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.


Find us
The Tomintoul and Glenlivet – Cairngorms Dark Sky Park [Pàirc nan Speuran Dorcha] 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.cairngormsdarkskypark.org

Find visitor accommodation and information at: www.tomintoulandglenlivet.com

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

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

The Big Hunter [An Sealgach Mór] was Finn McCool, leader of a legendary band of warriors. Can you spot the glow of the Great Nebula at the end of his dirk? This is a stellar nursery where new stars are born.

**Winter**

The Swan [An Eala] represents Aengus, the Gaelic god of youth. He changed himself into a swan to be with his love Càer Eibormeach who had become a swan herself.

The star clouds of the Swan are one of the brightest parts of the northern Milky Way.

**Autumn**

The Dancing Men [Na Fir Chlais] or Aurora are one of the most spectacular sights of our northern skies. They can appear at any time but keep a special lookout around the equinoxes.

Can you spot the Andromeda galaxy [Reul-chrios Andromeda]? It is 2.5 million light years away - the furthest thing that can be seen with the naked eye.

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

The Milky Way [Sgríob Chlann Uis] is our very own galaxy - home to 250 billion stars.

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