



Bennachie Centre

Bennachie Forest, Aberdeenshire

Facilities



Parking



Toilets



Accessible facilities



Visitor Centre



Picnic area



Mountain access

There is a charge to park at some of our sites please refer to our website for details.
The Visitor Centre is managed by The Bennachie Centre Trust. Check FLS website for opening times.

Location

Nearest postcode: AB51 5HY
(this postcode is accurate but covers a wide area)

How to get here

From the first roundabout on the A96 at Inverurie, continue north towards Huntly. After a further 3.5 miles (5.5 km), take a road on the left signposted to Chapel of Garioch. The Bennachie Centre is signed from here (around 2 miles / 3.2 km further on).

The map for these trails can be found on page 2

Trail Information



Discovery Trail ●●●

A gentle wander through the forest. Wildlife rubbing posts are dotted along the trail; collect paper and crayons from the visitor centre.

A smooth firm trail, with short gentle slopes and no obstacles.



easy

½ mile /
1 km
Allow
½ hour



Colony Trail ●●●

An easy-going trail winding through attractive open woodland and the ruined houses and fields of the Bennachie colonists.

Firm and generally smooth, with some uneven areas. Generally moderate slopes, with some short fairly steep parts. Includes steps, roots and rocky areas.



moderate

2½ miles /
4 km
Allow
1¼ hours



Mither Tap Timeline Trail ●●●

Climb to the rocky, granite summit of Mither Tap for superb views and to explore the impressive Pictish fort.

A very steep, rough trail with roots, rough rock steps and drains. Narrow in places. The summit is slab rock and can be slippery when wet.



strenuous

3¾ miles /
6 km
Allow
2¾ hours

Going to the top?

It may not be a Munro, but climbing Bennachie can be a real mountain experience with real mountain dangers.

Ice and snow make the paths extremely hazardous in winter and spring. Even in summer the wind blows constantly at the top and temperatures will drop suddenly in rain.

Don't get caught out - dress warmly, take boots and waterproofs and be prepared to turn back when the weather changes.



Bennachie Centre map



Additional longer distance trails

Turnpike Trail

The Turnpike Trail is a pleasant 4 mile (6.4 km) link between the **Bennachie Centre** and **Rowantree car parks**. You follow an old turnpike route through Pittodrie estate woodlands and over the Rushmill Burn. The route is not well-marked from the Rowantree end so taking a map is recommended.

Gordon Way

The Gordon Way starts at the **Bennachie Centre** and runs for 11.5 miles (18.5km) along the southern side of Bennachie and on to the **Suie car park**, 3 miles south east of Rhynie. You walk through forests, farmland and open moorland, stout boots are recommended as some sections are muddy.