

## What is a Dark Sky Park?

A Dark Sky Park is an area with exceptional dark night skies and where people are committed to reducing light pollution.

The Tomintoul and Glenlivet – Cairngorms Dark Sky Park is the most northerly in the world!

## The best star gazing spots

You will get an excellent stargazing experience almost anywhere in the Dark Sky Park. But you can find the best views of the night sky at three Dark Sky Discovery Sites.

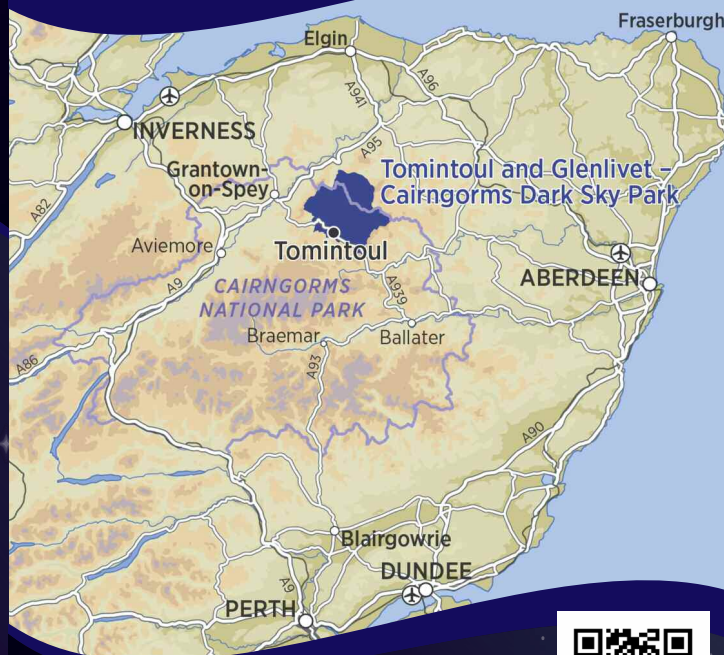


Once you have arrived at your chosen star gazing site, please turn off all your lights. Your eyes should adapt to the dark in ten minutes.

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## Find us

The Tomintoul and Glenlivet – Cairngorms Dark Sky Park lies in the north east of the Cairngorms National Park. It is naturally shielded from light pollution by the high hills that surround it.



Find out more about our northern night skies and dark skies events at:  
[www.darks skies.glenlivet-cairngorms.co.uk](http://www.darks skies.glenlivet-cairngorms.co.uk)

Find visitor accommodation and information at:  
[www.tomintoul and glenlivet.com](http://www.tomintoul and glenlivet.com)



**The Dark Skies Project** is part of Tomintoul & Glenlivet Landscape Partnership, a Heritage Lottery funded project to regenerate Tomintoul and Glenlivet.



# Tomintoul and Glenlivet CAIRNGORMS Dark Sky Park

The best place in the Cairngorms National Park to enjoy the starry wonders of the night sky





Look up to the stars in

# Spring

# Winter

# Autumn

Orion

Auriga

Cassiopeia

Cepheus

Perseus

Orion  
Nebula

Taurus

Pleiades

Andromeda

Andromeda  
Galaxy

Aries

Pegasus

Cygnus

Orion the hunter chases the Pleiades across the night sky.

Can you spot the glow of the Orion Nebula at the end of his sword? The Orion Nebula is a stellar nursery where new stars are born.

Andromeda was the daughter of Queen Cassiopeia & King Cepheus.

Can you spot the Andromeda galaxy? It is 2.5 million light years away – the furthest thing that can be seen with the naked eye!

Cygnus is really Zeus, chief of the Greek gods. Here he has disguised himself as a swan to seduce Queen Leda. The Cygnus star clouds are one of the brightest parts of the northern Milky Way.

The **Aurora** is one of the most spectacular sights of our northern skies. It can occur at any time but keep a special lookout around the equinoxes.

**Shooting stars** are comet dust that burns up as it enters the atmosphere.

The **Milky Way** is our very own galaxy – home to 250 billion stars.

Can you see dark patches in the Milky Way? These are clouds of dust which will eventually create new stellar nurseries.