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GREAT WINTER DAYS OUT

What to expect from your course

We will usually meet or journey together to arrive at our starting point for 9am. Please see our KIT LIST for what you need to bring. The day will always start with a brief about your goals for the day and a look at weather, snow conditions and anything else you need to know.

We will have a good walk in during which your guide will be trying to get to know you and find out your level of experience/fitness/knowledge and we will be starting the process of imparting winter skills! This is an important process as it allows us to pick the right strategy for the day and choose useful routes for you to enjoy/learn on or to get you out of your comfort zone on!

Depending on your requests our winter days will have a certain balance of guiding and instruction. We aim to have improved everyone's winter skills by the end of each course!

Great Cuillin winter days

Traversing Sgurr nan Gillean in winter has to be one of the best winter experiences in Scotland. Whether you ascend by the SE Ridge or the W Ridge this is an experience to be savoured, never too hard but interesting enough to keep your attention throughout! Its northerly position and relative distance from the sea means this is quite often in condition.

Just next door Fionn Coire and Bruach na Frithe provide the ideal objective for the winter walker who wants a glimpse of the majesty of the Cuillin in winter. Ascending via the coire provides a good venue for learning winter skills, while the more experienced will want to ascend via the NW Ridge of Bruach na Frithe.

Further south the ridge provides many different days out, Mhadaidh and Greadaidh are fine peaks to ascend in winter, with some serious concentration needed at times but usually repaying the effort with some classic ridge experiences. South of here the ridge is less often in good winter condition but when it is then the surrounding sea makes it a hard experience to beat.

Further afield Marsco provides a much more straight forward but still spectacular winter experience and Bla Bheinn provides good gullies and walking to get a chance to see the fine view of the entire Cuillin ridge laid out before you.

Great mainland winter days

We provide guiding on the mainland from the sandstone monoliths of TORRIDON to the climbing playground of the NORTHERN CAIRNGORMS to the challenges of BEN NEVIS.

If you want to traverse Liathach or Beinn Alligin or get an introduction to winter climbing in a spectacular area then Torridon is a fantastic choice. The Torridon Youth Hostel is a great place to stay, with one of the better drying rooms in Scotland! The Sheildaig Hotel is a short drive away and provides good food and a warm and cosy atmosphere to tell winter tales of derring do in.

The northern corries of the Cairngorms provide a great arena for learning winter skills, taking your first steps into winter leading or simply being guided up some of the many great winter routes here. The short approaches and reliable conditions make the Cairngorms a great choice for getting plenty of action in without the west coast grind up and down the hills. There are plenty of lovely places to stay in and around Aviemore to suit all budgets too.

Last but certainly not least the massive variety, height and multitude of venues make the Ben Nevis and Glencoe area an obvious place to spend time. This area really comes into its own in late February and March when the freeze thaw cycle has worked its magic on the higher venues. There are all time classic routes such as Tower Ridge, introductory climbs such as Dorsal Arete or Ledge Route. Smaller classics like curved ridge and endless mountains like Bidean nam Bian means that this area will leave you with great memories and tired legs!