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| Approx. Mileage | **Contin Suggested Route 1: Directions**  Easter Ross & Sutherland | Comments:  Based on a route taken from Coul House Hotel in Contin (recommended), close to Strathpeffer. Can be adapted to start from there or e.g. Dingwall.  Falls of Shin Visitor Centre was being rebuilt at the time of writing, check if it’s now open.  (Total mileage approximately 175) |
| Start | Leave Contin  (The suggested lunch stop is only an hour away if you don’t stop, so an early start is not necessary.) | Start with a full tank! (Gleaner in Contin or Dingwall have super unleaded or Tesco in Dingwall, which probably doesn't.) |
|  | Head South on A835 out of Contin | Towards Dingwall |
| 0.2 miles | Turn Left onto A834 | Just after Gleaner filling station, Signed Dingwall & Strathpeffer |
| 7 miles | Turn Left onto A862 | In Dingwall, signed Tain & Thurso, Moray Firth Tourist Route |
| 3.4 miles | At roundabout, 1st exit onto A9 | This is the roundabout for the Cromarty bridge – but we're not crossing. |
| 2 miles | Exit to B817 | Signed Evanton |
| 2.9 miles | Turn Left onto B9176 | Ardross, Invergordon, Alness, Lairg, Bonar Bridge  Interesting bit of road. Look for the Struie Hill Viewpoint as you approach Dornoch Firth, also look out for single-track bridge just a bit further on. |
| 15 miles | Slight Left onto A836 (Beware traffic from extreme right!) | Signed Bonar Bridge & Lairg |
| 4 miles | At end of bridge, turn Left staying on A836 | Signed Lairg, Tongue |
| 3.9 miles | Optional visit to Falls of Shin | The falls of Shin are quite attractive when in flood. There is no shop there now, as the visitor centre is being rebuilt. If you'd like to see the falls, take the left signed Lochinver A837 and Falls of Shin Visitor Centre. After about ¾ mile, cross the bridge over the Shin and turn Right onto the single track B864 for about 1 ½ miles to the car park. Retrace your route back to the A836 to continue. |
| 6.8 miles | On A836 to Lairg for lunch | Loch Shin on the Left through Lairg |
| **Lunch Stop** | Suggested Lunch venue: The Pier, Lochside, Lairg IV27 4EG  Go past Spa shop, The Pier Restaurant is on the left. | If it’s too early for lunch, you could try the Altnaharra Hotel further on, or hold on until Helmsdale. |
| After lunch | Turn Left out of Restaurant | Note: There are lots of miles of single track road ahead, but it is open country and you can see ahead for most of the way – and the views are spectacular! It's worth sticking with it. |
| 21 miles | Turn Right onto B873 (Small road, don’t miss it!) | Signed Syre (& Strathnaver on separate signs) |
| 11.4 miles | Turn Right onto B871 | Just past the white & red corrugated iron church, signed Kinbrace |
| 15.7 miles | Turn sharp Right onto A897 at Kinbrace | Signed Helmsdale Watch out for deer! |
| 17 miles | At roundabout, 1st exit staying on A897 | In Helmsdale. Signed Thurso, Wick, Inverness.  Note: plenty of eateries in Helmsdale if a stop is required. You are done with single track! |
| 0.1 Miles | At T junction, Turn Right onto A9 | Signed Inverness |
| 31 miles | At roundabout, 1st exit staying on A9 | Inverness & Tain  Look out for the Glenmorangie distillery, on your left. Tours until 3pm. |
| 6.1 miles | At roundabout, 3rd exit staying on A9 | Signed Inverness |
| 16.4 miles | At roundabout, 2nd exit onto A862 | Signed Dingwall, Muir of Ord |
| 4.9 miles | At roundabout, 3rd exit onto A835 | Signed Ullapool |
| 6.1 miles | Arrive Contin | To complete the circuit. |