



DISCOVER STORIES OF PEOPLE, PLACES & POWER

Over 5,000 years of history tell the story of a nation.

See brochs, castles, palaces, abbeys, towers and tombs. Explore Historic Scotland with your personal guide to our nation's finest historic places.

When you're out and about exploring you may want to download our free Historic Scotland app to give you the latest site updates direct to your phone.

ICONIC ATTRACTIONS

Edinburgh Castle, Iona Abbey, Skara Brae - just some of the famous attractions in our care.

Each of our sites offers a glimpse of the past and tells the story of the people who shaped a nation.

EVENTS ALL OVER SCOTLAND

This year, yet again we have a bumper events programme with Spectacular Jousting at two locations in the summer, and the return of festive favourites in December. With fantastic interpretation thrown in, there's lots of opportunities to get involved.

Enjoy access to all Historic Scotland attractions with our great value Explorer Pass - see the back cover for more details.

historicenvironment.scot/visit-a-place



EDINBURGH AND THE LOTHIANS

EDINBURGH CASTLE

No trip to Scotland's capital is complete without a visit to Edinburgh Castle. Part of The Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site and standing majestically on top of a 340 million-year-old extinct volcano, the castle is a powerful national symbol.

It's fascinating to explore, unmissable.

- Protector of the Scottish Crown Jewels and the Stone of Destiny
- St Margaret's Chapel, the oldest building in Edinburgh
- · Home to Mons Meg and the One o'Clock Gun
- The Royal Palace birthplace of James VI
- Spectacular views across the capital





6 EDINBURGH CASTLE

A mighty fortress, the defender of the nation and a world-famous visitor attraction – Edinburgh Castle has dominated the skyline for centuries.

The castle's powerful stone walls have endured many sieges and its sumptuous apartments were an important residence of Scottish kings and queens.

Today it is home to Scotland's Crown Jewels, three military museums, the National War Memorial, the Prisons of War exhibition and much more besides.

Every August, the castle esplanade plays host to The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo, a unique blend of international music, ceremony, entertainment and theatre. Visit edintattoo.co.uk for more information.

- In Edinburgh at the top of the Royal Mile
- Postcode EH1 2NGTelephone 0131 225 9846
- Enjoy guaranteed entry and save money when you pre-book your tickets online at edinburghcastle.gov.uk/booknow
- Open all year. 26 Mar to 30 Sept 9.30am to 6pm, 1 Oct to 31 Mar 9.30am to 5pm. Last ticket sold 1 hour before closing. Closed Christmas Day and Boxing Day. Visit the website for New Year opening times. Please note that opening times for the independent museums vary
- We recommend at least 2 hours to see the major attractions within the castle
- Parking only for drivers with a blue disabled badge
- Steep inclines and steps mobility vehicle available, see website for conditions of use
- Hire an audio tour available in eight languages
- The castle's three shops sell a wide range of gifts, souvenirs, jewellery, books, food and whisky
- Enjoy light snacks, hot meals, or food on the go in the Redcoat Café, or visit The Castle Tea Room and treat yourself to a delicious traditional afternoon tea



Blackness Castle Craigmillar Castle



BLACKNESS CASTLE

Step inside a largely intact medieval castle whose powerful defences once guarded the Firth of Forth. Known as 'The Ship that Never Sailed' for its boat-like shape, Blackness Castle was built in the 1400s for Sir George Crichton, Admiral of Scotland.

The castle walls contain clues to its many guises: besieged coastal stronghold, jail for political prisoners and Victorian ammunitions depot.

- · 4m NE of Linlithgow on the Firth of Forth, off the A904
- Postcode EH49 7NH
 Telephone 01506 834807
- Open all year
 Admission: Adult £6 Child £3.60 Concession £4.80



2 CAIRNPAPPI F HILL

Stand on a once-sacred hilltop where people first held rituals and raised monuments some 5,500 years ago. You can visit a Neolithic henge, see the site of a great timber circle and descend into a Bronze Age cist grave (now covered by a modern, domed chamber).

- · 3m N of Bathgate, 1m from Torphichen, 5m S of Linlithgow
- Telephone 01506 634622
- Open summer only
- Guided tours are available during the summer season
- Access is over agricultural land
- Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4



3 CRAIGMILLAR CASTLE

Admire city views from the high ramparts of Edinburgh's 'other castle', play hide-and-seek in its labyrinth of chambers or picnic in its grounds.

Craigmillar Castle was a prison for the younger brother of James III, a happy retreat for Mary Queen of Scots and the focus of a plot to murder her husband Lord Darnley. Its profile is dominated by its remarkably complete inner curtain wall.

- 2.5m SE of Edinburgh off the A7
- Postcode EH16 4SY
 Telephone 0131 661 4445
- Open all year
 Admission: Adult £6 Child £3.60 Concession £4.80



4 CRICHTON CASTLE

Crichton Castle has been home to medieval lords and Renaissance noblemen. Its sturdy tower of the late 1300s stands by a sophisticated façade created 200 years later. The castle's ruins, framed by a secluded valley, were celebrated by writer Walter Scott and artist J.M.W. Turner.

- 2.5m SSW of Pathhead off the A68
- Postcode EH37 5XA
 Telephone 01875 320017
- Open summer only Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4



Linlithgow Palace Tantallon Castle



5 DIRI FTON CASTI F AND GARDENS

Tease out the hints of a long and eventful history in these well-preserved ruins. Cross the deep moat guarded by high walls and an imposing tower, glancing up at the 'murder hole' above your head. Look for the vaulted dome inside the 1249 tower, the grim prison and pit and the 1550s 'beehive' dovecote.

- In Dirleton village, 3m W of North Berwick on the A198
- Postcode EH39 5ER
 Telephone 01620 850330
- Open all year Admission: Adult £6 Child £3.60 Concession £4.80



7 LINI ITHGOW PALACE

This royal pleasure palace was the birthplace of Mary Queen of Scots. You can see the elaborate, restored fountain in action every Sunday in July and August.

The high towers look down over the palace's grounds – the Peel – and Linlithgow Loch, an important refuge for wildlife. A Ranger Service operates on site and, back by popular demand, our Spectacular Jousting event returns this summer. View the statue of Mary Queen of Scots situated on the Peel.

- In Linlithgow off the M9
- Postcode EH49 7AL
 Telephone 01506 842896
- Open all year Last ticket sold 45 mins before closing
- Admission: Adult £6 Child £3.60 Concession £4.80
- Toilets may not be available if function in progress



8 SETON COLLEGIATE CHURCH

Discover an enchanting medieval church at the end of a pretty woodland path. One of the finest surviving collegiate churches, Seton also has ruined domestic quarters, allowing a rare glimpse into the lives of those who once prayed here.

- 1.5m W of Longniddry on the A198
- Postcode EH32 OPG
 Telephone 01875 813334
- Open summer only Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4



9 TANTALLON CASTLE

Ascend Tantallon's towers for spectacular views of the Bass Rock and to watch gannets plunge into the North Sea. Then descend into the depths of a particularly grim pit prison.

The castle was home to the powerful Red Douglas dynasty, which often clashed with the Crown. It was besieged by both James IV and James V but ultimately succumbed to Oliver Cromwell's troops in a siege of 1651.

- 3m E of North Berwick off the A198
- Postcode EH39 5PN
 Telephone 01620 892727
- Open all year Admission: Adult £6 Child £3.60 Concession £4.80



10 | EDINBURGH AND THE LOTHIANS

Trinity House Maritime Museum



TRINITY HOUSE MARITIME MUSEUM

Open this treasure chest of maritime heritage and you will find an unparalleled collection of wonders gathered over centuries by Leith's mariners. You can admire four portraits by Sir Henry Raeburn, a French Tricolour captured at the Battle of Trafalgar, a 200-year-old whaling harpoon as well as a fleet of historic ship models.

- 99 Kirkgate, Leith, Edinburgh
- Postcode EH6 6BJ
 Telephone 0131 554 3289
- Pre-booked visits only. For booking enquiries call 0131 554 3289 (Mon to Fri)
- Admission: Free but donations are welcome

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Image Model of a fishing yawl from Newhaven, Trinity House

SCOTTISH BORDERS

JEDBURGH ABBEY

Explore one of four great abbeys established in the Scottish Borders in the 1100s. Built over more than 70 years, Jedburgh is striking for its unusual mix of Romanesque and early Gothic architecture.

- Founded by David I around 1138
- View the 12th-century ivory comb that shows a figure slaying a dragon
- Walk in the recreated cloister garden



Image Crucifixion of Christ found in the 1980s, on display in visitor centre, Jedburgh Abbey



DRYBURGH ABBEY

Wander among the graceful ruins of this beautiful Borders abbey set beside the River Tweed. Stone carvings and painted plasterwork have survived to provide a fascinating glimpse of its once-magnificent decoration. Look for the final resting place of author Sir Walter Scott and World War One military leader Field Marshall Douglas Haig as well as the Dryburgh Yew, reputedly one of Scotland's most ancient trees.

- 8m SE of Melrose on the B6404, near St Boswells (turn left onto the B6356)
- Take public transport as far as St Boswells 20 mins walk to abbev
- Postcode TD6 ORQ
 Telephone 01835 822381
- Open all year Admission: Adult £6 Child £3.60 Concession £4.80



12 HERMITAGE CASTLE

Soak up the eerie, powerful atmosphere of an imposing stronghold with a notorious reputation. Look for the garrison's cesspit and seek shelter under the great arch. A 17th century poem says that Hermitage's lord, William De Soulis, was boiled in lead by locals for undertaking black magic rituals. He probably died at the battle of Boroughbridge in England in 1322.

- 5.5m NE of Newcastleton on the B6399
- Postcode TD9 OLU
 Telephone 01387 376222
- Open summer only Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4



I3 JEDBURGH ABBEY

The towering ruins of this vast abbey complex are testament to the power of both royalty and the medieval church. Founded by David I around 1138, the abbey was linked to a nearby royal castle. Alexander III married Yolande de Dreux here.

You can explore the grand abbey church, cloisters and herb garden. The abbey museum houses many precious artefacts including an ivory comb from the 1100s that shows Hercules slaving a dragon.

- In Jedburgh on the A68
- Postcode TD8 6JQTelephone 01835 863925
- Open all year
 Admission: Adult £6 Child £3.60 Concession £4.80
- · Audio guide available in five languages



14 MELROSE ABBEY

Trace the lives and beliefs of medieval monks in one of Scotland's largest and richest medieval abbeys. You will find remarkable sculptures of saints, demons and the famous bagpipe-playing pig. The treasures displayed in the museum include medieval spectacles, a scribe's ink-pot and a carved Green Man.

The Cistercian monks and their lay brothers created an influential spiritual centre and a wealthy business around the abbey. King Alexander II and the mummified heart of Robert the Bruce are buried here.

- In Melrose off the A7 or A68
- Postcode TD6 9LGTelephone 01896 822562
- Open all year
 Admission: Adult £6 Child £3.60 Concession £4.80
- Audio guide available in five languages





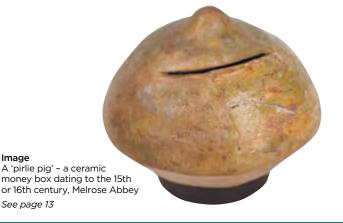
GALLOWAY

IS SMAILHOLM TOWER

This 20-metre-high stronghold, built in the 1400s, dominates the skyline. On a clear day you can see as far as Bamburgh Castle in Northumberland. The author Sir Walter Scott spent much of his childhood on a farm below the tower, where he first heard the stories that made up his Minstrelsy of the Scottish Borders, the subject of an exhibition here.

- Near Smailholm village, 6m W of Kelso on the A6089 then follow the B6397 before turning on to the B6404
- Postcode TD5 7PG
 Telephone 01573 460365
- Open summer only
- Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4





Ask our staff

See page 13

EXPLORE OUR BORDERS ATTRACTIONS

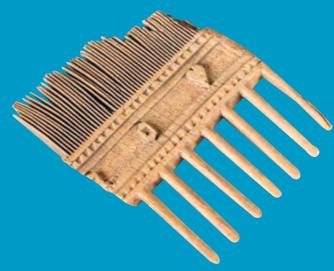
with our great value regional Explorer Pass.

CAERLAVEROCK CASTLE

DUMFRIES AND

Caerlaverock Castle is one of Scotland's great medieval fortresses that for most of its history played an important role in defending the realm. It is unique in its striking triangular shape and is full of nooks and crannies just waiting to be explored.

- Stunning 13th century gatehouse
- Spot terrifying gargoyles in the castle's rich stone carvings
- Walk through ancient woodland on the nature trail



Double-sided birchwood comb dating from the 1400s. Caerlaverock Castle



16 CAERLAVEROCK CASTLE

The epitome of the moated, medieval stronghold, Caerlaverock's great triangular defences guard the Solway shore. This site has had a turbulent past. In 1300, its 60-strong garrison was defeated by Edward I's vast English army in a siege.

Despite the castle's rugged appearance, its walls conceal a stunning Renaissance residence of the 1630s. See bluebells in spring, dragonflies and wildflowers in summer and barnacle geese in winter.

- 8m SE of Dumfries on the B725
- Postcode DG1 4RU
 Telephone 01387 770244
- Open all year
 Video presentation available
- Admission: Adult £6 Child £3.60 Concession £4.80
- Café open daily in summer. Restricted hours in winter



I7 CARDONESS CASTLE

Cardoness was built in the 1400s by the notorious McCulloch family, as a demonstration of their status. The well-preserved prison shows the kind of reception their most unwelcome guests might expect.

- 1m SW of Gatehouse of Fleet on the A75
- Postcode DG7 2EH
 Telephone 01557 814427
- Open summer only
- Disabled access to shop only
- Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4



18 DUNDRENNAN ABBEY

Enjoy the peace of this beautiful Gothic abbey set in tree-fringed pastures where Mary Queen of Scots spent her last hours in Scotland.

This was the major abbey of the Cistercian order, which was founded on austere principles but became very wealthy from farming – especially sheep farming. The abbey's surviving stonework includes beautiful carvings.

- 6.5m SE of Kirkcudbright on the A711
- Postcode DG6 4QH
 Telephone 01557 500262
- Open summer only
 Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4



19 GLENLUCE ABBEY

Tucked in a tranquil valley is one of Scotland's best-preserved monasteries. A highlight is the magnificent chapter house, with its ornate windows and grotesque carvings. There is also a remarkable plumbing system that supplied the Cistercian monks with running water.

- 2m NW of Glenluce village off the A75
- Postcode DG8 OAF
 Telephone 01557 331856
- Open summer only, Sun to Tue
- Restricted access Wed to Sat
- Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4



New Abbey Corn Mill

Threave Castle

20 MACLELLAN'S CASTLE

Explore the impressive residence of a powerful family in the heart of Kirkcudbright and the vaulted ground floor rooms in which their servants once worked. Look for the laird's lug, a spy hole in the great hall through which the lord could eavesdrop on his guests.

- In Kirkcudbright on the A711
- Postcode DG6 4JD
 Telephone 01557 331856
- Open summer only
 Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4



21 NEW ABBEY CORN MILL

See a beautifully-restored village mill in action and learn about how oatmeal, a staple of the Scottish diet, was once made. A mill was probably built here by the monks of nearby Sweetheart Abbey, but parts of the present building probably date from the late 1700s.

- 7m S of Dumfries on the A710
- Postcode DG2 8BXTelephone 01387 850260
- Open all year. Winter closed Thurs and Fri
- Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4



22 SWEETHEART ABBEY

A monument to human and divine love, Sweetheart Abbey was named for its founder, Lady Dervorgilla, who was buried here with the embalmed heart of her beloved husband. The abbey church, with a stone effigy of the founder, survives almost intact.

- In New Abbey village on the A710
- Postcode DG2 8BU
 Telephone 01387 850397
- Open all year. Winter closed Thurs and Fri
- Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4



23 THREAVE CASTLE

Cross the River Dee by boat to visit this enchanting castle set on its own island. Rich with wildflowers in summer; you might see ospreys and otters hunting in the river. The castle was besieged by King James II for two months in 1455, and fell after the king bribed the garrison to surrender.

- 3m W of Castle Douglas on the A75
- Postcode DG7 1TJ
 Telephone 07711 223101
- Open 26 Mar to 31 Oct. First outward sailing at 10am, last outward sailing at 4.30pm. Oct last outward sailing at 3.30pm
- Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4
- Ferry included in admission price
- Car park is an 800 metre walk to the castle



WHITHORN PRIORY AND MUSEUM AND THE WHITHORN STORY EXHIBITION

This is where some of Scotland's earliest Christians worshipped about 1,500 years ago. According to legend, St Ninian founded the priory at Whithorn in the early 400s. The Latinus Stone, now displayed here, was raised soon after and remains Scotland's oldest Christian monument.

- At Whithorn on the A746
 Postcode DG8 8PY
- Telephone 01988 500700 (Whithorn Trust)
- Open 31 Mar to 31 Oct 10.30am to 5pm
- Adult: £6 Child: £3.60 Concession: £4.80

Glasgow Cathedral



GLASGOW CATHEDRAL

Stand in the spot where Scotland's largest city first began to take shape. Dedicated to St Kentigern. first bishop of Strathclyde, this is the best preserved medieval cathedral on the Scottish mainland. with well over 100 windows.

- Explore the magnificent nave and choir
- Look for the tomb of Bishop Wishart
- Look up at the Blackadder Aisle's colourful ceiling



Munich glass - crowned David Glasgow Cathedral See page 21

on throne with regalia,



30 GLASGOW CATHEDRAL

The most complete medieval cathedral on the Scottish mainland is still a working church with an active congregation. From its magnificent nave and choir to the atmospheric crypt of St Mungo, who was supposedly buried here around AD 612, Glasgow Cathedral is full of intriguing features. Look for the tomb of Bishop Wishart, a key supporter of Robert the Bruce, and carvings of 11 figures - perhaps the faithful disciples of Christ - on the stone pulpitum screen.

- In Glasgow, off the M8 at J15 Postcode G4 OQZ
- Telephone 0141 552 6891 / 0141 552 0988
- Open all year, Summer 9.30am to 5.30pm, Sun 1pm to 5pm. Winter 10am to 4pm, Sun 1pm to 4pm. Last entry to Lower Church 45 mins before closing
- Visitors requiring wheelchair access please call prior to visit



25 BOTHWELL CASTLE

Bothwell is Scotland's largest and finest 13th century castle. Part of the original circular keep survives.

- At Uddingston off the B7071
- Postcode G71 8BL
 Telephone 01698 816894
- Open all year. Winter closed Thurs and Fri
- Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4



Crossraguel Abbey

Dumbarton Castle

26 CRAIGNETHAN CASTLE

An exceptional fortress-residence that was overthrown within 50 years of its construction despite its state-of-the-art artillery defences. Built in around 1530, it was the personal residence of Sir James Hamilton of Finnart, King James V's talented master of works. There is evidence of his many military innovations, including a shooting gallery or caponier. It was 'cast doun' by order of the Privy Council.

The surrounding woodland in the deep Nethan gorge is rich with wildflowers and birdlife.

- From the M74, take Junction 8 or 9. Follow the signs to Blackwood, then the signs to Craignethan Castle
- Postcode ML11 9PL
 Telephone 01555 860364
- Open summer only
- Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4



27 CROSSRAGUEL ABBEY

Climb the impressive gatehouse tower for a bird's eye view of one of the most complete medieval abbey complexes in Scotland. Now hauntingly beautiful, its substantial ruins guard some violent secrets. One abbot was roasted over a fire by a nobleman seeking to seize the abbey's land and revenues.

- 2m S of Maybole on the A77
- Postcode KA19 8HQ
 Telephone 01655 883113
- Open summer only
- Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4



28 DUMBARTON CASTLE

Conquer over 500 steps to stand atop one of Scotland's greatest strongholds.

Dumbarton Castle was the centre of the ancient Kingdom of Strathclyde, supposedly visited by Merlin. It was later sacked by Vikings. The castle became a cornerstone of medieval royal power and latterly served as a military base and prison. You can explore its many fortifications with our interactive family trail.

- In Dumbarton off the A82
- Postcode G82 1JJ
 Telephone 01389 732167
- Open all year. Winter closed Thurs and Fri
- Last ticket sold 45 mins before closing
- Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4

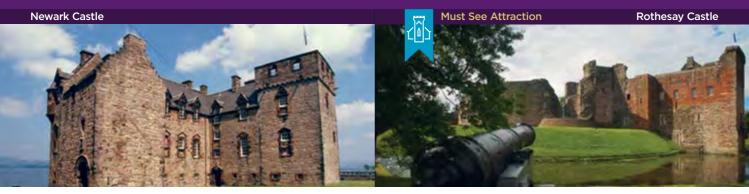


29 DUNDONALD CASTLE

Explore the high-vaulted halls and gloomy dungeons of this splendid stronghold, perched on a hill above the village. The main tower was built in the 1370s by King Robert II to mark his succession to the throne. Its heritage is explored in the visitor centre.

- In the village of Dundonald on the A71, 12m from Ayr and 5m from Kilmarnock. Leave A77 onto B730, follow signs for Dundonald
- Postcode KA2 9HD
 Telephone 01563 851489
- Open seven days a week, 1 Apr to 31 Oct 10am to 5pm.
 For Winter opening times please visit dundonaldcastle.org.uk or call the number above
- Admission: Adult: £5 Child: £3 Concession: £4





31 NEWARK CASTLE

This 15th century castle is most associated with Patrick Maxwell. He transformed the castle into a fine Renaissance mansion, but was notorious for murdering two neighbours and mistreating his wife.

- In Port Glasgow on the A8 at Newark Roundabout
- Postcode PA14 5NH
 Telephone 01475 741858
- Open summer only
- Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4

32 ROTHESAY CASTLE

Cross the drawbridge over the moat and climb the 'bloody stair' to the circular ramparts, or descend into a forbidding pit prison. This powerful stronghold, built in the 1200s, was twice besieged and captured by the Norse, who battered down the eastern wall with their axes. A short film tells this remarkable story.

The castle has also been a royal base: Robert III died here and James IV used it to launch campaigns against the Lords of the Isles.

- In Rothesay, Isle of Bute. Ferry from Wemyss Bay on the A78
- The castle is only a few minutes walk from the ferry terminal
- Postcode PA20 ODA
 Telephone 01700 502691
- Open all year. Winter closed Thurs and Fri
- Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4





Image

Lower shrine, may have been associated with St Kentigern, dating from 13th century, Glasgow Cathedral

See page 21

CENTRAL AND WEST

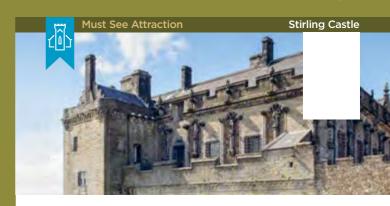
STIRLING CASTLE

One of Scotland's greatest castles, Stirling is more spectacular than ever with its magnificently recreated Royal Palace. Just the place for an unbeatable day out.

- Meet characters from the past
- Explore the sumptuous Royal Palace
- Visit the Great Hall, Chapel Royal and Great Kitchens



Image Soldier clothes pegs found in top floor of Palace Apartments, now on display, Stirling Castle



41 STIRLING CASTLE

There's more than ever to see and do at Stirling Castle. Step inside the Royal Palace and meet costumed characters in the roles of royalty, bodyguards and servants who give insights into the Stewart royal court.

Explore the Great Hall, Chapel Royal, Castle Exhibition and Regimental Museum. Guided tours of the castle and Argyll's Lodging are also recommended. Younger visitors can get hands on with history in the Palace Vaults, where they can try on period costume and play medieval instruments.

Our specially-designed Access Gallery allows disabled visitors to experience areas within the castle which are less accessible and a mobility vehicle is available on request.

The Unicorn Café offers a delicious menu of hot and cold food and, during summer, The Pentice Terrace Café is also available.

- Leave M9 at Junction 10 and follow local road signs
- Postcode FK8 1EJ
 Telephone 01786 450000
- Open all year seven days a week. 26 Mar to 30 Sept 9.30am to 6pm, 1 Oct to 31 Mar 9.30am to 5pm. Last ticket sold 45 mins before closing. Regimental Museum opening times vary – please check website for details
- Admission: Adult £15 Child £9 Concession £12
- Car parking £4. There is no space to accommodate vehicles with trailers, caravans or mobile homes. Visitors are asked to use the park and ride facilities detailed here: stirlingcastle.gov.uk/getting-here
- Visit our website: stirlingcastle.gov.uk

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33 ARGYLL'S LODGING

Enjoy a glimpse of the home life of a wealthy Scottish nobleman of the 1600s. The most complete townhouse of its kind, its interior has been reconstructed to look as it may have done when Archibald Campbell, 9th Earl of Argyll, lived here.

Access via Stirling Castle's admissions office.

- In Stirling's historic Old Town just below Stirling Castle off the M9
- Postcode FK8 1EG
 Telephone 01786 450000 (Stirling Castle)
- Parking at Stirling Castle
- Open all year every afternoon
- Ad-hoc tours run on demand
- Admission included in Stirling Castle ticket
- Wheelchair access limited to ground floor



34 BONAWE HISTORIC IRON FURNACE

Once a place of fire and fury, the most complete charcoalfuelled ironworks in Britain are now tranquil. Step inside the stone furnace complex and storage buildings of this pioneering 18th century site and discover the Highlands' role in the Industrial Revolution. The furnace only ceased firing in 1870.

- By the village of Taynuilt off the A85
- Postcode PA35 1JQ
 Telephone 01866 822432
- Open summer only
- Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4



35 CASTLE CAMPBELL AND GARDENS

Discover the drama of this brooding medieval castle, set high above tree-covered ravines and plunging burns on the edge of the Ochil Hills. This was the lowland residence of the powerful Campbell dynasty, where the Protestant reformer John Knox came to preach and Mary Queen of Scots came to feast. You can learn about the rise and fall of the Campbells of Argyll and admire the Forth Valley from the rooftops.

- At the head of Dollar Glen, 10m E of Stirling off the A91
- Postcode FK14 7PP
 Telephone 01259 742408
- There is no coach/bus access
- Open all year. Winter closed Thurs and Fri
- Admission: Adult £6 Child £3.60 Concession £4.80



36 DOUNE CASTLE

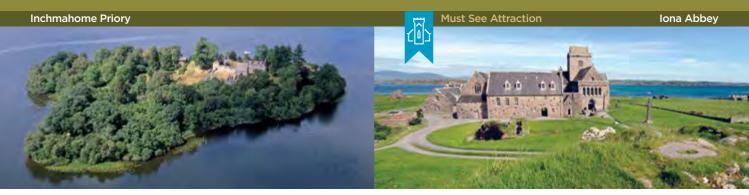
This near-complete castle was the home of Regent Albany, Scotland's 'uncrowned king'. It was later a royal residence, a dower house for widowed queens and a Jacobite prison.

The audio guide is narrated by two actors who have filmed scenes at Doune Castle: Terry Jones, director and star of *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*, and Sam Heughan, star of the hit TV show *Outlander*. The castle was also a filming location for *Game of Thrones*.

When the castle car park is full, we suggest visitors use the Castle Hill public car park and walk to the castle.

- In Doune, 10m NW of Stirling off the A84.
 On arrival in Doune follow local signage to castle
- Postcode FK16 6EA
 NN 728 010
- Telephone 01786 841742 Open all year
- Admission: Adult £6 Child £3.60 Concession £4.80
- Advance booking strongly advised. Visit historicenvironment.scot/ doune-castle for up-to-date visiting arrangements





37 DUNBLANE CATHEDRAL

One of Scotland's finest medieval churches. The lower part of the tower is Romanesque but most of the building was built in the 1200s, and extensively restored in the 1800s. The 15th century choir stalls - amongst the oldest now surviving in Scotland - are carved with real and fantastical beasts.

- In Dunblane just off the B8033
- Postcode FK15 OAQ
 Telephone 01786 823388
- Open all year (open Sun from 2pm to facilitate church services)
- Last entry 30 mins before closing
- Admission: Free, donations welcome
- Wheelchair available



38 DUNSTAFFNAGE CASTLE AND CHAPEL

From the rugged battlements of this strategically sited castle you can see how it once dominated Loch Etive. Outside the ramparts lie a ruined chapel, well-kept grounds and pebbly beaches with views to Mull, Lismore and Morvern.

Built by Duncan MacDougall in the 1200s, the castle was captured by Robert the Bruce in 1308. Flora MacDonald was imprisoned here after helping Bonnie Prince Charlie escape Scotland.

Explore the three-storey gatehouse built around 1500.

- Near Dunbeg, 3m N of Oban off the A85 beyond the European Science Business Park
- Postcode PA37 1PZ
 Telephone 01631 562465
- Open all year. Winter closed Thurs and Fri
- Admission: Adult £6 Child £3.60 Concession £4.80



39 INCHMAHOME PRIORY

Take a scenic boat trip to this wooded island sanctuary with a medieval priory at its heart. Founded around 1238, it was home to Augustinian canons for more than 300 years. It was visited by Robert the Bruce and Mary Queen of Scots.

The island is perfect for a short walk or a waterside picnic. It is a haven for wildlife. Look for the 16th century Spanish chestnuts and the boxwood bower supposedly planted by Mary.

- . On an island in the Lake of Menteith
- · Reached by boat from Port of Menteith, 8m S of Callander off the A81
- Postcode FK8 3RA
 Telephone 01877 385294 / 07836 313 769
- Open 26 Mar to 31 Oct. Boat can carry up to 12 passengers and runs on demand from 10am to last outward sailing at 4.15pm (3.15pm during October)
 Admission: Adult £7.50 Child £4.50 Concession £6
- Boat trip to island included in admission price



40 IONA ABBEY AND NUNNERY

This ancient holy place remains a vibrant centre of Christianity. Founded by St Columba, the early monastery on Iona was a powerhouse of Christian learning. Great works of art were created here, including the world-famous *Book of Kells*. Thriving despite Viking raids, the monastery was transformed into a Benedictine abbey in about 1200. Its buildings were restored in the 1900s and in 1938 the Iona Community was founded to revive its traditions of work, worship and teaching.

Highlights of a visit include the abbey church, high crosses and Columba's shrine. Iona also boasts Scotland's finest collection of carved stones and crosses, now in the Abbey Museum.

- On the island of Iona, public ferry (for pedestrian visitors only) from Fionnphort, Mull. 10 mins walk from ferry to Abbey
- Postcode PA76 6SQ
 Telephone 01681 700512
- · Open all year. Unmanned Sun in winter
- Admission: Adult £7.50 Child £4.50 Concession £6



THE KINGDOM OF FIFE

ST ANDREWS CASTLE AND ST ANDREWS CATHEDRAL

As you wander around the castle and cathedral, take in the remarkable atmosphere of this sacred place.

- Peer into the bottle dungeon at the castle
- Explore the castle's unique underground siege mine and counter mine
- Enjoy spectacular views from St Rule's Tower at the cathedral
- Discover the St Andrews sarcophagus, a masterpiece of 8th century Pictish sculpture



Image Detail of window glass fragment, with lead still attached, from St Andrews Cathedral

See page 35



45 ST ANDREWS CASTLE

For centuries, the residence of Scotland's most powerful churchmen. Some of its remarkable secrets are hewn into the rock beneath its battlements. You can explore a unique underground mine and countermine, dug during the brutal siege of 1546-7. A home to bishops, archbishops and a cardinal, it was in the thick of the struggle for hearts and minds during the Protestant Reformation.

- In St Andrews on the A91
- Postcode KY16 9AR
- Telephone 01334 477196
- Open all vear
- Admission: Adult £6 Child £3.60 Concession £4.80.
 Joint ticket with the cathedral: Adult £9 Child £5.40 Concession £7.



46 ST ANDREWS CATHEDRAL

The magnificent medieval ruins stand on a site used for Christian worship since the 8th century, when the relics of St Andrew were reputedly brought here. The Cathedral was the seat of the leading prelate of the Scottish Church until the Reformation of 1560. Climb St Rule's tower for a glorious view over the town.

- In St Andrews on the A91
- Postcode KY16 9QL
- Telephone 01334 472563
- Open all year
- St Rule's Tower may be closed during high winds and at 3pm Dec to Jan due to low light
- Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4.
 Joint ticket with the castle: Adult £9 Child £5.40 Concession £7



Aberdour Castle and Gardens

Inchcolm Abbey



42 ABERDOUR CASTLE AND GARDENS

This splendid ruin was once the luxurious Renaissance home and pleasure gardens of Regent Morton, at the time Scotland's most powerful man. Aberdour was originally built as a fortified residence in the 1100s, making it one of the oldest stone castles in the country. The fine painted ceiling dates from the 1600s.

- In Aberdour, 8m E of the Forth Bridges on the A921
- Postcode KY3 OSLTelephone 01383 860519
- Open all year. Winter closed Thurs and Fri
- Cafe only open in summer. Self-service tea/coffee available in winter
- Admission: Adult £6 Child £3.60 Concession £4.80



43 DUNFERMLINE ABBEY AND PALACE

Admire one of Scotland's most impressive medieval interiors and most important royal sites, founded as a priory in about 1080. Robert the Bruce was buried in the medieval choir, now beneath the Abbey Church of 1821. St Margaret and David I are among a number of monarchs and other royalty laid to rest here. Charles I was born in the palace that grew up alongside the abbey.

Look for grand architecture, elaborate carvings, a painted vault of the 1500s, stained glass windows and displays of sculpture.

- In Dunfermline off the M90
- Postcode KY12 7PE Telephone 01383 739026
- Open all year. Winter closed Thurs and Fri. For opening times of the Abbey Church (not in the care of HES) please visit dunfermlineabbey.co.uk
- Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4



44 INCHCOLM ABBEY AND ISLAND

Escape by boat to this remarkable island, home to one of the most complete medieval abbeys in Scotland. It was supposedly founded by King Alexander I after he was stranded here in 1123.

Step inside the near-complete cloisters and chapter house, learn more in the visitor centre and drink in views over the Firth of Forth from the bell tower. Elsewhere on the island are wartime fortifications.

Look out for seals from the ferry. Access to parts of the island may be restricted between May and August when some seabirds aggressively protect their young.

- . On Inchcolm in the Firth of Forth
- Telephone 01383 823332 / 07836 265146
- Access by ferry from South Queensferry: ferry charge is extra.
 Maid of the Forth on 0131 331 5000, maidoftheforth.co.uk
 or Forth Tours on 0870 118 1866, forthtours.com
- Open 1 Apr to 31 Oct
- Admission: Adult £6 Child £3.60 Concession £4.80





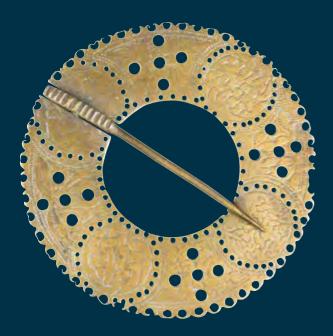
Image Sun dial on display in visitor centre, Inchcolm Abbey

PERTHSHIRE, KINROSS AND ANGUS

ARBROATH ABBEY

An impressive ruin first built by William I 'the Lion' as his burial place. It was dedicated to Thomas Becket, Archbishop of Canterbury who was murdered in 1170. Best known as the place in which the Declaration of Arbroath was issued around 1320, an assertion of Scotland's independence.

- Discover the marble effigy thought to represent William the Lion
- Spot the 'Round O' a famous local landmark
- Admire the west front an impressive example of a twin-towered church façade



ImageDetail of a Brass Annular Plaid
Brooch, Arbroath Abbey



47 ARBROATH ABBEY

Read the Declaration of Arbroath in the abbey in which Scotland's nobility proclaimed their independence from England in 1320. Or listen to your voice in the sacristy, which has one of the longest echoes in the country. It once rang with the clamour of 'lunatics' incarcerated here.

The abbey was founded in 1178 by King William the Lion, who was buried here.

- In Arbroath town centre on the A92
- Postcode DD11 1EG
- Telephone 01241 878756
- Open all year
- Admission: Adult £6 Child £3.60 Concession £4.80
- Wheelchair available



48 EDZELL CASTLE AND GARDEN

The beauty of Edzell was a statement of the prestige of its owners, the Lindsays. The stylised walled garden was created in 1604. Resplendent with heraldic sculptures and carved panels, the architectural framework surrounding the garden is unique in Britain.

- · At Edzell, 6m N of Brechin on the B966
- Postcode DD9 7UE
- Telephone 01356 648631
- Open summer only
- Admission: Adult £6 Child £3.60 Concession £4.80
- Wheelchair available



Huntingtower Castle Lochleven Castle



49 ELCHO CASTLE

Parade up the grand staircase or scurry up the service stair, venture into the well-appointed kitchen and admire the views over the countryside from the high battlements.

This remarkably complete house of the 1500s was the country retreat of the wealthy Wemyss family. Its orchard has been replanted with traditional varieties of apple, pear and plum and has become a haven for butterflies and wildlife.

- 5m NE of Bridge of Earn off the A912 and close to Rhynd
- Postcode PH2 8QQ
 Telephone 01738 639998
- Open summer only All facilities closed at lunchtime
- Call site to arrange bus parking/access within neighbouring farm
- Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4



50 HUNTINGTOWER CASTLE

Colonies of bats may now fly around the castle's twin tower houses, but according to legend a love-struck maiden once made the perilous leap between them. Find out more as you explore the many rooms of this castle, which boasts a fabulous painted ceiling of the 1500s, depicting strange beasts and monsters.

- . Just W of Perth off the A85 to Crieff
- Postcode PH1 3JL
 Telephone 01738 627231
- Open all year. Winter closed Thurs and Fri
- Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4
- Car park not accessible for large cars or camper vans
- Disabled access limited to some lower parts of the castle
- All facilities are closed at lunchtime



JUNE LOCHIEVEN CASTLE

A boat will ferry you to one of Scotland's oldest castles, where Mary Queen of Scots spent a traumatic year. Probably built in the early 1300s, it was said to have been visited by Robert the Bruce during the Wars of Independence.

- On an island in Loch Leven reached by boat from Kinross off the M90 (weather permitting)
- Postcode KY13 8UF
 Telephone 01577 862670
- Open 26 Mar to 31 Oct. Boat can carry up to 12 passengers and runs from 10am to last outward sailing at 4.15pm (3.15pm during Oct)
- Admission: Adult £7.50 Child £4.50 Concession £6
- Boat trip to island included in admission price
- Advance booking is strongly advised. For the most up-to-date booking and visiting arrangements visit historicenvironment.scot/lochleven-castle



MEIGLE SCULPTURED STONE MUSEUM

The museum at Meigle displays 26 Pictish carved stones dating from the late 8th to the late 10th centuries. Making up one of the most important collections of early medieval sculpture in Western Europe, they are all that survives of a centre of Pictish wealth and patronage.

- . In Meigle, 6m SE of Glamis off the A94
- Postcode PH12 8SB
 Telephone 01828 640612
- Open summer only Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4
- Guided tours available. Contact site for details



42 | PERTHSHIRE, KINROSS AND ANGUS

Stanley Mills



53 ST SERF'S CHURCH AND DUPPLIN CROSS

Look in wonder at a Pictish masterpiece that has been placed inside one of Scotland's oldest complete parish churches. The Dupplin Cross is an ornate freestanding cross 2.5m high.

- . In Dunning on the B9141 from the A9
- Postcode PH2 ORG
 Telephone 01764 684497
- Open summer only Admission: Free, donations welcome
- Guided tours available. Please call site for details



54 ST VIGEANS SCULPTURED STONES

Displayed and interpreted inside a converted cottage, this is one of the most important collections of Pictish Christian stones anywhere in Scotland.

- . 1m N of Arbroath off the A92 to Montrose
- Postcode DD11 4RB
 Telephone 01241 878756
- · On the Arbroath Path Network
- Open by appointment only. Call for details. Due to layout and space limitations there is no photography within the museum
- Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4



55 STANLEY MILLS

Stanley Mills was founded to process cotton at the height of the Industrial Revolution. There are superb interactive displays and games that help you to experience working life here. Listen to the Gaelic poetry and stories of the displaced Highlanders who worked in the mills.

- 7.4m N of Perth off the A9, follow signs for Stanley Mills
- Postcode PH1 4QE
 Telephone 01738 828268
- Open 26 Mar to 30 Sept 9.30am to 5.30pm and Oct 10am to 4pm
- Admission: Adult £6 Child £3.60 Concession £4.80
- Last admission one hour before closing

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NORTH AND GRAMPIAN

URQUHART CASTLE

Urquhart Castle is a captivating place. It's got it all – a dramatic history, romantic ruins and a stunning setting, with the sweeping hills of the Great Glen and the mysterious depths of Loch Ness stretching out in front of it. It's an incredibly atmospheric spot, with a really powerful presence.

- Once one of Scotland's largest castles
- Splendid views over Loch Ness
- Outstanding array of medieval artefacts including the Urquhart Ewer



Image

Medieval bronze ewer used by Jacobite soldiers for target practice, found at Urquhart Castle

See page 44



67 URQUHART CASTLE

Discover 1,000 years of drama, experience a glimpse of medieval life and enjoy stunning panoramic views over Loch Ness from the ruins of the greatest castle in the Highlands.

Climb the Grant Tower that watches over the iconic loch, peer into a miserable prison cell, said to have held the legendary Gaelic bard Dòmhnall Donn, and imagine the splendid banquets staged in the great hall. A more panoramic view of the iconic ruins, against a backdrop of Loch Ness and the hills of the Great Glen, can be enjoyed from the café.

Urquhart's stories are also told through a remarkable collection of artefacts left by its residents, historic replicas, including a full-sized, working trebuchet siege engine, and a short film.

The castle has a distinctly Highland heritage and the site has witnessed some of the most dramatic chapters in our nation's history. This is where St Columba is said to have worked miracles in the 6th century, where acts of chivalry and defiance provided inspiration during the Wars of Independence and where the MacDonald Lords of the Isles struggled with the Crown for power.

The visitor centre is fully accessible and there is a photographic guide for those who have mobility issues. Mobility scooters are available on request.

Our café offers a cold deli, light meals and a wide range of homemade cakes and scones as well as hot and cold drinks. The castle shop sells a wide selection of gifts, souvenirs, quality books and jewellery.

- On Loch Ness near Drumnadrochit on the A82
- Postcode IV63 6XJ
 Telephone 01456 450551
- Open all year, seven days a week. 26 Mar to 30 Sept 9.30am to 6pm, 1 to 31 Oct 9.30am to 5pm, 1 Nov to 31 Mar 9.30am to 4.30pm.
 Last entry 45 mins before closing
- Admission: Adult £9 Child £5.40 Concession £7.20

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I FORT GEORGE AND THE HIGHLANDERS' MUSEUM

March into Britain's mightiest artillery fortress for an unforgettable experience. You can explore an enormous military base protected by almost 1.6km (1 mile) of massive walls, and gain an insight into life as a Redcoat in a garrison fortress that has barely changed in almost 250 years of active service. You could also join one of our Dolphin Watches, scouring the Moray Firth for its bottlenose dolphins.

Fort George was built after the final Jacobite Rising was crushed at the Battle of Culloden in 1746. Strategically positioned, it was designed as a bulwark against further unrest. But its sophisticated defences were never tested.

It is still a working army barracks today, housing an infantry battalion of the British Army.

There is much for visitors to see, including defences bristling with cannons, historic barrack rooms, a superb collection of weapons and the peaceful Regimental Chapel.

The Highlanders' Museum tells the stories of three of the four regiments that came together to make up the Highlanders Battalion of the Royal Regiment of Scotland.

Witness history brought to life at the Fort in our summer series of costumed performances.

The fort shop sells gifts, souvenirs, books and jewellery, while our café serves Scottish home-baking.

Fort George is large and mostly open to the elements – please allow plenty of time for your visit. Mobility scooters are available on request.

- . 6m W of Nairn, 11m NE of Inverness off the A96
- Postcode IV2 7TE
 Telephone 01667 460232
- Open all year. Last entry 45 mins before closing
- Café operates restricted hours in winter
- Admission: Adult £9 Child £5.40 Concession £7.20
- Mobility scooters available



56 BAI VENIE CASTI E

Defended by a magnificent curtain wall and an iron yett, Balvenie was a stronghold of the powerful Black Comyns, rivals to Robert the Bruce in the early 1300s. It ultimately became the Renaissance residence of the Earls of Atholl, who built the Atholl Lodging with its grand circular tower.

- At Dufftown off the A941
- Postcode AB55 4GH
 Telephone 01340 820121
- Open summer only
- Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4



57 CORGARFF CASTLE

An isolated tower house in the Cairngorms that was a residence of the high-status Forbes family. After Culloden in 1746, it was converted to become a Redcoat garrison fortress, largely to suppress Jacobite activity. Adaptations and additions included the distinctive star-shaped perimeter wall. The reconstructed barrack rooms offer a window into military life in the late 1700s.

- 8m W of Strathdon on the A939
- Postcode AB36 8YP
 Telephone 01975 651460
- Open summer only
- Admission: Adult £6 Child £3.60 Concession £4.80



58 DALLAS DHU HISTORIC DISTILLERY

Discover the whisky-making process in this Victorian distillery, which has seen only limited development since it opened in 1898. Dallas Dhu suffered frequent setbacks before finally closing in 1983, but its mixed fortunes have helped preserve its distinctive features. Take an audio-guided tour, wander at your leisure through this fascinating building and enjoy a free dram afterwards.

- 1m S of Forres off the A940
- Postcode IV36 2RR
 Telephone 01309 676548
- Open all year. Winter closed Thurs and Fri
- Admission: Adult £6 Child £3.60 Concession £4.80



59 DUFF HOUSE

One of the finest houses built in Scotland, Duff House is a magnificent Georgian mansion designed by William Adam. Standing in extensive parkland, today it houses a beautiful collection of paintings and furniture on loan from the National Galleries of Scotland and the Magdalene Sharpe Erskine Trust.

- In Banff
- Postcode AB45 3SX
 Telephone 01261 818181
- Open all year. 26 Mar to 31 Oct seven days a week 11am to 5pm, 1 Nov to 31 Mar Thur to Sun 11am to 4pm
- No dogs permitted in the building
- Admission: Adult £7.50 Child £4.50 Concession £6



Elgin Cathedral

Kinnaird Head Castle and Lighthouse



60 FIGIN CATHEDRAL

Enjoy some peace among the magnificent ruins of this sacred place, which dates to the 1200s. Admire the glorious west front, the sumptuous decorations and the atmospheric chapter house. Discover the cathedral's remarkable carved stone collection on display in the towers, including the colourfully lit effigy of Bishop Archibald, and enjoy spectacular rooftop views.

The Earl of Buchan burned the cathedral in 1390, and during the ferment leading to the Protestant Reformation of 1560 it was the scene of a violent attack

- In Elgin on the A96
- Postcode IV30 1HU
 Telephone 01343 547171
- Open all year
 Admission: Adult £7.50 Child £4.50 Concession £6
- Joint ticket with Spynie Palace available: Adult £9 Child £5.40 Concession £7

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62 HUNTLY CASTLE

With elaborate heraldry, carved fireplaces and refined décor, this palatial residence was a declaration of the power and wealth of the noble Gordon family. It stands on the site of a motte and bailey castle built in about 1190. There were many royal visits, although in 1594 James VI had part of the tower house blown up after suppressing a rebellion.

Please note that some areas of the castle will be restricted due to conservation works in early 2018 – phone ahead for information.

- . In Huntly off the A96
- Postcode AB54 4SH
 Telephone 01466 793191
- Open all year. Winter closed Thurs and Fri
- Admission: Adult £6 Child £3.60 Concession £4.80

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63 KII DRUMMY CASTI F

Possibly built or adapted by the invading English King Edward I, the great castle of Kildrummy was the stronghold of the Earls of Mar. Although ruined, it remains a good example of a 13th century castle with many fine features.

- 10m SW of Alford on the A97
- Postcode AB33 8RA
 Telephone 01975 571331
- Open summer only Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4



KINNAIRD HEAD CASTLE AND LIGHTHOUSE AND THE MUSEUM OF SCOTTISH LIGHTHOUSES

Built for the Fraser family, this 16th century castle was altered in 1787 to incorporate the first lighthouse built by the Commissioners of the Northern Lighthouses.

- On a promontory in Fraserburgh on the A98
- Postcode AB43 9DU
 Telephone 01346 511022
- Visit lighthousemuseum.org.uk
- Open all year. 25 Mar to 31 Oct 10am to 5pm daily, 1 Nov to 31 Mar 10am to 4.30pm. Closed Mon



50 NORTH AND GRAMPIAN

Tolauhon Castle



65 SPYNIF PALACE

For nearly 500 years, the bishops of Moray relaxed in this majestic building a short distance from their cathedral at Elgin. It even had its own bowling green and, according to one account, a tennis court.

Today, you can climb David's Tower, where bishops once entertained kings and queens. The views over Moray are well worth the ascent. Look out for the wildlife – barn owls nest here

- 2m N of Elgin off the A941
- Postcode IV30 5QG
 Telephone 01343 546358
- Open summer only Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4
- Joint ticket with Elgin Cathedral available: Adult £9 Child £5.40 Concession £7

66 TOLQUHON CASTLE

Sitting within spacious grounds, Tolquhon has been described as one of the most beautiful castles in Scotland. Sir William Forbes, who adapted and expanded an existing tower house in the 1580s, intended its construction to be an impressive residence, though he incorporated plenty of gunloops to deter any hostile visitors.

This is a great building to explore, including a secret compartment in the laird's quarters where he hid his valuables.

- 15m N of Aberdeen on the A920
- Postcode AB41 7LP
 Telephone 01651 851286
- Open summer only
 Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4

THE WESTERN ISLES

THE BLACKHOUSE, ARNOL

The Blackhouse is a testament to the resourcefulness of the islanders. This distinctive building not only gives a unique insight into the past of the Western Isles but points to the future – constructed entirely from local natural materials and designed to be self-sustainable, it's the epitome of eco-friendly living.

- A unique and precious relic
- Smells and textures inside the blackhouse
- Interpretative displays in the visitor centre



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Large iron hearth kettle used in traditional blackhouses in Western Isles

See page 52

52 | THE WESTERN ISLES



68 THE BLACKHOUSE, ARNOL

A traditional thatched house which provides a unique insight into island life. Beside the blackhouse, a furnished 1920s whitehouse and a ruined blackhouse can be seen.

- In Arnol village, Isle of Lewis, 14m NW of Stornoway on the A858
- Postcode HS2 9DB
 Telephone 01851 710395
- Open all year. Summer closed Sun. Winter closed Sun and Wed
- Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4

69 CALANAIS STANDING STONES

A Neolithic setting of standing stones, arranged in a cross shape: one of Scotland's most breathtaking monuments. Visitor centre managed by The Standing Stones Trust.

- 12m W of Stornoway off the A859, Isle of Lewis
- Postcode HS2 9DY
 Telephone 01851 621422
- Site open all year, seven days a week. Please call for up-to-date opening hours and admission prices for visitor centre. For details on the visitor centre, go to callanishvisitorcentre.co.uk

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70 KISIMUL CASTLE

Get a sense of what a clan chief's residence would have been like in the Middle Ages. The three-storey tower house remains the seat of the chief of the Clan Macneil of Barra, Kisimul was restored in the 20th century.

Due to essential conservation works, please call ahead to confirm access to the castle throughout 2018.

- In Castlebay, Isle of Barra, reached by small boat from Castlebay (5 min trip, weather permitting) • Postcode HS9 5UZ
- Telephone 01871 810313
 Open summer only
- Admission: Adult £6 Child £3.60 Concession £4.80
- Admission includes boat trip
 Last outward sailing is 4.30pm

ORKNEY AND SHETLAND

SKARA BRAE PREHISTORIC VILLAGE

The village of Skara Brae was inhabited before the Egyptian pyramids were built, and flourished many centuries before construction began at Stonehenge. It is some 5,000 years old.

- See Neolithic furniture in the village houses
- Find a rich array of artefacts in the visitor centre
- Walk into the replica house and see what life was like during Neolithic times



Replica mystery ritual objects, use unknown, Skara Brae

See page 54



77 SKARA BRAF AND SKAILL HOUSE

Step back 5,000 years to explore one of Europe's best-preserved prehistoric settlements. Once an inland village beside a freshwater loch, Skara Brae now looks out over a wide, sandy beach. Surrounded by a stunning variety of wildflowers and birdlife, a visit is an aesthetic treat.

The village was first uncovered during a storm in 1850. Ever since, Skara Brae has been a place of discovery for archaeologists, students, artists and enthusiasts.

You can follow a path overlooking these ancient buildings, still equipped with their stone furniture, and step inside a replica house to appreciate the lives of the Neolithic villagers. The visitor centre has touch-screen presentations and contains many of the thousands of artefacts discovered here.

In summer, our café offers a cold deli, light meals, homemade cakes and hot and cold drinks.

From 1 April to 31 October, a joint ticket gives access to Skaill House, Orkney's finest mansion, built in the 1620s, and the home of the man who discovered Skara Brae.

- 19m NW of Kirkwall on the B9056
- Postcode KW16 3LR
 Telephone 01856 841815
- Café closes 45 mins before closing time with reduced services in winter
- Wheelchairs available
- Admission: (26 Mar to 31 Oct) Adult £7.50 Child £4.50 Concession £6; (1 Nov to 31 Mar Skara Brae only) Adult £6.50 Child £3.90 Concession £5.20
- Last ticket sold 45 mins before closing
- Book your tickets in advance at historicenvironment.scot/skara-brae

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71 THE BISHOP'S AND EARL'S PALACE, KIRKWALL

Step inside the spectacular ruins of a remarkable residence at the heart of Kirkwall. The medieval Bishop's Palace was built in the 1100s at about the same time as St Magnus Cathedral. In the early 1600s, the Bishop's Palace was incorporated into a refined Renaissance palace commissioned by Earl Patrick Stewart, one of Orkney's most notorious rulers. The Earl's Palace was reputedly built using slave labour.

- In Kirkwall on the A960
- Postcode KW15 1PD
 Telephone 01856 871918
- Open summer only Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4



72 BROCH OF GURNESS

Explore this once mighty Iron Age settlement, with a small village arranged around a central, massive broch tower. Defended by two rock-cut ditches and a rampart, this was clearly a place of power. Look across Eynhallow Sound, once lined with brochs, to make out another well-preserved example at Midhowe, and perhaps glimpse minke and killer whales.

- At Aikerness. 14m NW of Kirkwall on the A966
- Postcode KW17 2NH
 Telephone 01856 751414
- Open summer only
- Admission: Adult £6 Child £3.60 Concession £4.80



Brough of Birsay

Jarlshof Prehistoric and Norse Settlement



73 BROUGH OF BIRSAY

Cross the causeway to a tidal island that was a place of local and perhaps regional importance, first for the Picts and later for Norse settlers. The remains of the Norse settlement include a ruined, Romanesque church that was a place of pilgrimage in the Middle Ages.

- On a tidal island at Birsay, 20m NW of Kirkwall off the A966.
 Check tide tables at Skara Brae
- Postcode KW17 2LX
 Telephone 01856 841815 (Skara Brae)
- Open when tides allow mid Jun to 30 Sept
- Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4



4 HACKNESS MARTELLO TOWER AND BATTERY

These defensive installations are remarkable remnants of war. They were built in 1813-14 to protect British convoys during the Napoleonic Wars, and adapted during later conflicts. The Martello tower, one of only three surviving in Scotland, allows views towards Scapa Flow, a naval anchorage during both world wars.

Inside, you can learn about military life and the ceilidhs and dances that locals held here.

- · At the SE end of Hov
- Postcode KW16 3PQ
 Telephone 01856 701727
- Open summer only
- Admission: Adult £5 Child £3 Concession £4
- When visiting please make your way to the Battery first



JARLSHOF PREHISTORIC AND NORSE SETTLEMENT

Wander around a site where people lived for more than 4,000 years. There are remains of Bronze Age oval houses, an Iron Age broch and wheelhouses, Viking longhouses, a medieval farmstead and a laird's house built around 1600. This enduring site is without parallel in Scotland and features in Sir Walter Scott's novel *The Pirate*.

After touring the site, look out to sea and perhaps spot puffins nesting nearby.

- At Sumburgh Head, 22m S of Lerwick on the A970
- Postcode ZE3 9JN
 Telephone 01950 460112
- Open all year. Winter restricted opening hours.
 Call 01856 841815 (Skara Brae) for details
- Admission: Adult £6 Child £3.60 Concession £4.80





Image

A boat under sail incised on a piece of stone from Jarlshof, on display at National Museums Scotland

58 ORKNEY AND SHETLAND



76 MAFSHOWF CHAMBERED CAIRN

Enter one of the finest Neolithic buildings in north-west Europe, a masterpiece of ancient engineering. This chambered tomb, which sits on a platform encircled by a ditch and bank, is a monument to the skill and beliefs of Orkney's people some 5,000 years ago. If you visit in midwinter, and the skies are clear, you can witness the central chamber illuminated by a shaft of light from the setting sun.

Maeshowe's unique story continued when it was broken into about 1,000 years ago by Norsemen. They left their mark in the astonishing runic graffiti, alongside the stunning 'Maeshowe Lion' carving.

Visits are by guided tour only, leaving from the Visitor Centre in Stenness village, and must be booked online in advance at historicenvironment.scot/maeshowe

- 9m W of Kirkwall on the A965
- Postcode KW16 3HH
- Open all year
- Admission: Adult £6 Child £3.60 Concession £4.80







Ask our staff

EXPLORE OUR ORKNEY ISLAND ATTRACTIONS

with our great value regional Explorer Pass.

Edinburgh and the Lothians 1 Blackness Castle 2 Cairnpapple Hill Craigmillar Castle 4 Crichton Castle 5 Dirleton Castle and Gardens 6 Edinburgh Castle 7 Linlithgow Palace 8 Seton Collegiate Church 9 Tantallon Castle 10 Trinity House Maritime Museum The Scottish Borders Dryburgh Abbey 12 Hermitage Castle Jedburgh Abbey 14 Melrose Abbey 15 Smailholm Tower Dumfries and Galloway 16 Caerlaverock Castle 77 Cardoness Castle 18 Dundrennan Abbev 19 Glenluce Abbey MacLellan's Castle 21 New Abbey Corn Mill 22 Sweetheart Abbey Threave Castle 24 Whithorn Priory and Museum Glasgow, Clyde and Ayrshire 25 Bothwell Castle 26 Craignethan Castle 27 Crossraguel Abbey 28 Dumbarton Castle 29 Dundonald Castle Glasgow Cathedral 31 Newark Castle 32 Rothesay Castle Central and West 33 Argyll's Lodging Bonawe Historic Iron Furnace SS Castle Campbell and Gardens 36 Doune Castle Dunblane Cathedral 33 Dunstaffnage Castle and Chapel Inchmahome Priory Iona Abbey and Nunnery 41 Stirling Castle The Kingdom of Fife 42 Aberdour Castle and Gardens 43 Dunfermline Abbey and Palace

44 Inchcolm Abbey and Island 45 St Andrews Castle

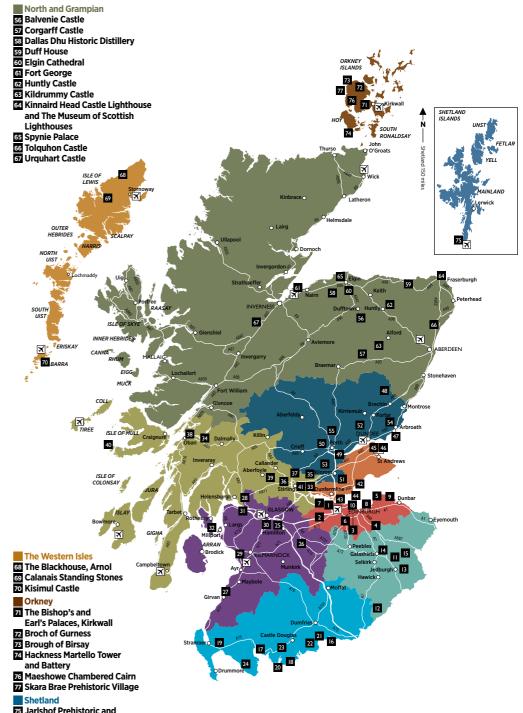
46 St Andrews Cathedral Perthshire, Kinross and Angus 47 Arbroath Abbey

48 Edzell Castle and Garden 49 Elcho Castle 50 Huntingtower Castle 51 Lochleven Castle 52 Meigle Sculptured Stone Museum

53 St Serf's Church and Dupplin Cross St Vigeans Sculptured Stones

Norse Settlement

55 Stanley Mills



OPENING TIMES

Summer (26 Mar to 30 Sept)

Our properties are open seven days a week, Mon to Sun from 9.30am to 5.30pm.

Winter (1 Oct to 31 Mar)

Some properties have special opening times, these will be shown against their entry. Normal opening times are 10am to 4pm. For Christmas and New Year opening hours please check our website.

We sell the last ticket 30 mins before the property closes and 45 mins before closing at Stirling, Urguhart and Dumbarton castles, Fort George, Skara Brae and Linlithgow Palace. Last entry to Edinburgh Castle is 1 hour before closing.

Selected sites will extend their opening times over the summer. Please visit historicenvironment. scot/latenightopening for more information.

Some of the smaller monuments may close for a short period over lunch. Please call the site to check.

Very occasionally in the case of adverse weather conditions a property may have to close at short notice. Please call ahead to confirm that it is safe to visit or check

historicenvironment.scot/closure

ONLINE TICKETS

Tickets to all Historic Scotland attractions are available online at historicenvironment.scot/ daysout

KEY TO SYMBOLS

- P Car Parking
- P Bus Parking
- **†**∱ Toilets
- i Display on History
- i Visitor Centre
- Restaurant/Café
- Shop
- Mobility Scooter Available
- **b** Disabled Toilets
- Guided Tours ask on site for details
- Picnic Area

ADMISSION PRICES

Admission prices are for the period 26 Mar 2018 to 31 Mar 2019. Prices may vary for major events. There is no concession rate for students. The concession rate applies to visitors aged 60 and over and the unemployed. Children under five admitted free.

OTHER INFO

Children under 16: All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Public transport information: Call Traveline Scotland on 0871 200 22 33 or go to travelinescotland.com

Quality assurance: Visitor facilities at Historic Scotland properties are inspected by VisitScotland and graded on a five-star scale. Properties are also assessed under the Green Tourism Business Scheme which rewards care for the environment with a Bronze. Silver or Gold award.

Large print guide and access guide: Call Historic Environment Scotland. Longmore House on **0131 550 7615** for more information.

Bicycle: Call the SUSTRANS information line on 0845 11 30 065 or go to sustrans.org.uk

World Heritage Sites: Feature a UNESCO logo.

Dogs: Dogs on leads are permitted at some, but not all, properties. Where dogs are allowed on site. they must not go into roofed areas including the shop, visitor centre or café. See symbol below.

Strong Footwear Recommended

- Self Service Tea/Coffee
- Accessible by Public Transport
- **Bicycle Rack**
- **Dogs not Permitted**
- Children's Quiz Available
- May be closed at lunchtime, please call in advance (w) Winter only
- VisitScotland Quality Grading
- **Gold Green Tourism Business Award**
- Silver Green Tourism Business Award
 - **Bronze Green Tourism Business Award**

GO EXPLORE

From only £31, The Explorer Pass gives you access to all our attractions - a great value way to explore Scotland's history.

Ask our staff for details, or visit historicenvironment.scot/explorer



CONTACT US

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Opening times and admission prices are correct at time of publication, but may be liable to change.

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