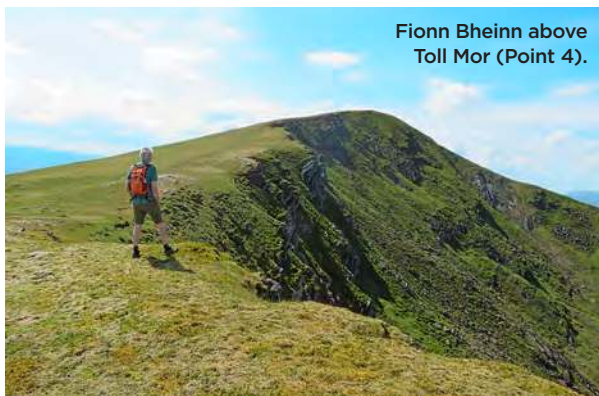




26 HIGHLAND FIONN BHEINN

► Distance: 7½ miles/12km ► Time: 5–6 hours ► Grade: Challenging



Fionn Bheinn above
Toll Mor (Point 4).

PHOTO: RALPH STORER



CHOSEN BY... RALPH STORER

Fionn Bheinn
is a mountain of

contrasts. While its summit lies hidden behind a convex grassy mountainside that gives an easy ascent, its hidden north side is scalloped by two huge corries – Toll Mor (Big Hole) and Toll Beag (Little Hole). This produces a spacious cliff-edge ridge walk that has views to rival any in Scotland, especially into the heart of the Great Wilderness behind Slioch. Even the traditionally boggy ascent has been eased by the construction of a new vehicle access track to a dam at the 480m mark (not currently shown on OS maps). To add to this, an old stalkers'

path gives an alternative descent that turns the route into an exceptionally scenic circular walk.

1 Start Walk up road to village, cross main road to red telephone box and walk 50m up old road beside it to bridge. Go R on vehicle track (signposted Walkers This Way) to fork. R branch crosses stream to water treatment building, in front of which the old path goes L through gate to climb hillside on stream's R side. L branch at fork is new vehicle track. If the way is blocked by a high locked gate, take R branch to path and re-cross stream on stepping stones to gain track past gate.

PLAN YOUR WALK



ROUTE

Start/parking Achnasheen railway station on the A832 Dingwall–Gairloch road, grid ref NH164586

Is it for me? Mostly on rough mountain paths, but pathless and boggy in places

Stiles None

PLANNING

Nearest town Achnasheen

Refreshments

Café beside station.
Ledgowan Lodge ½ mile away (ledgowanlodge.co.uk; 01445 720252)

Public toilets At start

Public transport

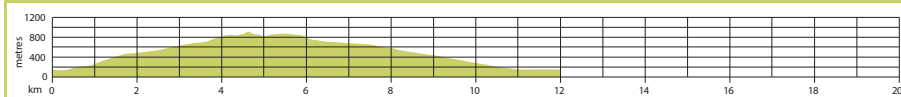
Inverness–Kyle of Lochalsh trains to start (scotrail.co.uk), plus infrequent 700/771 Westerbus services (bustimes.org)

Maps OS Explorer 435/436; Landranger 20/25

2 ¼ mile/0.4km Track zigzags up hillside L of stream to small dam at



GRADIENT PROFILE



26 HIGHLAND
FIONN BHEINN► OS Explorer map 435/436 ► Buy maps at: ordnancesurvey.co.uk/shop

DON'T MISS...



Achnasheen Terraces
- prominent glacial features south of the station. See information board on road out of car park.

480m contour. Cross stream on stepping stones to join old path on R side.

3 1½ miles/2.5km

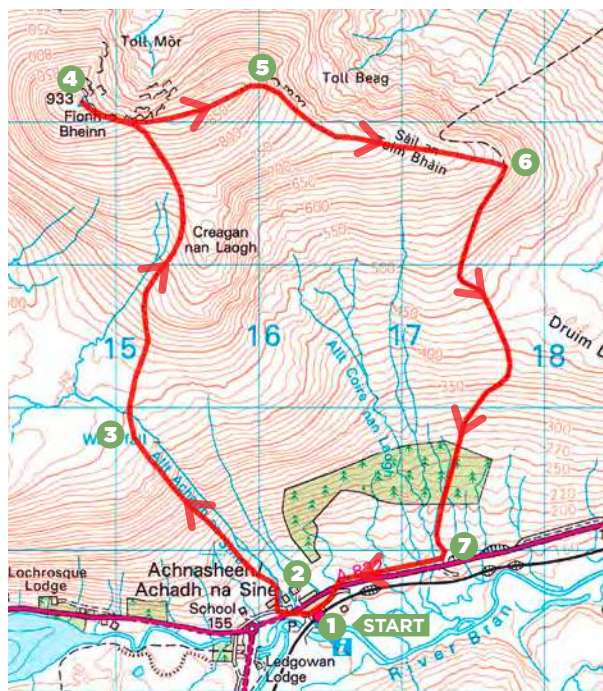
Path climbs directly north across moor, short-cutting right-angled route taken by stream, to rejoin it higher up. Path eventually crosses stream and disappears on Fionn Bheinn's upper slopes. With better going on grass and moss, keep climbing to skyline at rim of Toll Mor. Bear L around rim to reach summit.

4 3¼ miles/5.25km

Walk back down around rim of Toll Mor and out along scenic east ridge. Cross slight rise to reach end of ridge at viewpoint above remote Loch Fannich.

5 3¾ miles/6.25km

Bear R to descend ridge as it turns south-east. Initially steeper slopes descend to easy grass going once more on rim of Toll Beag. Below you'll see greystone wall on ridgecrest. Keep to near side and follow it downhill on rough path. The



stalkers' path that will take you down to the roadside is much further down than you'd expect but is unmissable. It begins at small, cairned break in wall around the 600m contour, some way down the last steep section. It comes down from hillside above and passes through break as an overgrown but wide, raised, well-drained path.

6 5 miles/8.25km

Path descends gently, goes into and out of a fenced plantation, runs briefly through woods and finally becomes

indistinct as it runs across grassy pastures to reach roadside beside building.

7 7 miles/11.25km

Walk R back along A832 to Achnasheen (15 minutes), with wide roadside verge to avoid traffic. **CW**

VIEW THE WALK ON OS MAPS ONLINE:

lfto.com/cwroutes

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



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DATE WALKED

TIME TAKEN

YOUR RATING