

**Glen Rosa - north track.**  
 At [7] where there is a picnic table, follow the grassy path down the edge of the forest; or at [9], head down the path alongside fields and a dry-stone wall. In either case, you'll reach [8]. From here, you are looking for a very small path at the very point where the wall runs into the forest. You'll head into the forest briefly before you find the main gate to the valley which opens up before you. The trail is easily marked, mostly flat but quite narrow.

**Cnocan Gorge** **See Over**  
 See overleaf for an enlarged view of this area. Remember, these are only the main trails. Others, including forestry roads are accessible and there are many of these to the north and east of the castle grounds. You can track many of them on Google Maps.

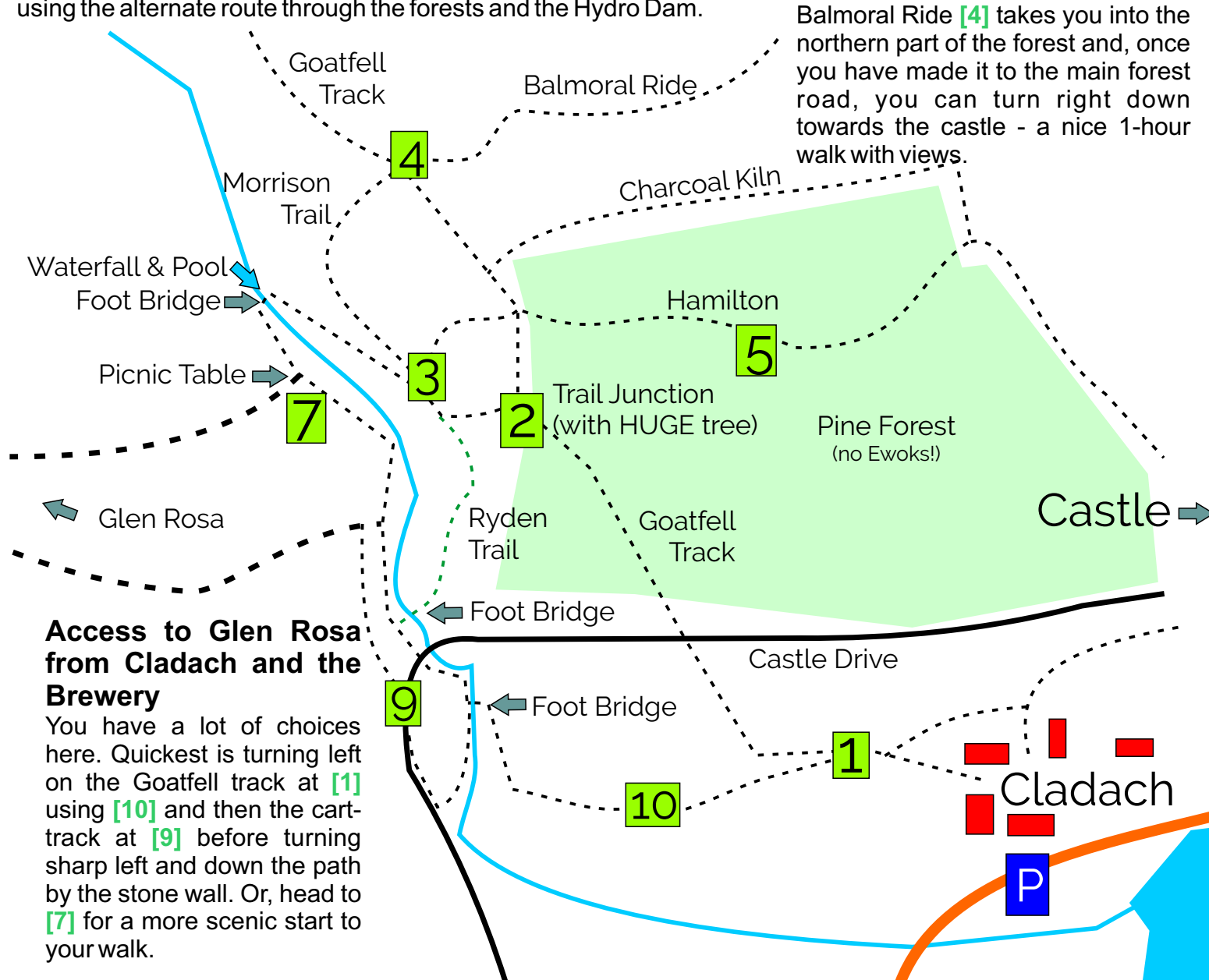
**Glen Rosa - south track.**  
 You can access Glen Rosa by car at the junction [15] and drive to the small car park [16]. The walk is easy, flat and very popular. It is gravel until you reach the bridge [12]. Keep your dogs out of the long grass in summer, as there are adders in this valley. Access to the popular "blue pool" is 100m beyond the bridge [14]. From here, the trail becomes much less defined though you can easily reach the 'saddle' and other features. Crossing the smaller bridge [13] takes you onto the narrow trail leading back to Cnocan Gorge and the Castle. You can cross Glen Rosa (especially near [11] if you have appropriate footwear and only really during drier periods).  
 Glen Rosa is a glacial valley. The large grassy knolls are actually sand and gravel hills, made by the glacier as it moved down towards the sea.

**Adders** are the UK's only venomous snake. They are very common in this area and if you, or your dog, gets bitten, you will need urgent medical assistance. Please keep an eye on your dog, instruct your kids not to approach a snake if they see one and always take your phone.  
 Arran Vets: 01770 302511

# GLEN ROSA AND CNOCAN GORGE

# To Goatfell

Goatfell is a long 4 - 5 hour walk for most people. It looks easy and, for the most part, it is. However, bear in mind that this is a mountain. It's also very steep for the last 500 feet of elevation. There is a path and people of all ages manage to get to the summit. However, be prepared for a long walk and always take a phone. There is a bridge halfway up (near the deer fence) which many people stop at before continuing or returning (often using the alternate route through the forests and the Hydro Dam).



## Access to Glen Rosa from Cladach and the Brewery

You have a lot of choices here. Quickest is turning left on the Goatfell track at [1] using [10] and then the cart-track at [9] before turning sharp left and down the path by the stone wall. Or, head to [7] for a more scenic start to your walk.

Balmoral Ride [4] takes you into the northern part of the forest and, once you have made it to the main forest road, you can turn right down towards the castle - a nice 1-hour walk with views.

# Cnocan Gorge

From Cladach you have a bunch of options for short 20 - 45 minute walks. The Goatfell Track is the main artery. Paths heading off this to the right, generally lead you back to the castle, including [5] which is where the Hamilton Cemetery is located.

Left [2] at one of our largest trees will take you into the gorge. You can head back to the Goatfell track at a three-way intersection [3] but if you want to see the gorge, keep left and you'll quickly be looking down at the water. Pass a large tree trunk on the trail, the waterfall is a great photo opportunity and you walk over a footbridge to start heading south again. At [7] you can head into Glen Rosa (see over) or you can simply return down a narrow path back to the Castle Exit drive. There are more waterfalls and a sheer drop, so look after kids. Crossing the drive you can head down the gorge further, crossing a bridge and back to Cladach.

The walks are generally easy but there are slight inclines throughout and care should be taken over paths which are often rocky or have tree roots exposed. The Ryden Trail is a short walk with two forest glades and a steep decent to a footbridge. Pretty much all routes connect up easily so you can make your own decisions where to go.

If you see a guy with a gorgeous red setter, please stop to say hello. Dusty and his owner Graham (the designer of this map) are regularly on these trails.

Other "wildlife" includes rabbits, hares, deer (rare), red squirrels and goldcrests.