



The Pass of Killiecrankie

Information for schools



The Pass of Killiecrankie is a spectacular, deep river gorge cloaked in ancient woodland and flanked on the west by the River Garry. This narrow, mile long stretch of water and land has some unique flora and fauna, and has been designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSI). Woodland and river creatures include red squirrels, roe deer, wood warblers, dippers, otters and (high in the sky) buzzards.

The Battle of Killiecrankie (1st Jacobite Rebellion) took place in 1689. Nearby is the renowned Soldier's Leap, where a Government soldier escaped by jumping 5.5 metres across the river - and also the Trooper's Den, where the first shot of the Battle was fired. Pupils may also see some remains of Generals Wade's military road, dating from the 1720s, and the impressive railway viaduct built in calmer times, in 1863.

The school visit offers opportunities for cross-curricular work and engaging with the Curriculum for Excellence

- Natural history walks led by an NTS ranger.
- *The Jacobites* school programme – includes a 'battle re-enactment'.
- Woodland and riverside trails.
- Ranger led walks can be adapted to suit the requirements of your pupils.

Resources for schools

- Illustrated guidebook (for sale on site).
 - Teachers' Notes (available on request).
 - Visitor Centre display - the history and natural history of Killiecrankie.
- Please Note: Visitor Centre & Toilets open in summer season (April – October).

Planning your visit

- To book: please contact Killiecrankie for a booking form
- Book well in advance to avoid disappointment.
- Schools may visit Killiecrankie all year round - but the Visitor Centre and Toilets are open only in the summer season (April – October).
- Maximum class size: For the battle re-enactment – up to 80 pupils; for Natural History walks – up to 40 pupils (split into groups of up to 20 pupils).
- There must be a ratio of at least 1 teacher/adult helper to 10 pupils.
- SAFETY FIRST: Please be aware that, for woodland/riverside walks, pupils will be close to a deep river gorge so should be supervised carefully.
- Access: The Visitor Centre is fully accessible for wheelchair users. The battle re-enactment can be adapted for all pupils (the re-enactment area is near the Visitor Centre). Please contact us to discuss any additional needs – we will do our utmost to accommodate you.
- Toilets: there are fully accessible toilets on site in the SUMMER SEASON. They are closed in the winter months.



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Planning your visit (continued)

- Refreshments: There is no café. Most schools bring picnics. Picnic tables are situated near the Visitor Centre, in a safe area. In the winter months, in wet weather, access to the Visitor Centre building may be possible for ranger led groups - please contact us to discuss.
- Clothing: should be appropriate for outdoors.
- The site has been risk assessed. Teachers should prepare their own RA for the visit.
- There is more information about planning a visit to a Trust site, and you can download *Safety First for Outdoor Visits*, on the NTS Learn website: www.nts.org.uk/Learn/schools_plan.php
- For more information about Killiecrankie, please go to: www.nts.org.uk/Property/Killiecrankie/

Charges

- There is no admission charge for schools with NTS educational membership.
- Non-members are welcome but there is an admission charge of £2 per pupil.
- Accompanying adults are admitted free.
- All class teachers are encouraged to make a free preparatory visit to the site.
- Membership: please apply to Killiecrankie - or go to the NTS Learn website: www.nts.org.uk/Learn/schools_membership.php

During your class visit

- Natural History walks and *The Jacobites* programme are led by NTS staff.
- If you are planning a teacher led visit instead, please let NTS staff know, for safety reasons – we should know that your pupils are on the site.
- The length of a school visit varies from around 1 hour – 2.5 hours, depending on the requirements of your class. This can be agreed when booking.
- A class will be split into groups – each group must be accompanied by a teacher/ school helper. The number of groups depends on class size and activities. Please check when booking your visit.
- Teachers are responsible for pupils and their behaviour.
- Schools may take photos/ films.
- Pupils are welcome to visit the shop, in small groups and with teacher supervision (open during the summer season).
- On arrival, please report to the admission desk in the Visitor Centre (summer season) – or (winter months) gather outside the Visitor Centre where a member of NTS staff will be waiting for you.

Getting to Killiecrankie

- Killiecrankie is 3 miles north of Pitlochry. Ordnance Survey Ref: NN917627.
- There is a coach park near the Visitor Centre.

For more information and a booking form, please contact Killiecrankie

Ranger Office, Killiecrankie, Pitlochry, Perthshire PH16 5LG

Telephone (Ranger Office): 0844 4932194 Email : killiecrankie@nts.org.uk