

Access to Scotland's hills during the stalking season


Access to Scotland's hills takes place under Scottish access rights. These rights must be exercised responsibly and land managers have to manage their land responsibly regarding access. The Scottish Outdoor Access Code explains what this means.

Responsibilities for walkers

“Deer management can take place during many months of the year but the most sensitive time is the stag stalking season (from 1 July to 20 October, but with most stalking taking place from August onwards). During this season, you can help to minimise disturbance by taking reasonable steps to find out where stalking is taking place and by taking account of advice on alternative routes. Avoid crossing land where stalking is taking place. Stalking does not normally take place on Sundays.

Responsibilities for stalkers and land managers:

“Be aware of where recreational use is likely, such as along paths, popular routes and ridge lines. Tell people about where stalking is taking place by giving on-the-day information on stalking and alternative routes.

Local signs and leaflets, estate staff or **'Heading for the Scottish Hills'**  provide this information. If the land manager has indicated where stalking will take place you should avoid crossing that area and they can expect you to follow alternative routes. Avoid wild camping in places where stalking is planned for the next day.



Heading for the
Scottish Hills?
Deer stalking information for hillwalkers

www.outdooraccess-scotland.com/hftsh