

Dollar Glen

King's Seat Hill
Bank Hill

Sochie Falls

Path to Glendevon

Disabled Badge
Holder Parking only

Burn of
Sorrow

Castle
Campbell

John Knox's
Pulpit

Burn of Care

Hempey's
Falls

Gloom Hill

Windy Edge Pass

Long Bridge Gorge

Castle Road

Quarry
Car Park

Dollar Burn

Mill Green
(Footpath to Dollar)

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Dollar Glen

Circular trail

Description

Dollar is one of the hillfoot towns lying at the base of the Ochil Hills. In the centre of Dollar Glen sits Castle Campbell, towering over the wooded slopes and steep-sided gorges. The glen is a popular place for walkers and is home to a variety of plants and wildlife. The paths are easily accessed on foot from Dollar, via the Mill Green, or from the Quarry car park on Castle Road.

Grade

Moderate, care required in places

Terrain

Most of the path is uneven, sometimes slippery and unfenced with steep cliff drops, so please be careful and wear suitable footwear. When in the glen, please keep to the paths as this reduces unsightly erosion scars. The dead wood at the side of the path may have been placed as part of erosion control, so please leave it where it lies.

Distance

Circular route starting and finishing at the Quarry car park 1¾ miles / 2.9km

Time

Circular route 1 hour 35 mins
If visiting the castle add 40 mins

OS Map

Landranger Sheet 58

Facilities

Two car parks on Castle Road and disability parking at Castle Campbell.



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THE STRONGHOLD

Impressively positioned above the steep gorges of the Burns of Care and Sorrow sits Castle Campbell, the chief lowland stronghold of the Earls of Argyll from the 15th century. It was originally called Castle Gloom or Gloume – possibly after the Gaelic ‘glom’ meaning chasm.

TRACES OF THE PAST

Low bracken-covered mounds on the hillslope overlooking the castle are evidence for a former agricultural landscape. These archaeological traces can be difficult to identify and even more difficult to interpret and date. A series of turf and stone fieldbanks and a later stone wall mark the line of the old ‘head-dyke’, the division between improved arable and upland grazing land. From the 17th to 19th centuries the burns flowing through the glen were used to power the local textile and grain mills.

ROCKS AND RIFTS

The rocks of the Ochil Hills are hard volcanic rocks, which contrast with the much softer sedimentary rocks in the valley below. Dollar Glen’s distinctive deep gorges formed by the Burn of Care, the Burn of Sorrow and the Dollar Burn are the results of rapid erosion by the fast-flowing burns cutting down through the hard rocks. The courses of these burns are to some extent influenced by other geological faults in the rocks.

WOODLAND WILDLIFE

Dollar Glen is home to over 100 species of moss and over 190 species of lichen, including some rarities not commonly found elsewhere in Scotland. The glen is also notable for its other plants and ferns. All these species are woodland in nature, with the glen dominated by pedunculate oak. A rich array of birds and animals can also be found here, including foraging brown long-eared bats, pied flycatchers, and green and great spotted woodpeckers.