



Moray Ramblers

Walking Programme: January to July 2019

| Date | Walk | Description | OS Map and Grid Ref. | Distance | Leader and Contact Details | Bus Leaves Elgin | Route Via |
|------------------------|---|---|---|----------------------------|--|------------------|-----------|
| Sunday 20 January | Garve to Strathpeffer | The route is through pine forest and alongside Loch Garve. Mostly level land on good paths. There is a short detour to the Rogie falls. Easy. A short 5 miles walk along Knockfarrell Ridge leading to the site of a hill fort from Iron Age times and offers a fantastic birds eye view of the area. (led by Delphine). | OS 20 (395 613) to OS 26 (479 573) | 8 miles | Shirley Lamb (Tel: 01343 870663) Delphine Leadbeater (07799 186975) | 8.00am | Forres |
| Saturday 9 February | Dava to Grantown on Spey | Dava Way southern section walking on the Dava Way mostly on the old railway line | OS 27 (NH 977 390) | 8 miles | Christine Copsey (07932 819557) | 8.00am | Forres |
| Sunday 3 March | Tarbat Ness to Balintore | This right of way runs beside the sea with cliffs on one side. Spectacular views across the Firth. Shorter walk available Balintore to Portmahomack (6.5 miles) - Moderate | OS 21 (NH868 762 - NH945 873) | 9 miles | Jo Jones 01542 850355 | 8.00am | Forres |
| Saturday 23 March | Donview to Back O' Bennachie | Climbing Millstone Hill, using the more gentle route, then onto Mither Tap, and Oxen Craig and possibly Craigshannoch. The paths can be rocky, rough, with long climb and large steps in some places. Superb views from the tops of the hills. There will be a short walk option. Strenuous. | OS 37 NJ672 190 to NJ661 246 | 8.5 miles | Diane Simpson (Tel. 01542 832049) | 8.00am | Keith |
| Sunday 14 April | Pattack Falls to Loch Iaggan | Circular route starting along the loch side then heading over the moor to pick up the track alongside River Pattack, through Linn and past the falls before returning to Kinloch Iaggan. Moderate. Short walk options | OS 42 (NN 554 898) | 10 miles | Evie McIvor (Tel: 01343 820844) | 7.00am | Rothies |
| Saturday 4 May | Bridge of Brown to Cromdale | Passing the Piper's Stone, Coronation and Jubilee Cairns before reaching Creagan a'Chaise (Graham). This is a fine traverse of the Cromdale Hills - Moderate Short Option walk from Bridge of Brown | OS 36 (NJ 100 284) | 10 miles | Shirley Lamb (Tel: 01343 870663) | 8.00am | Rothies |
| Sunday 26 May | Clach na Ben | Walking through the forest and up to the prominent granite Tor at the summit, returning by the scenic Glen Dye - Moderate/strenuous. Low level walk up to Glen Dye Bothy and return. | OS 48 (NO 648 868) | 10 miles | Ruth Gerrie (01343 820545) | 7.00am | Keith |
| Saturday 15 June | Reindeer walk Summer walk with meal at Cairngorm Hotel Aviemore | From Glenmore follow the forestry tracks, with a steady moderate ascent, then on to a rougher track climbing through a scots pine forest on to bare moorland. This part more strenuous with some boggy sections. Then some fine views over to the Chalamein Gap and the Cairngorm plateaux (lunch here). Then skirt around the upland reindeer enclosure before descending back to the start point. Strenuous. Short 4 - 5 miles walk available. | OS 36 (NH 977 096) | 10 miles | Donnie McDonald (Tel: 07809 480768) | 8.00am | Forres |
| Sunday 7 July | Aldunie to Smithyford | Starting at Aldunie, if the bus can get there, otherwise at the junction at Aldunie. Climbing up Creag na Sgor (634m). Finishing at either Whitehillock or Blackhillock. The shorter walk would be around 7 miles finishing at Smithyford (led by Ann H). Moderate for both walks. | OS 37 (NJ 365 265) to (NJ 375 172) | main 9/11 short 7 miles | Ruth Gerrie (01343 820545) Ann Hewawitharana (Tel. 01340 821242) | 8.00am | Rothies |
| Saturday July 27 | Loch Oich circular | Start/finish Invergarry Post Office. A circular walk from Invergarry, following the Great Glen Way and the banks of Loch Oich - forest and lochside paths and tracks | OS 34 (NH 302 010) | 10.5 miles | Christine Copsey (07932 819557) | 7.00am | Forres |

**** PLEASE NOTE ****

**Walks must be booked by the Wednesday prior to the walk.
Any cancellations after the Wednesday will be charged at the full price.**

Office Bearers

Dave Clark **Chairperson** Tel: 01542 649093
John Worthington **Secretary** Tel: 01343 850604 or email secretary@morayramblers.org.uk
Evie Mclvor **Treasurer & Bus Booking Secretary** Tel: 01343 820844 or email bookings@morayramblers.org.uk

NOTES:

Bus Bookings Telephone Evie Mclvor (01343 820844) **between 6.00pm and 8.00pm on the Wednesday prior to the walk**, or email anytime at bookings@morayramblers.org.uk. A decision will be made on the Wednesday before the walk on what size of bus is required, so please book early for the walk.

The bus will leave Elgin (Community Centre) by one of the following routes unless otherwise stated: Forres - Keith - Rothes

Bus Fares The bus fare will normally be £11 per adult and £5 per child. Please note however that a reservation (unless cancelled) will be regarded as a commitment to pay the fare whether or not you turn up.

Dogs We regret that dogs are not allowed on Ramblers outings.

Clothing **Be prepared for rapid changes in the weather regardless of the time of year. Stout boots, wind and waterproof clothing are essential for all walks.**

In particular, it should be noted that denim jeans are actively discouraged as they can become sodden, heavy and very cold in wet weather.

We also recommend that you take a change of clothing and footwear, which if you prefer, can be left on the bus whilst you are walking.

The Leader The names and telephone numbers of the walk leaders appear against each date on the programme. More detailed walk information can be obtained from the individual leaders.

The safety of the party is dependent upon compliance with the leader's instructions and all ramblers must try to remain in a coherent group, unless he/she has explicitly agreed otherwise. The average speed of the walk is that of the slowest member of the group. There will be regular halts for refreshment and regrouping.

Leader's responsibilities include:

- a) Appointing a 'back marker' to look after the rear of the group
- b) Making periodic 'head counts' to ensure the party remains intact.
- c) Ensure that the damage to the countryside is minimal and that all gates are left as they are found.

Weather Conditions In the event of severe weather conditions, please check with the walk leader or the Chairperson to ascertain whether any changes have been made to the programme.

The Ramblers Association There are no membership fees for the Moray Ramblers and new walkers are most welcome. However, after two outings new walkers are expected to join the Ramblers Association, a national body dedicated to the care, responsible use of and ready access to the countryside.

Details of membership can be obtained from the Secretary. The current annual individual membership is £35.85 or £47.85 for joint/family membership, concessionary rates are also available.

Grades of Walks Each walk listed in the programme includes an approximate distance and a measure of difficulty. **Easy**, **Moderate** and **Strenuous** are used to describe the effort required. If you have any doubts about your ability to manage a particular walk, please contact the walk leader in advance.

Easy: gentle countryside rambles over low level moorland, hill tracks and forestry or estate roads.

Moderate: moderate terrain, rough mountain walking with some ascents. Boots are essential and a reasonable degree of fitness.

Strenuous: usually high mountain country possibly involving steep ascents and descents. Boots, efficient wind/waterproof clothing and an average standard of fitness are essential.

Children Children are welcome on all walks, but must be accompanied by an adult who should be responsible for them at all times.

Safety Safety of the group is a prime consideration, however neither the Moray Ramblers nor any of its members or agents, accept responsibility for any loss or injury occasioned during their activities. It is advisable for members to take out their own Personal Accident Insurance.

Maps The maps and grid references mentioned in the programme are the Ordnance Survey 1:50000 series.

General All walks will finish with a 'pub stop' of approximately 30 minutes for refreshments.

If you wish to receive future programmes by email, contact the Secretary at secretary@morayramblers.org.uk.

Further information and any changes to the programme can be found on our website at www.morayramblers.org.uk

Future Walks Suggestions are always appreciated for walks to be included in future programmes. If you have any suggestions, please contact a member of the Committee.