

# SCOTLAND: The Scottish Highlands

*World Regional Geography*  
*by Lew, Hall & Timothy*

## Virtual Field Trip

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Photos Taken: 2004



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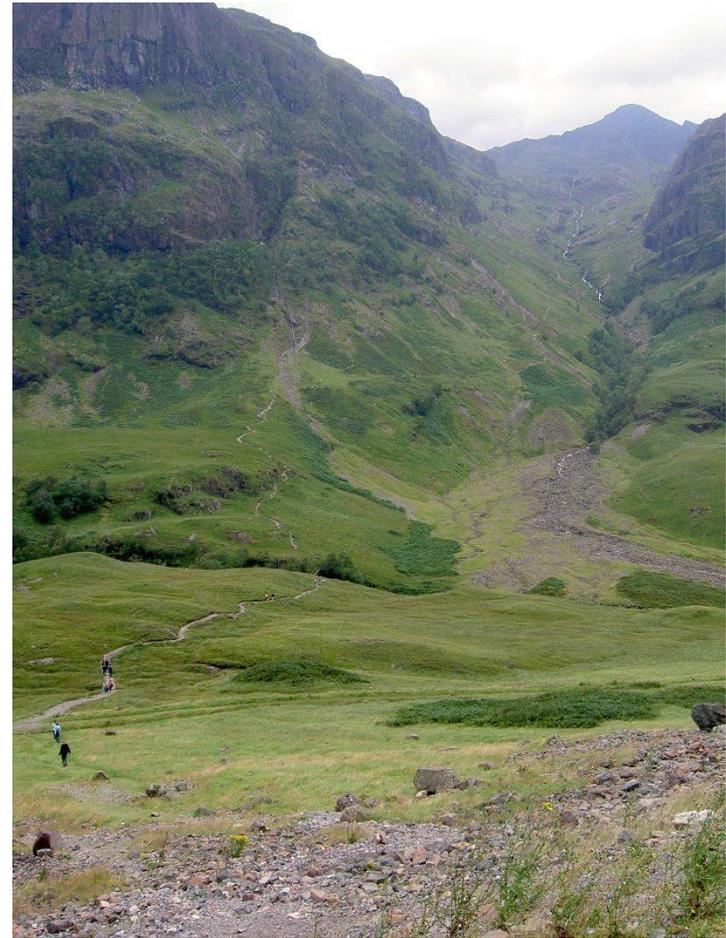
# Scotland: the Scottish Highlands



# The Scottish Highlands

- ▶ Includes the rugged and mountainous regions of Scotland north and west of the Highland Boundary Fault. Most of the southern half is part of the Grampian Mountains, with highest mountain in the British Isles, Ben Nevis, in the southwest.
- ▶ Considered one of the the most scenic regions of Europe and heavily visited by tourists in the summer months.
- ▶ One of the most sparsely populated regions of Europe, following large migrations to the Scottish Lowlands in the 19<sup>th</sup> c., where the industrial revolution cities of Glasgow and Edinburgh are located.





The mountains, valley and lakes were all shaped by the glaciers that covered almost all of Scotland in the ice ages that ended about 11,000 years ago. Hiking trails, a tourist on a motorcycle, freshly cut lumber, and peat bogs (top left) can be seen in these photos.



# The Town of Fort Williams



Fort William is the largest town in the Highlands (Inverness is larger, but is a city, not a town). It is situated on Loch Linne, which is an ocean estuary or fjord. Loch Eil, a freshwater lake, lies immediately to the north of the light green marshland that separate it from Loch Linne.

# Tourists in Fort William



# Loch Ness



The Loch Ness Monster legend makes fresh water lake a favorite tourist destination.

# Loch Ness



Loch Ness area attractions include Urquhart Caster (above), camping, and boat trips. The sign at the private campground reminds continental Europeans to keep left on UK roads.

# More Scenes of Northern Scotland



# Loch Lomond National Park



Loch Lomond National Park is in the Scottish Lowlands. It is a popular camping, hiking and fishing area close to Glasgow.

# Loch Lomond



A fault line runs from northeast (top-right) to southwest (bottom-left) of this model of Loch Lomond. To the north is the Scottish Highlands, to the south is the Scottish Lowlands.

Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park embraces diverse landscapes from the high country of Breadalbane to the sea lochs of Argyll. The Highland Boundary Fault cuts through the Park, dividing the gentle Lowlands from the rugged terrain of the Highlands. Ever since Stone Age hunters entered the area 6,000 years ago, people have influenced its landscape. Today, the National Park continues to be shaped by the people who live, work and visit here.

### Loch Lomond

**A place of contrasts**

Ben Lomond (*Beinn Laomainn*, beacon hill) stands guard over Loch Lomond, the largest expanse of freshwater in Great Britain and the romantic centrepiece of the National Park. In the north the loch is deep and narrow, bound by steep-sided mountains. Further south it spills into an island studded panorama.

### The Trossachs

**Sparkling lochs and wild glens**

The Trossachs (*Na Tróisichean*) – the wild glens and sparkling lochs between Callander and Aberfoyle – are often regarded as the ‘Highlands in miniature’. Here the contrast between Highlands and Lowlands is stark as you leave Aberfoyle to climb up through the twisting Duke’s Pass to Loch Katrine.

### Argyll Forest

**Where the land meets the sea**

The ‘Arrochar Alps’ survey the Argyll Forest to the south. The view from the top of Glen Croe is just reward for the long drive up through this mountain pass. From here the road descends past Hell’s Glen down to Lochgoilhead and the wooded shores of Argyll (*Earra Gháidheal*, the landfall of the Gaels).

### Breadalbane

**A land of giants**

Breadalbane (*Brághaid Albainn*, the high country of Scotland) is a land of giants. Ben Lui, Ben Challum, Ben More and Ben Vorlich, some of Scotland’s finest Munro peaks, line the route from Tyndrum to Killin and down through Glen Ogle. Fingal, the giant-slayer of Celtic legend, rests in his grave in Killin.

This sign has been produced as part of the Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park Early Actions Programme. Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park gratefully acknowledges the support provided by

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To find out more about Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park tel: 08707 200 607 or visit our website: [www.lochlomond-trossachs.org](http://www.lochlomond-trossachs.org)



Tourists and a Scottish bagpipe player at a roadside stop in the Highlands.  
More photos in this series can be found at: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/alew/sets>