

TRIUMPH

Tiger Explorer XC Riding Event – Route Information

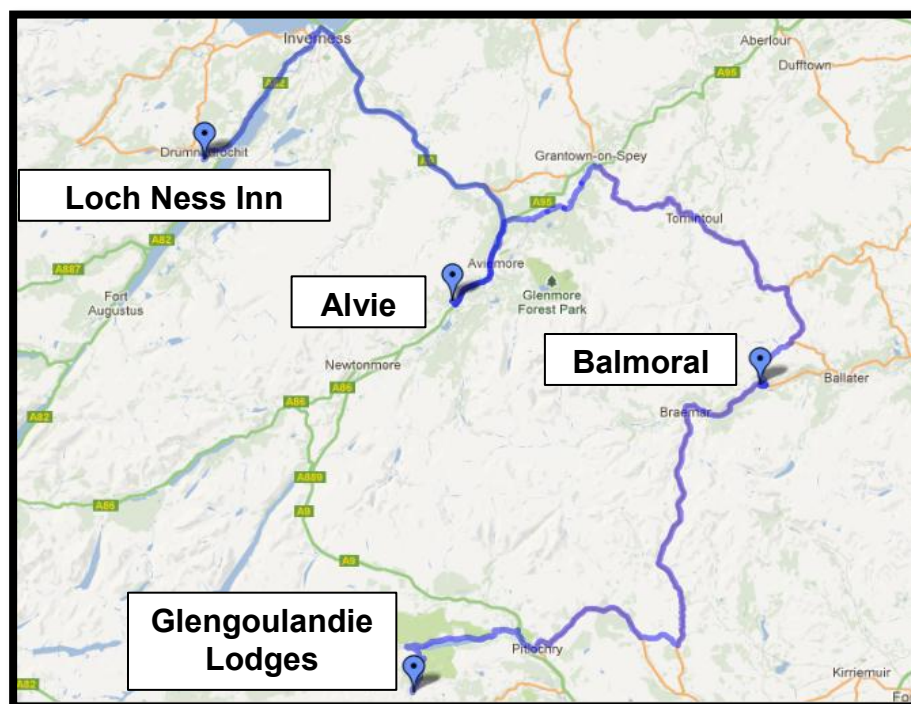
We have two full days planned for you to experience the full all-round capabilities of Explorer XC.

Day 1

Day 1 sees us take a anti-clockwise loop of the Highlands, round to our accommodation at Loch Ness.

All of our off road testing will take place at the Alvie Estate. The off-road section is optional.

Our mileage today, without the off road sections, will be in the region of 180 miles.



We pass through some historically interesting areas. Please find below some additional information about some of the places we are passing by today.

Loch Tummel

The loch is 11 kilometres long and just under 1 kilometre wide. It became part of the Tummel Hydro-Electric Power Scheme when the Clunie Dam was constructed in 1950, raising the water level by 4.5 metres. The roads alongside the loch look over incredible views, with the best well known being the "Queens View" which Queen Victoria made famous in 1866.

Pitlochry

Pitlochry, like a lot of the local area, has is steeped in Victorian history and gained its popularity as a destination when Queen Victoria visited the area in 1842. Standing in the shadow of notable peaks, Ben Vrackie and Schiehallion, it remains a popular destination for visitors and hillwalkers alike.

A93 Braemar Road

The **A93** is the highest public road in the UK, reaching its peak of 670 metres (2199 feet) above sea level. It passes Scotland's largest skiing area, the Glenshee Ski Centre, home to some fantastic cakes – as enjoyed by those on the Trophy 1200 launch in September 2012!

Balmoral Castle

Balmoral was purchased by Queen Victoria in 1852 and remains the summer home of the Royal Family. The original home was knocked down and completed in 1856 and now enjoys category A listed status. The estate covers an area of approximately 49,000 acres (20,000 ha) and is classified as a working estate. It is rumoured to be the Queen's favorite residence.

Tomintoul

This is the highest village in the Highlands, complete with its own Whiskey Distillery.

Alvie Estate

We will spend a couple of hours at Alvie. The estate covers approximately 13,000 acres and has a wide mixture of terrain. This is a perfect area to experience the offroad capability of the Tiger Explorer XC. We will do several photography stops at Alvie to capture some dynamic off road riding.

Lunch will be provided onsite in Alvie House.

The estate and house have appeared in a number of TV series including the BBC's popular drama 'Monarch of the Glen'

The Estate and house was in the final three choices to be used as a location in the last James Bond film, "Skyfall".

The estate has an interesting history with links to famous films and one of the great moments in archaeology.

In 1905 Alvie was purchased by Sir Robert Boville (Bertie) Whitehead who owned Alvie until 1923. Sir Robert was the grandson of Robert Whitehead who invented the torpedo.

The Whitehead family married into some of the most influential families in Europe with Bertie's cousin Marguerite marrying the son of Herbert von Bismark (the German Chancellor), whilst another cousin Agathe Whitehead, fell in love with and married an Austrian Kapitanleutnant Georg Von Trapp. Agathe died of scarlet fever in 1922 leaving Georg to bring up their 7 children with the help of a governess from the nearby Benedictine Nunnery, who taught them music. You may be familiar with this story in the 'Sound of Music'.

The Whitehead family had a factory in Weybridge in England and another on the Baltic run by von Trapp. During the First World War the Baltic factory supplied the German navy with torpedoes whilst the factory at Weybridge supplied the British navy!!!

Robert Whitehead deer fenced much of the Estate and invested large sums in extending Alvie House and improving the stock of red deer. The remains of the deer fence erected around 1908 can still be seen.

The Estate was sold in 1923 to Lady Carnarvon shortly after the untimely death of her husband, Lord Carnarvon, 5th Earl of Carnarvon. Lord Carnarvon broke into the Tutankhamun tombs in Egypt. He and his son died within a year of each other (the Tutankhamun curse). Lady Carnarvon set up Balchurn (Home Farm) as a model dairy farm. She and her soon to be her 2nd husband, Lt Colonel Ian Onslow Dennistoun also invested in grouse shooting.

The estate offers grouse shoots, deer stalking and some of the best fishing in Scotland.

Alvie Estate has been in the ownership of the Williamson family since 1927, but it is now owned by Alvie Trust.

Loch Ness

One of the most famous landmarks in the UK, home to "Nessie", the Loch Ness Monster. Sunday April 14 2013, saw the 80th anniversary of what is accepted to be the first modern day "sighting" of the beast in 1933. This was celebrated by a boat trip of "Nessie Hunters" trawling the Loch in the hope that they would finally get a great shot of the monster!

The Loch is 16 metres (51 feet) higher than sea level, and is 23 miles (37km) long and 1 mile (1.6km) wide. Its deepest point is 230m (755 ft) Loch Ness is so large it has never frozen over. Loch Ness contains more fresh water than in all of the lakes and rivers of England and Wales combined.

On the banks of Loch Ness lies the ruin of Urquhart Castle. The castle was one of the largest in Scotland and said to have played a role in the wars of Scottish Independence in the 14th century. The castle was partially destroyed in 1692 .

Day 2

Our route today continues its anti-clockwise path concluding at Dunblane. Mileage today without any optional off-road riding is forecast again at 180 miles.



As per day 1, please find below some supporting information about our route today.

Ben Nevis Whiskey Distillery

Established in 1825, Ben Nevis Distillery is one of the oldest licensed distilleries in Scotland. The distillery is nestled at the foot of Britain's highest mountain, Ben Nevis, which has a summit elevation of 4'406 feet above sea level. This imposing mountain provides an impressive background to a traditional Scottish craft.

A coastal distillery in the Western Highlands, Ben Nevis draws its water from the Allt a'Mhuilinn which originates from two pools, Coire Leis and Coire na'Ciste. The distillery was founded in 1825 by 'Long John' McDonald,[1] a 6 ft 4in descendant of a ruler of the western Scottish kingdom of Argyll (after whom the renowned blended Scotch, Long John, was named).

Glen Coe (A82)

Glen Coe is one of the most magnificent areas of natural wilderness in the whole of Britain and home to one of the worst atrocities in 1692, with the death knell of the Clan MacDonald. 38 members of the MacDonalds, were systematically slaughtered on the night of February 13, led by Captain Robert Campbell. Even in those times, in a country familiar to war and murder, the nature of the killings shocked the country with the

Campbells becoming accursed in much of the Highlands. Even to this day the old "Clachaig Inn" at Glen Coe carries the sign on its door, 'No Campbells'.

The scenery may be familiar to some as it was here that parts of the latest James Bond movie Skyfall was filmed. Land in the area is still owned by the Fleming family. It's a breathtaking location, and has previously been seen in films such Braveheart starring Mel Gibson and Highlander starring Christophe Lambert .

You will not however see Bond's childhood home, along with the chapel and entrance gate which was constructed on Hankley Common, a stretch of Ministry of Defence land just south of Elstead in Surrey in the south of England and then put into its highland setting for the film with the magic of computers.

Inverawe Smokery

Our lunch stop for day 2.

Inverawe House first appeared on the map 300 years ago. It became an important stronghold of the Campbell empire.

Situated on the banks of Loch Awe in beautiful Argyll, Robert and Rosie Campbell-Preston have been producing fine smoked fish for more than 30 years. The distinctive Inverawe taste is created by shunning modern smoking methods in favour of an unhurried traditional approach.

Renowned worldwide for its taste, Inverawe salmon is a Rick Stein Food Hero. Inverawe Smokehouses is a member of the Guild of Fine Food Retailers and became a holder of Her Majesty The Queen's Royal Warrant in 2001.