

# LOCHALSH

## Active Travel Guide

### Walking & Cycling Routes



**Lochalsh  
Loves  
Local**  
Kyle & Lochalsh Community Trust  
Creating a better future together



**Smarter Choices,  
Smarter Places**  
Supporting Sustainable Travel



# USING THIS GUIDE

This active travel guide highlights suggested routes for cycling and walking within Lochalsh.

Some of the outlined routes present greater physical challenges, while others make use of the existing network of single track roads in the area.

Lochalsh is a stunning destination steeped in history and culture, from the iconic Eilean Donan Castle in Dornie, to the Bernera Barracks in Glenelg and the picturesque coastal fishing village of Plockton home of Hamish Macbeth!

## USEFUL LINKS

Sustrans Scotland

[www.sustrans.org.uk/scotland](http://www.sustrans.org.uk/scotland)

Cycling Scotland

[www.cycling.scot](http://www.cycling.scot)

Paths for All

[www.pathsforall.org.uk](http://www.pathsforall.org.uk)

Cycle Streets

[www.cyclestreets.net](http://www.cyclestreets.net)

Kyle & Lochalsh Community Trust

[www.lochalsh.uk](http://www.lochalsh.uk)

Visit Scotland

[www.visitscotland.com](http://www.visitscotland.com)

Walk Highlands

[www.walkhighlands.co.uk](http://www.walkhighlands.co.uk)

Komoot

[www.komoot.com](http://www.komoot.com)

## ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING

- A87, Shiel Bridge, Lochalsh, IV40 8HW, ChargePlace Scotland
- Kintail Lodge Hotel, Lochalsh, IV40 8HL, ChargePlace Scotland
- Dornie, Lochalsh, IV40 8DY, ChargePlace Scotland
- Douglas Park, Kyle of Lochalsh, IV40 8AB, ChargePlace Scotland
- The Plock, Kyle of Lochalsh, IV40 8BY, ChargePlace Scotland
- Kyleside Car Park, Kyleakin, Isle of Skye, IV41 8PJ, ChargePlace Scotland
- Broadford Car Park, Broadford, Isle of Skye, IV49 9AB, ChargePlace Scotland

[www.zap-map.com](http://www.zap-map.com)

The map was created and produced by  
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Smarter Choices Smarter Places



## **WHAT IS ACTIVE TRAVEL?**

Active travel refers to making journeys in physically active ways such as walking, wheeling, cycling or scooting.

It usually means short journeys like walking to the shops or school, cycling to work or to meet friends.

## **HOW YOU CAN HELP REDUCE OUR CARBON FOOTPRINT**

We understand that due to our rural location and distances from different areas in Lochalsh to reach public amenities, travelling in an active manner can be a challenge!

Our goal is to inspire you to - when possible, for shorter journeys - leave the car at home (or slightly further away from your intended destination) and travel by people-power!

Not only does active travel help our environment, it also is proven to have great health benefits for the body and for the mind!

Small changes can add up to help make a big difference - just be sure to bring a rain coat!

## **WHILE YOU ARE WITH US ...**

Our roads are getting busier and they are the backbone of our transport system. Please take care when travelling, and be aware that traffic speeds on the main A87 can be high

Whether you are visiting our beautiful part of the world, or you live here day to day, everyone wants to see their loved ones come home at night. Please use common sense, take your time, have patience and be considerate to other road users.

## **PUBLIC TRANSPORT LINKS**

<https://www.scotrail.co.uk/plan-your-journey/timetables>

<https://www.stagecoachbus.com/timetables>

<https://www.citylink.co.uk/>

## **SINGLE TRACK ROAD USE**

Stay on the left. If the passing place is on your right, wait on the road and allow approaching traffic to enter the passing place.

Remember, our roads are often used by livestock, so be sure to travel at safe speeds and allow drivers behind to overtake to avoid congestion.

## **TRAVEL HINTS & TIPS**

Single  
Track  
Road  
with  
passing  
places

- Familiarise yourself with road signage and speed limits. Unless otherwise stated the speed limit is generally 60 mph on open roads, 20 mph or 30 mph in villages, with areas restricted to 40 mph on occasion (for example, the Skye Bridge). Speed limit signs are round, while HGV specific speed limit signage is rectangular.
- Please be aware of the traffic around you (whether you are travelling by car or bicycle). If you can see that traffic is building up behind you, look for a safe space to pull over to allow vehicles to pass safely.
- Be aware of single track road etiquette, and ensure that you are well practised in reversing. If you meet a vehicle on a single track road and you are the closest to a passing place, you should reverse to allow the oncoming traffic to pass safely.
- Use designated car parks, please do not park on pavements, in passing places, or on verges. Incorporate active travel into your routine and try parking in alternative spots then walking to your destination wherever possible.
- Remember to use your indicators and signal to other road users in plenty of time before making a manoeuvre - you may know where you wish to go, but it is important that those around you do also!

Plan your journey. Do some research. Be as informed as possible, and if in any doubt please ask.

# SAFETY & CYCLING

## Tips on cycle safely

- Obey traffic lights and signs
- Don't cycle on the pavement unless it's a designated cycle path
- Wear a helmet
- Keep your bike in good condition
- Be aware of slippery surfaces when wet
- Ride with a positive attitude and be sure of your decisions

## How to be seen

- Make sure you're in a position that is visible to motorists
- Use bike lights and consider bright or reflective clothing, especially in towns, at night and in bad weather
- Check if other road users have seen you by making eye contact, especially at crossings
- Signal clearly
- Use your bell to warn unaware pedestrians

1.5m is a minimum safe distance for overtaking. If you cannot allow the minimum distance, do not overtake until you can. Rule 139 of the Highway Code states "give cyclists at least as much room as you would a car when overtaking".



# BE SAFE WHILE WALKING

## DO

- Pay attention to traffic
- Walk on the sidewalk whenever possible
- Walk single file
- Remember that motorists might not see you
- Wear suitable footwear
- Communicate your timeline

## DON'T

- Walk with your back to oncoming traffic
- Forget to watch for other pedestrians and cyclists
- Wear dark colors, especially at night
- Listen to loud music or look at your phone

## **THE PLOCK** **KYLE'S COMMUNITY PARKLAND**

**The Plock of Kyle – Kyle's Community Parkland – supports biodiversity, learning and outdoor activities and is the perfect place for an outdoor stroll.**

**Myriad paths criss-cross the site, meaning you can explore the land which lies around you. Encompassing a variety of habitats, you'll always be able to find somewhere to sit and relax in nature.**

**The woodland is predominantly birch, with oaks, pines, rowan and holly also featuring. To find out more about the woodland, follow the Tree Trail around the site, which will lead you to some of our most spectacular trees.**

**Our community garden is a good place to spend some time, with weekly tasks listed upon the board and which you can work away on in the sunshine. Several benches located around the shoreline encourage people to sit a moment and relax in the fresh air.**

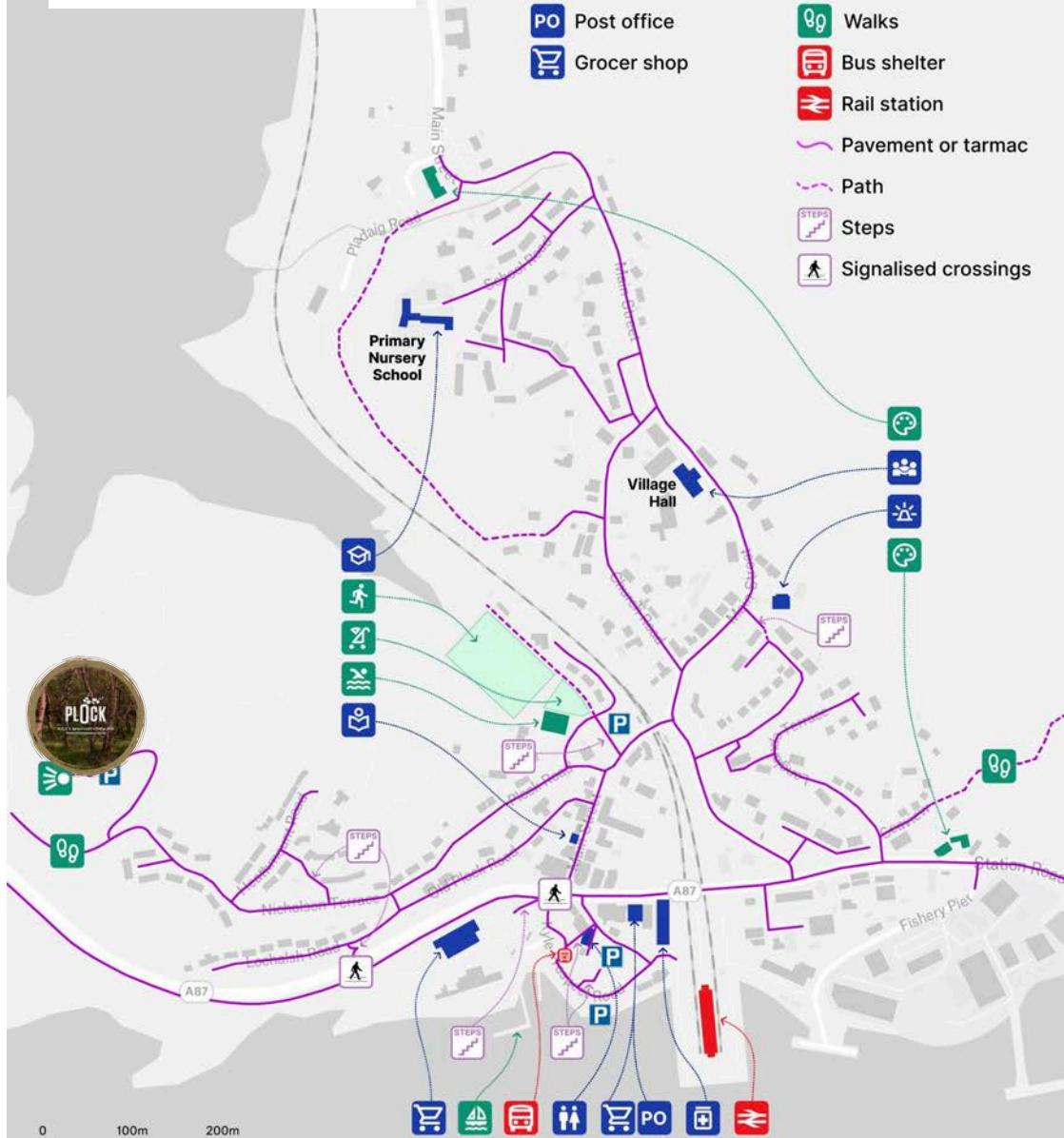
**The team also welcome school and other groups to the Plock for outdoor activities, including wildlife monitoring, learning and exploration. High school students take part in extracurricular activities including learning to do dry stone walling, building Viking fences and restoration of habitats.**

**Every day and season is different on the Plock – from our Open Day in May, to our Scything Festival in August, to our variety of smaller events through the year, to casual family picnics and days out, there's something for everyone.**



# KYLE OF LOCHAISH

- Public toilets
- Health centre
- Police
- Village hall
- Library/servicepoint
- School/nursery
- Post office
- Grocer shop
- Swimming pool
- Playpark
- Sports pitch
- Arts studio
- Pontoon
- Viewpoint
- Walks
- Bus shelter
- Rail station
- Pavement or tarmac
- Path
- Steps
- Signalised crossings



## THE SKYE BRIDGE

### KYLEAKIN TO KYLE OF LOCHALSH

Due to a high parking demand in Kyle of Lochalsh, the parking facilities are often at capacity. Kyleakin car park offers 45 parking spaces with no fees. The Skye Bridge acts as an accessible active travel link between the island and Kyle of Lochalsh.

There is a distance of a little over 2 miles (3.5 km) from car park to car park. This takes you past the nearest supermarket and the main bus stop as you enter Kyle.

The route is one of the more accessible Active Travel routes in the area, with a pavement available to both cyclists and walkers for the whole journey. There are several points at which a road crossing is necessary, the more challenging of these is the Kyleakin roundabout. There are no traffic controls in place for pedestrians at this point. The road can be very busy, especially during the summer. Cross with caution.

The walk over the bridge itself is steep, this may be challenging for some walkers and can prove difficult for those pushing strollers or wheelchairs. Descending the bridge may also be a challenge, due to its steep gradient. Use of brakes is necessary for bicycles, strollers and wheelchairs.

For a full video walkthrough of the route, and further information on active travel routes in Lochalsh, scan the QR code below.

