

CAIRNGORMS NATURE



TOMINTOUL

Cairngorms Nature Festival, Saturday 16 and Sunday 17 May 2015

Key:



Family Fun



Nature Lovers



Food & Drink



Get Involved

Saturday 16th May 9am – 12pm

BIRD IDENTIFICATION

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

Booking: Required

Contact: Anne Cotton scot.info@bto.org

Cost: Free

Meet: Balfour Manor Hotel, Tomintoul

Sat 16th & Sun 17th May 10am – 5pm

ANIMAL ART FOR KIDS!

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

Booking: Not required

Contact: museum@tgdt.org.uk or 01807 580 285

Cost: Free

Meet: Tomintoul Museum & VIC

Saturday 16th May 1pm – 5pm

BIRD SURVEY TECHNIQUES

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

Booking: Required

Contact: Anne Cotton scot.info@bto.org

Cost: Free

Meet: Balfour Manor Hotel, Tomintoul

Saturday 16th May 10am – 2pm

BECOME A CITIZEN SCIENTIST!

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

Booking: Required

Contact: Anne-marie Robinson

annierobinson@abdn.ac.uk

Cost: Free

Meet: Tomintoul Museum & VIC

Saturday 16th May 9.30am – 4pm

SURVIVAL SKILLS

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

Booking: Not required

Contact: Neil info@backcountrysurvival.co.uk or 07769 355005

Cost: Free

Meet: Tomintoul Museum & VIC

Saturday 16th May 9 – 11.30am

A WALK IN WELLIES WITH WADERS

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

Booking: Required

Contact: karen.cunningham@rspb.org.uk or 07753 775 996

Cost: Free

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

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Saturday 16th May

11am - 12.30pm & 1.30 - 3pm

BIRD BOXES & INSECT HOMES

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

Booking: Not required

Contact: Vicky Hilton

vicky.hilton@thecrownestate.co.uk

or 01479 870070

Cost: Free

Meet: Tomintoul Museum & VIC

Saturday 16th May

10am

DAY TREK – TOMINTOUL AREA

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

Booking: Required

Contact: info@cairngormtreks.co.uk

Cost: £20pp (£15 for U16's)

Meet: Tomintoul Museum & VIC

Sat 16 & Sun 17th May

9am – late

NATURE V PEOPLE – WHICH TOOL IS

BEST?

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

Booking: Not required

Contact: Jan Dick jand@ceh.ac.uk

Cost: Free

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

Sat/Sun 16/17th May

HIGHLAND HILLTOP EXPERIENCE

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

Booking: Required

Contact: 01807 590372 or

info@glenlivethilltrek.com

Cost: TBC

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

Saturday 16th May

7 – 8pm

HIGHLAND SPRING WATCH TALK

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

Booking: Required

Contact: museum@tgdt.org.uk or 01807 580 285

Cost: Free

Meet: Tomintoul Museum & VIC

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Sunday 17th May

4.30am

DAWN LEK SAFARI

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

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

Contact: Dave Newlands

david@eastercorrie.com

Cost: £20 per person

Meet: Easter Corrie, Glenlivet, AB37 9JB

Sunday 17th May

10.30am

WILD CAMP

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

Booking: Required

Contact: info@cairngormtreks.co.uk

Cost: Free

Meet: Tomintoul Museum & VIC

Sunday 17th May

2pm

WALKING & WILD CAMP DROP-IN

Drop-in to get advice on walking and wild camping

Booking: Not required

Contact: info@cairngormtreks.co.uk

Cost: Free

Meet: Tomintoul Museum & VIC

Sunday 17th May

7pm

SUNSET/NIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY

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

Booking: Not required

Contact: info@cairngormtreks.co.uk

Cost: Free

Meet: Tomintoul Museum & VIC

Sunday 17th May

2.30pm

HIGHLAND SPRINGWATCH SAFARI

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

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

Contact: Dave Newlands

david@eastercorrie.com

Cost: £35 per person

Meet: Easter Corrie, Glenlivet, AB37 9JB

Sat 16 & Sun 17 May

10am – 4pm

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE!

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

Booking: Not required

Contact: CNPA 01479 873535

Cost: Free

Meet: Tomintoul Museum & VIC

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Sat 16 & Sun 17 May anytime

SELF-GUIDED WALKS

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

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

Or take to the adventure playground at the Ranger base.

Booking: Not required

Contact: [View all walks here](#)

Cost: Free

Meet: Tomintoul

Saturday 16th May 2 - 4pm

LET'S MAKE WILDLIFE HOMES!

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

Booking: Required

Contact: Saranne Bish tel 01479 873914 or email saranne.bish@highland.gov.uk

Cost: Adults £4, conc £3, family £11

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

Saturday 16th May 11am

BALLIEFURTH FARM VISIT

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

Booking: Required

Contact: Patrick Harrison

patrickharrison@balliefurth.co.uk

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

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

Saturday 16th May 11am – 6pm

GRANTOWN NATURE FESTIVAL

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

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

Booking: Required

Contact: 01479 873433

Cost: Day ticket £10 (conc£8)

Meet: Grant Arms Hotel, Grantown on Spey

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