



# 27 HIGHLAND GLENFINNAN

► Distance: 3½ miles/5.6km ► Time: 2½ hours ► Grade: Moderate



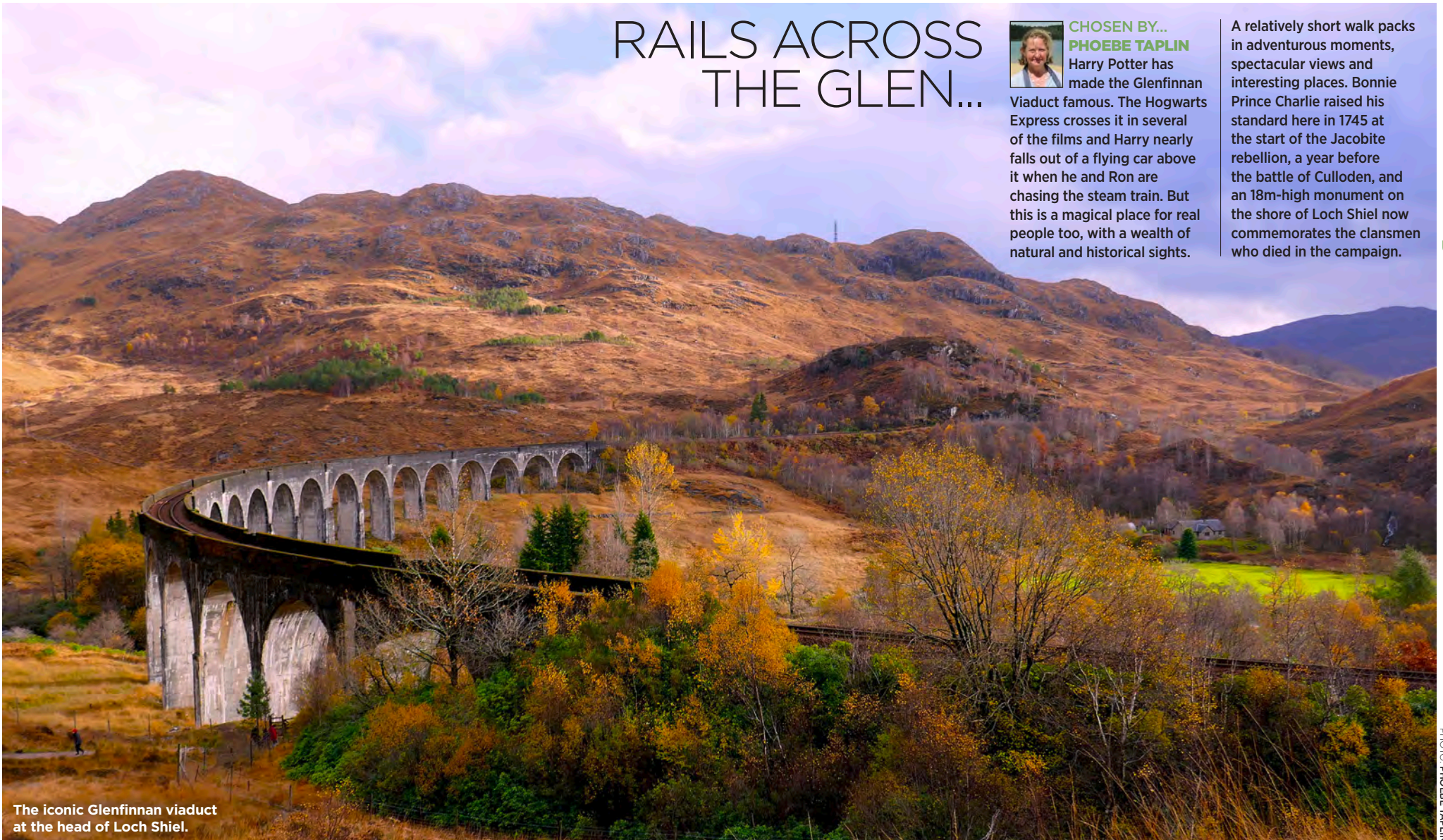
## RAILS ACROSS THE GLEN...



### CHOSEN BY... PHOEBE TAPLIN

Harry Potter has made the Glenfinnan Viaduct famous. The Hogwarts Express crosses it in several of the films and Harry nearly falls out of a flying car above it when he and Ron are chasing the steam train. But this is a magical place for real people too, with a wealth of natural and historical sights.

A relatively short walk packs in adventurous moments, spectacular views and interesting places. Bonnie Prince Charlie raised his standard here in 1745 at the start of the Jacobite rebellion, a year before the battle of Culloden, and an 18m-high monument on the shore of Loch Shiel now commemorates the clansmen who died in the campaign.



The iconic Glenfinnan viaduct at the head of Loch Shiel.



# 27 HIGHLAND GLENFINNAN

► OS Explorer map 398 ► Buy maps at: [ordnancesurvey.co.uk/shop](http://ordnancesurvey.co.uk/shop)

**1 Start**  
From Glenfinnan Station, go up steps past museum and between Dining Car and Sleeping Car. Go down steps and L along a trail made of old sleepers. Follow signs for Viaduct Trail, viewpoint and Woodland Walk. Continue L over a little stream and up steps under railway. Follow path ahead uphill, then curving R and L at viewpoint.

**2 ½ mile/0.5km**  
Continue to follow clear, narrow path up and down hillside. Flight of wooden steps and wooden walkway connect rougher, rockier sections. Keep following path down. Go through wooden gate and under massive arch of viaduct. At T-junction of paths, turn L and R along

lane near river. Cross main road and turn L over bridge.

**3 1¼ miles/2km**  
Turn R opposite National Trust Scotland (NTS) Visitor Centre to see Glenfinnan monument on shore of Loch Shiel. Returning towards Visitor Centre, turn R just before road at Forestry Commission Scotland's notice board along wooden walkway. Keep straight along surfaced path and over footbridge. Turn L at T-junction, signed Callop and immediately L again up path marked Hilltop Viewpoint.

**4 2 miles/3.25km**  
Follow path up, around hill through pine trees and down again onto wooden walkway. Turn R and go back the way you came over footbridge

## DON'T MISS...



**Glenfinnan Station Museum is a friendly heritage centre with a tearoom and bunkhouse in old train carriages. Besides the rail memorabilia and info about the viaduct, they have local walking maps.**

and past the Visitor Centre. Immediately after main road bridge, turn L on road signed Slatach towards Glenfinnan House Hotel and Shiel Cruises. Continue with church on R and turn L into hotel drive (open to non-residents). Keep straight along path beside loch to pier.

**5 3 miles/5km**  
At pier for Loch Shiel Cruises turn R up lane. At T-junction, turn L following sign for trains. Keep straight, with river and glimpses of waterfalls on L, as lane becomes track beyond house called Innisfree. Continue until track rejoins main road near Princes House Hotel. Turn R on main road and fork L at sign to return to station. **CW**



Glenfinnan Station and museum.

PHOTO: PHOEBE TAPLIN



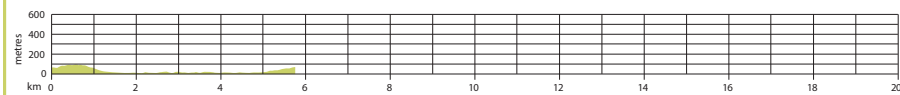
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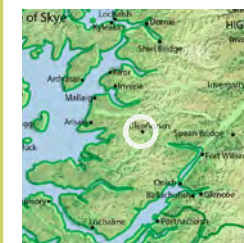
PHOTO: PHOEBE TAPLIN

Looking down on Glenfinnan from the viaduct.

## GRADIENT PROFILE



## PLAN YOUR WALK



### ROUTE

**Start/parking** Glenfinnan Station. Car park nearby (and at point 3), PH37 4LT, grid ref NM898809

**Is it for me?** Relatively simple. Mostly good paths, but steep, slightly rough or muddy in a few places. Short section by road  
**Stiles** None

### PLANNING

**Nearest town** Fort William

**Refreshments** Dining Car at station; NTS café, hotels in season

**Public toilets** NTS Visitor Centre (donation)

**Public transport** Trains from Glasgow to Mallaig. Buses 500 & 502 from Fort William. Summer trains don't allow enough time for this circuit

**Maps** OS Explorer 398; Landranger 40

**VIEW THE WALK ON OS MAPS ONLINE:**  
[lfto.com/cwroutes](http://lfto.com/cwroutes)

IN ASSOCIATION WITH



DATE WALKED  
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

TIME TAKEN  
□ □ □ □ □ □ □ □

YOUR RATING  
○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

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