



# CRIEFF and STRATHEARN DROVERS' TRYST

## CRIEFF & STRATHEARN DROVERS' TRYST 2021

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

**WALK:** Explore Loch Tay's Ancient Crannogs

**DATE:** Sunday, 18th July, 2021

**WALK LEADER:** Des Greevy

**WALK GRADE:** Medium

**WALK DISTANCE:** 8 km

This walk explores the ancient Crannog sites of Loch Tay. Our visit will include the Scottish Crannog Centre as well as a walk on the hill of Acharn overlooking Loch Tay. We are fortunate in having Rich Hilden from the Crannog Centre as our guide. He will lead us through the ancient history of Loch Tay and describe the local community that would have lived in the Acharn and Kenmore area.

We will start at the Crannog Centre where you will be introduced to the Crannog community and will be taken on a guided tour around our museum. You will be taken out onto the reconstruction by a Iron Age interpreter and have the story of the people of the Crannog 2500 years ago. An important part of the centre is the story of how the crannog sites have been rediscovered, excavated and interpreted. We will discover how people built these amazing structures, how they used them and adapted them to suit their way of life. We will also have the opportunity to learn about the many skills of the people of the times, how they made implements and clothing, what they ate, their stories and music and how they lived as a community. You will also be taken around the site and see several traditional crafts including woodworking, textiles, cooking and more.

Following your visit to the Crannog we will then head up Kenmore Hill and go on a circular walk from the Crannog. On this walk you will be greeted to views of Loch Tay where further discussion on the placement and locations played into their history, as well as visiting one of the many stone circles in the area, passing nearby an area of known cup and ring mark stones and coming back down to the lovely village of Acharn via the wonderful Acharn falls and the 'Hermit's Cave'. While on the walk the leader - Community Archaeologist Rich Hiden will provide local information about the history and archaeology of the area and what can be seen on the walk along the way.

The ticket price for this walk includes full entry to the Crannog Centre site.

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**MEETING POINT:** OS Grid Re: Crannog Centre, Loch Tay NN770448

For 2021 only – and to ensure we all comply with current COVID social distancing rules – the meeting point for all walks will be at the start of the walk (usually in a designated car park). Please ensure that you are at the car park a few minutes before the published start time of the walk. 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 car park at approx – 5:00 pm.

**MEETING TIME:** 1:00 pm

**CAR PARKING**

As indicated above, we are all meeting at the designated car park, which will also be the start point for your specific walk. As this is a public car park – it is suggested you might wish to arrive a few minutes prior to the start time – to assist you in securing a parking space.

**ON COMPLETION OF WALK**

Once all walkers are accounted for – the Walk Leader will release you. You are then at liberty to return home – or to your specific accommodation i.e. just to re-iterate there will be no collective arrangements for any part of the transport cycle. Please note that 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:**

The nature of the reconstructed crannog means that access along a walkway made of round logs can be an issue. There is more information available on the centre's website, linked from this page. Strong soled footwear is recommended for walking at the Crannog Centre and on the hill.

**GEAR NOTES:**

None specified.

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 15th May. After 15th May booking fees are not refundable because we cannot be sure of re-selling cancelled places. However, 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.

- Prior to 6pm on the Friday evening prior to the start of the Festival Weekend (both Festival Weekends start on a Saturday), please email us at: droverstryst@gmail.com.
- At any time after 6pm on the Friday 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, **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 the Tryst should be aware of and accept this risk and be responsible 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 offered wherever possible.

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- 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 inadequately attired.
  - 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.
  - On walks for which minibus transport is included walkers may choose not to travel on the minibus but no refund or price reduction will be given.
  - The walk fee now includes all costs associated with travelling to the start point and for returning back to Crieff, whether by minibus or private car.