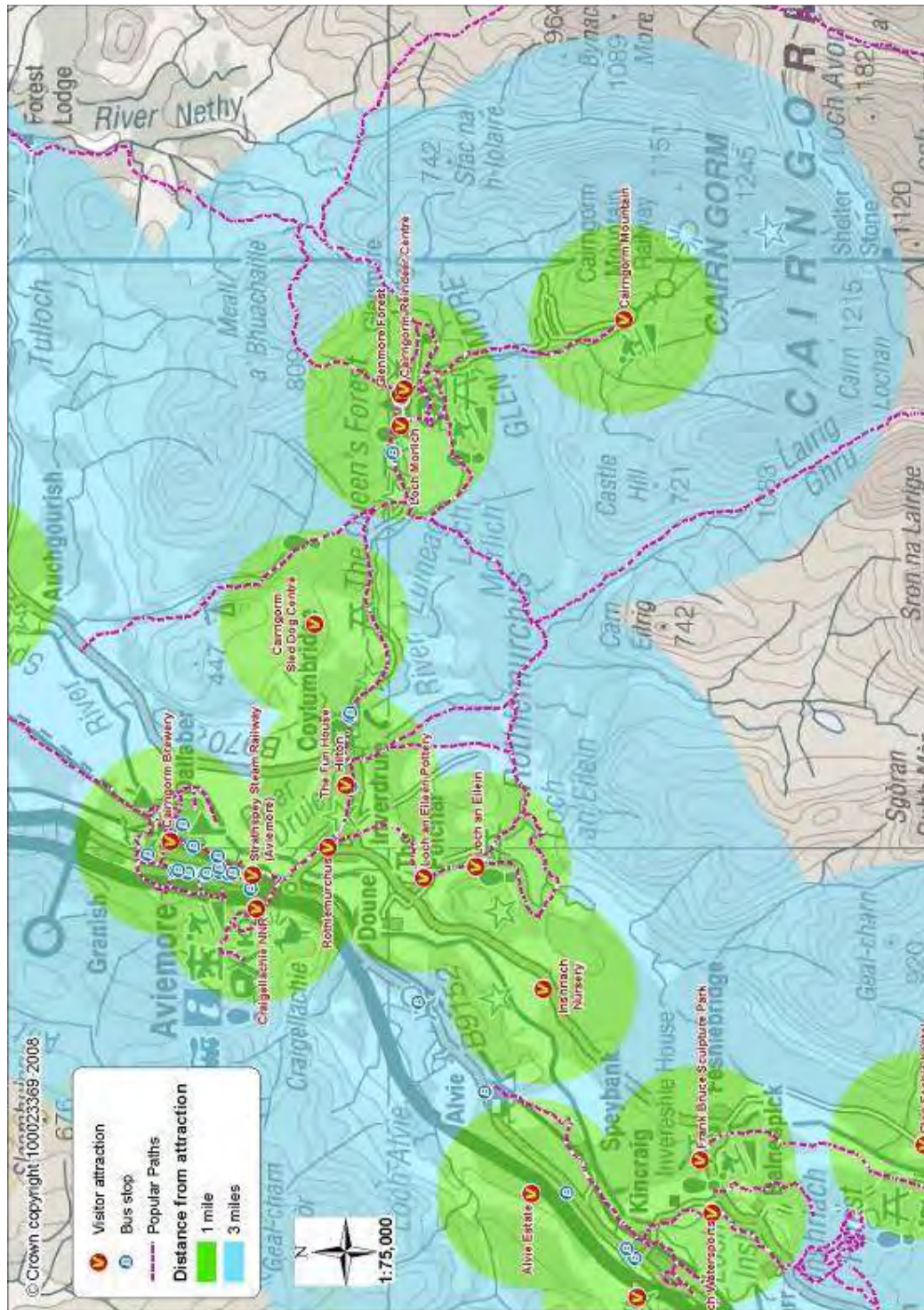


Figure 4 – Attractions in the Aviemore and Glenmore area.

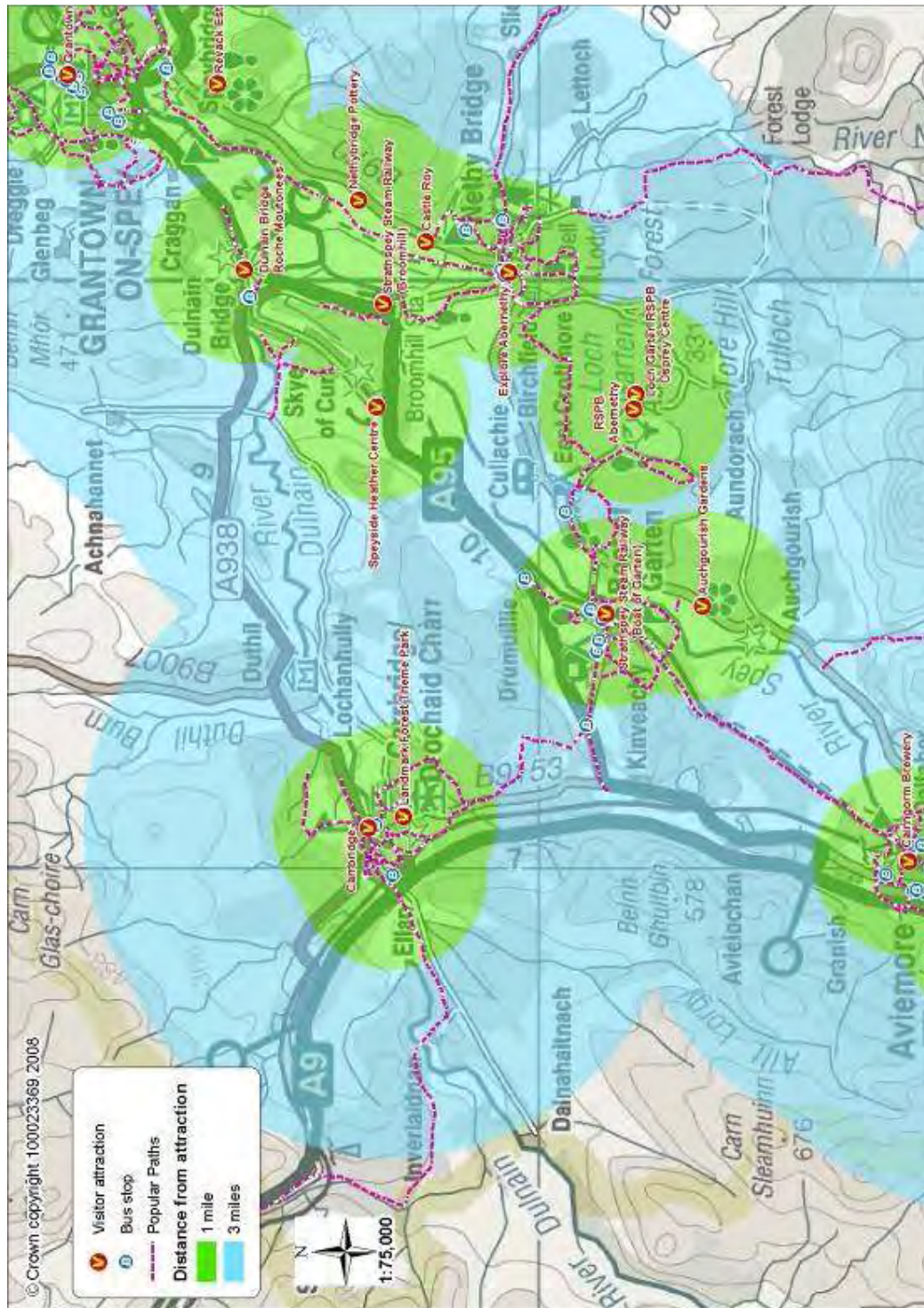


Figure 5 – Attractions in the Granttown-on-Spey, Nethy Bridge and Boat-of-Garten area.

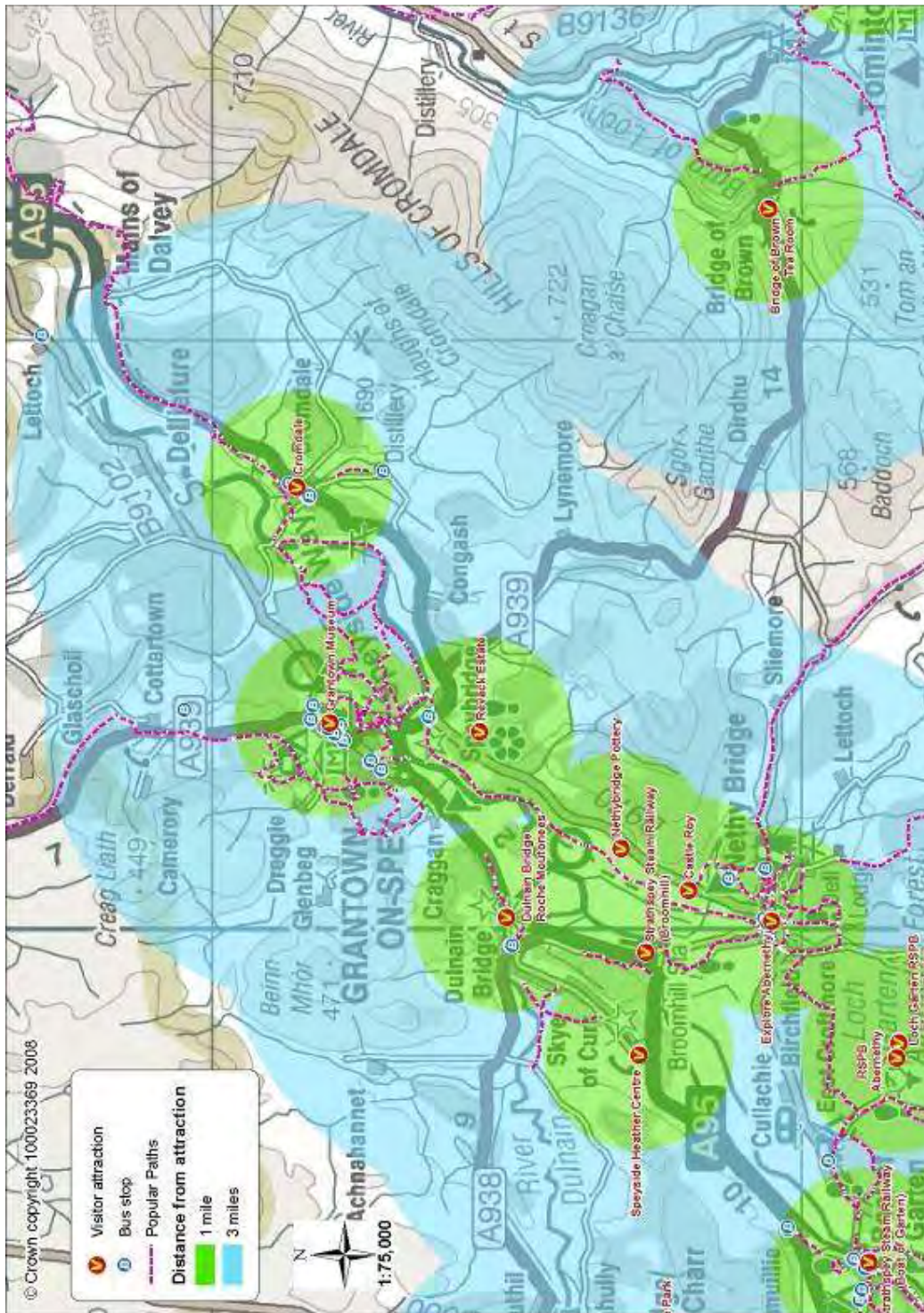


Figure 6 – Attractions in the Grantown-on-Spey Area.

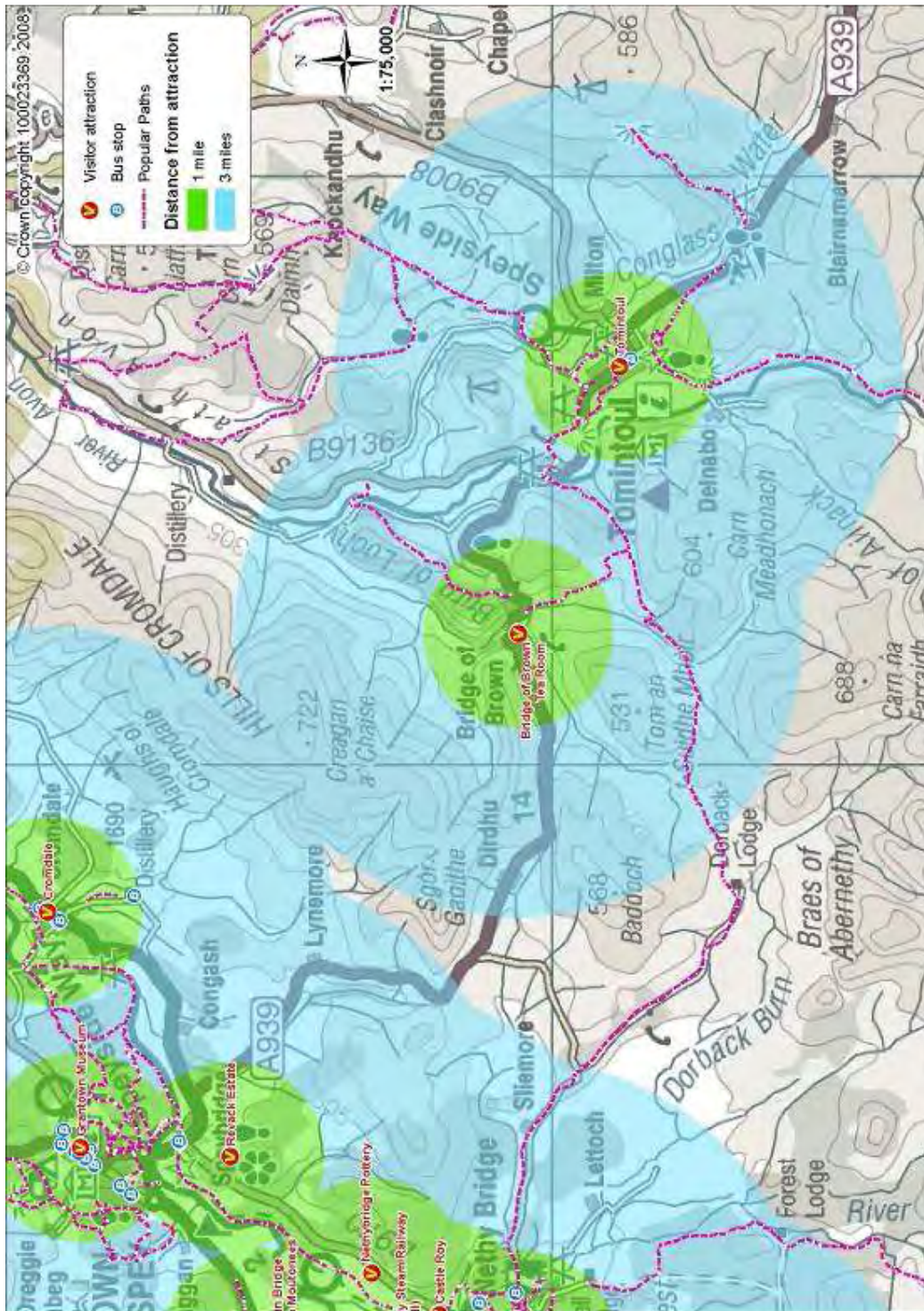


Figure 7 – Attractions in the Tomintoul area.



*Opening minds,
moving people.*