Before you go

No public body gives a way, a distance or a time for this hill. By our map it is about 14.5 km (9 miles) there and back with about 980 metres of climb, and it takes about 5½ to 7 hours, more with stops, in poor weather or under snow: leave plenty of daylight for the way down. Under snow this is a winter mountain, for walkers with winter skills and the gear to match. No avalanche forecast covers Beinn Fhionnlaidh, which is no sign there is no risk.

Check the mountain forecast, and under snow the snow and avalanche conditions too. It is often much colder and windier on the hill than in the glen. Wear good walking boots and carry warm, waterproof clothing, plenty of food and drink, and a torch in case the day runs long. Carry a map and compass and know how to use them, and do not rely only on a phone or GPS. Leave word with someone of where you are going and when you will be back.

The car park is at the end of the public road up Glen Creran, off the A828 at Creagan: at the roundabout just east of Creagan follow the sign for Invercreran, bear left onto a single-track road after about 2 miles, and go on for about 2½ miles more. There is no charge, and PA38 4BJ is the nearest postcode, Forestry and Land Scotland says. There are no toilets: the nearest are at Port Appin. Stags may be stalked at any time of year and hinds from 21 October to 15 February, Mountaineering Scotland says: check Heading for the Scottish Hills before you go.

After the walk

This Beinn Fhionnlaidh stands between Glen Creran and Glen Etive. It is not the Munro of the same name in Glen Affric, far to the north.

The walk online, with its film and map:
hiddenscotland.com/walks/beinn-fhionnlaidh-from-glen-creran

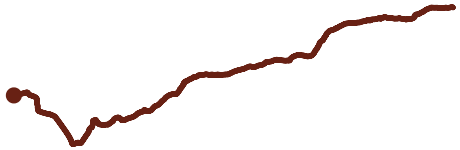
It starts at Forestry and Land Scotland's car park at the end of the public road up Glen Creran, NN 035 488.

In an emergency, call 999 or 112 and ask for Police and Mountain Rescue, Mountaineering Scotland says, and give your location as exactly as you can, ideally a six-figure grid reference and a named feature. Do not rely only on a phone or GPS.

HIDDEN SCOTLAND

A MUNRO WALK UP

Beinn Fhionnlaidh



A HIDDEN SCOTLAND WALK

By the west ridge

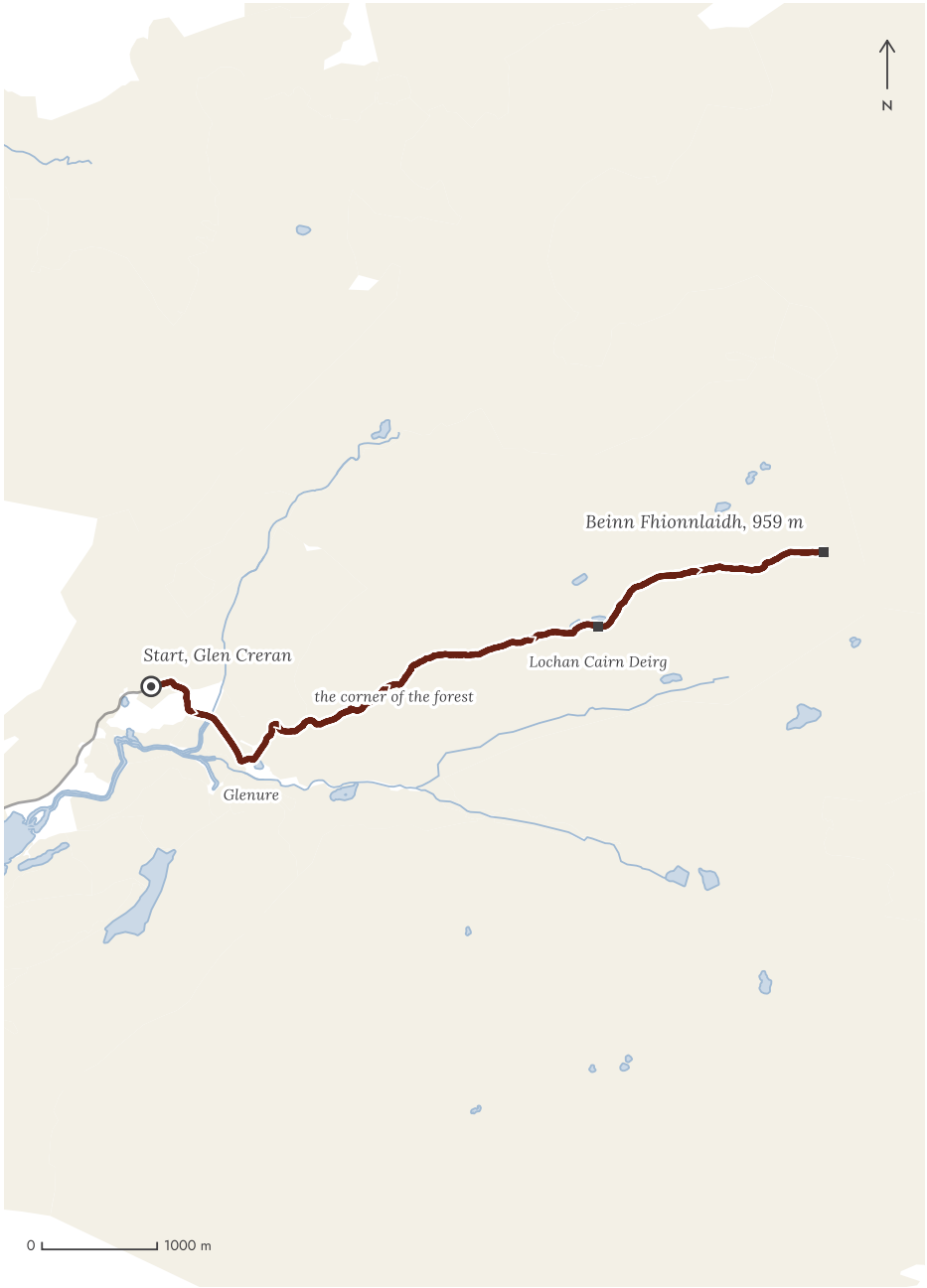
Beinn Fhionnlaidh is a rocky Munro of 959 metres between Glen Creran and Glen Etive, and not the hill of the same name in Glen Affric. This is the usual way, from Glen Creran: past Glenure to the corner of the forest, then up the long west ridge by Lochan Cairn Deirg to the summit, and back the same way. The ridge is broad and boggy and hard to follow in mist, with crags close to the path near the top. A day for experienced hillwalkers who can find their way with a map and compass.

words // Hidden Scotland

From the car park the private road runs east past Elleric, over a cattle grid and across the River Creran by a bridge, then on to Glenure. There turn left on the track north, and after about 370 metres by our map right on a rougher track east, which can be boggy, to where it ends at the corner of the forest, about 2 km out and only about 65 metres up.

From the corner of the forest the hill path climbs east up the long west ridge. One guide calls the ridge not well defined, and the path is faint in places, over rough, wet ground, with knolls and dips higher up. There are no way-marks or signposts. In mist this broad ridge is hard to follow: check your line with map and compass as you go. The path reaches Lochan Cairn Deirg on the main crest, about 5 km out and about 620 metres up. This is the place to decide: if the cloud is coming down, the wind is rising or anyone is tiring, turn for home.

Beyond the lochan the path follows the crest east, not always plain and boggy in places. Crags guard the crest on both sides, and near the top the path passes within about 40 metres of mapped crags, over bare rock: keep to the crest. The summit is a trig point in a shelter cairn. In cloud, check your line with map and compass before you leave it, as crags fall away on both sides. The way up from Glen Etive to the east is shorter, but one guide warns of a river crossing that can be a problem in wet weather, and another notes short scrambling pitches on the crest just east of the summit. This walk keeps to Glen Creran. Go down the way you came.



Up Beinn Fhionnlaidh and back the same way: about 5½ to 7 hours.

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