

GRAVELFOYLE

ABERFOYLE ~ SCOTLAND

ABERFOYLE GRAVEL RIDING



PHOTOGRAPHY | info@gravelfoyle.com

WHAT IS GRAVEL RIDING?

Gravel riding is an increasingly popular form of cycling that blends elements of off-road mountain biking and road cycling to deliver an experience accessible for a wide variety of cycling abilities. Riders follow a mixture of forest roads, gravel tracks and paths which provide a wonderful method of exploring the countryside.

GRAVELFOYLE

Aberfoyle has rapidly become recognised as a premier destination for gravel riding and offers 3 waymarked routes for first timers and experienced riders alike to enjoy.

Trails consist of various wide forest roads with some short sections of narrow path that take in wonderful views of the Trossachs' mountains and lochs. Riders may also encounter a wonderful array of wildlife such as Red Squirrels, Badgers, Deer and Birds of Prey.

The surface of the trails range from both fine to rougher loose gravel surfaces. This may also include potholes, a variety of gradients and some vehicle bridges without handrails. All roads, trails and paths on the Gravelfoyle routes are shared with other users, including (but not limited to) walkers, forestry vehicles and horse riders.

NOTES TO RIDERS

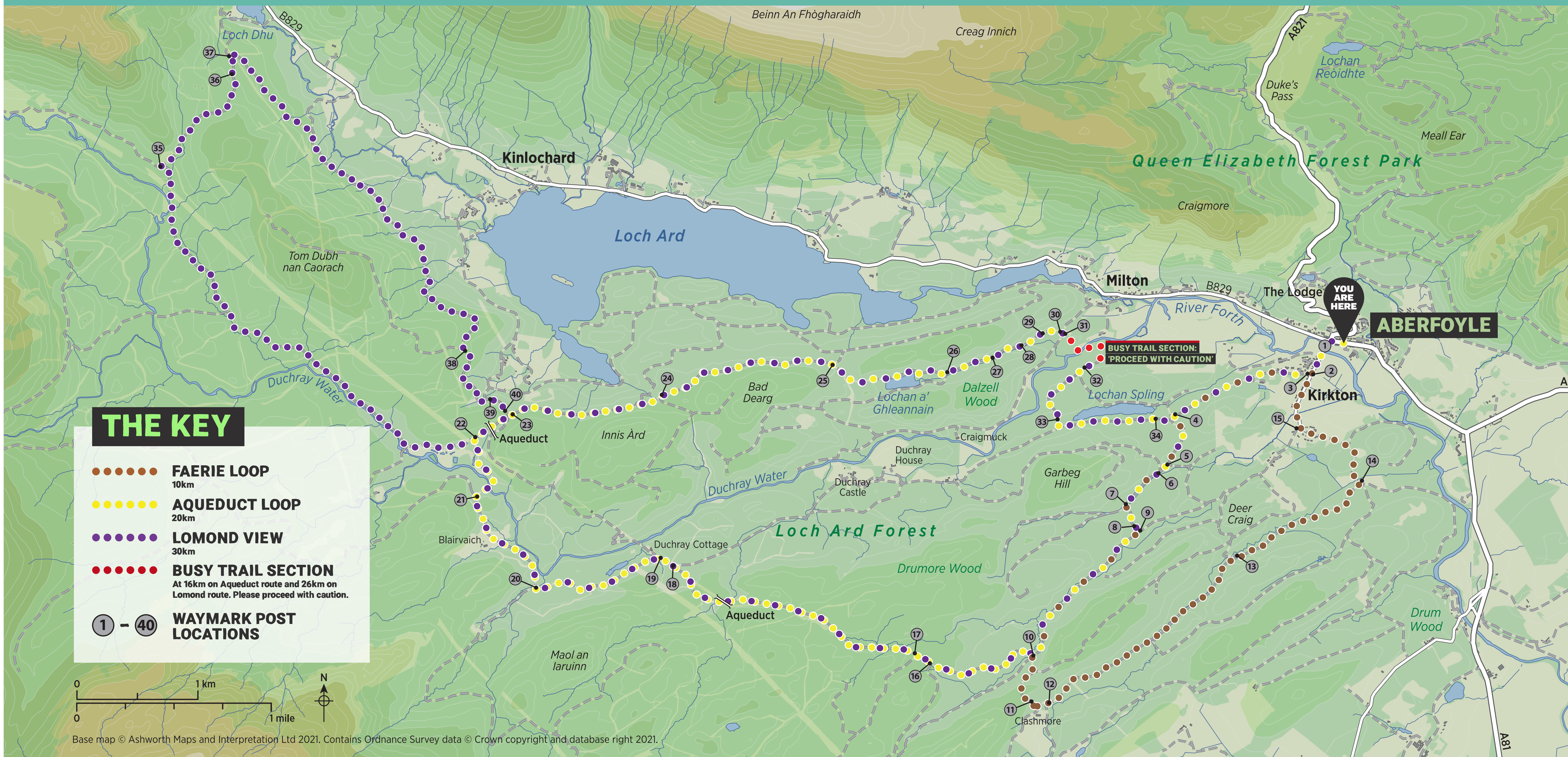
- Cycling is good for people's well-being. When planning and providing these cycle routes, the goal is not to eliminate risk, but to weigh up the risks and benefits.
- Expect the unexpected - All Gravelfoyle routes are situated in a working forest; you are likely to encounter other users such as forestry vehicles, walkers, horse riders and wildlife.
- Trails are primarily wide forest roads with some occasional short narrow singletrack sections.
- Gravel surfaces can range from fine gravel to rougher, loose sections with potholes.
- On occasions you may encounter muddy, uneven sections or potholes, a variety of gradients and some vehicle bridges without handrails.
- All the routes are one-way, we recommend you follow the routes as per the directions on the maps to encourage a one way system.
- If you encounter a vehicle loading timber, stop and wait for the driver to let you pass safely.
- Check trailhead boards and signage in case of any diversions.

EQUIPMENT

- Please ensure your bike is in good working order with working brakes and tyres suitable for offroad riding.
- Please wear appropriate safety equipment - at a minimum a helmet and gloves.
- Ensure you are well prepared and are always able to get home safely; take clothing, food and drink, appropriate for the route and duration of ride.

CONDUCT

- Trails are all multi-use trails accessible to many different users. If you encounter traffic or other users please slow down, smile and say hello!
- Please be courteous and respectful to others. Give way and leave plenty of space for walkers, horses and vehicles.
- Please check the route descriptions in advance and ensure they are suitable for your ability and fitness. Ride within your abilities at all times.
- We recommend that you always to follow the official Gravelfoyle signage.



FAERIE LOOP

10km

A fantastic undulating ride through the southside of Queen Elizabeth Forest. Gradually winding through the forest where sightings of red squirrels, badgers and deer are not uncommon. The route returns into Aberfoyle past Doon Hill which is home to the renowned 'Faerie Tree' that sits right at the summit and just a short hike from the trail.

The route follows 100% wide forest roads with some gentle slopes. There are a variety of surfaces, potholes, bridges without handrails and in wet conditions some stretches can be damp. Mid-way there is a long but gentle climb of 500m distance.



- IDEAL FOR:** Active families and beginners and e-bikes
- DISTANCE:** 6.3 miles / 10.1km
- ALLOW:** Approx 1 to 1.5 hours
- ELEVATION GAIN:** 164m

AQUEDUCT LOOP

20km

A stunning, challenging ride taking in some of the Trossachs' most incredible views. The trail heads west of Aberfoyle taking riders deep into the forest discovering wonderful feats of Victorian engineering. The return delivers beautiful panoramic views of Loch Ard. Keep an eye out for a wide range of wildlife along the way.

The route is mixture of wide forest roads combined with some short sections of narrow singletrack. Surfaces range from smooth gravel to some rougher sections with potholes. There are some moderate climbs of up to 500m in length. Watch out for traffic and a busy section of trail around Milton Public Car Park at 16km distance.



- IDEAL FOR:** Recreational, experienced cyclists and e-bikes
- DISTANCE:** 12.5 miles / 20.2km
- ALLOW:** Approx 1.5 to 2 hours
- ELEVATION GAIN:** 294m

LOMOND VIEW

30km

An extension of the Aqueduct Loop this delivers riders a longer route and rewards them with breath-taking views of Ben Lomond and Loch Ard. Head towards Ben Lomond through some wild expanses before turning back towards Loch Ard and an exhilarating ride along the old 'Statute Labour Road.'

The route combines a mixture of wide forest roads with some short sections of narrow singletrack. There are some steep climbs of up to 1km along with a variety of gravel surfaces from smooth gravel to some rougher, loose sections with potholes. Watch out for traffic and a busy section of trail around Milton Public Car Park at 26km distance.



- IDEAL FOR:** More experienced cyclists and e-bikes
- DISTANCE:** 18.5 miles / 29.8km
- ALLOW:** Approx 1.5 to 2 hours
- ELEVATION GAIN:** 494m

IN CASE OF EMERGENCY

Call 999 and ask for the Police. When Connected be ready to provide the following details:

- Incident location, route and nearest numbered waymarker
- Number of people in the party
- Any injuries, if so, Police to inform the Ambulance Service

MOBILE PHONE COVERAGE:

Across certain parts of the routes there can be very limited or no mobile phone coverage. In the UK you can use your mobile phone's SMS text messaging to summon help from the emergency services when there is very poor or intermittent mobile signal.

However, to use the service your mobile phone number must be pre-registered by SMS with the emergency services. This is something that is best done before you need their help!

HERE'S HOW TO DO IT NOW!

- Send a SMS (text) message, "REGISTER", to 112.
- Wait a few seconds for the reply.
- Read the reply in full and reply with another SMS message, "YES".
- You'll get a final response saying your number is now registered.
- Now you can use your mobile phone to send SMS messages in an emergency.

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT

www.gravelfoyle.com
www.forestryandland.gov.scot/visit/activities/cycling/the-forest-cycling-code

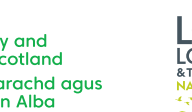
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FOREST & LAND SCOTLAND INFORMATION:
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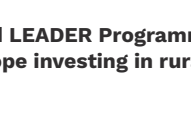
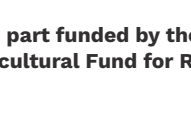
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PART FUNDED BY



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