

Finding Glen Finglas

Glen Finglas lies five miles west of Callander and 22 miles north-west of Stirling. From Glasgow take the A81 to Aberfoyle, then the A821 over the Duke's Pass to Brig o' Turk. From Stirling take the A84 to Callander. Continue one mile north to Kilmahog, then turn left on to the A821. Trails start from the Glen Finglas Visitor Gateway in the Lendrick Hill car park, just outside Brig o' Turk village on the A821. Toilets and free wi-fi are available at the Visitor Gateway.

woodlandtrust.org.uk/glenfinglas



Do you love trees?

Your family can help us protect native woodland and its wildlife. You'll also get inspiring ideas for woodland adventures when you join woodlandtrust.org.uk/join or call **0330 333 3300**.

Glen Finglas is part of The Great Trossachs Forest NNR

Part of The Great Trossachs Forest National Nature Reserve

WOODLAND TRUST SCOTLAND

Supported by The National Lottery through the Heritage Lottery Fund

heritage lottery fund

Please follow the Scottish Outdoor Access Code

Enjoy Scotland's outdoors responsibly

- take responsibility for your own actions
- respect the interests of other people
- care for the environment.

The Woodland Trust is a registered charity in Scotland no. SC038885 and in England and Wales no. 294344. A non-profit making company limited by guarantee. Registered in England no. 1982873. Registered Office: Kempton Way, Grantham, Lincolnshire, NG31 6LL. The Woodland Trust logo is a registered trademark. Map © Crown Copyright 2014. All rights reserved. Ordnance Survey Licence number 100021607. All photos taken by WTPL/Niall Benvie unless otherwise stated. 10513 07/17

The forest of the future

Once upon a time the glens were covered with native **alder, birch, oak, hazel, rowan** and **willow**. Now individual old trees are separated by large areas of grassland, decorating the landscape like living sculptures. Referred to as **wood pasture**, this type of woodland is a result of people's use of trees over hundreds of years. **Grazing livestock** and careful cutting or 'pollarding' of trees have created this valuable habitat which the Woodland Trust Scotland is committed to restoring.

The Woodland Trust Scotland has already planted **one million native trees** at Glen Finglas and we're working with partners as part of The Great Trossachs Forest NNR to help restore the landscape to a more natural mix of moorland, wetland and native woodland habitats.



Once home to wild boar

The name of the local village is Brig o' Turk, which means 'Bridge of the wild boar' in Gaelic, a reference to the wild boar which would have roamed these hills 600 years ago.

Rock of ages

The ice age over 10,000 years ago made its mark on the glen – giant boulders on the slopes were carried there by sheets of ice and left abandoned when it receded.

Famous footsteps

Classic 1959 British action thriller The 39 Steps was partly shot in Glen Finglas and the café at Brig o' Turk doubled for a pub in the film.

"A magical place This place is so peaceful and beautiful, and I loved the little surprises you can find at every turn. Wonderful."

Kate L.

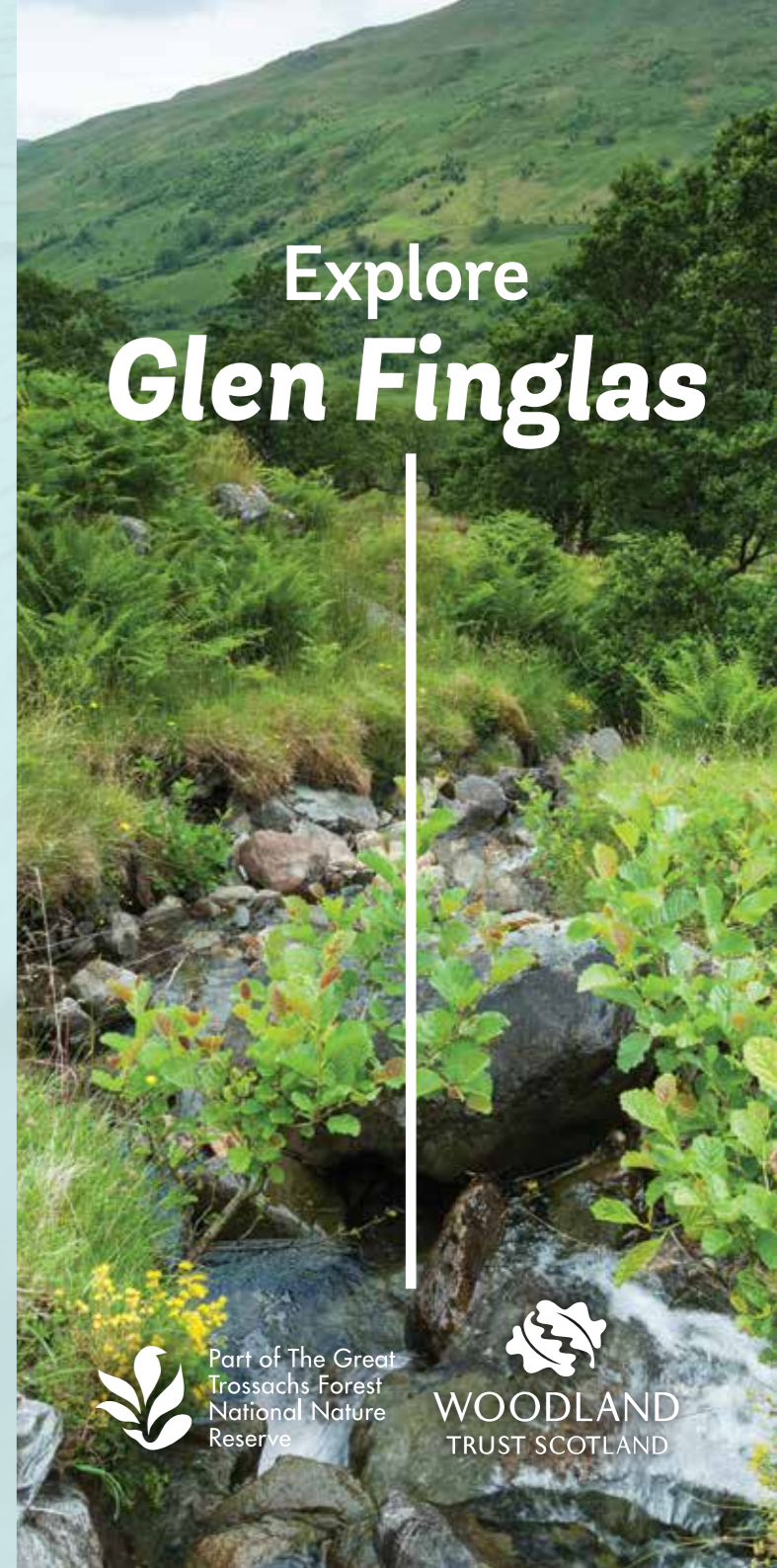
Start your adventure



There's always somewhere new to explore at Glen Finglas. Sitting below the **summit of Ben Ledi** and stretching out to the shores of **Loch Venachar**, the **4,875-hectare Glen Finglas estate** lies five miles west of Callander and 22 miles north west of Stirling. The nearest village is Brig o' Turk on the A821.

The **Visitor Gateway** close to the Lendrick Hill car park is the perfect starting point for any first-time visitor to the estate. Packed with facilities to help you make the most of your visit (including toilets and free wi-fi), you can pick up leaflets and maps here.

Nine way-marked walking routes leave from the Lendrick Hill car park including The Great Trossachs Path – which offers access to a network of trails throughout the NNR. The 15 mile (24km) **Meall trail** provides the ultimate challenge on foot or by bike. And children of all ages will enjoy exploring the **family friendly natural play and sculpture trail** in Little Drumm Wood. Ring the **troll bell** to awaken Clach, or crawl into the **spy chamber** to see if you can spot some local wildlife!



Explore Glen Finglas

Part of The Great Trossachs Forest National Nature Reserve

WOODLAND TRUST SCOTLAND

The heart of the Trossachs

Sitting in the heart of Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park, Glen Finglas Estate is a vast expanse of hills, woodland, water and open heathland and an integral part of The Great Trossachs Forest National Nature Reserve.

Immortalised by poetry and paintings, the dramatic landscape of Glen Finglas is home to some of Scotland's most iconic wildlife and its scattered ancient hillside trees are one of the finest examples of upland wood pasture in the country.



WTP/L. PHILIP CORNEY

WIKIPEDIA AND GEOGRAPH

Let the past inspire



Island on Glen Finglas reservoir

Early 1400s

Townships are established in the glen. Pollarding and wood pasture begins, and the deer forest maintained



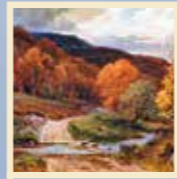
1965

Glen Finglas dam is built & the glen is flooded



8,000 BC

The Ice Age ends in Scotland, forming the upper glens



1803

Sir Walter Scott's 'Glenfinlas' is published and the poet Wordsworth visits the Trossachs



1996

The Woodland Trust acquires Glen Finglas. More trees, more routes, more fun!

Between the 1300s and 1700s Glen Finglas was a popular royal hunting forest – a favourite place for the nobles and kings of Scotland to pursue deer. Look carefully across the Glen Finglas reservoir and you'll see a mound called Tom Buidhe (the yellow knoll). This is thought to be the site of the old Hunt Hall, built for James II of Scotland in the 1400s where important documents of state may have been signed.

Celebrated Victorian writer and art critic John Ruskin, was a regular visitor to Glen Finglas and the dramatic scenery upstream from Brig o' Turk provided the backdrop to the famous painting of him by Sir John Everett Millais.

Sir Walter Scott was similarly inspired and set the ballad *Glenfinlas*, a lament about a fatal hunting expedition, here.

Watch the skies

The majestic golden eagle hunts at Glen Finglas estate. They can cover huge distances in search of prey such as rabbits and grouse. Look out for a huge, straight-winged bird high above, with wingtips like fingers.



Food for thought

Burnt mounds, which may be ancient cooking sites used by hunters, date from the Bronze Age – nearly 3,000 years ago.

Wildlife to treasure

The woods and hills of Glen Finglas are alive with wildlife.

Look up for the chance to see a **buzzard** or **golden eagle** soaring overhead and listen for **woodpeckers** as you stroll through Little Druim Wood. **Red deer** can be spotted grazing in upland areas and **otters** splash and somersault in the river and reservoir. If you're lucky you might catch sight of a **black grouse** flying fast and low from the woodland edges.

"The children loved exploring the sculpture trail at Little Druim Wood. We had great fun finding all the different play features, they can't wait to come back and do it all again!"

Mrs Christine Phillips, Glasgow



WTP/L. DENNIS JOHNSON, COLIN VARDELL, STEPHEN DUNHAM