

INTRODUCTION This area of Scotland rarely gains much attention but offers peace and quiet and plenty of wildlife.

WATER LEVEL Almost never too low to paddle.

ACCESS Allangibbon bridge (615 820), Ken bridge (New Galloway) (640 784), Loch Ken viaduct (684 703), Crossmichael (72 67), Glenlochardam (732 644), Bridge of Dee (734 600), egress before Tongland dam (703 550).

DESCRIPTION

-km Allangibbon bridge, St. John's Town of Dalry, a small market town. Water of Ken is a broad river. Anglers often found on this stretch. River is always paddleable below here.

6km Bridge of Ken. New Galloway 1km to right. The A713 is now on right bank all the way down Loch Ken. Scenery changes from upland wooded hills to open agricultural land.

8km River becomes Loch Ken, almost imperceptibly. Kenmure Castle on right bank.

11.5km Loch Ken Sailing Centre is on the left bank. Canoes and dinghies for hire, instruction, café. This upper part of the loch is ideal for canoe sailing. Islands follow.

15.5km Ken Viaduct (disused railway line, now footpath). Power boats on this stretch, with water-skiing.

16km Campsite on left bank. Black Water of Dee joins right. Loch is now interesting, with islands, shallows and narrows. Flatter, more open scenery.

19.5km Narrows. Islands with many wading birds.

21km Crossmichael village on left bank.

23.5km Glenlochardam. Lift over into River Dee. Wide, deep river. No rapids.

26km Threave Island. Right channel is smaller, but passes Threave Castle. Rapid where two channels rejoin.

27km Lodge Island.

27.5km Old railway bridge, followed by main road. Threave bridge A75, town of Castle Douglas 4km left. Rapid starts under bridge for 100m.

28km Bridge of Dee. River quietens down, islands, river becomes Tongland Loch.

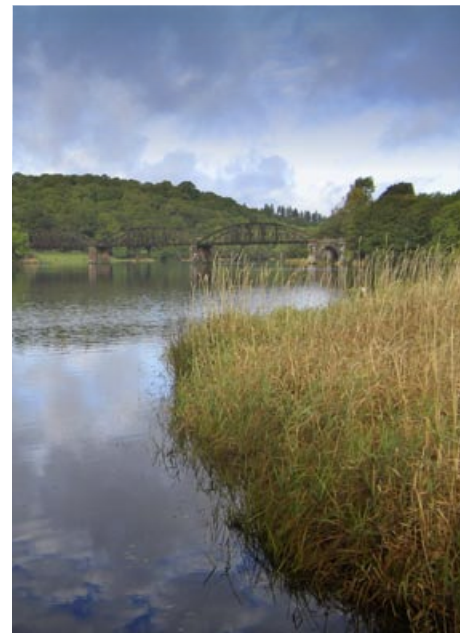
34km Land on right side of loch at lay-by on road, before Tongland Dam, where egress is awkward.

CAMPsites & ACCOMMODATION Loch Ken, east side, just south of Loch Ken Viaduct, and Kirkcudbright.

PORTAGES Glenlochardam.

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PESDA TOURING MINI-GUIDE #05

KEN & DEE



LENGTH **34km**

OS SHEET **77/83**

GRADE **1**



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