



# What is a Dark Sky Park?

A Dark Sky Park is a place with **exceptionally dark night skies**, a place where people have committed to keeping those skies dark, by controlling light pollution.

In November 2009, the International Dark-sky Association designated Galloway Forest Park as only the fourth Dark Sky Park in the world and the **first in the uk**.

But that's not all. The Galloway Park is **REALLY** dark - a Gold Tier Dark Skies park. Very few people live in the 300 square miles of forest and hills in the park so nights really are black - apart from the stars!

Forestry Commission Scotland and the people of the park are committed to keeping it that way.



**Other Dark Sky Park's around the world:** Natural Bridges National Monument (Utah), Cherry Springs State Park (Pennsylvania), Geuga Park Districts Observatory Park (Ohio), Zselic Landscape Protection Area (Hungary)

## Welcome to the UK's first Dark Sky Park.

You have entered an area of **wonder & exploration**. All around you are plants and animals that rely on the daytime sun. But at night, we enjoy a perfectly dark sky, studded with thousands of stars and the Milky Way stretching overhead from horizon to horizon.

Here you can gaze and wonder at the **magic of the night sky**, just as your ancestors have done for thousands of years.

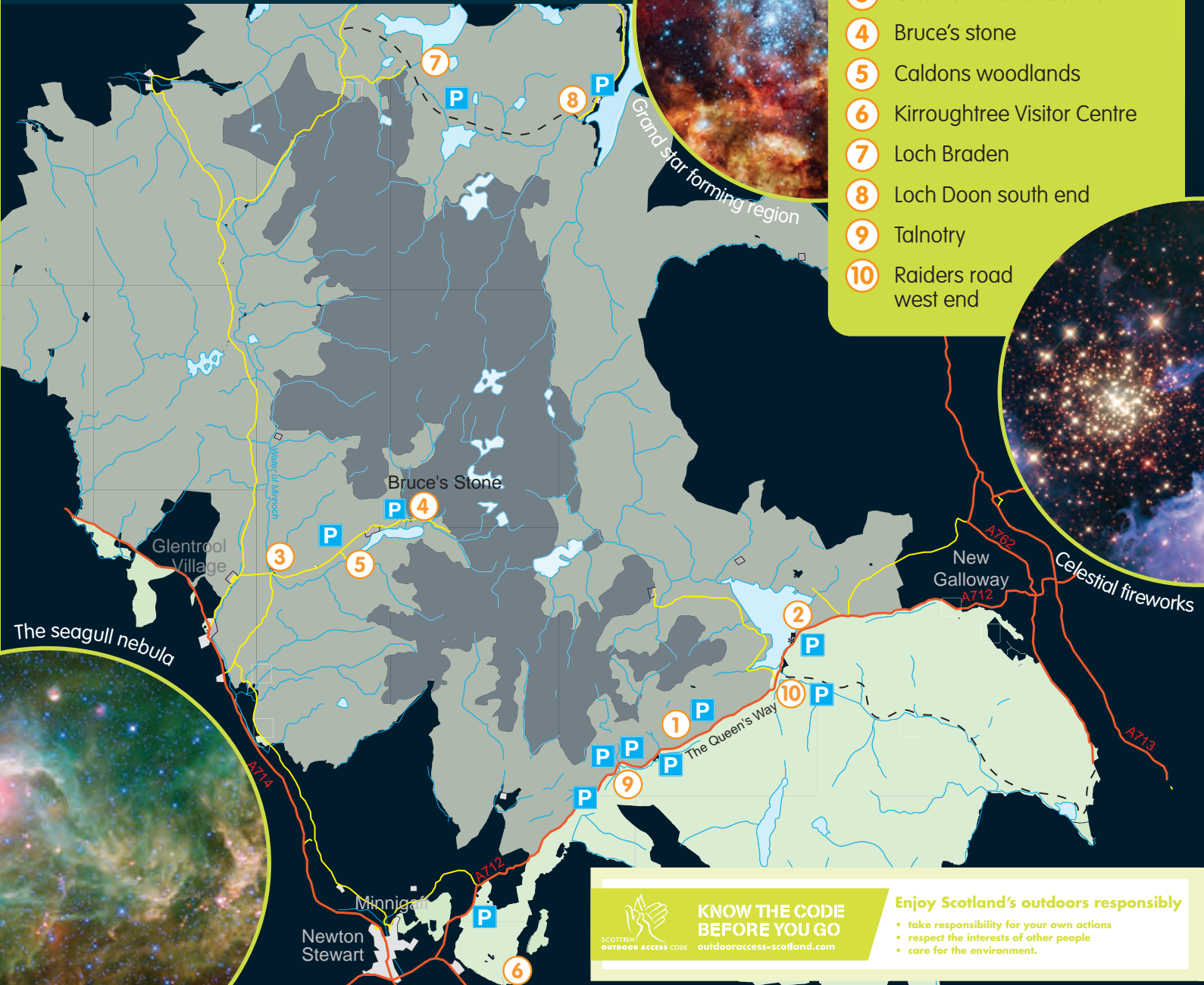
Grab a pair of binoculars, some warm clothing and head out. You will **discover wonders** that few people get a chance to see these days. Light pollution in modern towns and cities has drowned out all but the brightest stars. But not here in the Dark Sky Park - a darkness that needs to be protected.

## Fàilte don chiad Phàirc nam Speuran Dorcha ann am Breatainn

Tha sibh air thighinn a-steach a shaoghal **mhiorbhail is rannsachaidh**. Mun cuairt oirbh tha lusan is ainmhidhean agus iad uile an urra ris a' ghrèin. Air an oidhche, ge-tà, gheibhear an seo speuran dubha dorcha, is milltean de reultan ri fhaicinn. Faodar gabhail sealladh agus **iongantas air beartas na h-oidhche**; mar a rinneadh bho sheann leis na sinnsearan againn.

'S e Pàirc nam Speuran Dorcha, raon far am faighear **fior speuran dubha dorcha**, agus na daoine ag amas air na speuran seo a chumail dorcha; le smachd ga cumail air truilleadh sholas. Le cho beag de dhaoine a' fantainn sa phàirc seo, is oidhcheannan dubha dorcha **dhà-rìribh** a gheibhear innte - ach solas nan reultan a-mhàin!

## Where to view the wonders of the night sky in Galloway Forest Park



- 1 Galloway Red Deer range
- 2 Clatteringshaws Visitor Centre
- 3 Glentrool Visitor Centre
- 4 Bruce's stone
- 5 Caldons woodlands
- 6 Kirroughtree Visitor Centre
- 7 Loch Braden
- 8 Loch Doon south end
- 9 Talnotry
- 10 Raiders road west end

## Light Pollution

The glow you often see spilling out into the night sky from our towns and cities makes it much harder to see the stars. This is caused by too much and poorly designed lighting in our urban areas. It can also:

- waste vast amounts of money
- disturb wildlife
- disturb people & their sleep
- cause medical health problems

**Switch off or point down!**

light pollution



### Contact

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