

## Laich o' Moray 30/50

### Rafford and Forres Area Guide

(February 2026)

#### Travel

**Parking** is available on the Rafford Village Hall playing field. Please say on the entry form if you require parking. Please do not park in the small car park front of the Village Hall.

The nearest **public transport** links are in Forres, approximately 3 miles northwest of the start/finish. If you require transport from and to Forres to Rafford, please include this on the entry form.

Forres is on the Inverness/Aberdeen rail line. For timetables and tickets see [Scotrail](#). Please note, if you are planning to leave Forres on Sunday morning, rail services don't start until late morning.

Forres is served by the [Ember Bus](#) service between Inverness and Aberdeen. This service must be booked in advance (up to 10 minutes before departure) as the driver only stops when there is a booking. Scottish bus passes may be used for free travel, but booking is still necessary. Services are available early on a Sunday morning, from approximately 3am travelling in the Elgin/Aberdeen direction and 5am in the Inverness direction (correct at Feb 26). The service picks up on Forres high street.

[Stagecoach](#) services M96, 10 and 10A between Inverness and Aberdeen stop in Forres. Tickets can be bought from the driver with cash or card or purchased via the Stagecoach app. Scottish bus passes give free travel. Sunday morning services start later than Ember, at around 8am.

If you are staying in the area for a while, the [m.connect](#) on demand bus service is an option for accessing locations which can't be reached by scheduled services. However, this does not run early on Saturday or on Sunday.

The nearest airport is [Inverness Airport](#). Train services from the airport to Forres are around a 10-15 minute walk from the terminal. [Stagecoach](#) bus services are available from the terminal and airport train station to Forres.

## Accommodation

Camping at Rafford Village Hall will be available in the adjacent playing field, well away from adjacent houses, from Friday evening to Sunday morning. Please do not park camper vans in the car park at the front of the hall. Please let us know on the entry form if you intend to camp or bring a camper van. Toilets are available in the Village Hall via the disabled access door at the side of the hall, but no showers.

If you are camping or in a campervan and wish to stay longer, the nearest campsite is at [Findhorn Bay Holiday Park](#), and motorhome stopovers are located at [Findhorn Beach](#) and [Findhorn Marina](#).

**Rafford** has two providers of self-catering lodges not far from the Village Hall:

[Marcassie Farm Lodges](#) offers accommodation on a site specialising in environmental and wellbeing enterprises.

[Tullochwood Lodges](#) offering dog friendly lodges in a woodland setting.

Or, if you are after a bit of luxury, [Blervie House](#) offers 5\* B&B.

In nearby **Forres**, you will find:

Hotels - [Ramnee Hotel](#), [Carlton Hotel](#)

B&B – [Reiver House](#)

Self-catering - [Varis Apartments](#), [Mosset Tavern](#), plus other properties listed on [Airbnb](#).

A wider range of accommodation is available in Elgin, Nairn and Inverness. Public transport is available from these locations to Forres. Accommodation (including a [hostel](#)) is also available in Findhorn, but public transport options between Findhorn and Forres are limited.

## Eating Out

### In Forres:

Sit-in cafes: [1496](#), [Forres Coffee House\\*](#), [Chimes](#), [Fika\\*](#)

Restaurants: [Mosset Tavern\\*](#), [The Bonnie Beastie](#), [Cardamon Spice\\*](#), [Forres Tandoori\\*](#)

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#### Takeaways:

Coffee, cakes and savouries – [The Pantry](#), [The Olive Tree Kitchen](#)

Fish and chips – [The Northern Fish Restaurant](#), [Forres Fish Bar](#)

Chinese – [China One](#), Lucky Star (no website)

Indian - [Cardamon Spice\\*](#), [Forres Tandoori\\*](#)

Pizza/kebabs - [Speedy Pepper](#), [Kebabish](#), [Pizza Pan](#)

Ice cream – [Mather's\\*](#)

#### Further Afield

Findhorn: [The Captain's Table](#), [The Kimberly Inn](#), [Crown and Anchor](#)

Findhorn Ecovillage: [The Phoenix Cafe\\*](#)

\*Good for GF and vegan options

If you are looking for an **early breakfast on Sunday morning** following the event, there are limited options available. Greggs (takeaway only) at the Esso petrol station on Nairn Road opens at 7am, Costa coffee inside Tesco on Nairn Road opens at 8am. 1496 opens at 9.30am.

## Shopping

Forres has a Tesco superstore, Lidl and Co-op plus independent butchers and bakers.

[The Bakehouse](#) at Findhorn sells fresh artisan bread and locally sourced organic products. [The Phoenix Shop](#) at the Findhorn Ecovillage also has a good selection of organic and wholefoods.

Forres doesn't have a dedicated **outdoor shop**. However, [Highland Army Surplus](#) has a limited selection of outdoor clothing and equipment. Inverness has several large outdoor shops including Tiso, Alpkit, Go Outdoors, Cotswold, Blacks, Craigdon Mountain Sports.

If you need a **pharmacy**, Forres has a branch of Boots plus Right Medicine Pharmacy (formerly Clear Pharmacy), both on the High Street.

At the event, food and drink will be provided at checkpoints. However, if you need additional supplies, on the route of the 50 mile event you will find a small Co-op at

Burghead and a larger Co-op at Lossiemouth. Elgin has a large Tesco which closes at midnight just off the route.

## Outings and Activities

If you are lucky enough to be in the area for a while, you will find plenty to do.

Walking: route suggestions are available from [Walkhighlands](#), [Forres Footpaths Trust](#) and [Moray Ways](#). We also have GPX files available for most of our past group walks on the [North of Scotland LDWA website](#).

If you are feeling adventurous, you could try [white water rafting or river tubing](#) on the River Findhorn. Or alternatively, enjoy a gentle stroll by the river followed by a trip to the shops and cafe at [Logie Steading](#).

You can take a [boat trip from Findhorn](#), where you could spot the famous Moray Firth dolphins.

There are numerous golf courses, stately homes and distilleries to be discovered as well as beautiful sandy beaches, extensive forests and moors.

For further information about things to see and do in the area see <https://morayspeyside.com/> or <https://visitforres.scot/>