



“providing and promoting quality access to the countryside of Perth and Kinross”  
www.pkct.org

## PERTH AND KINROSS COUNTRYSIDE TRUST

The Trail follows paths that Caterans used along drove roads and tracks through Strathardle, Glen Shee and Glen Isla.  
Most of it is suitable only for walkers owing to the terrain, many deer fences and ladder stiles.  
**You are requested not to take your dog(s) through fields where there are young animals.**  
The Trail is managed by Perth & Kinross Countryside Trust and could not exist without the permission and co-operation of owners whose land it crosses.



Blairgowrie



**A 64 mile / 103 km circular route through beautiful Perthshire and Angus glens**  
Fully waymarked with the Trail logo and direction arrows  
The Trail can be walked in 4 or 5 days with accommodation, a hot bath and a dram available every 12 miles or so.



Rucksack Readers [www.rucksacs.com](http://www.rucksacs.com)  
Tel : +44 (0)1786 824 696

“a welcome innovation ... each handy little volume combines background information, walking notes and route map”



- 64 page guide combined with detailed route map
- lavishly illustrated with colour photographs
- waterproof, robust and rucksack friendly
- spiral bound to open flat
- built-in map flap

## The Cateran Trail

£10.99



All walkers are strongly recommended to equip themselves with either the Rucksack Reader's combined guide and route map The Cateran Trail or OS Explorer maps 381, 387 and 388.



If you want to organise your own trek an accommodation pack is available from:  
Blairgowrie Tourist Information Centre  
Tel: +44 (0)250 872 960  
Fax: +44 (0)1250 876 825  
Email: [blairgowrie@visitscotland.com](mailto:blairgowrie@visitscotland.com)  
[www.visitscotland.com](http://www.visitscotland.com)  
[www.perthshire.co.uk](http://www.perthshire.co.uk)

**Booking Services**  
Easyways  
+44(0)1324 714 132  
info@easyways.com  
www.easyways.com  
C-N-Do Walking Holidays  
+44(0)1786 445 703  
admin@cndoscotland.com  
www.cndoscotland.com  
**Baggage Transfer**  
Nick Cole  
+44 (0)1828 640 763  
nick@nscdesign.com  
www.nscdesign.com  
Glentrek  
+44 (0)1575 570 801  
info@glentrek.com  
www.glentrek.com

## Explore the Cateran Trail

The rich vibrant history, stories and legends of The Cateran Trail



Fully illustrated in colour

£9.99

Available from Blairgowrie TIC

## The Caterans

The Caterans were marauders, cattle thieves who flourished in the more lawless regions of the Highlands from the Middle Ages until the 17th century. More feared than wolves, and with good cause, Cateran raiding parties could number anything from 50 to 500 fierce warriors. They raided far and wide, but the rich farmlands of Glen Isla, and Strathardle were particularly 'favoured'. Afterwards they would disappear into the hills, using ancient drove roads through remote glens.

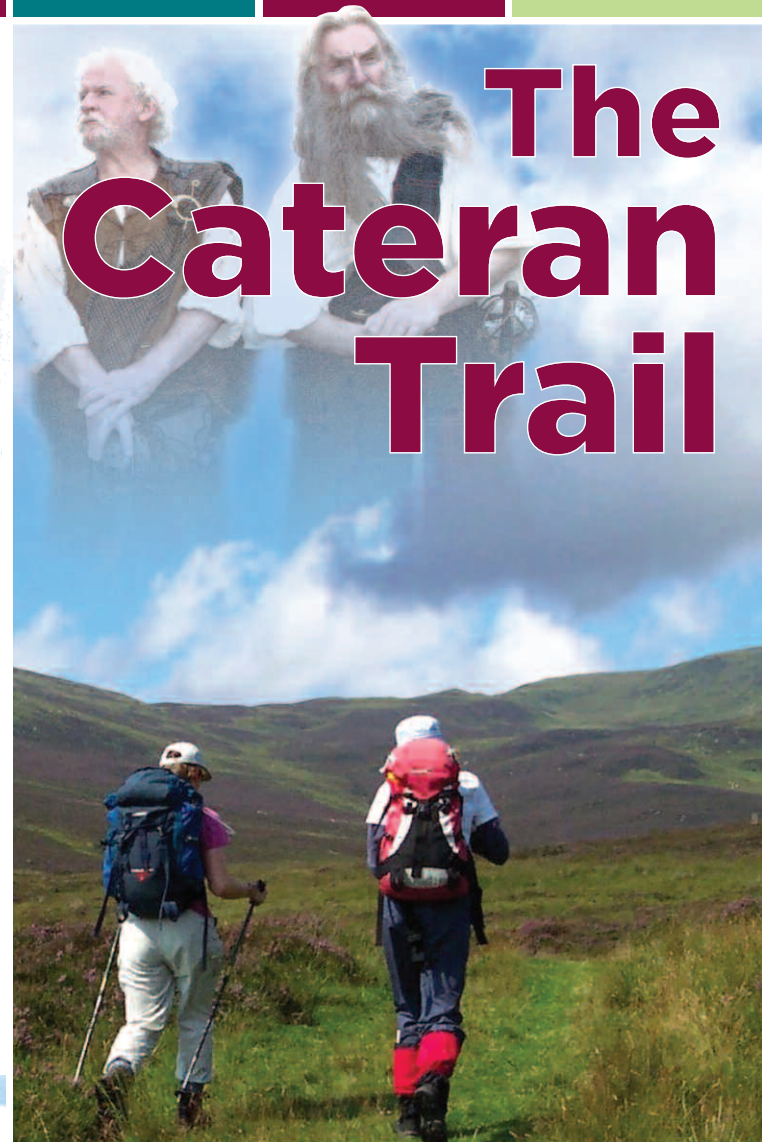


### Litany

A CATERANIS ET LATRONIBUS,  
A LUPIS, ET OMNIA MALA BESTIA,  
DOMINE LIBRA NOS

FROM CATERANS AND ROBBERS,  
FROM WOLVES, AND EVIL CREATURES,  
LORD DELIVER US

from the medieval Litany of Dunkeld



A LONG DISTANCE ROUTE IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THE MARAUDING CLANS AND CATTLE THIEVES OF THE HIGHLANDS



[www.caterantrail.org](http://www.caterantrail.org)

Photo credits: Blairgowrie Walking Festival, George Logan, Perth & Kinross Countryside Trust, VisitScotland



## Know the Code before you go...

Enjoy Scotland's outdoors - responsibly!

Everyone has the right to be on most land and inland water providing they act responsibly.

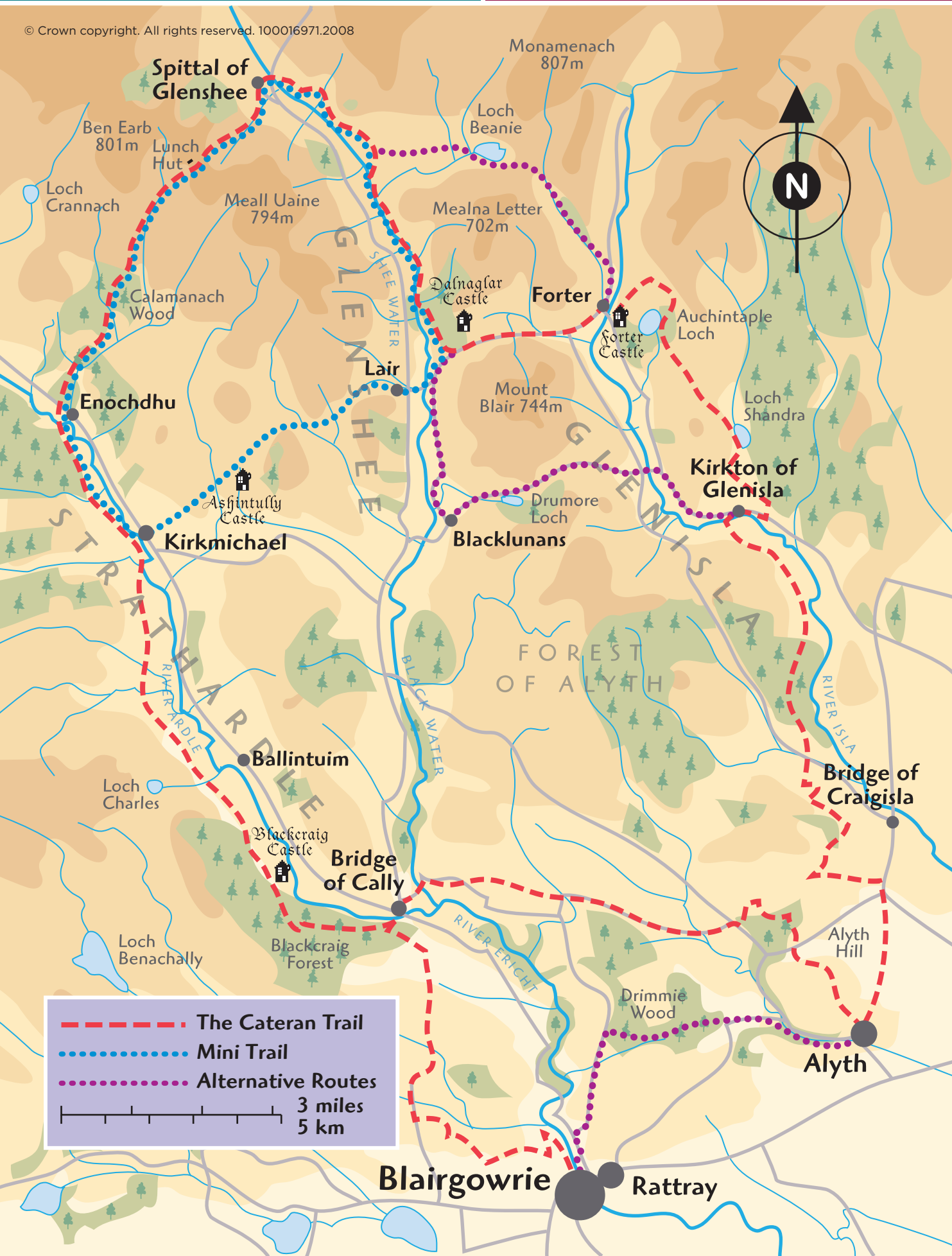
Your access rights and responsibilities are explained fully in the Scottish Outdoor Access Code.

Whether you're in the outdoors or managing the outdoors, the key things are to:

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

Find out more by visiting [www.outdooraccess-scotland.com](http://www.outdooraccess-scotland.com) or 'phoning your local Scottish Natural Heritage office.





## The Route

### STAGE 1

#### Blairgowrie - Kirkmichael

15mils/24.5km

An old market town, **Blairgowrie** sits on the banks of the River Ericht, which once powered a host of textile mills and turned Scotland's largest water wheel. Today, the town is famous as the 'berry capital' of Scotland - particularly for its raspberries.

From Blairgowrie the Cateran Trail takes a high path over Cochrage Muir to **Bridge of Cally**, a tiny hamlet famed for its hotel and now a popular location for field and winter sports.

The Trail enters **Strathardle**, a lush Highland glen whose cattle rich pastures were a magnet for the Caterans. The glen has been farmed since the Bronze Age, and in medieval times was home to over 3,000 people. Considerably quieter now, it still has 3 villages, Ballintuim, Enochdhu, and Kirkmichael which offers a good choice of places to stay and eat.

### STAGE 2

#### Kirkmichael - Spittal of Glenshee

8mils/13km

At Enochdhu (the black meadow), once a gathering point for the Caterans following a raid, the Trail heads north towards **Glenshee** (glen of the fairies), a wild highland area with spectacular mountain peaks - although the track crosses a *bealach* (pass) between the hills at An Lairig. **Spittal of Glenshee** is popular with walkers and Munro baggers, and has good accommodation and places in which to eat. (A *spittal* was a traveller's refuge and/or inn - from a time when wolves still roamed the hills.)

### STAGE 3

#### Spittal of Glenshee - Kirkton of Glenisla

14mils/22.5km

Leaving Glenshee, the Trail forks after Dalnaglar Castle and enters **Glen Isla**, passing Forter Castle on the way to Auchtintaple Loch. The main village of **Kirkton of Glenisla** is an ideal point for an overnight stay.

### STAGE 4

#### Kirkton Of Glenisla - Alyth

11mils/17.5km

The Trail wends through forest and farmland to the historic and picturesque burgh town of **Alyth**. Arthurian legends are strong in this area. It is said that Queen Guinevere was held captive by King Mordred at his fort on nearby Barry Hill.

### STAGE 5

#### Alyth - Blairgowrie

16mils/26km

The Cateran Trail passes over Alyth Hill onto open moorland close by the massive standing stones of Heathyhaugh, from where it is back to **Bridge of Cally** and thence to the start point at **Blairgowrie**.

## The Mini Trail

20mils/32km

**A Weekend Break /  
Cateran Trail Sampler**

**Friday night:** park the car and stay over at the hotel of your choice in Kirkmichael

**Saturday:** Kirkmichael - Enochdhu - Spittal of Glenshee (8 miles/13km)

**Sunday:** Spittal of Glenshee - Lair - Kirkmichael (12 miles/19km)

### Highland Cattle



Forter Castle

