

## **Loch Ness 360° trail to be completed late summer 2018**



Copyright VisitBritain/Peter Beavis: Suidhe above Loch Tarff

Following the announcement in January by VisitInvernessLochNess that they had secured the necessary funding from the Scottish Government & European Union, SSE and The Highland Council, work began in February to construct the last major section of the South Loch Ness Trail, a 3.6km section between Glendoe Hydro works entrance and Loch Tarff. This is expected to be completed late summer 2018. When complete it will link up with the Great Glen Way on the north side of Loch Ness and thus create the new Loch Ness 360° trail.

Starting in Inverness, the Loch Ness 360° will take users down the Great Glen Way on the north side of Loch Ness via Drumnadrochit and Invermoriston to Fort Augustus. At Fort Augustus users will leave the Great Glen Way and pick up the South Loch Ness Trail just beyond Fort Augustus Abbey and head back up to

Inverness via Whitebridge, Foyers, Inverfarigaig and Dores. Along the route there is a good choice of B&B's, Guest Houses as well as hotels and hostels for overnight accommodation. Responsible wild camping is also an option for the more adventurous! In the larger villages there is a good choice of places to eat and drink.

The total distance of the Loch Ness 360° will be approximately 70 miles and although it follows two distinctive trails, the whole route is way marked clearly with the same style and colour of way markers. The trail is on a mixture of unbound gravel paths, forest roads, rough tracks and minor roads.

Chief Executive of VisitInvernessLochNess, Graeme Ambrose said *"We are absolutely delighted that finally after several years in construction, this summer will see the completion of the South Loch Ness Trail and thus, as a result, the Loch Ness 360° trail. We know from speaking to our key European markets that there is considerable interest in the Loch Ness 360° and the opportunity it will offer visitors as a long distance walking route. Together with the potential to establish a major new event(s) on the trail, we are confident that it will have significant economic impact not only in the communities around Loch Ness, but also Inverness"*.

For more information please come and visit VisitInvernessLochNess on stand **A13 at VisitScotland Expo on Wednesday 11 & Thursday 12 April** or contact Graeme Ambrose at [graeme@visitln.com](mailto:graeme@visitln.com) or on 01463 219219

