place of passing, the crossing point for the River Leven) is often referred to as the gateway to Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park and is popular for a day trip or longer breaks and a prime location to start

Welcome to Balloch

At the southernmost point of Loch Balloch (from Gaelic bealach, meaning Lomond lies the village of Balloch.

Balloch Road runs through the village and a supermarket, gift shops, Post Office, pharmacy, hotels, B&Bs and ample eating, dining and licenced premises are all available.

For inspiration and ideas just call into the VisitScotland iCentre (opposite the railway station) where helpful staff will offer guidance on what to see

Loch Lomond Shores

Loch Lomond Shores is one of Scotland's most popular visitor destinations.

outstanding mixture of leisure and shopping

experiences overlooking the majesty of Loch

For a spot of retail therapy you can meander

there's plenty to do.

Lomond. Whether it's shopping, eating or playing,

through the mall where there are an assortment

Combining the beautiful environment with an

There's plenty for you and your family to do. Become Tarzan for the day on the some feathered friends at Loch Lomond Bird of Prey Centre or aquatic pals at



Loch Lomond Sea Life Aquarium. Try a round at the adventure golf course or hire a canoe and get onto the water. Take to the loch on a cruise or

aerial adventure course, meet





village of Balloch.

Way (Balloch to Inveruglas) also pass through the

to Tarbet via Rowardennan and Luss to Balmaha.

May to September, linking Balloch and Luss, Luss

Waterbus services operate on Loch Lomond from

south towards Glasgow following sections of the

National Cycle Route 7 links Balloch with Drymen,

(Regional Route 40) follows the western shores

The 17-mile West Loch Lomond Cycle Path

Balloch & Beyond

(Helensburgh to Dunbar) and the Three Lochs

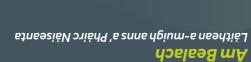
Long distance routes The John Muir Way

Getting here is easy

.wogsel from Glasgow. Street Station and is readily accessible by bus by a regular train service from Glasgow's Queen from Glasgow to Crianlarich. Balloch is served flying geese sculpture, off the A82 main route distinctive National Park roundabout with the Balloch is on the A811. Take the third exit at the

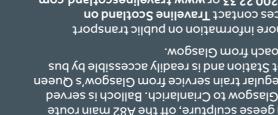
services contact Traveline Scotland on For more information on public transport





Days out in the National Park

Balloch













CONNCIL

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Dundartonshire

bridge or from Loch Lomond Shores. from the centre of Balloch next to the Yes, you can take a cruise or Waterbus Can I take a boat trip?

from the public car park opposite Balloch train station. There is a flat riverside path that starts Loch Lomond Shores is 1/4 mile (0.5km) from Balloch

Balloch Station and at Loch Lomond Shores.

Moss o' Balloch Park (Balloch Road), opposite

opposite South Lodge gates (Balloch Road),

There are car parks in Balloch Castle Country Park,

Supermarket on Carrochan Road and in the Balloch

Keystore newsagent on Balloch Road, Co-Op There are cash machines at Loch Lomond Shores,

Balloch bus station, Balloch Castle Country Park

Balloch outside the VisitScotland iCentre,

Public toilets can be found in the centre of

Where can I find public toilets?

SOAT Abolled

station (approx 10-15 mins walk).

Where can I park?

House Hotel on Balloch Road.

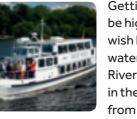
SMTA ns bnñ l nso ered W . sand at Loch Lomond Shores .

How do I get to Loch Lomond Shores?

exploring the National Park.



and do, where to stay, souvenirs and tickets to local attractions.



Balloch Village

Getting onto the loch will be high on most visitors' wish list. Take a cruise or waterbus trip from the River Leven by the bridge in the heart of Balloch or from Loch Lomond Shores.

If you're bringing your own boat, head down to the Duncan Mills Memorial Slipway, where there are launch facilities, trailer park, registration point and always a helpful National Park Ranger on hand.

> We are always happy to hear your views, please take a few moments to complete our online Balloch visitor survey:

www.surveymonkey.com/r/ballochsurvey

of shops offering fashion, jewellery, cosmetics, outdoor clothing, souvenirs and gifts. If you're hungry, there are a variety of cafes and restaurants. Regular Farmers' Markets are held on the water front offering a variety of meats, cheeses, breads, jams and more, along with hot food.

waterbus departing from the pontoon, visit the paddle steamer Maid of the Loch (at Duncan Mills Memorial Slipway) or just stroll along the paths through the woods and onto the shore for some fantastic views.

www.lochlomondshores.com



KEY

嵀 Railway/ Train station •••••• National Cycle Route 7 •••••• West Loch Lomond Cycle path •••••• Three Lochs Way •••••• John Muir Way

Park Mobility Routes

•••••• Shore Path Route 6km 50mins ••••••• Walled Garden Route 2km 30mins Castle View Route 3km 30mins



LOCH LOMOND

The Fairy Glen

It's easy to imagine wood elves and fairies as you walk by the sparkling waters in this wooded glen. It's a typical picture sque feature of the Landscape Movement - rough and varied - for which the Scottish landscape needed little adaptation!

Parkland

Once sheep and cattle chomped their way across these lawns. Nowadays, you're more likely to see a lawn mower.

Woodlands

On windy days you can shelter in the woodland gardens - that's why they were planted. Before 1800 trees were often planted in formal blocks, but the Landscape Movement swept this formality away and replaced it with fluid shapes that followed the contours of the land.

Secret Garden

This late addition to the garden was developed on the south wall of the kitchen garden in the 20th century, when the City of Glasgow bought the park.





Balloch Castle Country Park

Chinese garden

planted here.

Quarry pond

Walled Garden

Succulent peaches,

towering artichokes -

once this kitchen garden

was the productive heart

of the estate, providing

vegetables, fruit and

flowers for the castle.

The high walls and

woodlands provided

shelter for tender plants.

plump grapes and

Pleasure Grounds

for the owners to walk.

This garden was added in the late 19th century.

remain, but it became overgrown. Now plants have been cut back and replanted with the

same types of trees and shrubs that were first

This woodland garden was planted close to

the house with rhododendrons, azaleas and

Stone was taken from this quarry to build

up with water. Bog and water plants were planted and continue to thrive here.

North Lodge

different parts of the garden. Slowly it filled

Vehicle

entrance

to park

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right 2016.

specimen trees. It provided an attractive place

Some of the original maples and conifers

Balloch Castle Country Park is steeped in history and was the stronghold of one of Scotland's most powerful medieval families, the Earls of Lennox. Located near the shore, the old castle was built around 1238 and was occupied until 1390. All that is left is the knoll on which the castle once stood and the remains of the moat.



The castle which stands now was built for John Buchanan of Ardoch in 1808, best known as a partner in the Glasgow Ship Bank. He commissioned celebrity-architect Robert Lugar to build his new **gothic**style mansion. The castle is set in a commanding position overlooking the

loch and is enclosed by 18th and 19th century designed landscapes - ornamental woodlands, open parklands, walled gardens, tree avenues all designed to impress.

In 1851 the Dennistoun-Brown's bought the estate and like many Victorians were keen plant collectors and so the estate gained an attractive array of exotic trees and shrubs such as the Monkey Puzzle tree from Chile. Early

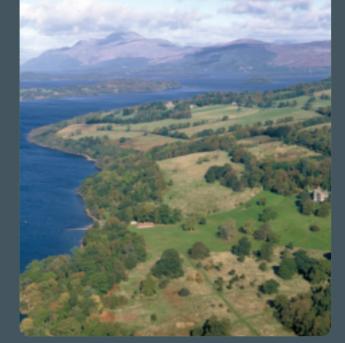


in the 1900s, Glasgow Corporation bought Balloch Estate and created Loch Lomond Park. Around 200 acres of the estate were set aside for public use and it became known as 'Glasgow's Garden'. In 1980 it became Balloch Castle Country Park and in 2002 it became the only country park in Scotland's first National Park.



Today you can wander through the park and discover the delights of a designed landscape in a world class setting. Easiest access is through the gates at the South Lodge entrance opposite the bus station on Balloch Road.





Photography by: VisitScotland, Ewan Myles, Tree Zone Trudy Hughes, Paul Saunders Photography, Scottish Enterprise