



## WalkWise Easter Walking Weekend Balmacara and Glen Shiel



**Date:** Friday 14th - Monday 17<sup>th</sup> Apr 2013  
**Place:** Balmacara Hotel, Glen Shiel, IV40 8DH  
**Cost:** £259.00 per person in a shared room,  
£319.00 per person in a single room  
£349.00 per person in a sole occupancy room  
**Included:** 3 nights accommodation, 3 breakfasts, 3 picnic lunches, 3 evening meals & 3 days of guided walks and there will be a choice of walks each day too  
**Extras:** local transport to the start of the walks if used  
**Slots:** up to 42 pax to be accommodated in 6 single rooms, 8 sole occupancy rooms, 12 twins and 2 double rooms

**EXTRA NIGHT:** It is a wee drive up to Glen Shiel so why not make it a four day break and stay over on the Thursday Night and take advantage of the Good Friday Bank Holiday? There will be walking on the Friday too... so you can really make the most of this weekend?

**1 night accommodation dinner, bed breakfast, picnic lunch and guided walk**

**Cost:** £79.00 per person in a shared room,  
£99.00 single person single room supplement  
£109.00 sole occupancy supplement

**Overview.** Glen Shiel and Kintail are quite simply one of the most stunning regions the country. You are immersed amongst magnificent countryside, inviting lochs, amazing mountains, enchanting coastlines, peaceful hamlets, this area has it all! Quite simply this is a fantastic destination in one of the best possible walking locations in Scotland. I cant believe its 4 years since we last visited the wonderful Balmacara Hotel. Here we will reside on the beautiful shores of Loch Alsh, which is perfectly located to allow us to sample more of the very best of the awesome splendour of Glen Shiel, Kintail and the surrounding Glens! The Walkwise team have been busy exploring the area and found some new wonderful walks which we will mix in with some of the classics. But rest assured you will encounter some of the most stunning scenery in Scotland, from towering jagged ridges, to inviting lochside pathways! **PS if you think 3 nights is not long enough to come up here, we are offering the Thursday night and walking on Friday for those of you who know "you want more"!**

**WalkWise Walking Programme:** Glen Shiel, in the heart of Kintail, has long been known as one of the best and most spectacular walking areas in the whole of Britain, and we will have three or if you are lucky enough to be able to come early on the thursday night, four excellent days to explore it!

Kintail is famous for some truly epic walks such as the amazing Five Sisters and their lesser known Brothers the is also the South Cluanie ridge, but whilst these routes are stunning there is so much more to be explored! Whilst we cannot guarantee which walks will be most suitable on the weekend, we have drawn up a short list of temptations for you: the South Cluanie Ridge is a Munro baggers delight - a wonderful high-level switchback traverse with a marvelous approaches and it can be broken down into bite sized portions; the noble slopes and precipitous crags of Ciste Dubh is a lovely day out in its own right, The shapely delights of A'Ghlas Bheinn or Beinn Fhada; or even Munro's favourite munro, Beinn Sgritheall with its unprecedented coastal panoramas!! So lets get up there, see what the weathers like and go climb some hills!!!

And what of the shorter walks, well again there is a veritable smorgasbord of glittery delights... Directly out the back of the hotel is a stunning viewpoint from where we head across the peninsula, through

delightful woodland and by lovely lochans, to the village of Plockton on the stunning shores of Loch Carron, an area made famous in the TV series Hamish Macbeth. The narrow sound of Kyle Rhea is another possibility, with a beautiful coastal walk by Loch Alsh, combined with the ascent of Glas Bheinn, which gives amazing views of Skye from over its craggy western flanks! You can wander up the peaceful glens to the amazing Falls of Glomach. We could wander through a spectacular glen and over the wonderful crinkly landscape to Glen Elchaig, which gives a great feel for the ruggedness of Kintail. Or we would drive up to the Bealach Ratagan and make our way up a scenically stunning pass, before dropping down to Shiel Bridge, with Loch Duich ahead of us and the pub calling us on... In fact we could even pop over the water for a day out on Skye if you fancy it, All in all, we should have an amazing set of walks!

To allow you to choose a walk that suits you best, WalkWise UK will provide a minimum of two walks on each day, led by professional and knowledgeable walking guides. On both days there will be a harder walk of 9-12 miles with 3000+ft of ascent, and a gentler walk of 6-9 miles with less ascent. All walks are weather dependent and own transport may be taken to the walk starts.

**Accommodation:** the Balmacara Hotel has a simply amazing location, sitting on the shores of Loch Alsh, with views of Skye and the Ratagan peninsula directly over the water! But if any more needs saying...it is a friendly, family run hotel, all bedrooms are en-suite with satellite TV and there's also a lovely beer garden! The restaurant has huge views out across the loch, and the speciality is local game and seafood, and there's even music in the hotel bar on the weekend!

**Around the Centre:** We will be very close to the legendary Eilean Donan Castle, made famous in Highlander, and the Bond films...as well as having a fantastic history of its own! Just to the west of us is Kyle of Lochalsh, launch point for Skye, but also a bustling little fishing town in its own right. And of course, you could spend a day on Skye, where there are an absolute host of things to do!

**Maps:** The map(s) for this event are:

1:25000:Ex413: Knoydart and Loch Hourn, Ex414: Glenshiel and Kintail Forest, Ex428: Kyle of Lochalsh  
1:50000:Landranger: LR024: Raasay and Applecross, LR033: Loch Alsh and Glen Shiel

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