

inveraray drive



distance: 40 miles each way
driving time: about 1 hour each way (without stops)

directions:

From Greystones, drive out along Dalriach Road. After Atlantis Leisure, cross diagonally left up Deanery Brae and turn right at the King's Knoll onto the A85. Drive through Connel and Taynuilt, to Lochawe. Just before Dalmally, turn right onto the A819. When you arrive in Inveraray, go through the arch and turn right for parking or left for the castle. Follow the same route back to Greystones.

suggested lunch stops:

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| The George Hotel, Inveraray | One of Scotland's best pubs with excellent food, especially the fish and chips. Serves food all day. |
| Loch Fyne Oyster Bar | From Inveraray, take the A83 past the castle east along Loch Fyne for about 10 miles. Loch Fyne Oyster Bar is on the left hand side. |

sights along the way:

1 Loch Etive:

Just under Connel bridge, you will see the Falls of Lora, an unusual waterfall where the direction of the falls changes with the tide. The village of Taynuilt was once one of Scotland's iron-smelting centres and Bonawe Furnace has been conserved to show what an 18th century ironworks looked like.



2 Inverawe Smokery:

Just after Taynuilt, at Bridge of Awe, turn left to Inverawe country park and smokery. This is a small family-run business and has an interesting exhibition explaining the process. There is also a tearoom and shop where you can buy their excellent smoked salmon.



3 Loch Awe:

Loch Awe is dominated by the massive Ben Cruachan, a mountain with a hydro-electric power station inside it (there is a visitor centre with a tour inside the mountain, if you need to escape from the rain!).

St Conan's church sits below Ben Cruachan and has ornate woodwork and elaborate carvings, including fragments from Iona Abbey.

At the head of Loch Awe stands the imposing ruin of Kilchurn Castle, a Campbell stronghold built in the 15th and 17th centuries. It was abandoned in the 18th century.



4 Inveraray:

This well-planned village on Loch Fyne dates back to the 18th century. The parish church in the middle of the main road has a central dividing wall so that services could be conducted simultaneously in English and Gaelic.

Inveraray Jail Museum houses the former courthouse and county prison, displaying the conditions in 19th century jails.



5 Inveraray Castle:

Inveraray Castle stands a short distance from the village, home of the Duke of Argyll, chief of Clan Campbell. It was recently used for filming of Downton Abbey.