

## **Short walks and strolls around Dervaig**

Each of the numbered walks is shown on the map below.

These short walks will give different views and wildlife depending on the time of day.

Once you leave the tarmac, even for short walks, it is advisable to wear boots or waterproof shoes.

1. Turn right out of the cottage and head up the street to the Bellachroy and turn right. Kilmore church is on the left is open all year round and well worth a look inside. Within 10 minutes walk you will be at the loch head where you can see otters and a variety of birds and if you are lucky you might see the white tailed eagles. If you continue for a further 10 minutes you can visit The Old Byre (heritage centre and cafe). Evening is a good time to visit the head of the loch to see sunsets and otters and you can call in to The Bellachroy on the way back.
2. Turn left out of the cottage and you will see an old gate at the side of Rock Cottage. Climb or open the gate (which is very heavy) and be sure to close it. Follow the path through another gate (be sure to close it) and walk towards the shore through the village playing field. Just over half way along the field there is a path to the right which takes you to the shore. You can return the way you came or follow the shore to the head of the loch to return past the church and Bellachroy. The walk will take you 30 minutes to an hour depending on how you return.
3. Turn left out of the cottage and walk down the road along the loch side. Within 15-20 minutes the tarmac road becomes a gravel track. Just after passing Camus Cuin and a cattle grid there is a path to the left down to the shore. Another opportunity to see otters, various birds and occasionally seals. The walk, returning the way you came, will take about an hour.
4. As walk 3 above but continue along the track until you come to 2 large gates which take you into Quinish Estate. Take the path round the side of the left gate and follow it until bears right when you can see the sea. Before bearing right you can take a path to the left through another gate to an old pier where you might see otters and seals and the other side of the loch. Going back follow the path (not the way you came) and at the fork near the bridge turn right again to return to the village. The circular walk will take about an hour from the cottage and you might see deer on the way especially in the evening.
5. Turn right out of the cottage and head up the street to the Bellachroy and turn left. Walk along the side of the main road up the hill and past the old cemetery. Stop to look round the old cemetery and watch out for buzzards and eagles overhead. Walk round the edge of the hairpin bend to the car park at the viewing point. Have a rest at the seat overlooking the village and loch. Rather than returning the way you came you can extend the walk to be circular by walking through the viewing point to some standing stones and continue into the now felled forest where you can take a left path back to the village via Kilmore terrace. The walk might take about 2 hours with stops to explore if you make it circular.

