

CLUNES to MILE DORCHA (The Dark Mile)

If you are looking for a shorter walk, suitable by wheelchair, then I would suggest a circular walk from the Forest Walk Car Park at Clunes. Head back west towards the B8005 and follow it through the Dark Mile. This is the mysterious, gloomy stretch of road which warrants its name and is dark in all seasons. As the valley widens you will see a magnificent waterfall which is the waters of Cia-aig falling into that Witch's Cauldron.



Ferocious waterfall after heavy rain

Continue over the hump backed bridge, then turn left onto land owned by the Camerons of Lochiel. Continue along the estate road which takes you over the eastern end of Loch Arkaig. Turn left and you'll soon reach the clan Cameron Museum. It is open afternoons daily from April to October and covers the history of the clan and its Jacobite links. Outside the museum there is a walk-in toilet.

The estate, like many estates in Scotland, has a marvellous selection of trees from around

the world. In the 18th & 19th Centuries many of the Scottish landed gentry imported small seedlings from their travels. It also became a tradition to try to emulate the English estate owners by planting Copper Beech trees to mark a particular site of interest, for instance, a church. Try spotting the Copper Beech tree and make your guess as to what might have been nearby in sight of the house. Continue through the estate and you return to the B8005 and so back around to the Car Park at Clunes.

Further information from:

Great Glen Way: 01320 366633 www.greatglenway.com

A good book: The Great Glen Way by Jacquetta Megarry Publ. by Rucksack Readers

British Waterways Highland Canals: Customer Service Manager 01463 725500

Access Officer (Inverness & Nairn); 01463 702186

FACTFILE	
MAP	Ordnance Survey map 34
GRID REFERENCE start/finish	NN 203886
PARKING	Clunes
TOILETS	Cameron Museum: outside, walk-in GG Water Park café W/C (R)
DISTANCE	3 miles
LANDSCAPE	Dark, ancient forest & magnificent waterfall