

## Lochans Oisinnach Mor & Beag/Loch Ordie

**Distance:** 13 miles/21km.

**Maps:** OS Landranger 1:50,000 Sheet 53 or Explorer 1:25,000 Sheets 379 and 387

**Start/parking:** Baledmund Farm GR: NO 003512. From the A9 Perth - Inverness trunk road, 5 miles north of Dunkeld, cross right to the unclassified road signposted to Tullimet. Approximately 2 miles/3.2km on park on the wide grass verge in the entrance drive to the farm. Although the brothers who own the farm have no objection to this, check with them first as a matter of courtesy.

**Grading:** This is a lengthy and remote, open walk over heather moorland suitable for fit adults and older children. The route is entirely on good vehicle tracks. The total ascent over the route is around 1,000 feet/305m.

The Atholl Estates are managed commercially for grouse and pheasant shooting and deer stalking and offer some fine hills and countryside for walking. They extend beyond Glen Bruar and Glen Tilt to the north and to Dunkeld and Birnam to the south. As the route crosses moorland used in pursuit of these sports it is worth checking with the [Hillphones](http://www.snh.org.uk/hillphones/) <http://www.snh.org.uk/hillphones/> contact for Atholl and Lude Telephone: Blair Atholl 01796481740 before setting off - unless going on a Sunday when there is no shooting.

There is very little shelter to be had over this route therefore care must be taken to ensure that proper footwear and clothing is worn. A good summer route but in winter weather or low cloud, a map and compass, and the ability to navigate with them effectively may be required. Dogs should be kept under control or on a lead.

Starting from the farm, turn left and walk 100 yards/90m along the road then bear right up a rough wide track uphill past Brown Street Cottage then through grazing pasture for 1½ miles/2.4km. Follow the wide track that leads ahead, dipping slightly then rising again to reach a crossroad junction 1 mile/1.6km farther on. Turn left here to pass in front of a ruined cottage - an ideal place to stop for refreshments - and continue northward, on an almost imperceptible incline over a further 1 mile/1.6km, before descending towards the southwest corner of Lochan Oisinnach Mor.

Follow the left-hand path northwards alongside the loch, then bear right, north easterly to reach Lochan Oisinnach Beag - it's worth climbing up the small mound here to view south-east over both lochs towards Deuchary Hill - then head around the north of the lochan up another gentle rise and pass through a gate in a high deer fence that protects the extensive, new, native pine woodland.

The track turns south and on between Spurn Hill and Capel Hill after crossing an attractive stone bridge over the upper reaches of the Buckny Burn. Continue south alongside the Buckny Burn, through a narrow glen that opens out onto a soft, grassy track above Riemore Lodge with Deuchary Hill dominating the view ahead. Follow the track westward, cross the stile beside a gate and then on round the west shore of Loch Ordie, Ahead, the rhododendron-lined track leads through to, and away from, Loch Ordie Lodge

Away from the lodge and over the outlet from the loch, turn left at the track junction and continue southwards for some 500yards/460m then bear off right on a wide, grassy track. Ignore all the branches off this track as it progresses northwards - opening out to give fine views ahead across the valley towards Farragon Hill and the distant Schiehallion - until reaching Grid Ref NO008504 on an easy, grassy descent, where a less obvious track branches right and leads round to a cottage. The owners here prefer if walkers use the stile to cross into the field below the wall in front of the cottage then out onto the wide track that leads back to Baledmund Farm where the walk began.