

● **Distance** 4.7km/3 miles ● **Time** 2½hrs ● **Grade** Easy

STEVE GOODIER



A view of Ben A'an between Points 2 and 3 of the walk.

Don't be fooled by the 'easy' grade and short distance of this up-and-down-the-same-way route. Ben A'an is a Munro in miniature, having all the attributes of a mountain twice the height of its 454m (1,491ft) summit. And don't be worried by returning the same way. This is a route that seems completely different in reverse and besides, there is no other way down, and you can finish off with a steamer ride on wonderful Loch Katrine! As a reward for your efforts you will get a view from the distinct rocky summit that is one of the best in the Highlands. Make sure you keep an eye on the kids – there are crags around the summit. *By Steve Goodier.*

1 START

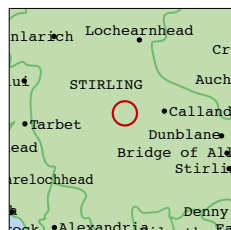
Leave car park, crossing road carefully by 'Beware Of Traffic' sign and enter 'Queen Elizabeth Forest Park' next to Ben A'an

sign. Take good path uphill through trees climbing steeply to reach stone steps. Climb up continuing to more steps and on through trees with burn, R. Go R with path keeping burn R, pass little waterfalls, R, to climb rougher ground to reach wooden bridge.

2 1km/½ mile

Cross bridge, curve L with path steeply uphill and climb more stone steps. Curve R away from burn continuing ahead and as path levels off, take time to branch L to bench and good rocky viewpoint. Return to main path going L, descend slightly to cross ford continuing uphill on other side. Continue through woods crossing muddy area on stepping stones and finally descending through thinning trees towards the distinctive cone of Ben A'an ahead to reach clearing with boulders and viewpoint, L. ➤

PLAN YOUR WALK



ROUTE

Terrain Good path throughout but very rough in places; exposed summit with rocky outcrops – watch kids carefully

Stiles None

Suitable for Older children (9+) and leave the dog at home

START/PARKING

Ben A'an car park (free) on south side of A821 near Loch Achray, grid ref NN509070

Nearest town Callander

Refreshments Hotels and café around end of Loch Katrine

Public toilets None

Public transport None, but for Loch Katrine steamers tel: 01877 332000 or Callander Tourist Information, tel: 08707 200628

MAPS

Ordnance Survey Explorer 365; Landranger 57



Stirling Ben A'an

COUNTRY WALKING



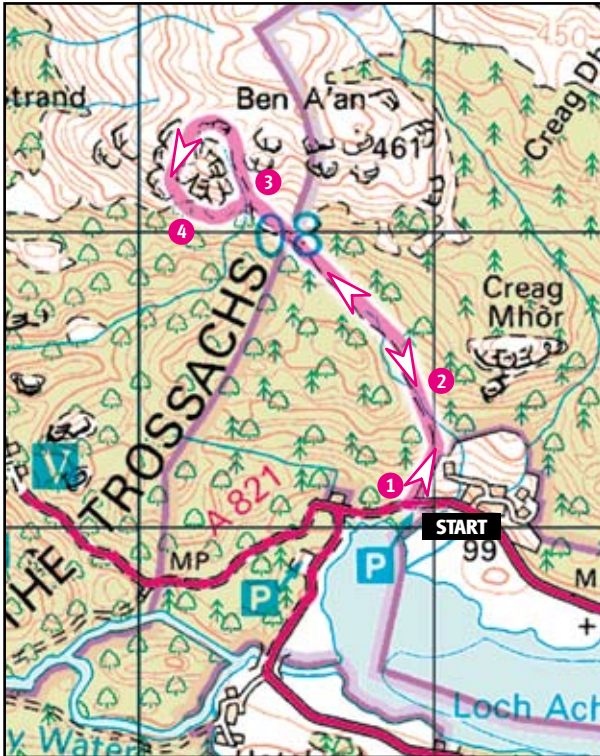
Left: Clambering around the summit area of Ben A'an.

➤ 3 1.9km/1¼ miles

Continue towards rocky steps ascending them steeply to join burn, L, crossing it shortly after to go R next to slabs. Climb rough ground to R of Ben A'an following main path ignoring any L turns. After path levels a little near slabs, L, it climbs again up steps to curve L to back (northern side) of summit. Climb to top staying R when path splits. Take care with kids – summit is rough and rocky.

➤ 4 2.3km/1½ miles

Return back same way descending roughly to cleared area near boulders (now L). Head into forest following outbound route back down to car park.



Route created using

Memory-Map V5 Southern Scotland – OS 1:50,000

Contact

www.memory-map.co.uk
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