

OSINT CHALLENGE 4

Challenge Write-Up: *Across Still Waters*

Challenge Description Recap

A steam train cuts through the Highlands, crossing a graceful curve of stone made famous by a journey to a school of magic.

Beneath this path lies a long, quiet body of water — calm, reflective, and easily overlooked.

Your task is not to name the bridge, nor the train, but to follow where the tracks lead and look below.

Identify the body of water associated with this scene and determine its exact geographic coordinates.

Flag format: EXC{x.xx,y.yy}

Understanding the Clues (Plain Language)

Key hints from the description:

- Famous **steam train** from a wizarding journey
- A **curved stone bridge** in the Scottish Highlands
- The answer is **not** the bridge or train
- We must **look below the tracks**
- A **body of water** is involved
- Coordinates are required

So the task is:

Identify the **water body associated with the scene**, then extract its **latitude and longitude**.

Step 1: Reverse Image Search (Google Lens)

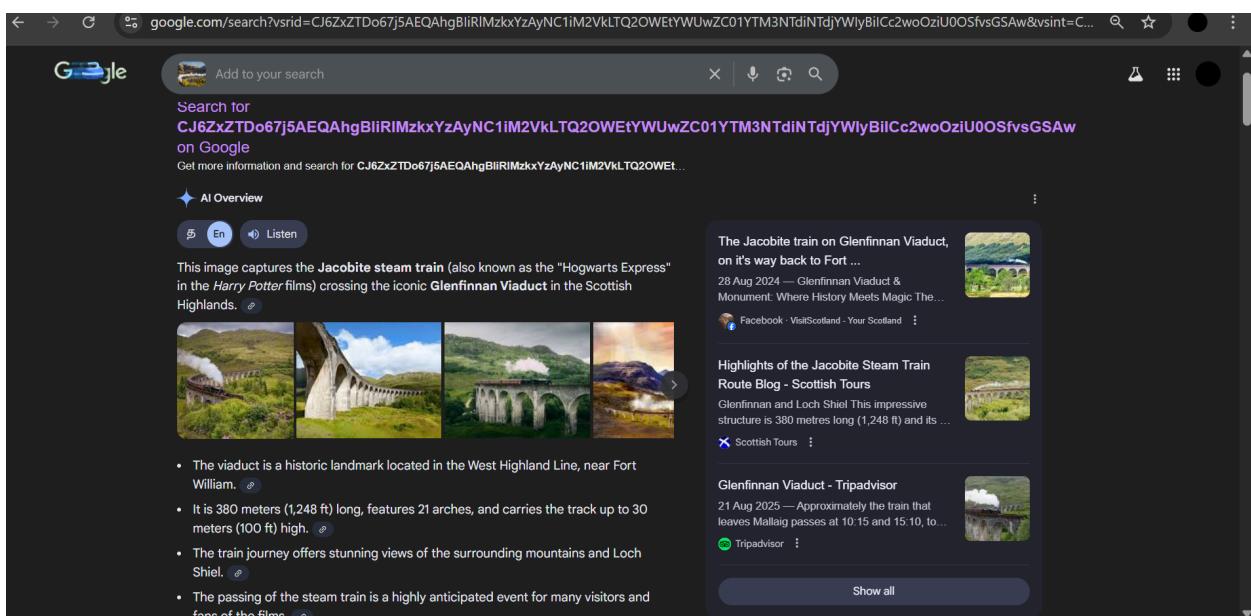
1. Upload the given image to **Google Lens**
2. Google Lens immediately returns many identical images
3. Clicking any match reveals the well-known filming location

At this point, you will clearly see:

- The iconic viaduct
- Mentions of the surrounding landscape
- References to the **loch beneath it**

Important:

The challenge explicitly says **not to name the bridge**, so we shift focus.



Step 2: Identify the Body of Water

From the image matches and related pages, you will notice the associated water body:

- **Loch Shiel**

This loch:

- Lies directly beneath and alongside the tracks
- Is frequently visible in the same images
- Matches the clue "*long, quiet body of water*"

Glenfinnan Viaduct

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The **Glenfinnan Viaduct** is a railway viaduct on the [West Highland Line](#) at Glenfinnan, in the Lochaber district of north-western Scotland, built from 1897 to 1901. Located at the top of [Loch Shiel](#) in the West Scottish Highlands, the viaduct overlooks the [Glenfinnan Monument](#) and the waters of Loch Shiel.

Construction [edit]

The [West Highland Railway](#) was built to [Fort William](#) by [Lucas and Aird](#), but there were delays with the West Highland Railway Mallaig Extension (Guarantee) bill for the [Mallaig Extension Railway](#) in the [House of Commons](#) as the [Tory](#) and [Liberal](#) parties fought over the issue of subsidies for public transport. This Act did pass in 1896, by which time Lucas and Aird (and their workers) had moved south.^[1] New contractors were needed and

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/File:Glenfinnan_Viaduct_-_2022.jpg

Appearance hide

Text

Small

Standard

Large

Width

Standard

Wide

Color (beta)

Automatic

Light

Dark

Step 3: Get Coordinates (No Manual Mapping Needed)

Instead of dropping pins:

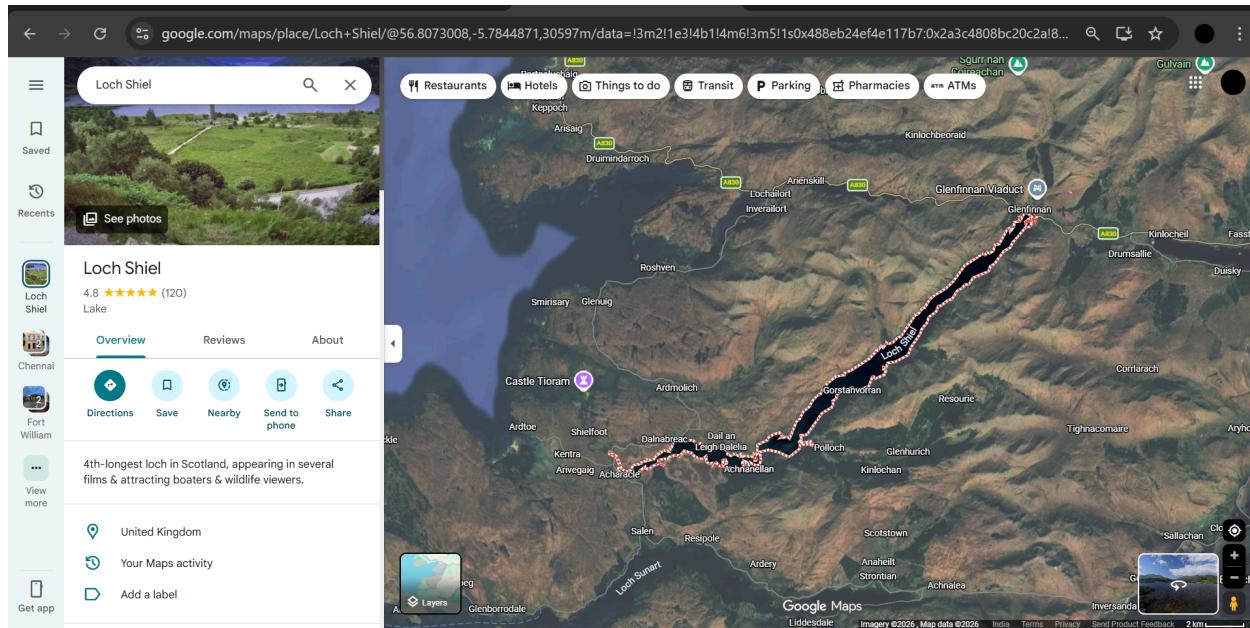
1. Open **Google Maps**
2. In the search bar, simply type:

Loch Shiel, UK

3. Google Maps automatically displays:

- The place name
- Its **latitude and longitude** in the information panel

From there, read the coordinates and round to **two decimal places**.



Step 4: Format the Flag

Coordinates obtained:

- Latitude: 56.80
- Longitude: 5.78

Apply the required format:

```
EXC{56.80,-5.78}
```

Final Answer

Flag:

```
EXC{56.80,-5.78}
```