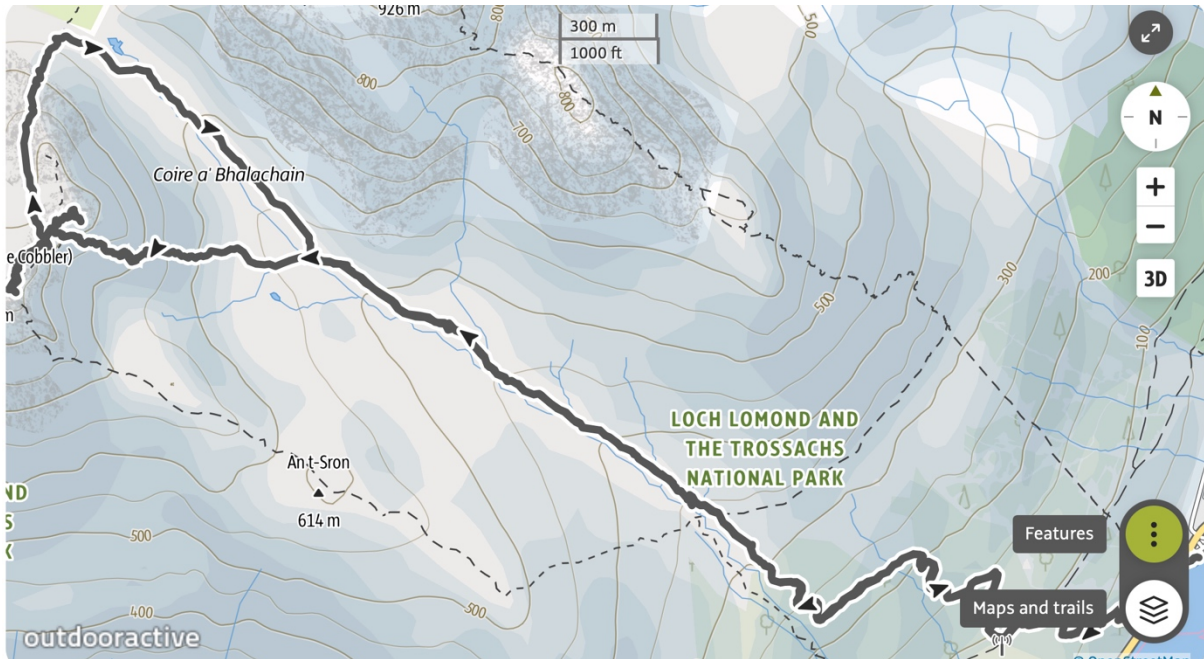


## September 7<sup>th</sup> - The Cobbler



*Total distance 12km (7.5 miles), walking time 3 hrs 40mins, ascent 907m*

8 members of the group met at Broxden, taking advantage of a mini-bus that had been made available by PKC for the use of groups similar to ours. We reached Arrochar in 2 hrs and quickly set off up the demarcated track starting just opposite the carpark at the head of Loch Long. The weather was initially cloudy with a light drizzle and continued until we stopped for coffee at the edge of the forest and emerged on to the open moorland. Fortunately, at this point the clouds largely vanished and we even started to see the sun. Much to all our relief, the dry spell continued until the end of the walk. We followed the main path which was the product of intensive construction, thanks to the popularity of this mountain to walkers. At the point where the track splits, we decided to take it in a clockwise fashion and approach the mountain on the easterly path. A steep scramble brought us to the main ridge and we made our way to the highest point, marked by the famous pinnacle. Several of the group managed the squeeze into the pinnacle and emerged on the upper shelf. Following a lunch stop in a sheltered cove, half of the group started on the descent, whilst the other half of the group first made a detour to include the extra climb to the separate northerly peak before making their descent. We reached the minibus at just after 15.30, a total time on the hill of just over 5 hrs and approx. 3 hrs 40 mins walking. Because of the longer drive it was decided to commence on a direct return and forego the usual coffee and cake stop.





*After the coffee break and well on our way up the main track, the full distinctive shape of the Cribbler becomes clear.*





*Over half-way up the main track we pass the Narnain Boulders*



*At the point where the track splits, we decide to take the easterly path and go around the mountain in a clockwise direction.*



*Close to the main ridge, time to catch our breath and make the final ascent.*



*At the highest point on the ridge, with the pinnacle in the background.*



*Two of the group emerge on to the pinnacle*



*A view down the valley towards Loch Long, Loch Lomond and Ben Lomond in the distance.*



*Looking down Loch Long.*