

# CRIEFF & STRATHEARN DROVERS' TRYST

Thank you for booking to take part in a Drovers' Tryst walk. Information about the walk is as follows:

**WALK:** Archaeology Walk from Comrie Croft: the people between the Creags

**DATE:** Monday, 18th May, 2026

**TRANSPORT:** Own transport required

**WALK START TIME:** 10:30 am For 'own transport required' walks, this is the time you must meet the walk leader and others at the walk start place.

**WALK LEADER:** Gavin Lindsay

**WALK GRADE:** Medium

**WALK DISTANCE:** 10.6 km

**WALK START PLACE** – Comrie Croft, Brainscroft, Crieff, PH7 4JZ NN 802 230 You must be prepared to make your own way to the walk start place, usually requiring a car. Please ensure that you are there a few minutes before the published start time of the walk (10:30 am). At the start point, you will meet your Walk Leader – and your fellow walkers. On completion of the walk, we anticipate getting back to the cars at approx – 4:00 pm.

The heather-clad slopes and craggy foothills above Comrie are a familiar approach route for hikers scaling Ben Chonzie. However, few linger to appreciate the mysterious stone circle that stands sentinel over this ancient landscape. With local archaeologist Gavin Lindsay as your guide, embark on a journey into our distant past and discover the story of the people who once called these beautiful uplands home. From settlement to ceremony, making a living to marking their loss, explore long departed communities through their surviving material legacy.

This is a moderate length walk with frequent stops at archaeological sites. The route follows well-defined tracks and logging roads with short deviations across broken terrain to reach points of interest. Walkers will need to have stamina for walking over 10km at a good pace with some short steep stages. Ability to traverse rough ground and willingness to accommodate frequent stops for discussion will be required. The archaeological content will be accessibly pitched and family friendly.

For those wanting to get to the start by public transport, the number 15 bus departs Crieff High St @ 10:05 (arrives Comrie Croft road end 10:15). Returning after the walk, the number 15 bus departs Comrie Croft road end for Crieff @ 16:29

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## WALK FINISH TIMES

Please note that finish times are all approximate. The duration of any walk can vary significantly, depending on the group, the weather and a number of other factors, **so return times are not guaranteed, and we advise that you plan accordingly.**

## SAFETY NOTES:

Our walk will involve deviating from the tracks and trails to visit archaeological sites. This will entail

traversing across undulating terrain and potentially deep heather and bracken heath where hidden foot traps, burrows and other trip hazards exist. Large tracts of the hillsides we will be exploring have also been planted out with tree saplings as part of an afforestation scheme, the associated hinge-mounding pits create regular, deep, often hidden and water filled trip hazards. Great care must be exercised by walkers. Exploring the remains of ruinous structures presents additional trip and slip hazards from loose/fallen masonry and hidden depressions. Entering structures is entirely optional and walk participants do so at their own risk. The walk will take around 5.5 hours overall.

#### **GEAR NOTES:**

Boots, warm clothing, warm/quick drying trousers (not denim jeans), waterproof jacket and over trousers, rucksac, hat, gloves, spare fleece, packed lunch, spare food and drink, small personal first aid kit including any medications, mobile phone, headtorch, and bivvy bag if you have one, and possibly also these other items, depending on personal preference: Gaiters, rucksac cover, walking poles, spare socks, map, compass, GPS, lipsalve, camera.

Please bring any personal medication and an "In Case of Emergency" number. You may also wish to bring binoculars and a camera.

#### **CANCELLATION OR DELAY:**

Cancellations can be made free of charge up to 14 days after booking. For cancellations outwith that period a charge of £2 per walk place will be made until two weeks before the walk date. **AFTER THAT DATE THERE WILL BE NO REFUNDS** because we cannot be sure of re-selling cancelled places at such short notice. We would be grateful if you could let us know if you are unable to take part in a walk for which you have booked – that lets us know who to expect or not on the day. Please do so in the following way:

- Prior to 6pm on the Thursday evening before the start of the Festival Weekend on the Friday, please email us at: droverstryst@gmail.com.
- If cancelling after 6pm on the Thursday evening please email us at: droverstryst@gmail.com **AND contact the Tryst Co-ordinator on 07522 841673.**
- If you cannot take part or are delayed for any reason on the actual walk day, **please contact the Tryst Co-ordinator on 07522 841673.** Although we try to reach group members who have not turned up on the day, it is really helpful if you can contact us first.

#### **OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION:**

- The organisers of the Crieff and Strathearn Drovers' Tryst recognise that hill walking is an activity with the danger of personal injury. Participants in Drovers' Tryst walks should be aware of, and accept this risk, and take responsibility for their own actions. It is recommended that individuals provide their own accident insurance cover.
- The walks are led by experienced leaders on a voluntary basis. Walks may be cancelled due to weather conditions or circumstances beyond the organisers' control, and alternative walks will be offered wherever possible.
- Children are welcome on Easy and Medium walks but must be accompanied by a responsible adult and be capable of completing the walk. Minimum age for Medium walks is twelve and minimum age for Hard and Extra Hard walks is sixteen.
- The Tryst reserves the right not to accept participants on a walk if they are not appropriately dressed/kitted out for the level of walk they have signed up for.
- Extra hard walks are not suitable for inexperienced hillwalkers and hard walks do require a reasonable level of walking fitness.
- Dogs are not allowed on Tryst walks, except for guide-dogs.
- The walk fees now include all costs associated with travelling to the start point and for returning back to Crieff, whether by minibus or private car.