

GREAT TROSSACHS PATH - Notes on multi-use access

Set in the heart of Loch Lomond and the Trossachs National Park, the 30 mile Great Trossachs Path connects Inversnaid on the shores of Loch Lomond with Callander. The route links the West Highland Way with the Rob Roy Way, offering scope for various circular routes as well as a linear long distance path. Although it's promoted mainly for walkers and cyclists, the Great Trossachs Path has been developed wherever possible as a multi-use route, with gaps instead of gates wherever possible, and bridges wide enough to safely accommodate walkers, cyclists and horse riders.

These notes have been produced by British Horse Society Scotland to supplement information already available from <http://thegreattrossachsforest.co.uk/great-trossachs-path/what-is-the-great-trossachs-path/> and other sources to identify sections of the Great Trossachs Path suitable for multi-use, and locate restrictions which may affect use by horse-riders.

Remember that whether on foot, cycle or horseback, rights of access in Scotland depend on access takers and land managers accepting individual responsibility for their actions. The Scottish Outdoor Access Code <http://www.outdooraccess-scotland.com/> offers guidance on what this means on the ground. Specific guidance for horse riders can be downloaded from <http://www.bhsscotland.org.uk/responsible-riding.html>.

Courtesy, consideration of others' needs and good communication are the key to sharing paths. Always pass others you meet along the trail at a walk, and elsewhere limit your pace to ground conditions and visibility. On formally surfaced paths, riders need to be particularly careful to respect other users and either clear dung off the path or move their horse off the path to dung.

All route users are responsible for deciding for themselves which, if any, sections of the Great Trossachs Path are suitable for their intended use, taking account of their own abilities, skills, fitness and experience, as well as season, weather conditions etc. Event organisers, groups or commercial operators considering using the Great Trossachs Path are urged to contact the route managers (see route website for details).

Inversnaid Pier to Inversnaid Garrison

Steep steps and a narrow footbridge over the burn immediately behind the hotel at Inversnaid, together with kissing gates in deer fences, mean that the waymarked walking route between Inversnaid and the Garrison car park is impassable with a horse. The alternative is to follow the single track road, promoted for cyclists.

Garrison to Stronachlachar

Purpose built path fully multi-use accessible.

Stronachlachar to Achray

Mainly tarmac road around Loch Katrine, fully multi-use accessible, with alternative gates alongside cattle grids.