



## Water wonderland

Loch Leven's size and depth make it special. Most of its no more than two metres deep, so sunlight reaches the bottom over a large area. Plants and insects flourish in the bright water, providing food and shelter for enormous numbers of fish and birds.

Loch Leven is a National Nature Reserve that's important on a global scale. It's home to large numbers of breeding ducks and a stopover for thousands of migrating geese and ducks flying south for the winter.

The islands are front-runners in Europe's duck nesting league, with nesting duck species including large numbers of Tufted Duck, Gadwall, Shoveler & Pochard, amongst others. Around 20,000 pink footed geese - nearly one in ten of the entire world population - form part of the lochs autumn throng.



## Loch Leven

Loch Leven is a sparkling jewel surrounded by rolling hills and fertile farmland. It brims with natural beauty, wildlife and history.

This picturesque loch is a National Nature Reserve with a remarkable range of wildlife, including tens of thousands of breeding and wintering birds.

Loch Leven has been a home for monks, the scene of sieges and the setting for a queen's escape. It has welcomed generations of anglers and hosted huge curling tournaments.

Enjoy a waterside visit along the Loch Leven Heritage Trail. That way you can discover its delights and savour its stories.



Lochleven.

Refreshments: There are hotels, restaurants, cafes and shops in Kinross and surrounding villages adjacent to the trail. You will also find cafes on the trail at Kinross Pier (seasonal) Loch Leven's Larder, Findatie Cafe, RSPB Loch Leven and Cashmere at

Terrain: The path is mostly level and barrier-free, making it suitable for walkers, cyclists and wheelchair users of all abilities. However access at Vane Farm is by a flight of steps and at Findatie by a long slope (1:12). There are Mobility Scooters available free of charge at Kinross Pier, Loch Leven's Larder and

Start & finish: Travelling by car you can park and enter the trail at Kinross Pier, Kirkgate Park, Burielgh Sands, Loch Leven's Larder, Findatie Car Park, RSPB Loch Leven and Cashmere at Lochleven. You can also enter by foot or bicycle at Mary's Gate and Grahamstone Farm. There is a limited bus service available on certain days around the Loch connecting to the Park and Ride at Kinross - please check days and times with the operator.

The Loch Leven Heritage Trail is a traffic-free path around Loch Leven linking Kinross with RSPB Loch Leven and back to Kinross. It's well signposted, so you won't get lost, and nearby cafes can provide refreshments.

Distance: approximately 21km (13 miles)

## Way to go

## Need to know

Loch Leven is a haven for wildlife, much of which is sensitive to disturbance. Please help to keep this place special by going quietly in wildlife sensitive areas.

Dogs can frighten birds and other wildlife. Please keep your dog under control at all times and on a short lead or at heel in wildlife sensitive areas. You also need to clean up after it - it's the law.

The Trail is used by walkers, cyclists, people with disabilities, children and dogs, so please go carefully and be considerate.

## More...

Go to Discover Loch Leven in the Heart of Scotland web site to find out what else you can see and do and where to stay around Loch Leven. [www.visitlochleven.org](http://www.visitlochleven.org)

Contact Perth & Kinross Countryside Ranger Service about the Loch Leven Heritage Trail - 01738 475 000 / [www.pkc.gov.uk](http://www.pkc.gov.uk)

Contact Scottish Natural Heritage about the Loch Leven National Nature Reserve or the Trail - 01577 864 439 / [www.nnr-scotland.org.uk](http://www.nnr-scotland.org.uk)

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Creative management and writing by Aaron Lawton Associates, design by EC Design Studio, map by Fitzpatrick Woolmer, illustration by Richard Benson, photos by Laurie Campbell Lorne Gillis NH & Jamie Montgomery Cover photo © Aerial Photography Solutions. © TRACKS 2014.



## Loch Leven Heritage Trail

The Loch Leven Heritage Trail takes you to some of the most attractive parts of the loch, so you can experience its remarkable history, nature and beauty at first hand.

Near Kinross, you'll pass the parklands of Kinross House and marvel at the finely carved stonework of the 'Fish Gate'. Further afield, you'll be at one with nature among tranquil woodlands, lush farmland and secluded sandy beaches.

Panoramic views will open up across the loch to the hills beyond. Wildlife hides make it easy to spot birds, but you'll see creatures everywhere if you're quiet. Stop off for a coffee or a bite to eat at a nearby cafe, and remember to come again soon.

# LOCH LEVEN HERITAGE TRAIL



Apple and Android Apps available for download



**Key**

- |                   |              |                                |                            |
|-------------------|--------------|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Information       | Refreshments | Loch Leven Heritage Trail      | National Nature Reserve    |
| Wildlife watching | Toilet       | National Cycle Network Route 1 | RSPB Reserve               |
| Viewpoint         | Parking      | Other paths                    | Castle ferry (summer only) |
|                   | Bus stop     |                                |                            |