



Balmacara Woods | Coille Bhaile Mac Ara

Part of the Forests of Lochalsh

Facilities



Parking



Picnic area



Viewpoint

There is a charge to park at some of our sites please refer to our website for details.

Location

Nearest postcode: IV40 8DP

How to get here:

Balmacara Woods lies beside the A87 between Auchtertyre and Kyle of Lochalsh. Turn off the A87 following signs for 'Balmacara Square'. The Balmacara Woods car park is on the right hand side after about 100 yards (100m).

Trail Information

The map for these trails can be found on page 2



Tree-spotter Trail ●●●

A relaxing stroll through the varied trees of the former Balmacara campsite. Lime and cherry trees brush leaves with native oak, ash and birch here.

Largely wide, firm gravel and tarmac surface with some slightly uneven sections. Includes short narrower grassy section alongside a gate. Some moderate slopes.



moderate

¾ mile /
1.2 km
Allow
½ hour



Skye View Trail ●●●

Oak and ash trees give way to heather-covered hillsides with sweeping views across Loch Alsh to the mountains of Skye.

Long steep slopes and sections of rough, narrow rock and grass paths. Includes narrow kissing gates and a section along the road. Can be very muddy and wet in places.



strenuous

2¾ miles /
4.6 km
Allow
2 hours

Balmacara is at the centre of a network of longer non-way marked trails connecting people and places.

Waterfall Route: 4 miles / 6.5 km

Take the forest road above Balmacara and before long the imposing scree-scarred peak of Sgurr Mor seems within touching distance and you're rewarded with beautiful waterfall views.

Loch and Fort / Coille Mhór Route: 7 miles / 11.5 km

Carry on to Sean-Chreag Iron Age fort overlooking Loch Achaidh na h-Inich for a great full-day walk or mountain bike trip. Look carefully at what looks like a pile of stones in the loch below – this is actually what's left of a 3rd century crannog, a fortified dwelling on stilts.

Kirkton Loop

Follow the fingerposts east from the Skye View Trail for a steep, challenging hill and forest walk over to the old lochside village of Kirkton.

Ard Hill car park is situated 1¼ miles east of Balmacara, just off the A87. It provides access to a circular trail overlooking Loch Alsh. For more info, visit the Ard Hill page on our website.



Balmacara map

