



**Lochearnhead** – an important centre for water sports and angling. On National Cycle Route 7, which can be taken south to Balquhider and Callander or north through Glen Ogle to Killin and Loch Tay.

**Glen Ogle** – a major north-south pass, unfortunately liable to landslips and rockfalls, and a former railway route north to Crianlarich and Killin. The former railway line, whose viaducts are visible to the west, is now a walking route and used by National Cycle Route 7. The summit of the pass is at 300m.

**Killin** – famous for the Falls of Dochart upstream of the Dochart Bridge and the burial ground of the chiefs of the Clan McNab on the island downstream of the bridge. The Killin Heritage Trail covers the many structures of historic interest in the village. The pink granite memorial in front of the Killin Church of Scotland is to Rev James Stuart who first translated the New Testament into Gaelic in 1767. The ruins of Finlarig Castle, built by (Black) Duncan of Glenorchy around 1609, can still be seen N of the village.

**Bridge of Lochay Hotel** – a 250 year-old inn in which Alfred Hitchcock filmed the famous bedroom scene in the original 1935 film adaptation of the John Buchan novel, *The 39 Steps*.

**House of Cantle & Morenish Mews** – the former shooting lodge (Morenish Lodge) and stables for Taymouth Castle. During the Second World War, the older records from Register House in Edinburgh were transferred to the lodge for safe keeping.

**Lawers** – an old farming village and mill site, lying at the foot of Ben Lawers, the highest mountain in the central highlands and 10<sup>th</sup> highest in Scotland (1,214m). The ruins of the old village lie down at the loch. Note the Horn Carver's workshop and studio. On the hillside to the left, 200m after leaving the village, can be seen the Machuim (pronounced Ma'hweem) stone circle, probably about 4,000 years old.

**Loch Tay** – 6<sup>th</sup> largest in Scotland and 150m deep (50m below sea level) at its deepest point in the central "bend" where it is traversed by the Loch Tay Fault. Famous for salmon fishing.

**Fearnan** – former crofting village at the junction of the road to Glen Lyon and Fortingall, the latter famous for its ancient yew tree in the churchyard. The Loch Tay Pottery in Fearnan is interesting.

**Kenmore** – first settled in 1540 and laid out as a model village in 1760. The Kenmore hotel is said to be the oldest inn in Scotland. The bridge was constructed in 1774 and in 1787 Robert Burns composed a poem while sitting upon it and wrote it on the chimney breast of what is now the hotel lounge bar, where it can still be seen. Taymouth Castle, accessed through the large arch in the square, was built by John Campbell, 1<sup>st</sup> Marquis of Breadalbane, largely in 1806-10, although part of a 1730s wing survives.

**Scottish Crannog Centre** – the remains of 18 crannogs (Iron Age lake dwellings) have been identified in Loch Tay and the Centre hosts a reconstruction, made using traditional methods. Here you can learn more about crannog life and ancient crafts and skills or paddle Loch Tay on a hollowed-out log canoe.

**Drummond Hill** – a popular walking and mountain biking destination lying between The Courtyard at Kenmore and Karelia House at Comrie Bridge. Refreshments are available at both. One of the walks passes Caisteal Mac Tuathal, an Iron Age to Early Medieval fort. Sir Duncan Campbell (Black Duncan of the Cowal) ordered Drummond Hill planted with oak, birch and pine in the 16th century, creating Scotland's first managed forest. Karelia House is also a starting point for the river walk to Aberfeldy.

**Dull** – achieved fame recently by pairing with the (much larger) town of Boring in Oregon. Home to Highland Safaris who provide award-winning wildlife Land Rover, biking and walking safaris. There is a red deer park, cafe and play area at the base at Dull.

**Weem** - this Z-plan castle, which has a date of 1571 on a panel above the door, has been the seat of the Clan Menzies chiefs for over 400 years. Extended by a new (west) wing, in the 19th century, it became derelict during the mid-20th century but was bought by the Menzies Clan Society in 1957 and restored.

**Aberfeldy** - Lt. General Wade's bridge over the Tay first opened in October 1733. By contrast, the 1992 golf course footbridge downstream was the first in the world to be entirely of composite materials. The FairTrade town is noted for the Black Watch Regiment memorial, the award-winning Watermill independent bookshop and gallery, and the Birks of Aberfeldy circular walk leading to the Moness Falls and immortalised in Robert Burns' 1787 poem, *The Birks of Aberfeldie*.

**Aberfeldy Distillery** – visit Dewar's World of Whisky exhibition and tour the distillery, founded 1898.

**Griffin Wind Farm** – completed early 2012 with 68 turbines and capacity of 156 megawatts.

**Amulree** (altitude 270m) – this small community is an ideal spot for bird watchers, especially around Loch Freuchie, 2 km to the west. Amulree Tea Room is open daily (10am - 4.30pm) for soup & snacks.

**The Sma' Glen** – one of Scotland's beauty spots with great picnicking by the River Almond at Newton Bridge. Especially beautiful at end August when the hills are purple with heather.

**Crieff** – the largest town on the Ring, developed originally as the principal cattle market for cattle being brought to the lowlands from the highlands and islands of Scotland. In the 19<sup>th</sup> century it became a fashionable tourist resort and country retreat and The Strathearn Hydropathic Establishment, now Crieff Hydro, opened in 1868. Today The Hydro hotel and self-catering complex employs 500 people, has 5 restaurants and offers over 60 leisure activities.

**Glenturret Distillery** – the 1775 distillery is Scotland's oldest though illicit distilling on the site goes back to 1717. Distilling ceased between 1921 and 1959. Besides producing its own malt whisky, the distillery is also home to The Famous Grouse Experience, telling the history of this popular blend.

**Comrie Croft** – offers hostel accommodation and eco-camping. A noted mountain biking centre, with trails and skills courses, Comrie Croft is also a great place for walking and spotting wildlife. The Tea Garden opened in 2012.

**Comrie** – at the edge of the highlands and situated on the Highland Boundary Fault, Comrie was the site for one of the world's earliest earthquake recording stations, and still has a visible working seismograph. The Romans built a major "glenblocking" fort at Comrie because of its strategic location. An extremely picturesque village, it is well placed for walking and also wild swimming in the River Ruchill.

**Auchingarrich Wildlife Centre** – with over 70 species of animals and birds, indoor and outdoor play areas, a soft play barn and pony rides, Auchingarrich is perfect for families. The Torlum Coffee Shop has hot and cold fresh food & home baking. Rainbow trout fishing and bushcraft training are also available.

**St Fillans** – one km east of St Fillans, on the south side of the road stands the rocky knoll of Dundurn Hill Fort. A possible Pictish royal fort, it appears to have been occupied at least between the sixth and ninth centuries AD. The pre-Reformation church, St Fillan's Chapel, whose kirkyard is the traditional burial place of the Stewarts of Ardvorlich, lies between the fort and St Fillans, alongside the golf course which was created in 1903 by Willie Auchterlonie.

**Loch Earn** – noted water sports and trout fishing loch.