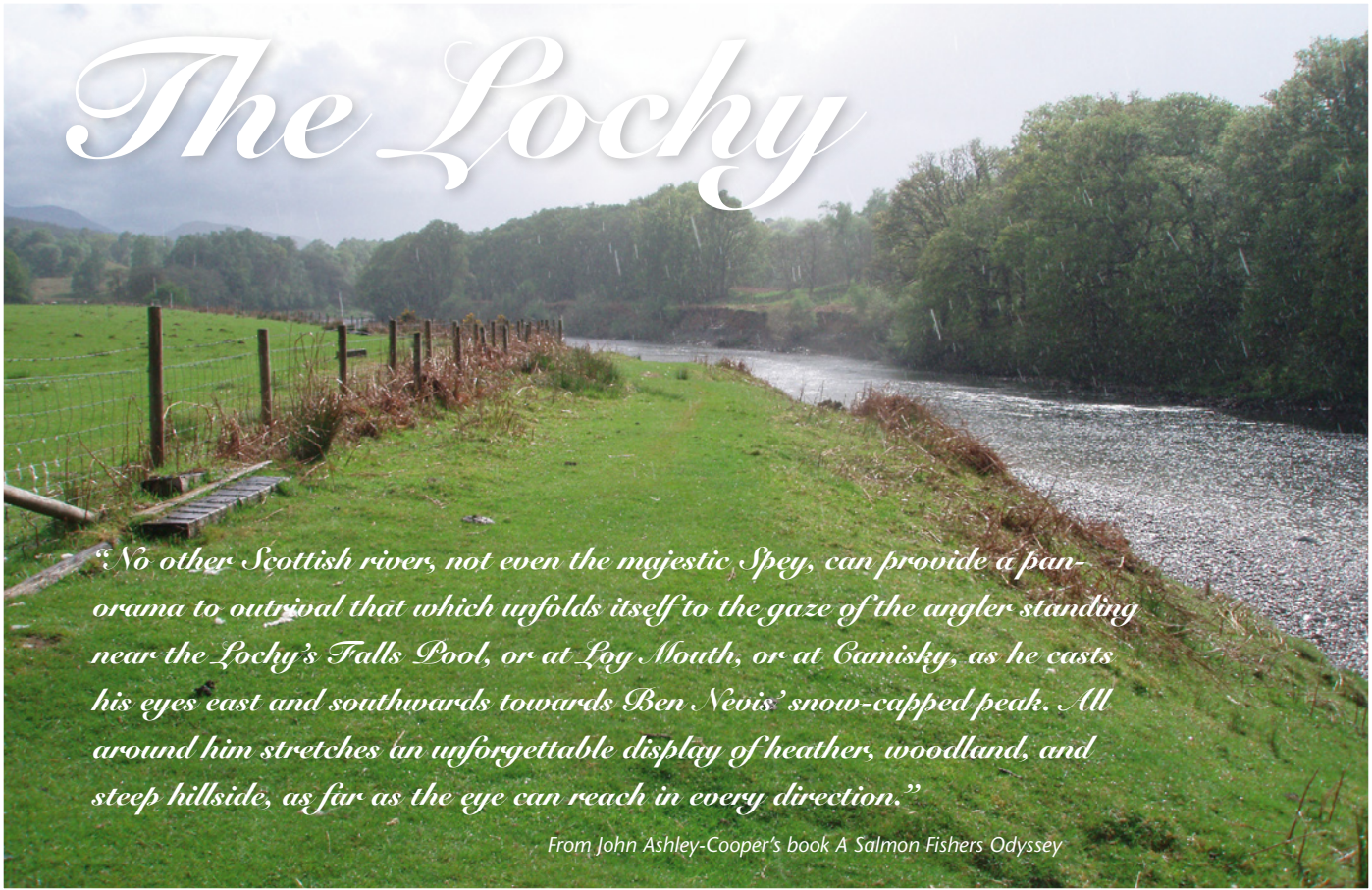
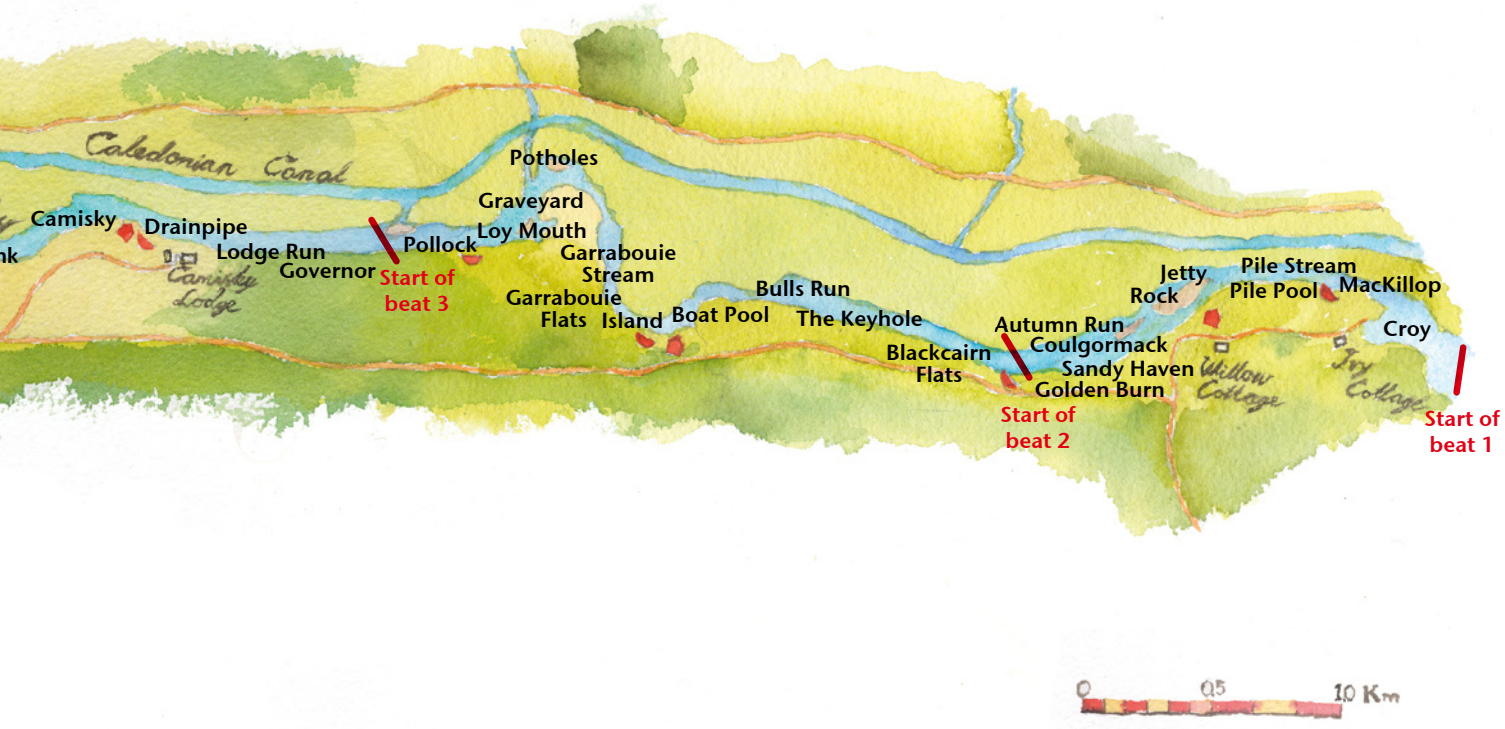

The Lochy
"No other Scottish river, not even the majestic Spey, can provide a panorama to outrival that which unfolds itself to the gaze of the angler standing near the Lochy's Falls Pool, or at Loy Mouth, or at Camisky, as he casts his eyes east and southwards towards Ben Nevis' snow-capped peak. All around him stretches an unforgettable display of heather, woodland, and steep hillside, as far as the eye can reach in every direction."
From John Ashley-Cooper's book A Salmon Fishers Odyssey

Beats and pools on the River Lochy




Caledonian Canal
Potholes
Graveyard
Loy Mouth
Camisky
Drainpipe
Lodge Run
Governor
Pollock
Start of beat 3
Garrabouie Stream
Garrabouie Flats
Island
Boat Pool
Bulls Run
The Keyhole
Blackcairn Flats
Autumn Run
Coulgormack
Sandy Haven
Golden Burn
Start of beat 2
Jetty Rock
Pile Stream
Pile Pool
MacKillop
Croy
Willow Cottage
Ivy Cottage
Start of beat 1
0
0.5
1.0 Km



River Lochy

The River Lochy runs for 8 miles from Loch Lochy to the sea at Fort William and offers some of the most idyllic and productive fly fishing for salmon and sea trout on the West Coast of Scotland.

Against a stunning backdrop of Ben Nevis and the Great Glen, the river tumbles and glides through a fantastic array of deep holding pools and choppy runs. With over forty major pools, there are 4 beats fished in daily rotation with excellent fishing huts and boats, and the gently sloping gravel banks make it a delight to wade to cover the deeper lies. There is also very good access by car to each of the beats. Experienced ghillies can also be booked by the week.

The Lochy is one of the most improved salmon rivers in Scotland. It has also seen a revival in the



number of large salmon with fish over 30lbs running the river every year. If you chase these big fish, then early season (May and June) is the best time. If you just want to fish the “Queen of Scottish Rivers” then July through to October can offer up some wonderful sport in majestic surroundings.



It runs clear even in high water. During the season water temperatures never get too low and usually average in and around the mid 50's °F. Being a short, relatively shallow river, the fish are typically very fresh and fight extremely hard.



An always nearby spectator.









The river is shallow and with it's fast water, it's an excellent river for spey-casting.



Fishing

Early season is all about searching for those MSW fish which tend to migrate through the river quickly. It pays to fish key taking spots many times over the course of the day. You can't over fish a "good" pool at this time of year. When the grilse arrive it pays to check tide times as this can often coincide with a run of fish. They can often enter the river two hours before high-tide and make passage upstream. Obviously the lower down you are the more crucial your timing will be. High summer can mean early starts and late finishes, particularly when bright weather/warm persists.



As late summer and autumn arrives, varying tactics will often pay-off as many fish will have seen most fly selections. Another point to note is that the Lochy is a clear river and thus, in times of low water, fished can be spooked easily. Stealth is key to success.



Lord Abinger.
"This old standard was the late Lord Abinger's favourite pattern on the Lochy". G M Kelson, The Salmon Fly, 1895.

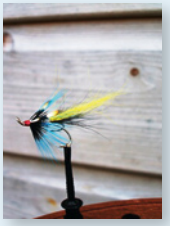
Fly tied by Sven-Olov Hard.

Flies

Many of the traditional shrimp style patterns work well here for the summer grilse, typically in sizes 8-12 or small coneheads. Equally as good is the Sunray Shadow or Monkey fly in various lengths. Fished fast in the clear pools, the results can be spectacular. In late summer and autumn smaller and darker flies such as stoats tail, red-butt and black francis can work well. These can be tied on small hooks and/or micro-tube fashion.



The Garrabudhie. Flies tied by Kenny MacDonald.





Lochy schrimp made in a classic way.



Martin's schrimp. Fly tied by Sven-Olov Hard.



Accomodation

There are a list of excellent accommodation to suit all tastes and sizes of fishing parties. From the superb Camisky Lodge on Beat 3 to smaller private country cottages, Ivy and Willow, all overlooking the river.

Camisky Lodge sleeps up to 14 people all year round and is available for family holidays, long weekend breaks, fishing, deer stalking, golf, skiing and much more. Situated only seven miles from the town of Fort William, where full transport, shopping and other amenities are located, the house offers a secluded and peaceful environment in which to relax and unwind, set against a backdrop of outstanding natural beauty and breathtaking views of Ben Nevis.





River Lochy





RIVER LOCHY ASSOCIATION

Camisky Steading

Torlundy

Fort William

PH33 6SP

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