

# Great Glen Way Trek

Conquer 73 miles, over 5 days through the spectacular Scottish Highlands



Ultimate Challenges

T: 020 7386 4680  
events@theultimatetravelcompany.co.uk  
www.ultimatechallenges.co.uk

# Great Glen Way Trek, 9 to 15 September 2018

## Trek 73 miles through the spectacular Scottish Highlands

Trace the course of the Caledonian Canal which links the large lochs along the Great Glen between Fort William on the west coast and Inverness on the east coast

The Great Glen Way stretches for 73 miles from coast to coast across the Scottish Highlands, linking Inverness and Fort William. The stunning route follows the major natural fault line of the Great Glen which divides Scotland from Coast to Coast. The Great Glen Way takes us through beautiful forests, past peaceful working canals, alongside magnificent lochs and past spectacular castles, including Urquhart Castle and Ardverikie Castle. This trek also offers some of the most breath taking views of the impressive Ben Nevis, Britain's highest mountain.

Our epic challenge ends at Fort William on the west coast known as the gateway to Ben Nevis. At our finish line we will celebrate with a glass of bubbles before an evening of celebrations at our camp site.





# Detailed itinerary

## 9 September: Depart London to Inverness

We meet at Inverness train station where our luggage will be collected and we will have a short walk to our campsite in Inverness. This evening we will have a briefing about the challenge ahead. Dinner and overnight accommodation.

## 10 September: Inverness to Drumnadrochit Distance: 30km

### Trekking hours: 9hrs

The first day of this epic challenge! This section is the most varied of all the days with lots of ascent and descent through farmland, moorland and forestry. Starting at Inverness Castle, we head along the bank of the Ness to cross the Ness islands and along the Caledonian Canal. We head past Tomnahurich swing bridge and the Beauly and Moray Firths, through Craig Dunain and into Craig Leach forest. Our route continues along forestry tracks until we have views of Urquhart Castle on the far side of Loch Ness. We then drop down into Drumnadrochit and our campsite for the evening. Buffet evening meal in mess tent. Overnight camping.

## 11 September: Drumnadrochit to Fort

### Augustus Distance: 34km

### Trekking hours: 11hrs

Up early this morning for the longest day of our challenge and one which will certainly test our stamina. Our route takes us into forestry and two large ascents at Alltigh and Invermoriston with great views of Loch Ness 900 feet below. We will eventually drop down on a long gradual descent to the Allt na Criche firest car park and onto our campsite at Fort Augustus at the southern end of Loch Ness. Buffet evening meal in mess tent. Overnight camping.

## 12 September: Fort Augustus to Laggan

### Distance: 17km

### Trekking hours: 5hrs

This morning we leave past the 5 locks on the canal and head along the towpath that sits between Loch Oich and the canal. Now the trail heads along the shoreline of Loch Oich and eventually onto General Wade's Military road before finishing in Laggan near to Laggan Locks. We will have a short transfer to south along the shore of Loch Lochy to our campsite for the evening. Buffet evening meal in mess tent. Overnight camping.

## 13 September: Laggan to Gairloch

### Distance: 19km

### Trekking hours: 5hrs

Our penultimate day sees us trekking along the western shore of Loch Lochy for most of the day with brief sections heading inland into Clunes forest and crossing the River Arkaig before finishing at Gairloch and our overnight campsite. Buffet evening meal in mess tent. Overnight camping.



# Detailed itinerary

## 14 September: Gairloch to Fort William

Distance: 17km

Trekking hours: 5hrs

Our final day of this incredible challenge! We start by heading on the towpath between the River Lochy and the Caledonian Canal. We continue along the canal towpath as it splits from the River Lochy and towards Fort William and to the lochs at Neptune's Staircase. At the top of Neptune's Staircase there are wonderful panoramic views to the south over Loch Linnhe and to the East to Ben Nevis and Aonach Mor, with its ski chair lifts visible on the slopes. Our finish line is Fort William, known as the gateway to Ben Nevis. Here our celebrations start with a glass of bubbly before a short walk to your final campsite in Fort William. Evening buffet meal celebrations with well-deserved drinks. Overnight camping.

## 15 September: Depart Fort William

After breakfast we will be transferred to Fort William train station and depart by train for our onward destination.

Please note there is the option today of climbing Ben Nevis at an extra cost.

## Challenge grade

Moderate

## Best time of year

May to September

© *Ultimate Challenges*

*This itinerary is complex and subject to change*

