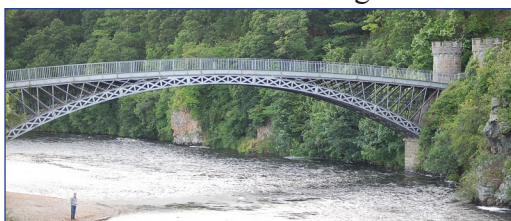


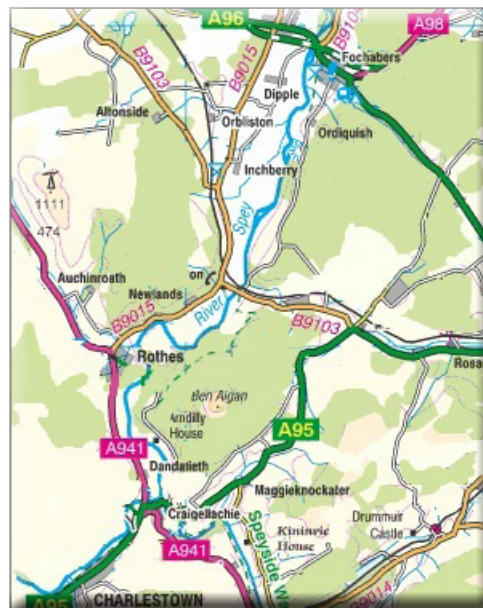
Knockando to Craigellachie. 7 miles.

Foundry in Aberdeen. Charlestown of Aberlour (or just Aberlour) is home to whisky and shortbread. Walker's shortbread is made in the town and Aberlour has its own distillery on the main road just as you enter the town. Here you can take the Founders Tour on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Pass the old kirkyard on the right and you will soon come to the old railway station building. This buildhouses the headquarters of the Speyside Way and there is an exhibition showing film footage of the old railway in black and white. There is also a feature showing the location of all the distilleries along Speyside. The countryside rangers there will be happy to help with any information you may have on the way itself. It is open from May to October, seven days a week. Next door to the centre is a small cafe which is open during the summer months. There are also cafes, hotels and pubs in Aberlour too of course. Near to the visitor centre is the Mash Tun - a whisky themed pub and dining establishment. There is only a short walk from Aberlour along the riverside to Craigellachie from here. **Craigellachie** is a small highland village with a hotel, a couple of pubs, post office and an art gallery. It is a short climb up from the path to the village. Outside the village on the other side of the main road is the famous Craigellachie Iron bridge that spans the Spey. Built between 1812 and 1815 this cast iron bridge was built by the engineer Thomas Telford. It has a single span of 46 metres with two 15 metres (49 ft) high masonry mock-medieval towers, featuring arrow slits and miniature crenellated battlements. It is the oldest surviving cast-iron bridge in Scotland and is considered one of the finest of its type in Britain. Although no longer suitable for traffic, it is still used by cyclists and pedestrians. Thomas Telford was born in Dumfriesshire in 1757 and although he started out as a stonemason, he became an engineer whose bridges, roads, harbours, canals, churches and even whole towns are still standing two centuries later.



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Craigellachie to Fochabers 13 Miles



Directions - Leave from Fiddich Park and cross the bridge on the A95. Turn left up the road to Arndilly and walk for 2.5 miles. Turn right into Arndilly Wood. You are on the western slopes of Ben Aigan. Follow the path for another 2.5 miles until you come to a hairpin bend. Look out for the marker pointing to the path on the left beneath Knockmore (telecoms mast on the hill). Continue downhill on this path until you reach Boat o' Brig. Cross the B9103, pass the small car park on your left, go under the bridge and follow this minor road which leads to Fochabers.



About a mile and a half north of Craigellachie you will pass Arndilly House. This is a private home built for David Macdowall Grant in 1750 and enlarged in neo-Jacobean style by Thomas Mackenzie one hundred years later. A Pictish symbol stone is built into the west gable, but please do not enter as the grounds are private.

Across the other side of the river from the path lies the Town of Rothes. Despite its small size, Rothes is a Speyside town with five distilleries – Glen Grant founded in 1840, Glen Rothes in 1878, Glen Spey in 1885, Speyburn in 1897 and Caperdonich in 1898. All five are still in production today. Glen Grant is a single malt with the unusual character of it being the only malt whisky that is clear and not coloured brown which normally happens after the whisky is stored in sherry barrels. The white smoke you might see rising at the north of the town is not from a distillery, but from an animal feed factory that uses the by-products of the distillation process. As the path ascends around the flank

