



HISTORIC SCOTLAND  
ALBA AOSMHOR

Membership Handbook  
2024/25



Get behind  
the scenes

This handbook is organised into 11 regions and properties are listed alphabetically within each region.



Please check the website for opening times, booking information and specific site information.

**historyawaits.scot**

For more information  
on our sites visit our  
website or download the  
**Historic Scotland app**

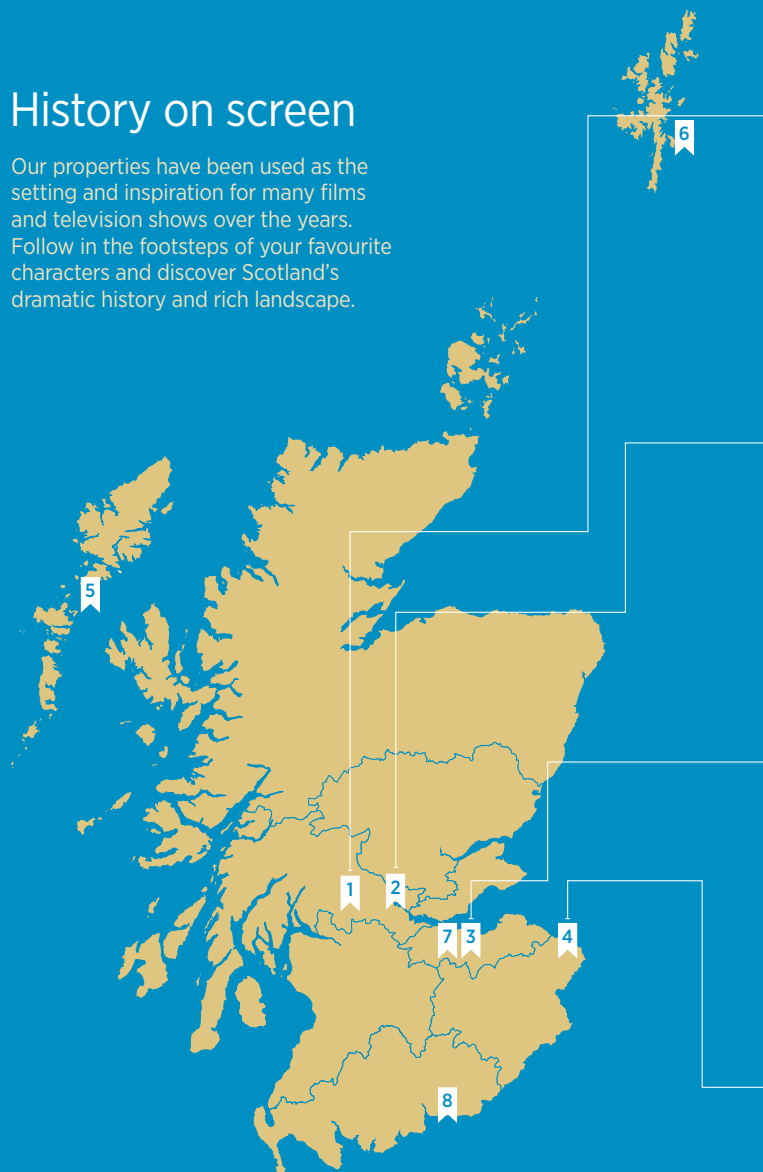


## Key

- |                           |                        |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| Car parking               | Restaurant/café        |
| Toilets                   | Shop                   |
| Accessible toilets        | Strong footwear needed |
| Visitor Centre            | Bicycle rack           |
| Mobility scooters on site | Dogs allowed           |
| Public transport access   | Water refill scheme    |
| Picnic area               | Baby change facilities |

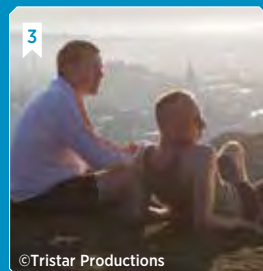
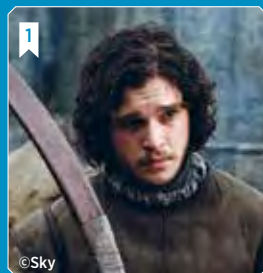
# History on screen

Our properties have been used as the setting and inspiration for many films and television shows over the years. Follow in the footsteps of your favourite characters and discover Scotland's dramatic history and rich landscape.



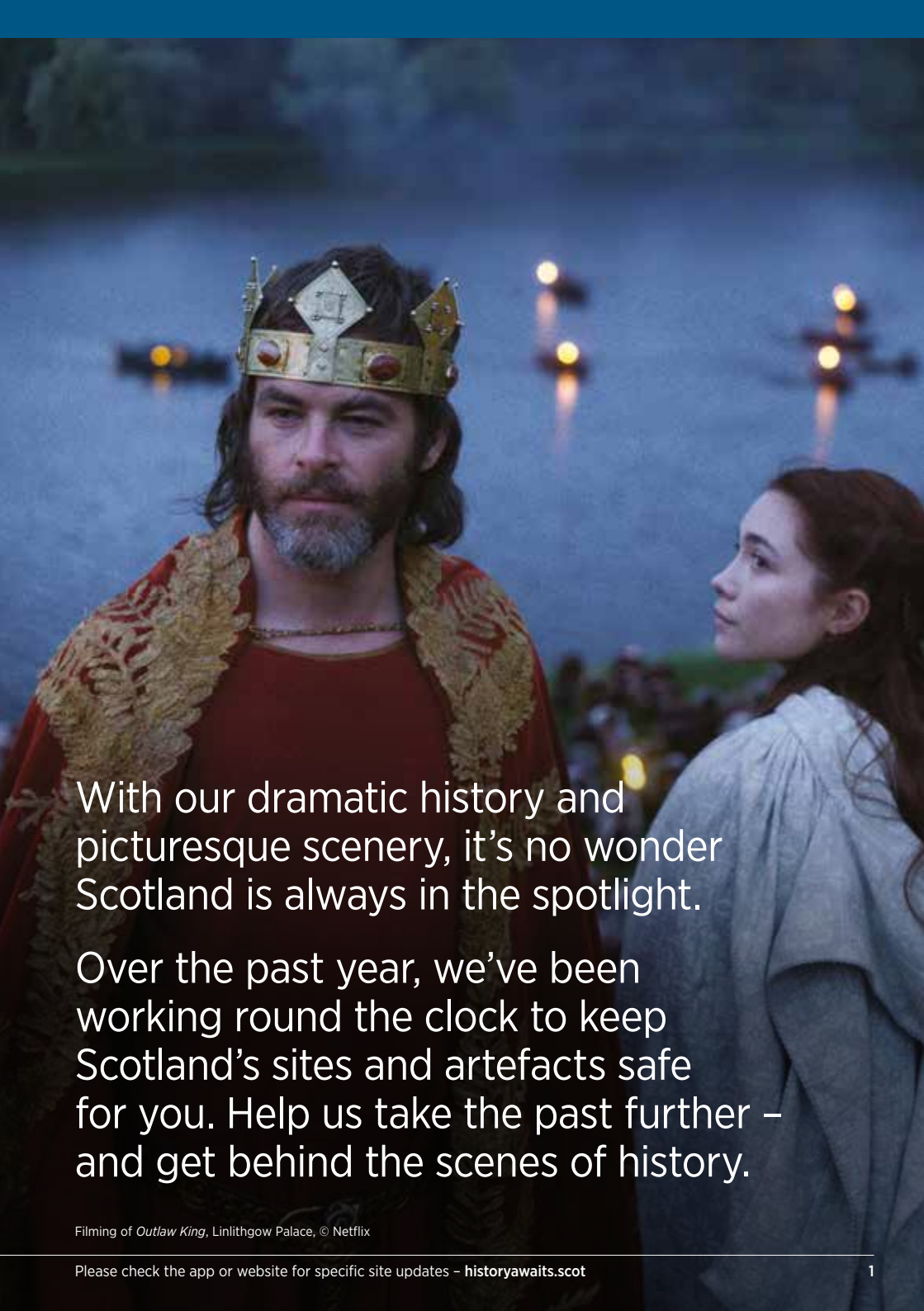
- 1** Doune Castle  
Game of Thrones
- 2** Stirling Castle  
Mary and George
- 3** Holyrood Park  
Trainspotting 2
- 4** Tantallon Castle  
Strictly Come Dancing

- 5** St Clement's Church  
Call the Midwife
- 6** Fort Charlotte  
Shetland
- 7** Edinburgh Castle  
The Lost King
- 8** Caerlaverock Castle  
The Decoy Bride



For more film and TV locations go to [historicensevironment.scot/filming](http://historicensevironment.scot/filming)



A man with a beard and a crown, wearing a red tunic and a gold-trimmed cape, stands next to a woman in a grey medieval-style dress. They are outdoors at night, with blurred lights in the background.

With our dramatic history and picturesque scenery, it's no wonder Scotland is always in the spotlight.

Over the past year, we've been working round the clock to keep Scotland's sites and artefacts safe for you. Help us take the past further – and get behind the scenes of history.

Filming of *Outlaw King*, Linlithgow Palace, © Netflix

Please check the app or website for specific site updates – [historyawaits.scot](https://historyawaits.scot)

## The Coronation

As part of this historic ceremony, the Stone of Destiny was delivered from Edinburgh Castle to Westminster Abbey and placed in the Coronation Chair.

Our craftspeople and experts used traditional skills to help create and prepare some of the key items for the National Service of Thanksgiving and Dedication at St Giles' Cathedral.

Last year, we went above and beyond to protect Scotland's history and bring it to life.



## UCI Cycling World Championships

In August, we did our bit for the largest ever cycling event, staged Scotland-wide across multiple disciplines. Our iconic sites were chosen to backdrop two of the events, showcasing Scotland's heritage to the world. The Championships were a huge success, with Stirling Council alone reporting an extra 200,000 people in the city.

## Managing Imperial Legacies Exhibition

Nzira Yeparuware, which translates as 'a path upon a rock', was a sound installation which ran last year at Edinburgh Castle. Created by Zimbabwe-born artist Tanatsei Gambura, this project explored colonialism's impact on Zimbabwe's streetscapes using "tangible material of Scotland's vast geography and heritage".



© Andrew Godfrey

## Roman Fortlet Discovered

We recently uncovered a Roman fortlet in West Dunbartonshire, along the Antonine Wall, which is one of Scotland's six UNESCO World Heritage Sites. The buried remains were found within Rough Castle using an advanced geophysical surveying technique called gradiometry and have changed our understanding of the limits of the historically significant area.



We've been going all out to roll out the red carpet for more of your favourite historic sites. This is the perfect time to resume your fascination with Scotland's heritage – and get behind the scenes of history.

### Keeping Standards High

It takes an army to make sure our historical sites are properly cared for and experienced as they should be. Surveyors, architects, structural engineers, ecologists, steeplejacks, works teams, stonemasons – so many specialist staff are needed to preserve Scotland's identity and culture. And, while most of our sites are now back open to the public, it's best to make sure you check ahead before visiting to avoid disappointment. Every stone, every crack and every minute detail of every site goes under the microscope, so we appreciate your patience as we tend to Scotland's incredible history and protect it for future generations.



### Lowering the Drawbridge

Many of the most popular castles we look after are yours to explore again. Aberdour Castle, Dumbarton Castle, Castle Campbell, Lochleven Castle, Dirleton Castle and Balvenie Castle are all back open to the public – so make sure you take in the rich history of your favourites up close.



Find out more about our conservation works at [historicenvironment.scot/hlm-sites](https://historicenvironment.scot/hlm-sites)





## Castle Campbell

High drama isn't just for television and movies – this home of powerful highland chieftains has had its own fair share, too. One of Scotland's best preserved tower house castles, Castle Campbell has been visited by many prominent figures of history, including Mary Queen of Scots, fiery Protestant preacher John Knox, Royalist leader John Graham, Marquis of Montrose, and Cromwell's trusted lieutenant General Monck. With its ancient sycamore, the Maiden Tree, perfectly preserved stonework, and easy access from both Glasgow and Edinburgh, Castle Campbell has long inspired storytellers throughout the ages.

## Tantallon Castle

With its wild and exposed clifftops, commanding Bass Rock views, and sea-swept ruins, Tantallon Castle brings a savage natural beauty to any shot. Originally home to the Red Douglas dynasty, Tantallon was besieged many times over the centuries and is now a popular film destination.

Our free members' events range from art exhibitions and talks to re-enactments and other family events. See how your membership can get you a unique point of view on Scotland's past.



Please see your quarterly magazine, sign up to our email newsletter at [historicenvironment.scot/members-email](https://historicenvironment.scot/members-email) or visit [historicenvironment.scot/events](https://historicenvironment.scot/events) for the latest updates and to find out when tickets are available to book.



## Unicorn

### **Stirling Castle Saturday 6 & Sunday 7 April**

This National Unicorn Day come and meet our two majestic unicorns, Princess and Tinkerbelle, at Stirling Castle! Throughout the day, we will take you through themed activities to help explain the importance of the unicorn to Scottish history and culture. Since it was introduced to Scotland's royal coat of arms in the mid 1500s, the mythical unicorn has been celebrated nationwide – and now it's your turn!

Please note, due to the scale of this event, there will be no parking on the castle esplanade.



© Andrew Godfrey Photography



© Andrew Godfrey Photography



© Peter Devlin



## Spectacular Jousting

**Linlithgow Palace**  
**Saturday 29 & Sunday 30 June**

**Caerlaverock Castle**  
**Saturday 27 & Sunday 28 July**

See our mighty knights pit themselves against one another in this spectacular show. Clashing swords, thundering hooves, the splinter of lance on shield – this is an experience unlike any other. You can even wander through living history camps and meet soldiers, craftspeople and other fascinating figures from the past.



© Peter Devlin





**Celebration of the Centuries**  
**Fort George**  
**Saturday 10 & Sunday 11 August**

Our biggest re-enactment event is back!  
Celebration of the Centuries will take place at Fort George again this year in a weekend-long celebration of over 2,000 years of Scottish history.



Visit [historicismenvironment.scot/events](https://historicismenvironment.scot/events) for the latest event updates and ticket availability.



You're a member of one of the country's biggest historical clubs – and there's so much to take advantage of! We love seeing the people that mean the most to us, enjoying the places that mean the most to you.

### And that's why members go free!

You can visit any of our incredible historic sites for free and see Scotland's history for yourself anywhere in the country.

Advanced booking is available for all of our sites to ensure entry, and it is essential for Blackness Castle, Doune Castle, Edinburgh Castle, Lochleven Castle, Stirling Castle, Maeshowe Chambered Cairn, Skara Brae and Urquhart Castle.

You can also enjoy exciting events like Spectacular Jousting for free – please check [historicenvironment.scot/events](https://historicenvironment.scot/events) for this year's programme.

### Digital membership card

Your membership card is now available digitally and you can access your membership card via the Historic Scotland app. Storing your card on the app means that it will always be with you.



### Download the Historic Scotland app

This app is your one-stop shop for information on Scotland's iconic historic attractions. Packed with essential information and beautiful imagery for Historic Scotland's 77 staffed properties – including opening times, facilities and travel – this guide will help you research your next holiday or simply plan a day trip.



#### Data Protection

We value and respect your privacy. All information we have will be used in accordance with the current data protection legislation. Please visit [historicenvironment.scot/member-privacy](https://historicenvironment.scot/member-privacy) for full details about how we use your data – and to find out more about your rights.

#### Terms and Conditions

We reserve the right to vary the terms and conditions and benefits of membership at any time. Don't worry, you'll be told of any changes. To see our full terms and conditions, visit [historicenvironment.scot/member](https://historicenvironment.scot/member)

# You're one of the crew!

## Your quarterly members' magazine

Packed full of fascinating features on history, heritage and culture, it's the best way to learn all about our sites, artefacts and how we take care of them for you. Read yours so you're kept up to date on Scotland's rich history.

## Life members

If you're lucky enough to be a life member, you can get free site access for 2 adults or up to 6 children (7 15 yrs) or 1 adult and up to 3 children. You also gain entry to English Heritage, Cadw and Manx National Heritage sites where you can take 1 adult or 6 children with you.

## Gift history for less

Forget the deodorant set! You can give the gift of history and heritage this year with a discounted membership. Find out more by reading page 16, visiting [historicenvironment.scot/member](https://www.historicenvironment.scot/membership) or calling us on **0131 668 8999**.

## Scotland through the ages

1124

- Stirling becomes a royal burgh
- David I succeeds his elder brothers to begin one of Scotland's most transformative reigns


1224

- Elgin Cathedral founded

1324

- David II born — at last a male heir for King Robert II!





There are so many great benefits to being a member. From reading material to discounts, exclusive events to free site entry, there are countless reasons to keep exploring history with us.

### Cheaper shopping

We've got an amazing array of historical prints and images on Canmore, the National Record of the Historical Environment. And, with your membership, you get an impressive 20% when you buy from our online store at [stor.scot](https://www.stor.scot). Just use code **HES1118** but keep it to yourself!

### Discounted audio guides

At Edinburgh Castle, Glasgow Cathedral and Orkney Digital Guide, take the tour with an interesting and educational audio guide for 20% less. Stirling Castle is free for members, too.

### 10% off food and drink

Our on-site cafes are the perfect place to fuel up for your visit. And, as a member, you get an incredible 10% off – and another 25p off when you bring your own cup. That means cut-price coffee, cakes and culture!

**1424**

- James I marries English noblewoman Joan Beaufort and is soon afterwards crowned King of Scots at Scone
- Linlithgow Palace rebuilt by James I following a devastating fire

**1824**

- Great Fire of Edinburgh

**1924**

- Construction work for the Scottish National War Memorial at Edinburgh Castle begins
- Dirleton Castle is taken in to State Care

There are so many fascinating historical sites to see and, as a valued member, you've got front row seats. From castles and palaces to monuments and more, you've got a ticket to the best history has to offer.



Dover Castle

## English Heritage

The lands south of Hadrian's 73-mile-long wall are rich in history – with sites that will appeal to families and history buffs alike. There are over 400 historic places to visit ranging from abbeys, castles and ruins to stately homes and palaces. Find out more and book your visit at [english-heritage.org.uk](https://english-heritage.org.uk) – advance booking may be required.

Historic places include:

Stonehenge / Dover Castle / Audley End House and Gardens / Belsay Hall, Castle and Gardens / Lindisfarne Priory / Kenilworth Castle and Elizabethan Garden / Carlisle Castle / Hadrian's Wall / Tintagel Castle plus hundreds more...



ENGLISH  
HERITAGE



Caernarfon Castle

## Cadw

This year, Wales's historic environment service celebrates 40 years of preserving Welsh culture. This beautiful country is believed to have more castles per square mile than anywhere else in the world and, thanks to Cadw (pronounced 'Kadu' before you offend the locals), its beautifully preserved abbeys, historic houses and ancient burial chambers are yours to explore. To plan your trip visit [cadw.gov.wales](https://cadw.gov.wales)

Cadw has over 130 sites including:

Caerphilly Castle / Castell Coch / Raglan Castle / Strata Florida Abbey / Tintern Abbey. World Heritage sites: Beaumaris Castle / Caernarfon Castle / Conwy Castle / Harlech Castle / Blaenavon Ironworks



Cadw



Renewal and life members visit English Heritage, Cadw, and Manx sites for free and first year annual members get half-price entry. See page 12 for a reminder of life member guest allowance at these sites.



Rushen Abbey Gardens

## Manx National Heritage

Home to the world's largest working waterwheel and oldest continuous parliament, the Isle of Man has a lot of history for such a small island. Places of interest range from Viking ruins to medieval castles and you get free entry to all these sites\*. To find out more visit [manxnationalheritage.im](http://manxnationalheritage.im)

Historic sites include:

The Laxey Wheel / Rushen Abbey /  
Castle Rushen / The Old Grammar  
School / Manx Museum / Grove Museum /  
Peel Castle / House of Manannan /  
Cregneash Village / Nautical Museum /  
The Old House of Keys



Manx National Heritage  
*Eiraght Ashoonagh Vannin*

\* Please note there may be an additional charge for entry to special events.



Palace of Holyroodhouse

## Other access...

### Palace of Holyroodhouse

As a member you can expect a royal welcome at The King's official residence in Scotland – and 20% off the ticket price\*. See the 17th century apartments, Mary Queen of Scots' chambers, the ruins of the Abbey and exquisite works of art from the Royal Collection. For details visit [rct.uk/holyroodhouse](http://rct.uk/holyroodhouse) or call 0303 123 7306.

### Dumfries House

As a member you'll get 25% off the House tour of this magnificent property. Set in 2,000 acres of scenic Ayrshire countryside, this property is seen as one of the UK's most architecturally significant stately homes. For details visit [dumfries-house.org.uk](http://dumfries-house.org.uk) or call 01290 425 959.

\* At Palace of Holyroodhouse, 20% discount applies to Palace entry.

Discounts are valid until March 2025. Discount does not apply to online tickets. Life Member guest allowances do not apply at these sites.

# As timeless gifts go, a year's Historic Scotland membership is hard to beat. Introduce family and friends to centuries of fascination and fun.

As a member you get 20% off annual membership given as a gift – and we'll send your gift directly to the recipient along with your own personal message. Just log in at [historicenvironment.scot/member](https://historicenvironment.scot/member) or call **0131 668 8999\***.

### Spread the word

Introduce family and friends to Historic Scotland and they'll get 20% off new annual membership. They can join at any staffed Historic Scotland site as long as you're there to show your membership card, or they can call us on **0131 668 8999** quoting your name and membership number, or direct them to [historicenvironment.scot/mgm](https://historicenvironment.scot/mgm)\*\*.

\* Please note gift memberships are not available to buy at our sites. Terms and conditions apply. See online for details.

\*\* Terms and conditions apply, see online for details.



## Legacy Giving

Every day, Scotland's culture inspires people around the world. By leaving us a gift in your will, you'll leave a lasting legacy that will help to:

- Conserve our incredible sites, collections and archives
- Educate about Scotland's rich history
- Improve our research
- Keep traditional skills alive
- Address the effects of climate change

All donations are welcome and will help us continue to care for Scotland's past long into the future. If you'd like to speak to us about leaving a gift in your will and for more information about how your donation will make a difference, please contact our Fundraising Development Manager, Julie Forster by email at [julie.forster@hes.scot](mailto:julie.forster@hes.scot) or call **0131 668 8652**.



# Keeping our sites clean and green

We recycle everything we can at all our sites. And you can help us care for the environment by recycling any rubbish you have at the closest facilities or taking it away with you if there are no bins or if the bins are full.



## **Don't forget your reusables!**

We've teamed up with the Refill scheme to tackle plastic pollution by letting you fill your water bottle for free at many of our sites – those participating will clearly display the symbol shown. We are also offering a 25p discount for those using reusable cups for takeaway coffee at our cafés and shops.



## **Carbon friendly**

A trip to our sites is even more enjoyable when someone else is doing the driving – so please consider using public transport. Sites which are easily accessible are indicated by the symbol shown.

For more information visit **[travelinescotland.com](https://travelinescotland.com)** or follow the link on our website.

For local transport information, please call the site and our staff will do their best to help.



## **Two wheels**

And if you're keen on cycling, discover the many routes on the National Cycle Network, including traffic-free routes, to access the historic environment. Visit **[Sustrans' website](https://sustrans.org.uk)** for more information **[sustrans.org.uk](https://sustrans.org.uk)**

We're always looking to improve on sustainability – you can send us your feedback and ideas by emailing **[climatechange@hes.scot](mailto:climatechange@hes.scot)**



## Regions

Scotland has been divided into regions ranging from the Scottish Borders in the south to Shetland in the north (see the map on the cover fold out). A full alphabetical index of all sites can be found on pages 118-121.

You can view the regional maps at the start of each section for more information about specific site locations.

### Road directions

Directions to all sites are included. We include postcodes for our staffed sites which will enable you to locate our sites using web-based route finder websites.

### World Heritage sites

Sites with World Heritage recognition feature a UNESCO logo. The ranger service for the Orkney WHS can be reached on **07920 450540**.



**unesco**  
World Heritage Site

### Unmanned Aircraft Systems/ drones

We welcome the opportunity for our sites to be captured, however as UAS become more popular and more widely used, we also have a duty of care to protect our historic sites and ensure the safety of visitors and staff.

For this reason, anyone who wishes to launch a drone from our area of responsibility must obtain prior consent.

Application guidance can be found at **historicenvironment.scot/filming**

### Visitor information

Before visiting any of our sites:

- Check our website for the most up-to-date information on opening times as these can be subject to change.
- Pre-booking is available at all sites. **Pre-booking is essential to guarantee entry** at Blackness Castle, Doune Castle, Edinburgh Castle, Lochleven Castle, Stirling Castle, Maeshowe Chambered Cairn, Skara Brae and Urquhart Castle.

Go to **historyawaits.scot** for more information.

A family quiz is available free at all of our staffed sites – please ask a staff member on arrival.

Please check online or on arrival if guided tours are available.

Sites run by organisations in partnership with Historic Environment Scotland may not offer Historic Scotland members' retail and café discount.

### Opening times

Many of our sites have varied opening days and times. To avoid disappointment we recommend checking our website **historicenvironment.scot/visit-a-place** prior to visiting for up-to-date site information including specific opening days, times and last entry times.

Some of our sites may close for a short period over lunch. Please check our website for specific lunch closures.

Very occasionally in the case of adverse weather a site may need to close at short notice. To check for unexpected closures, you can call our staffed sites or follow **@welovehistory** and **#HSclosure** on X/Twitter.



## Car parking

Car parking is free to visitors at most sites for the length of your visit. Please note parking is for individual use when visiting the site.

- Parking is not available at Edinburgh Castle. We do provide limited parking for visitors with a Blue Disabled Badge. Please call **0131 225 9846** prior to your visit.
- £2 charge applies to car parking at Stirling Castle in summer, payable on arrival and is free for members in the winter (£4 for non-members). Spaces are offered on a first come, first served basis, as demand often exceeds available spaces. You may wish to use city centre parking or the Castlevue Park and Ride Service (get off at the Old Town Jail, a five-minute walk from the castle entrance). We do not have space for mobile homes or vehicles with trailers and caravans.
- Charges are also made at Holyrood Park and Melrose Abbey. Members are not exempt from this charge.

## Safety

Visiting some sites can involve a fair amount of walking over uneven ground. Sensible footwear is recommended. Watch out for wet grass and wet wooden footbridges.

Some of our rural sites are located in farmland and may include access through areas with livestock.

## Security

We would like to make members aware that random bag searches may be in place at Edinburgh and Stirling castles as well as some of our other sites or events. Bag size restrictions may also be in place. Members are asked to check individual sites online for further information. We would like to thank you for your co-operation in ensuring our sites are safe and secure for all.



## Visitors with disabilities

This symbol indicates where there are accessible toilet facilities.

Hearing induction loops are available at most staffed sites. Other facilities for people with a disability are indicated in the site descriptions. For fuller, regularly updated descriptions of the facilities available at sites please visit individual site pages on our website.



This symbol indicates that mobility scooters are available for use at the site.

## Carers

Carers who accompany visitors with disabilities receive free entry. Carer tickets can be booked online for free or are available when you arrive on site.



## Dogs

This symbol indicates sites where dogs are welcome.

Dogs on leads are permitted at some but not all sites. Dogs must be kept on a lead and should not be left unattended (including in vehicles on site). Dogs are not allowed at sites without this icon.

Dogs are not permitted into roofed areas such as gift shops, cafés, some castles or visitor centres. If you are unsure of access, please call the site in advance of your visit.

Assistance dogs are permitted at all sites and in all parts of the site.

## Smoking/vaping

Please note that all of our sites are smoke and vape free environments.



# Edinburgh & The Lothians

From royal residences to historic market towns, and rugged coastlines to rolling hills, Edinburgh and its surroundings offer many attractions. This ancient heartland has a long, eventful history to match its cinematic beauty.



Inchcolm Abbey with the city of Edinburgh in the distance







### 1 Blackness Castle

Step inside a 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 tall curtain walls contain clues to its many guises: luxurious residence, royal castle, heavily defended coastal stronghold, jail for political prisoners and Victorian ammunitions depot. In later years, it has been a popular filming location, appearing in *Outlander*, *Outlaw King* and *Mary Queen of Scots*.

You can explore its three main towers and its elevated wall-walk. Outside, you can picnic in its grounds, enjoy remarkable views and ramble on the rocky foreshore.

- 4m NE of Linlithgow on the Firth of Forth, off the A904
- Postcode EH49 7NH
- Telephone 01506 834807
- Please contact site to check for coach parking availability



AAA ★★★★★

Advance booking is essential to avoid disappointment – visit [historicenvironment.scot/blackness-castle](#) to book your ticket.

### 2 Cairnpapple Hill

Stand on a once-sacred hilltop where people first held rituals and raised monuments some 5,000 years ago.

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 dome). The panoramic views stretch from the Bass Rock in the east to the Isle of Arran in the west.

- 3m N of Bathgate, 1m from Torphichen, 5m S of Linlithgow
- Postcode EH48 4LD
- Telephone 01506 654 349
- Please follow signs for Beecraigs and the Korean War Memorial until you see signs for Cairnpapple
- Access over agricultural land via a fenced path



### 3 Castlelaw Hill Fort

The ramparts of this impressive Iron Age hill fort are set into the beautiful Pentland Hills.

Explore the ancient stronghold before plunging into a subterranean passage, nestled between its ramparts.

- On Castle Knowe, about 1m NW of Glencorse or 2.5m SW from Lothianburn Junction on the City Bypass, off the A702
- Access is over agricultural land





© Lee Howard

#### 4 Chesters Hill Fort

Climb around the maze-like ramparts of one of the best-preserved hill forts in the country.

You can still trace the outlines of individual homes in this Iron Age settlement, overlooking fertile farmland.

- 1m S of Drem off the B1377



#### 5 Corstorphine Dovecot

This handsome 'beehive' dovecot once supplied pigeons and eggs to the residents of the long-gone Corstorphine Castle. View exterior only.

- In Dovecot Road off Saughton Road North leading to and from Corstorphine High Street, Edinburgh



#### 6 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.

Begun in the late 1300s or 1400s by the powerful Prestons, Craigmillar Castle was later acquired and extended by the Gilmour family.

In 1479, Craigmillar was allegedly a prison for John Stewart, Earl of Mar, younger brother of James III. But the castle is famous above all as a retreat for Mary Queen of Scots, and the focus of an alleged plot to murder her husband Darnley. Its profile is dominated by its remarkably complete inner curtain wall. In recent years Craigmillar has appeared on the small screen in *Outlander* and *Outlaw King*.

- 2.5m SE of Edinburgh off the A7
- Postcode EH16 4SY
- Parking is limited, where possible if you can use public transport or visit on foot this would help alleviate issues.
- Telephone 0131 661 4445



PPPP ★★★★★

#### 7 Crichton Castle

Overlooking the beautiful Tyne Valley, Crichton has been home to medieval and Renaissance nobles.

Its sturdy tower of the late 1300s stands by a sophisticated façade created 200 years later.

Crichton hosted a spectacular wedding attended by Mary Queen of Scots. The castle's ruins, framed by a secluded valley, were celebrated by writer Sir Walter Scott and artist J.M.W. Turner.

- 2.5m SSW of Pathhead off the A68
- Postcode EH37 5XA
- Telephone 01875 320017
- Access is over agricultural land





8 Dirleton Castle and Gardens

Discover a long and eventful history in these well-preserved medieval ruins. Cross the ditch guarded by high walls and an imposing tower, glancing up at the ‘murder hole’ above your head.

Discover stories of sieges, nobility and alleged witchcraft. Dirleton is celebrated for the beauty of its grounds. Enjoy the Arts and Crafts garden, at its peak in the summer, and the Victorian formal garden, particularly impressive in early autumn.

- In Dirleton village, 3m W of North Berwick on the A198
- Postcode EH39 5ER
- Telephone 01620 850330



10 Dunglass Collegiate Church

Admire the intricate surviving sculptures inside this stone-vaulted medieval church.

Built for Sir Alexander Home in about 1443, it later survived being on the front line during the Rough Wooing in the 1540s.

- 1m NW of Cockburnspath off the A1

9 Doon Hill

This hillside site has proved an archaeological puzzle since its televised excavation in the 1960s.

We now know that Scotland’s first farmers raised a great timber hall here some 6,000 years ago. Its outlines and other features are marked out on the site.

- 2m S of Dunbar off the A1, walk 200 metres up hillside from farm track



11 Eagle Rock, Cramond

A weather-worn carving of a Roman eagle on a beachside rock, thought to date from the 2nd or 3rd century AD.

Nearby Drum Sands is internationally important for waders and winter fowl.

- On the shore of the Forth about 0.25m W of Cramond off the A90. Access via pathway from South Queensferry (under rail bridge) into Dalmeny Castle estate





## 12 Edinburgh Castle

A mighty fortress, the defender of the nation and a world-famous visitor attraction – Edinburgh Castle has dominated the city's skyline for centuries. And the high volcanic rock on which it stands has been occupied for thousands of years.

The castle's powerful stone walls have endured more sieges than any other in Britain, and it was an important residence of Scottish kings and queens.

Today it is home to the Honours of Scotland (Crown Jewels), three military museums, the Scottish National War Memorial, the Fight for the Castle 1286-1356 exhibition, the Prisons of War exhibition and much more besides. The castle offers a fabulous day out – an experience not to be missed.

- In Edinburgh, at the top of the Royal Mile
- Postcode EH1 2NG
- Telephone 0131 225 9846
- Visit our website: [edinburghcastle.scot](http://edinburghcastle.scot)
- Nearest parking is Castle Terrace NCP
- Please note dogs are not allowed at the castle, with the exception of assistance dogs



PPA ★★★★★





## Edinburgh Castle top 10 highlights

- 1 **The Crown Room** – where the nation's treasures are kept
- 2 **The Great Hall** – a huge venue built for James IV in the early 1500s for feasts and state occasions, with the original hammerbeam roof, decorated corbels and a fabulous display of arms and armour
- 3 **Royal Palace** – where Mary Queen of Scots gave birth to James VI
- 4 **St Margaret's Chapel** – the oldest building in Edinburgh, built by David I to commemorate his mother Queen Margaret, later St Margaret
- 5 **Prisons of War** – an atmospheric recreation of the life of prisoners at the end of the 18th century
- 6 **Mons Meg** – could fire a 150kg stone for up to 3.2km (2 miles)
- 7 **The One O'Clock Gun** – the famous time signal has been fired daily since 1861 except on Sundays, Christmas Day, Good Friday and when paused during WW1 and WW2
- 8 **The Scottish National War Memorial** – a sombre and beautiful shrine to those who gave their lives in conflicts from the First World War onwards
- 9 **The National War Museum** – and individual regimental museums
- 10 **Panoramic views** – stunning views across the capital

## Visit

- Try out the new Official Edinburgh Castle Guided Tour. The tour is free for members but must be booked online
- Listen to our audio guide, featuring names such as Saoirse Ronan, Jackie Kay and Ian Rankin
- Entertain the kids with our special children's quiz available in 16 languages
- Enjoy lunch in our Redcoat Café or a traditional afternoon tea in the Tea Rooms using your 10% members' discount. Taste the best of Scotland's produce prepared by our award-winning caterers
- Visit the castle's shops and take advantage of your 20% members' discount
- Limited parking for drivers with blue disabled badge – call site for availability and to book
- Steep inclines and steps – mobility vehicle available, call 0131 225 9846 prior to visiting
- For reasons of ease of movement, visitor safety and general security, suitcases and large rucksacks are not permitted in the castle. We may carry out random bag searches at the castle entrance as part of our security screening process

Advance booking is essential to avoid disappointment – visit [edinburghcastle.scot](http://edinburghcastle.scot) to book your ticket.



13 Hailes Castle

This beautifully-sited ruin incorporates a fortified manor built in the 1200s, and later extended.

Mary Queen of Scots stayed here briefly after being abducted by the Earl of Bothwell.

- 1.5m SW of East Linton, off the A199 (exit A1 from Haddington [E-bound] or Dunbar [W-bound])



14 Holyrood Abbey

The nave of the abbey church, built in the 1100s and 1200s for Augustinian canons and later adapted. Other parts of the abbey survive in the palace garden.

- At the foot of the Canongate, Edinburgh, in the grounds of the Palace of Holyroodhouse
- Charge for entrance to the Palace of Holyroodhouse and The Queen's Gallery (20% discount for members on production of your membership card). Discount applies only to tickets purchased at the palace on the day of entrance
- Entry to the Abbey requires a ticket to the Palace of Holyroodhouse



15 Holyrood Park

Enjoy wild and dramatic countryside in the heart of Edinburgh.

As well as abundant and varied wildlife, this former royal park has many human stories to tell: of holy visions and royal celebrations, of radical protestors, hidden treasure and Jacobite troops. It offers great walking routes, providing superb views over the city, as well as extraordinary rock formations, four Iron Age hill fort sites, two holy wells and the enigmatic ruin of St Anthony's Chapel.

Our ranger service is on hand to help you enjoy your visit.

- In Edinburgh, E of Holyrood Palace and Abbey
- Telephone 0131 652 8150
- Public toilets located at Holyrood Education Centre, EH8 8HG
- Look out for our ranger events happening throughout the year. Visit [historicenvironment.scot/ranger-service](#) for details





17

## 17 Kinneil House

Almost 2,000 years of history can be found in the grounds of this historic house: the remains of a Roman fortlet, the exterior of a stately home and an outhouse where James Watt worked on his steam engine.

There are also extensive woodlands and a family-friendly museum. The house contains stunning wall-paintings of the 1500s and 1600s that saved it from demolition.

- On the western outskirts of Bo'ness, off the A904. Follow signs for Kinneil Museum
- Postcode EH51 0PR
- Telephone 07780 218 632
- Visit [historicenvironment.scot/kinneil-house](http://historicenvironment.scot/kinneil-house) for up-to-date details and bookings
- Kinneil Museum offers audiovisual interpretation of Kinneil House and its estate; visit [kinneil.org.uk](http://kinneil.org.uk) for further information and opening hours



## 16 Inchcolm Abbey and Island

Escape by boat to an island in the Firth of Forth, home to one of the most complete medieval abbeys in Scotland.

It was founded by David I after his elder brother Alexander I was stranded here in 1123.

Explore the near-complete cloisters and chapter house and drink in views 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 07918 337097
- Access by ferry: Forth Tours on 0131 331 3030, [forthtours.com](http://forthtours.com) or Maid of the Forth on 0131 331 5000, [maidoftheforth.co.uk](http://maidoftheforth.co.uk)
- No water supply for drinking. Hand sanitiser available for hand-washing
- The ferries are not operated by Historic Environment Scotland and a charge will apply. Please show membership card when purchasing tickets to ensure the abbey entrance fee is deducted
- Please check [historicenvironment.scot/inchcolm-abbey](http://historicenvironment.scot/inchcolm-abbey) for information on how to book your tickets



## 18 Lauderdale Aisle, St Mary's Church

The former sacristy of a great parish church, built in the 1400s, containing a splendid marble monument of the early 1600s with four alabaster effigies.

They represent a noble family of the time: John, 1st Lord Maitland of Thirlestane, his wife Lady Jean Fleming, their son John Maitland, 1st Earl of Lauderdale and his wife Lady Isabel Seton.

- St Mary's Parish Church, Haddington on the A1
- For more information visit [stmaryskirk.co.uk](http://stmaryskirk.co.uk)







19 Linlithgow Palace

One of Scotland’s most spectacular ruins, where visitors walk in the footsteps of royalty.

This was the birthplace of Mary Queen of Scots, and of her father James V. Visit the great hall where monarchs hosted banquets, tour James IV’s suite of chambers or explore the vast cellars and kitchens used to store and prepare food and wine for the royal court. The palace has recently been in the spotlight as a film location for TV’s *Outlander* and the film *Outlaw King*.

Our ranger service operates on site. Look out for our ranger events happening throughout the year. Visit [historicenvironment.scot/ranger-service](http://historicenvironment.scot/ranger-service) for details.

- In Linlithgow off the M9
- Postcode EH49 7AL
- Telephone 01506 842896
- Toilets may not be available if a function is in progress
- A new audio guide about the people who worked and lived at the palace is now available in English and Scots



AAA ★★★★★

20 Ormiston Market Cross

A fine free-standing cross, constructed in the 1400s to signify the right of the inhabitants to hold a market.

- In the village of Ormiston, 2m S of Tranent off the A1



21 Preston Market Cross

Constructed in the 1600s, this is the only surviving cross of its kind on its original site.

Surmounted with a stone unicorn, it also houses a prison.

- 0.5m S of Prestonpans off the Coast Road or 0.5m NE of the B1361 near the railway station



22 St Martin’s Kirk, Haddington

The ruined nave of a once splendid Romanesque church, altered in the 1200s.

Associated with the Cistercian nunnery St Mary’s, near Haddington.

- On the eastern outskirts of Haddington off the A1



**23 St Triduana's Chapel,  
Restalrig Collegiate Church**

Part of a chapel built for James III, housing the shrine of St Triduana, an early Christian saint.

The hexagonal vaulted chamber is almost unique.

- Off Restalrig Road South, to the east of Edinburgh
- Access by contacting St Margaret's Parish Church, Restalrig on 0131 554 7400



**24 Seton Collegiate Church**

An enchanting medieval church at the end of a pretty woodland path.

Seton also has ruined domestic quarters, allowing a rare glimpse into the lives of the priests employed to pray here. James VI attended a funeral here on his journey south to be crowned James I of England.

- 1.5m W of Longniddry on the A198
- Postcode EH32 0PG
- Telephone 01875 813334
- Dogs allowed in grounds, but not inside Church



## 25 Tantallon Castle

Ascend Tantallon's soaring towers for spectacular views, then descend into the depths of a particularly grim pit prison.

The castle was home to the powerful Red Douglas family, who 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. The castle also offers fine views of the Bass Rock.

- 3m E of North Berwick off the A198
- Postcode EH39 5PN
- Telephone 01620 892727



## 26 Torphichen Preceptory

The main Scottish base of the powerful Knights Hospitaller and a seat of government for William Wallace in 1298, the preceptory sits within a ring of ancient sanctuary stones.

You can explore its ruins, including the tall tower, built around 1200.

- In Torphichen village, 1m on the B792 from A706
- Postcode EH48 4NB
- Telephone 01506 653733
- Check website for opening times  
**historicenvironment.scot/torphichen**
- Members' retail discount not applicable



**27** Trinity House  
Maritime Museum

A treasure chest of Leith's maritime heritage, in an elegant Georgian house built for a Mariners' and Shipmasters' charity.

It now holds an unparalleled collection of wonders gathered over centuries by seagoing Leithers. It includes portraits by Raeburn, a French tricolour captured at the Battle of Trafalgar, a 200-year-old whaling harpoon and a fleet of historic ship models, all displayed in the Master's Room and the imposing convening room of this fine Georgian building.

- 99 Kirkgate, Leith, Edinburgh
- Postcode EH6 6BJ
- Telephone 0131 554 3289
- Pre-booked visits only – for details and online booking please check **historicenvironment.scot/trinity-house**



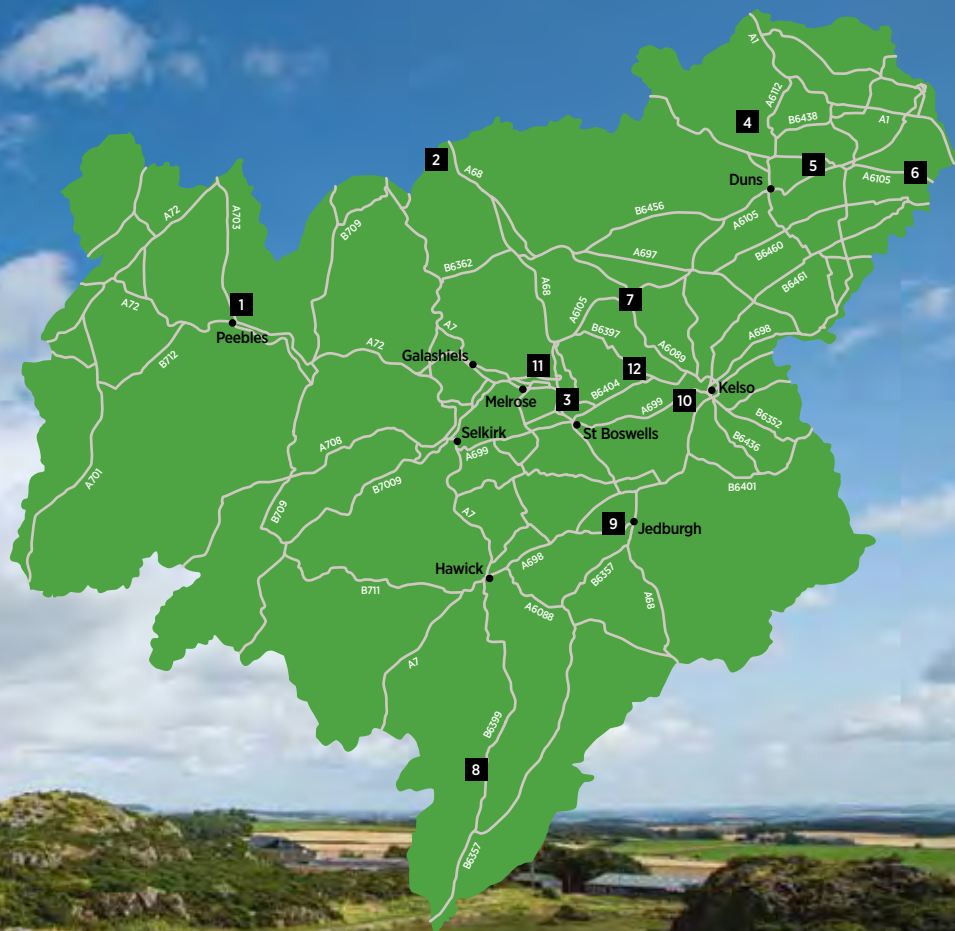
# The Scottish Borders

Historic abbeys and castles. Captivating rural vistas. The Borders are the perfect spot for both idyllic country walks and deep dives into Scotland's turbulent past.



Smailholm Tower







1 Cross Kirk, Peebles

Visit the site where King Alexander III reputedly witnessed the unearthing of the bones of St Nicholas – the inspiration for Santa Claus.

This impressive ruin was once the home of Trinitarian friars, and later a parish church.

- In Cross Road, Peebles on the A703 and A72



2 Dere Street  
Roman Road, Soutra

Follow the footsteps of Roman legionaries who marched into Scotland from Hadrian’s Wall, 1,900 years ago.

You can still see drainage ditches on either side of this stretch of road, and the quarry pits from which the road-builders extracted gravel.

- SW of Soutra Aisle, just off the A68 on the B6368



3 Dryburgh Abbey

The tree-shrouded ruins of a beautiful abbey beside the River Tweed. It has been ravaged by fire and war but stone carvings and painted plasterwork have survived to provide a glimpse of its once-magnificent decoration.

Look for the graves of Sir Walter Scott and Field Marshal Douglas Haig, as well as the Dryburgh Yew, one of Scotland’s oldest trees.

- 8m SE of Melrose on the B6404, near St Boswells (turn left onto the B6356)
- Public transport as far as St Boswells – 20-min walk to Abbey
- Postcode TD6 0RQ
- Telephone 01835 822381



4 Edin’s Hall Broch

One of the very few brochs in lowland Scotland, surrounded by the remains of a hill fort built around 2,500 years ago.

Nearby is the nationally important Abbey St Bathans Woodland.

- On the NE slope of Cockburn Law about 4.5m from Grantshouse, 1m walk from the A6112 Duns Road. Cross the suspension bridge then follow a footpath for 2m across fields
- Access is over agricultural land



5 Edrom Church

The richly carved Romanesque doorway of the old parish church of Edrom, re-erected in the kirkyard in the 1700s.

- In Edrom, 3.5m NE of Duns just off the A6105



## 6 Foulden Tithe Barn

A two-storey barn, possibly used for storing payments made in grain to the parish church.

View exterior only.

- In Foulden, 4m SE of Chirnside on the A6105

## 7 Greenknowe Tower

A handsome L-shaped tower house, built in 1581 for James Seton and his wife, Janet Edmonstone. It still retains its original yett, or iron gate.

- 0.5m W of Gordon on the A6105 Earlstoun Road



## 8 Hermitage Castle

Soak up the eerie atmosphere of an imposing stronghold with a notorious reputation, dating from the 1300s.

A local ballad tells of Lord Soulis, who ruled at Hermitage until being boiled in lead by his subjects. The story may be based on Ranulf de Sules, murdered by servants in 1207. Centuries later Mary Queen of Scots rode here from Jedburgh to visit her trusted adviser (and future husband) Bothwell.

- 5.5m NE of Newcastleton, B6399
- Postcode TD9 0LU
- Telephone 01387 376222





**9 Jedburgh Abbey**

The towering ruins of this large abbey complex are testament to the power of both royalty and the medieval church. Founded by David I in around 1138, the abbey was linked to a nearby royal castle.

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. There are also history displays, a virtual tour and dressing-up clothes.

- In Jedburgh on the A68
- Postcode TD8 6JQ
- Telephone 01835 863925
- Audio guide available



*RP* ★★★★★

**10 Kelso Abbey**

The west end of a great abbey church, founded for the Tironensian order of monks, who were brought to Kelso by David I in 1128.

Even in its fragmentary state, this is a superb example of medieval architecture.

- On the A699, in the town centre of Kelso



## 11 Melrose Abbey

Trace the lives and beliefs of medieval monks in one of Scotland's largest and richest abbeys, founded by David I in 1137 in a fertile valley near the River Tweed.

Explore the extensive ruins to discover remarkable sculptures of saints, demons and the famous bagpipe-playing pig.

Treasures displayed in the museum include medieval spectacles, a scribe's ink-pot and a carved Green Man.

The Cistercian monks of Melrose – and their lay brothers – created an influential spiritual centre at the abbey, as well as a prosperous business founded on wool exports. King Alexander II is buried here, as is the mummified heart of Robert I (the Bruce).

- In Melrose off the A7 or A68
- Postcode TD6 9LG
- Telephone 01896 822562
- Audio guide available



## 12 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 nearby farm, where he first heard the stories that made up his *Minstrelsy of the Scottish Border*, the subject of a permanent exhibition in the tower.

- 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

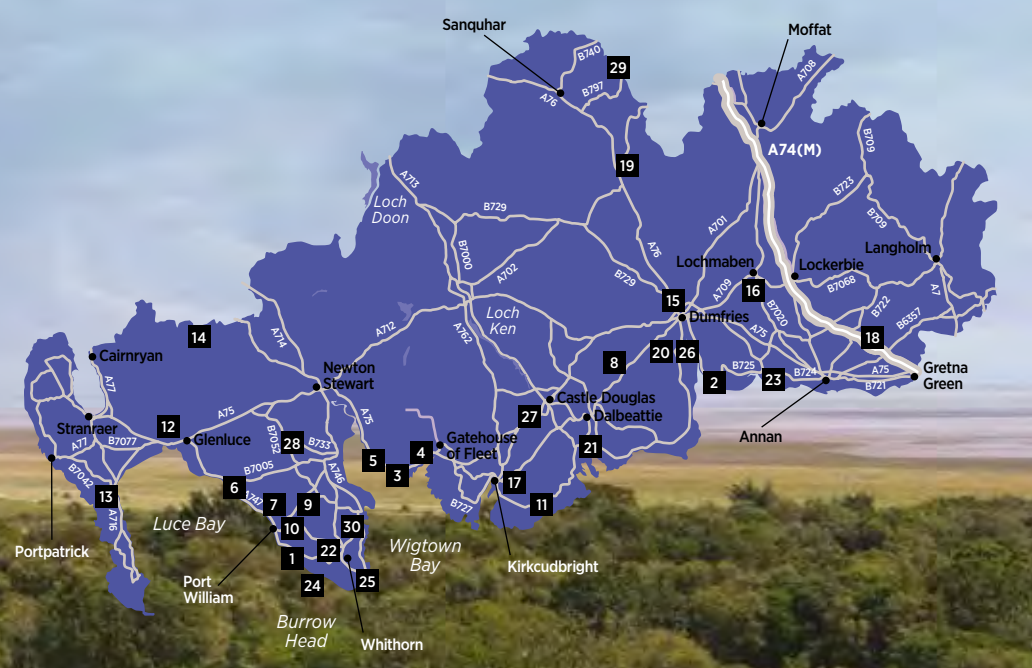




# Dumfries & Galloway

This lush and picturesque land may be tranquil now, but its forts, castles, abbeys, and prehistoric monuments belie a storied history to rival the rest of our country's rich heritage.







© Peter Devlin

**1 Barsalloch Fort**

An Iron Age fort, built on a rocky cliff-side, and defended by a deep U-shaped ditch. A steep climb.

- On the edge of the former cliff-line above Barsalloch Point, 0.75m W of Monreith on the A747



**2 Caerlaverock Castle**

The epitome of the moated, medieval stronghold, Caerlaverock's great triangular defences guard a key route along 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 commemorated in verse.

Despite the castle's rugged appearance, its walls conceal a stunning Renaissance residence of the 1630s. Today, visitors can enjoy a siege warfare exhibition and children's play area.

See bluebells in spring, dragonflies and wild flowers in summer and barnacle geese in winter.

- 8m SE of Dumfries on the B725
- Postcode DG1 4RU
- Telephone 01387 770 244
- Video presentation
- Download our Castle Quest app: [historicenvironment.scot/castle-quest](https://historicenvironment.scot/castle-quest)





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### 3 Cairn Holy Chambered Cairns

Two remarkably complete Neolithic burial cairns, of a type characteristic of Galloway, on a hill giving fine views over Wigtown Bay.

- 6.5m SE of Creetown off the A75. A single track road with few passing places



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### 4 Cardoness Castle

Climb to the top of this impressive tower house for panoramic views over Fleet Bay.

Cardoness was built in the 1400s by the McCullochs. It declared their high status, but did not improve their reputation, which included accusations of violence and murder. The prison shows how unwelcome guests were treated.

- 1m SW of Gatehouse of Fleet on the A75
- Postcode DG7 2EH
- Telephone 01557 814 427
- Disabled access to the shop only



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### 5 Carsluith Castle

A delightful L-shaped tower house of the 1500s, with many intriguing details, including a water-spout in the form of a human face.

- 3.5m S of Creetown on the A75
- Postcode DG8 7DY

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### 6 Chapel Finian

The foundations of a small chapel, probably built for pilgrims on their way from Ireland to the shrine of St Ninian at Whithorn.

- 5m NW of Port William on the A747

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### 7 Druchtag Motte

This 6.5-metre-high flat-topped mound was once the base for an early-medieval timber castle and is still surrounded by the castle's wide ditch. A steep climb.

- At Mochrum village on the A747



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### 8 Drumcoltran Tower

A roofed, sturdy and well-preserved tower house, built in the mid-1500s by the powerful Maxwells. It now sits in a busy farmyard.

- 7m NE of Dalbeattie, among farm buildings off the A711





9 **Drumtroddan Cup and Ring Marked Rocks**

Three groups of defined cup-and-ring marks on bedrock, probably carved in the Bronze Age.

- 2m NE of Port William on the B7085
- Access is over agricultural land and through busy farmyard



10 **Drumtroddan Standing Stones**

An alignment of three stones, one of which still stands about 3 metres tall.

They date from Neolithic times and were probably part of a ceremonial site.

- 0.25m S of the Cup-and-Ring Marked Stones on the B7021
- Access is over agricultural land



© Mike Bolam

11 **Dundrennan Abbey**

Enjoy the peaceful atmosphere at this ruined medieval abbey, set in tree-fringed pastures.

See original paintwork, hear your voice echo in the medieval chapter house, and find the effigy of a murdered abbot, with his executed assassin at his feet. Mary Queen of Scots spent her last hours in Scotland here in May 1568, after the disastrous Battle of Langside.

- 6.5m SE of Kirkcudbright on the A71
- Postcode DG6 4QH
- Telephone 01557 500262



12 **Glenluce Abbey**

Tucked in a tranquil valley is one of Scotland's best-preserved medieval monasteries.

Its highlight is the magnificent chapter house, with its central pillar, ornate windows and decorative stone carvings.

Visit the small on-site museum which displays a collection of fascinating artefacts.

Visitors can also trace the abbey's remarkable plumbing system, which supplied the Cistercian monks who lived here with running water.

- 2m NW of Glenluce village off the A75
- Postcode DG8 0AF
- Telephone 01581 300 541



14



### 13 Kirkmadrine Early Christian Stones

Three of the earliest Christian memorial stones in Britain, dating from the 5th or early 6th century, displayed in the porch of a former chapel.

- In the Rhinns of Galloway, 2m SW of Sandhead on the A716



### 14 Laggangairn Standing Stones

Two prehistoric stones from a Neolithic or Bronze Age monument that once had at least seven stones.

They were later carved with early Christian crosses.

- Difficult access – signposted through Forestry Commission land on the Southern Upland Way



### 15 Lincluden Collegiate Church

A collegiate church founded on the site of an earlier nunnery by Archibald 'the Grim', 3rd Earl of Douglas.

The splendid chancel was probably added by the 4th Earl, and houses the exquisite monumental tomb of his wife, Princess Margaret, daughter of Robert III.

- On the western outskirts of Dumfries on Abbey Lane, just off the A76

### 16 Lochmaben Castle

A rectangular 'peel' (timber palisaded enclosure), was built before 1300 and altered by Edward I of England, but extensively altered again during the reign of James IV (1488-1513).

View exterior only.

- Stands on the Castle Loch 1.5m from Lochmaben on the B7020





17 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.

The castle was built in about 1570 by Sir Thomas MacLellan of Bombie. Look for the laird’s lug, a spy hole in the great hall through which he could eavesdrop on his guests.

- In Kirkcudbright on the A711
- Postcode DG6 4JD
- Telephone 01557 331 856



18 Merkland Cross

A 3-metre-tall standing cross, with fleur-de-lis carvings on each of its four arms, suggesting a date in the 1400s.

It may have been a market cross or memorial.

- At Woodhouse Farm, 1m N of Kirkpatrick Fleming on the B7076
- Access is over agricultural land



## 19 Morton Castle

A fine hall-house of the late 1200s, once a stronghold of the Douglases.

- Situated on a promontory overlooking Morton Loch. Take the second turning on the right, 1.5m E of Carronbridge off the A702
- Not signposted
- Access is over agricultural land



## 20 New Abbey Corn Mill

See a beautifully-restored, water-powered village mill and discover the whole process of milling oats, once a staple food for both people and livestock.

A mill was probably built here by the monks of nearby Sweetheart Abbey in the 1200s. Most of the present building dates from the 1800s, but parts of it may have been constructed in the 1700s.

- 7m S of Dumfries on the A710
- Postcode DG2 8BX
- Telephone 01387 850 260



## 21 Orchardton Tower

A unique tower house built around 1460 by the Cairns family. It conforms to standard tower house design, except for its circular shape.

- 6m SE of Castle Douglas, 1m off the A711



## 22 Rispain Camp

A rectangular settlement defended by two banks and a ditch. It dates from the 1st or 2nd century AD.

- 1m W of Whithorn, behind Rispain Farm on the A746
- Access is over agricultural land



## 23 Ruthwell Cross

This Anglian cross, sculpted in high relief, dates from the end of the 7th century AD and is one of the most important sculptural survivals from early medieval Europe.

Open by arrangement only.

- At Ruthwell, 8.5m SE of Dumfries, situated within Ruthwell Kirk on the B724
- The key can be collected from the Parish Church Manse, please call 0131 558 9326 to ensure access
- For more information visit [ruthwellkirk.org.uk](http://ruthwellkirk.org.uk)







24 St Ninian's Cave

A beachside cave traditionally associated with St Ninian.

Early crosses found here are housed at Whithorn Priory Museum, but many carved crosses are still visible in the cave walls.

- Physgill, on the coast 4m SW of Whithorn on the A747
- Access is over agricultural land
- Pebble beach is 1m walk from parking
- Currently closed to visitors. Please check the app or website for updates



25 St Ninian's Chapel

This chapel may have been used by pilgrims making their way to St Ninian's shrine at Whithorn.

It was probably built in the 1200s, on the site of an earlier church, and was restored in the 1890s.

- At Isle of Whithorn on the A747
- Access is over agricultural land



26 Sweetheart Abbey

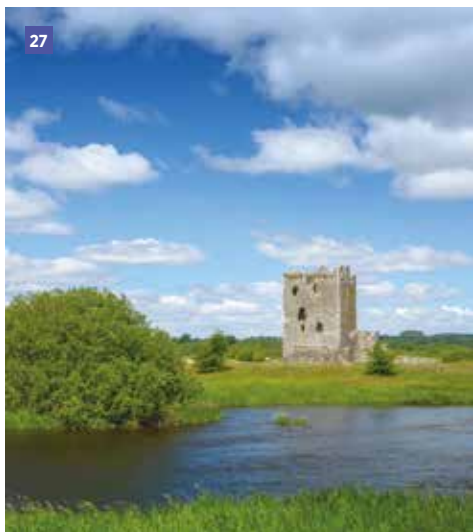
A monument to human and divine love, Sweetheart Abbey was named for its founder, Lady Dervorgilla, who was buried here with the embalmed heart of her beloved husband.

Medieval wars inflicted much damage to the buildings, but the red sandstone abbey church, with a stone effigy of the founder, survives almost intact.

- In New Abbey village on the A710
- Postcode DG2 8BU
- Telephone 01387 850 397



© Carol Arnott



27

## 27 Threave Castle

Cross the River Dee by boat to visit this enchanting castle on its own island. Built around 1369 by Archibald 'the Grim', for 21 years the castle was the seat of the powerful Margaret, Lady of Galloway.

It is now an ideal spot for exploring, picnicking and, perhaps, painting.

Situated within the NTS Nature Reserve, the island is rich with wild flowers in summer; you might also see ospreys and otters hunting in the river.

- 3m W of Castle Douglas on the A75
- Postcode DG7 1TJ
- Telephone 07711 223 101
- Car park is an 800-metre walk to the castle



## 28 Torhouse Stone Circle

A stone circle of 19 granite boulders, dating from the Late Neolithic or Bronze Age, in a landscape that was once rich with ritual monuments.

- 4m W of Wigtown on the B733

## 29 Wanlockhead Beam Engine

A wooden water-balance pump for draining a lead mine, dating from the early 1800s, with the track of a horse engine beside it.

- Included in information and tours from the Museum of Lead Mining in Wanlockhead; for more information visit [leadminingmuseum.co.uk](http://leadminingmuseum.co.uk)
- In Wanlockhead village off the A76



## 30 Whithorn Priory and Museum

This Priory was founded at a place where some of Scotland's earliest Christians worshipped about 1,500 years ago.

Whithorn is known as Scotland's 'Cradle of Christianity', and was a centre of Christian worship for more than 1,000 years. The Latinus Stone displayed here is Scotland's oldest Christian monument. There is also an outstanding collection of intricately-carved stone crosses. Whithorn is still a place of pilgrimage.

- At Whithorn on the A746
- Postcode DG8 8PY
- Telephone 01988 500 700
- Admission to the carved stone museum is free for Historic Scotland members
- Disabled access to museum, Whithorn Trust exhibition and tea room
- Check [whithorn.com](http://whithorn.com) for more info and current members' prices for the exhibition

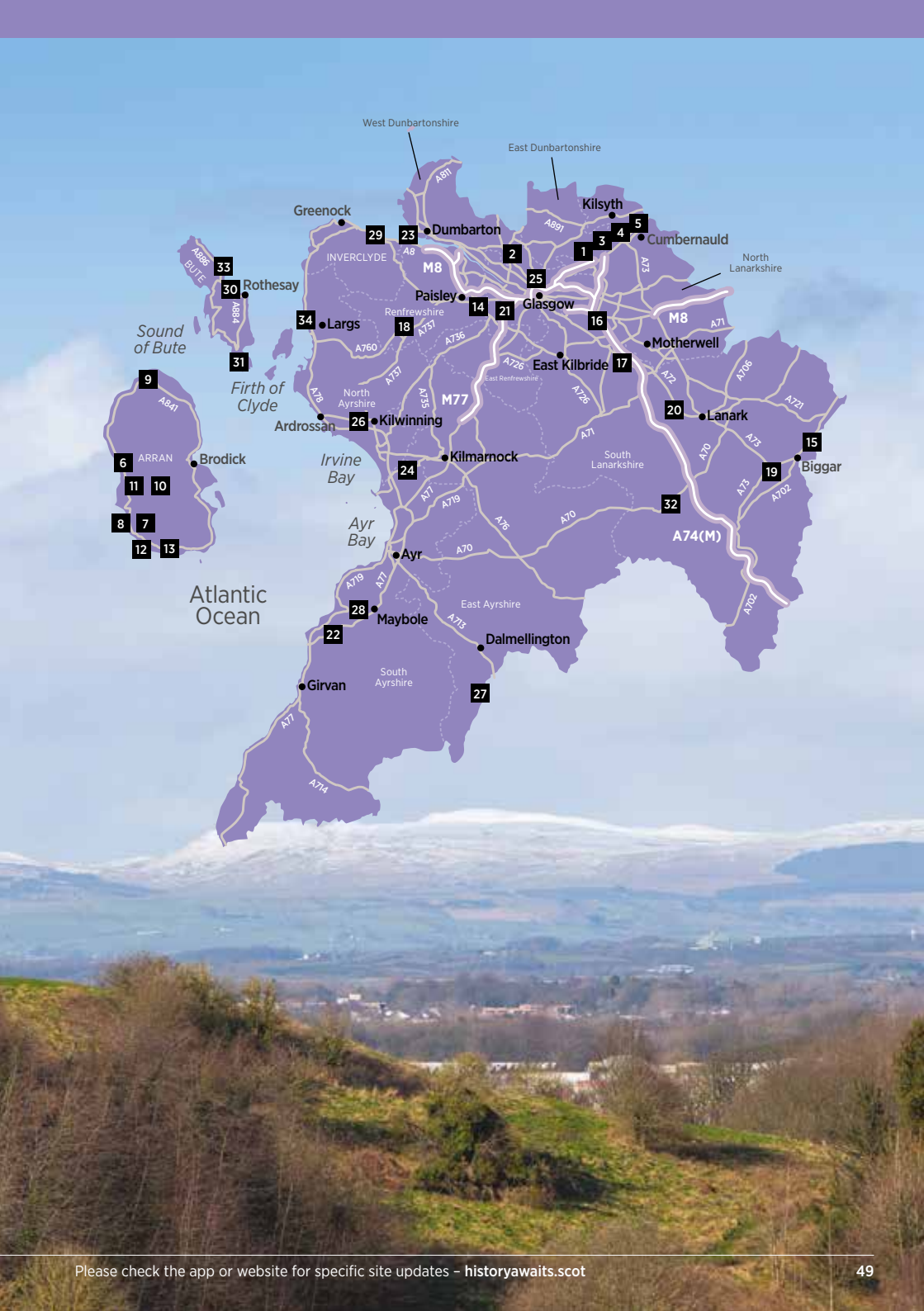


# Glasgow, Clyde & Ayrshire

From Scotland's most populous city to some of its most romantic islands, beauty, heritage, and heart aren't hard to find around these parts. Discover scenic castles, cathedrals, chapels, and churches that drip with history.



Dundonald Castle







### Antonine Wall Monuments

The Antonine Wall was the Roman Empire’s north-west frontier. It ran for 39 miles (62km) from Bo’ness to Old Kilpatrick.

It consisted of a turf rampart fronted by a ditch, with forts about every two miles (3km) and a road running for the entire length of the frontier. The Wall was built in the 140s AD and was occupied for about 20 years.

See also Antonine Wall entries in Central & West section. All of the Antonine Wall Monuments are part of a World Heritage Site.



### 1 Antonine Wall: Bar Hill Fort

Explore the highest fort on the Wall, where foundations of the Roman headquarters building and bath-house are still visible.

A small Iron Age fort stands close by, overlooking the rock-cut ditch that marks the frontier. There are superb views over the Kelvin Valley.

- 0.5m E of Twechar
- Signposted from village
- Access is over agricultural land from B8023 Kirkintilloch to Kilsyth Road



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## 2 Antonine Wall: Bearsden Bath-House

The well-preserved remains of a bath-house and latrine, built in the 2nd century AD to serve a small fort.

- On Roman Road, Bearsden, Glasgow
- Signposted from Bearsden Cross on A810
- Approximately 600 metres down Roman Road



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## 3 Antonine Wall: Croy Hill

The deep ditch of the Wall, cut from rock, and traces of turf rampart, climbing along a ridge.

Nearby are the sites of a fort, a fortlet and two beacon platforms.

- Between Croy and Dullatur. Access from B802
- Access is over agricultural land



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## 4 Antonine Wall: Dullatur

A long section of the Wall's deep ditch, cutting through woodland and fields.

To the north is Dullatur Marsh, an important habitat for birds.

- 0.5m E of Dullatur off the A803
- Access along farm road



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## 5 Antonine Wall: Westerwood to Castlecary (Garnhall District)

Follow a long section of the Wall's deep ditch as it crosses farmland close to Cumbernauld.

- W of Castlecary off the B816
- Access from minor road



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## 6 Arran: Auchagallon Cairn

A Bronze Age cairn surrounded by a circle of 14 standing stones, looking out over Kilbrannan Sound towards Kintyre.

- 4m N of Blackwaterfoot on the W side of Arran off the coastal route (formerly A841)



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## 7 Arran: Carn Ban

Take a four-mile walk up a wooded hillside to discover a 5,000-year-old chambered cairn, where Arran's Neolithic farming communities probably staged rituals for their dead.

- 3.5m NE of Lagg on the W side of Arran off the coastal route (formerly A841)
- Not signposted



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## 8 Arran: Kilpatrick Dun

The ruins of a circular drystone building of unknown date, with a more recent enclosure wall. The walk to the site is half a mile.

- 1m S of Blackwaterfoot on the W side of Arran off the coastal route (formerly A841)
- Not signposted
- Visitors should park at the bottom of the road and walk to site on foot



© LJF Photography

**9 Arran: Lochranza Castle**

A fine L-shaped tower house, adapted in the 1500s from a hall house of the late 1200s or 1300s.

The mountains to the south of the castle are home to many birds, and the castle is a good vantage point for watching seals.

- At the northern coast of Arran off the coastal route (formerly A841)



**10 Arran: Machrie Moor Stone Circles**

The remains of several groups of standing stones, probably dating from the Late Neolithic to Early Bronze Age, in an ancient landscape rich with archaeology.

This is one of the most important sites of its kind in Britain.

- 3m N of Blackwaterfoot on the W side of Arran off the coastal route (formerly A841)



**11 Arran: Moss Farm Road Stone Circle**

The remains of a complex Bronze Age ring cairn within an impressive circle of upright stones in an ancient and legendary landscape.

- 3m N of Blackwaterfoot on the W side of Arran off the coastal route (formerly A841)
- Parking available at Machrie Moor



**12 Arran: Torr a'Chaisteal Fort**

A late Iron Age circular dun or fort on the summit of a natural knoll, with a low rampart on its eastern side.

- 4m S of Blackwaterfoot on the SW side of Arran off the coastal route (formerly A841)
- Access is over agricultural land which may be muddy
- Public transport recommended: no vehicular access owing to lack of safe parking



### 13 Arran: Torrylin Cairn

Remains of a Neolithic chambered cairn with four burial compartments visible.

- 0.25m SE of Lagg on the S side of Arran off the coastal route (formerly A841)



### 14 Barochan Cross

A fine free-standing early 10th-century cross with intricate Christian carvings, which was moved into Paisley Abbey from Houston parish, west of Paisley.

- In Paisley Abbey in the centre of Paisley
- For further information visit [paisleyabbey.org.uk](http://paisleyabbey.org.uk)



### 15 Biggar Gasworks Museum

The only surviving example in Scotland of a typical small-town coal-gas works.

The oldest parts date from 1839. On special Steam Days, you can see the coal-fired boiler put to work and the steam-driven machinery in action.

- In Biggar. Located on Gas Works Road off A702 Edinburgh to Abington Road
- Postcode ML12 6BZ
- Telephone 01899 221 070
- Check [historicenvironment.scot/biggar-gasworks-museum](http://historicenvironment.scot/biggar-gasworks-museum) for opening dates and times



### 16 Bothwell Castle

Scotland's largest and finest castle of the 1200s. Part of the original circular donjon, or keep, survives, as do other towers, a forbidding curtain wall and a great hall added by the Douglas family in the 1400s.

The adjacent semi-natural woodland is full of flowers in spring. There is access to the Clyde Walkway.

- At Uddingston off the B7071
- Postcode G71 8BL
- Telephone 01698 816 894



### 17 Cadzow Castle

Built in 1500-1550, Cadzow was known as the castle in the woods of Hamilton.

Sir James Hamilton of Finnart built it for his half-brother, the 2nd Earl of Arran.

The nearby parkland known as the Cadzow Oaks was a medieval hunting park. View exterior only.

- In the grounds of Chatelherault Country Park, Hamilton. Exit M74 at Junction 6



### 18 Castle Sempole Collegiate Church

Admire the details of this late Gothic church, founded in 1504 to serve a now-lost castle.

Located next to Castle Sempole Loch and Barr Loch, both important for their plants and birds, with an RSPB Visitor Centre at the south end of Castle Sempole Loch.

- 2m W of Howwood on the B787 then on to the B776. Longer access through the country park from Castle Sempole Visitor Centre
- Access by foot and bike only





19 Coulter Motte

An artificial mound built for a castle at some point in the 1100s or 1200s. It would have been surmounted by a timber palisade and tower.

- 1.5m SW of Biggar. On A72 Biggar to Lanark Road



20 Craignethan Castle

An exceptional fortress-residence, built about 1530 as the residence of Sir James Hamilton of Finnart, James V's master of works.

His many military innovations include a shooting gallery or caponier. Despite its state-of-the-art defences, Craignethan was 'cast down,' following orders from the Privy Council in 1579.

The surrounding woodland in the deep Nethan Gorge is rich with wild flowers and birdlife.

- From the M74, take Junction 8 or 9 (heading south) or Junction 10 (heading north). Follow the signs to Blackwood, then the signs to Craignethan Castle
- Postcode ML11 9PL
- Telephone 01555 860 364



21 Crookston Castle

Built by the Stewarts of Darnley around 1400, this unusual castle is set within earthworks constructed in the 1100s.

Extensively repaired following a siege in 1544. Gives excellent views of south-west Glasgow.

- From Glasgow follow M77 and exit at Junction 2. Take Barrhead Road then Brockburn Road and follow signs for the site. Access via footpath from Towerside Road
- Postcode G53 5RY
- Telephone 0141 883 9606



22 Crossraguel Abbey

One of the most complete medieval abbey complexes in Scotland. Now hauntingly beautiful, its unroofed church and substantial ruins can be explored – or you can get a bird's eye view by climbing the handsome gatehouse.

The abbey guards some violent secrets. One Commendator was roasted over a fire by a nobleman seeking to seize the abbey's lands and revenues.

- 2m S of Maybole on the A77
- Postcode KA19 8HQ
- Telephone 01655 883 113



23 Dumbarton Castle

Climb more than 500 steps to the top of one of Scotland's greatest strongholds. The 'Rock of the Clyde' has a history as long and dramatic as its views over the Clyde, Loch Lomond and Argyll.

It was a centre of power in what later became an ancient British kingdom. It was sacked by Vikings in 870.

In medieval times, it became a cornerstone of royal power. It latterly served as a military base and prison.

- In Dumbarton off the A82
- Postcode G82 1JJ
- Telephone 01389 732 167



## 24 Dundonald Castle

Explore the high-vaulted halls and gloomy prison of this powerful medieval stronghold, perched on a hill above the village.

On a site occupied since at least the Bronze Age, the current castle is largely the work of Robert II, first of the Stewart monarchs.

- In the village of Dundonald on the A71, 12m from Ayr and 5m from Kilmarnock. Leave A77 onto B730 and follow signs for Dundonald
- Postcode KA2 9HD
- Telephone 01563 851 489
- Visitors are requested to pre-book via Friends of Dundonald Castle website and visit the site via guided tour
- For more information please visit [dundonaldcastle.org.uk](http://dundonaldcastle.org.uk)



## 25 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 on this site around 612 AD), Glasgow Cathedral is full of intriguing features.

In recent years the cathedral has featured in *Outlander* as well as Netflix's *Outlaw King*.

- In Glasgow off the M8, Junction 15 next to the Royal Infirmary
- Postcode G4 0QZ
- Telephone 0141 552 6891/0141 552 0988
- Enjoy our audio guide
- Visitors requiring wheelchair access please call prior to visit to find out about access arrangements



23





**26 Kilwinning Abbey**

Explore the tranquil ruins where monks of the Tironensian order once lived. Parts of it survive from the 1200s.

- Off A78 Kilwinning to Ardrossan Road



**27 Loch Doon Castle**

Relocated in the 1930s from an island in Loch Doon, to make way for a hydro-electric scheme.

The castle consists of an 11-sided curtain wall of fine masonry, dating from 1300. The loch has a unique population of Arctic char fish.

- Turn right 2m S of Dalmellington on the A713 on to an unclassified road – signposted for Loch Doon



**28 Maybole Collegiate Church**

Founded in 1371 by Sir John Kennedy of Dunure, from 1382 the chapel was used by priests to pray for Sir John, his family and ancestors.

- Approaching Maybole on the A77 from Ayr, at the crossroads in the town centre, turn left onto the B7023, signposted Crosshill, and then take first right
- Collect key from Crossraguel Abbey



**29 Newark Castle**

Built by the Maxwell family around 1480 as a defensive stronghold, in the 1590s Newark was remodelled as a Renaissance mansion by Sir Patrick Maxwell.

The castle witnessed violent scenes as Patrick attacked and imprisoned his wife, Lady Margaret Crawford, as well as murdering two neighbours.

- In Port Glasgow on the A8 at Newark Roundabout
- Postcode PA14 5NH
- Telephone 01475 741 858



### 30 Rothesay Castle

Cross the moat and climb the 'bloody stair' to the ramparts of this circular island stronghold, or descend into its forbidding pit prison.

Built in the 1200s, Rothesay stood on the frontier between Scottish and Norse control. The castle was later 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 0DA
- Telephone 01700 502 691



### 31 St Blane's Church, Kingarth

Discover the peaceful ruins of a monastery founded in the 500s, and a parish church of the 1100s.

- At the S end of the Isle of Bute
- Access is over agricultural land



### 32 St Bride's Church, Douglas

The choir and part of the nave of a parish church built in the late 1300s.

The choir contains three monuments to the Black Douglas family, including the tomb of Good Sir James, who famously carried Bruce's heart on crusade.

- Access by prior arrangement by contacting the key holder on 01555 851 657

### 33 St Mary's Chapel, Rothesay

The late-medieval remains of the parish church of St Mary, reroofed to protect its fine Stewart tombs.

- On the outskirts of Rothesay
- Open daily except Thursday and Friday year-round. Check website for more information: [historicenvironment.scot/st-marys-chapel-rothesay](http://historicenvironment.scot/st-marys-chapel-rothesay)



### 34 Skelmorlie Aisle

This jewel-like monument was erected in 1636 for Sir Robert Montgomerie of Skelmorlie.

It contains an elaborate carved stone tomb in Renaissance style and a painted timber ceiling, with Bible scenes and signs of the Zodiac.

- In Largs on the A78. Signposted from the Main Street
- Access via Largs Museum
- For more information please visit [largsmuseum.org](http://largsmuseum.org)





# Central & West

Home to some of Scotland's most varied landscapes from great medieval castles to secluded islands, this region is a place of rare, natural charm with a colourful past.



Doune Castle



## Antonine Wall Monuments

See also entries in Glasgow, Clyde & Ayrshire section.

All Antonine Wall Monuments are part of a World Heritage Site.



**unesco**

World Heritage Site

### 1 Antonine Wall: Castlecary

The low earthworks of what was once a major stone-walled fort and annexe with a bath-house.

- E of Castlecary village on B816 Cumbernauld to Bonnybridge Road



### 2 Antonine Wall: Seabegs Wood

A stretch of rampart and ditch, together with the Military Way used as a route by Roman soldiers.

They are thought to be largely unaltered since their construction in the 2nd century AD.

- 1m W of Bonnybridge. Access from the B816 on Castlecary to Bonnybridge Road



### 3 Antonine Wall: Rough Castle

The best-preserved length of rampart and ditch on the Wall, together with the earthworks of a fort and a short length of Military Way, with quarry pits or defensive lilia pits.

This is the best place to get an idea of how the Antonine Wall and its integral forts worked.

- Signposted from the B816 between Bonnybridge and High Bonnybridge



### 4 5 Antonine Wall: Watling Lodge (East and West)

Two sections of the Wall, on each side of the house known as Watling Lodge.

The eastern section is one of the deepest and steepest stretches of the Roman ditch.

- In Falkirk, signposted from A9.  
Access from the B816 from Tamfourhill
- There is no entry to the house or grounds



### 6 Ardchattan Priory

The ruins of a priory established around 1230 for the strict and reclusive Valliscaulian order of monks.

It contains a collection of carved gravestones.

- On Loch Etive, 6.5m NE of Oban off the A828

### 7 Argyll's Lodging

Enjoy a glimpse of the domestic life of Scottish aristocrats in 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, his wife Lady Anna and their servants lived here.

The reconstruction is based on inventories made before Argyll's execution in 1685.

- In Stirling's historic old town just below Stirling Castle off the M9
- Postcode FK8 1EG
- Telephone 01786 450 000
- Wheelchair users can access only ground floor
- Currently closed to visitors. Please check the app or website for updates







© Julie Howden

## 8 Bonawe Historic Iron Furnace

Visit Britain's most complete charcoal-fuelled ironworks. Step inside the stone furnace and storage buildings of this pioneering site, and discover how Highlanders played a role in the Industrial Revolution.

The furnace only ceased firing in 1870. Wander down to the Loch Etive quayside where raw materials were once unloaded, and explore neighbouring Glen Nant Nature Reserve, where trees were coppiced to produce charcoal.

- By the village of Taynuilt off the A85
- Postcode PA35 1JQ
- Telephone 01866 822 432



## 9 Cambuskenneth Abbey

This Augustinian abbey, closely linked to the royal castle of Stirling, was the scene of the post-Bannockburn parliament of Robert I (the Bruce), and the burial place of James III and his wife Margaret of Denmark.

The bell tower is surrounded by the foundations of other buildings.

- Only ground floor of bell tower open
- 1m E of Stirling off the A907
- Access is over agricultural land which can be muddy
- Visitors should take care near the river area where the old infirmary was located







**10 Castle Campbell and Gardens**

Discover the drama of this brooding castle, set above the tree-covered ravines of Dollar Glen.

This was the lowland residence of the powerful Campbells, where John Knox came to preach and Mary Queen of Scots came to feast.

- At the head of Dollar Glen, 10m E of Stirling off the A91
- Postcode FK14 7PP
- Telephone 01259 742 408
- Owing to steep, single track road and tight spaces, parking is for cars only. Nearest parking 500 metres from castle (16 parking spaces, see Access Guide for more details)
- Dogs welcome in the grounds only

  ★★★★★

**11 Castle Sween**

One of Scotland’s oldest stone castles, built in the 1100s by Suibhne, ancestor of the MacSweens. Later towers were added to now vanished wooden structures.

- On the E shore of Loch Sween, in Knapdale off the B8025, past Achnamara
- No car park for visitors to the castle within caravan park. Castle 20-30 min walk downhill from parking location



**12 Clackmannan Tower**

A handsome hilltop keep of about 1360, enlarged to an L-shape in the 1400s.

The earliest part was probably built by Sir Robert Bruce of Clackmannan, a relation of his famous namesake.

- In Clackmannan village near Alloa off the A907
- Park in centre of the village. 10-15 min walk
- Tours of the tower’s interior may be delivered on a number of dates during the year. Please check [historicenvironment.scot/clackmannan-tower](http://historicenvironment.scot/clackmannan-tower) and [doorsopendays.org.uk](http://doorsopendays.org.uk) for more info



## 13 Doune Castle

This near-complete medieval castle was the home of Regent Albany, younger brother of Robert III, known as Scotland's 'uncrowned king'.

It was later a royal residence, a dower house for widowed queens, and a Jacobite prison. It was partially restored in the 1880s. The great hall and kitchen tower are particularly impressive.

The castle has become a popular location for film shoots, such as *Game of Thrones* and *Outlaw King*. Our audio guide is downloadable onto your own mobile device and is narrated by two actors who have filmed scenes here: Terry Jones (*Monty Python and the Holy Grail*) and Sam Heughan (*Outlander*).

Make time in your visit to explore the new network of wooded riverside walks to the village cafés and shops, and the new footbridge to the old mill.

- In Doune, 10m NW of Stirling off the A84. On arrival in Doune follow local signage to the castle
- Postcode FK16 6EA
- Telephone 01786 841 742
- Please note that due to high visitor numbers, parking is only available to visitors to the castle
- Unfortunately, we cannot accommodate motorhomes, campervans or caravans in the car park. See our website for further information



Advance booking is essential to avoid disappointment, to book your ticket visit [historicensevironment.scot/doune-castle](http://historicensevironment.scot/doune-castle)



## 14 Dunblane Cathedral

One of Scotland's finest medieval churches. The lower part of the tower is Romanesque but most of the cathedral was built in the 1200s, and restored in the 1800s.

Choir stalls from the 1400s, carved with real and fantastic beasts, are on display. Lively carvings of the 1800s and 1900s recall the work of medieval craftspeople, and the cathedral has some of Scotland's finest 20th Century stained glass.

- In Dunblane just off the B8033
- Postcode FK15 0AQ
- Telephone 01786 823 388
- The cathedral is an active church and is closed to non-worshippers on Sundays in winter and on other occasions for private services – call ahead to check
- Admission free – donations welcome





**15 16 Dunstaffnage Castle and Chapel**

From the rugged battlements of this strategically sited castle, you can see how it once dominated Loch Etive.

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

- Near Dunbeg, 3m N of Oban off the A85 beyond the European Science Business Park
- Postcode PA37 1PZ
- Telephone 01631 562 465



**17 Eileach an Naoimh**

The ruins of an early Christian monastery, reputedly founded by St Brendan the Navigator, with the most complete beehive cells in Scotland and a later church and chapel.

Dolphins can sometimes be seen offshore.

- An island in the Garvellach group, N of Jura



**18 Eilean Mòr: St Cormac's Chapel and Cave**

A chapel probably built in the 1100s or 1200s, with a vaulted chancel containing an ecclesiastical effigy.

Another chapel or shrine stands close to the mouth of a cave or hermitage, which may date from the 8th century. Access to the cave is not possible but visitors can peer inside. Within the Knapdale national scenic area, with views across Loch Sween.

- On an islet off the coast of Knapdale



**19 Inchkenneth Chapel**

Built in the 1200s, this ruined parish church contains a remarkable set of medieval relics: eight grave slabs carved in the distinctive West Highland style.

- On an island on the west side of Mull



20



## 20 Inchmahome Priory

Take a trip across Scotland's only lake to this peaceful, wooded island sanctuary with a medieval priory at its heart.

Founded around 1238, it was home to Augustinian canons for over 300 years. It was visited by Robert I (the Bruce) and Mary Queen of Scots.

There are some beautifully-decorated features and fine medieval carved graveslabs. The island is a haven for wildlife.

- 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 385 294
- Boat can carry up to 12 passengers.  
Book priority boat times 24 hours ahead at  
[historicenvironment.scot/Inchmahome-priory](http://historicenvironment.scot/Inchmahome-priory).  
Other sailing times on the day subject to  
availability
- Boat trip to island included in admission price  
(no public service)
- No unauthorised private boat landing on  
the piers
- No water supply for drinking. Hand sanitiser  
available for hand-washing



## 21 22 Iona Abbey and Nunnery

Founded by St Columba, the early monastery at Iona was a powerhouse of Christian learning. Great works of art were created here, including iconic high crosses and the Book of Kells.

Despite Viking raids, the monastery continued to thrive, transformed into a Benedictine abbey around 1200. Pilgrims have travelled here for centuries and the abbey remains a vibrant centre of Christianity.

Iona also boasts one of Scotland's finest collections of carved stones and crosses, now on display in the Abbey Museum.

When the monastery became a Benedictine abbey, the Augustinian nunnery was also established. Its attractive ruins, with some delicate carved details still visible, are a rare survival in Scotland.

- On the island of Iona, public ferry (for pedestrian visitors only) from Fionnphort, Mull. 10 min walk from ferry to Abbey
- Postcode PA76 6SQ
- Telephone 01681 700 512







### 23 Iona: MacLean's Cross

A fine, slender free-standing cross near the pilgrim route to the abbey, carved in the 1400s.

- On the roadside between Iona Abbey and Nunnery

### 24 Keills Chapel

A stunning collection of West Highland graveslabs and early medieval sculpture that includes the magnificent Keills Cross.

- Access via the B8025, a single track road with passing places. To reach the chapel visitors must then walk 300 metres (partly uphill) over agricultural land, which can be muddy in places
- Not signposted



### 25 Kilberry Sculptured Stones

A collection of 26 early Christian and medieval sculptured stones gathered from the Kilberry estate, displayed in a shelter.

They include several late-medieval graveslabs and effigies.

- 17m SSW of Lochgilphead on the west coast of Knapdale off the B8024



### 26 Kilchurn Castle

Beneath towering mountains at the top of Loch Awe stands one of Scotland's most picturesque castles.

Home to the Campbells of Glenorchy, one of Argyll's most powerful families, its striking ruins have inspired poets, artists and photographers.

- At the NE end of Loch Awe, 2.5m W of Dalmally off the A85. Access on foot is possible under Loch Awe railway viaduct via a pedestrian gate
- Not signposted
- Access is over agricultural land – care should be taken as the area is liable to flooding and footpath is inconsistent
- No vehicular access or parking



### 27 Kildalton Cross

The best preserved high cross in Scotland, dating to the 8th century, this ringed cross is carved with interlace decoration and biblical scenes.

- On the island of Islay, N of Ardbeg off the A846





## Kilmartin Glen Monuments

Explore the richest prehistoric landscape in mainland Scotland.

Many artefacts associated with these monuments are displayed in Kilmartin Museum. Visit [kilmartin.org](http://kilmartin.org) for more information.

### 28 Kilmartin Glen: Achabreck (Achabreac) Rock Art

One of the most extensive rock art sites in Britain. Among the enigmatic designs are distinctive horned spirals and a colossal cup-and-ring motif a metre across.

- Signposted off the A816 outside Cairnbaan, 2m N of Lochgilphead. 500-metre walk
- One of the two outcrops can be reached via an 800-metre accessible path



### 29 Kilmartin Glen: Ballygowan Rock Art

One of the first rock art sites to be recognised in modern times, Ballygowan features rare horseshoe motifs and has views down over the glen.

- 1m SW of Kilmartin off the A816 near Slockavullin
- Not signposted and no vehicle access



### 30 Kilmartin Glen: Baluachraig Rock Art

An exquisite rock art site, comprising three decorated rock outcrops with a wide variety of motifs. Look for lines of pecked cup marks.

- 1m SSE of Kilmartin off the A816



**31 Kilmartin Glen: Cairnbaan Rock Art**

Two outcrops decorated with rock art. The multiple rings carved into the higher panel some 4,500 years ago are spectacular.

- 200 metres uphill NW of the Cairnbaan Hotel, situated at the junction of the A816 and B841



**32 Kilmartin Glen: Carnasserie Castle**

The splendid residence of John Carswell who published the first book to be printed in Gaelic.

Built around 1570, it was burned in 1685, but many details survive.

- 2m N of Kilmartin off the A816
- Parking is available approx. 552m from the castle. There is a steep walk along a track through agricultural land
- Tower top views into Kilmartin Glen



**33 Kilmartin Glen: Dunadd Fort**

Stand where the rulers of Dál Riata were inaugurated more than 1,200 years ago.

The carved footprint marks the heart of the ancient kingdom. To breach the fort's impressive defences, you must climb a rough path and pass along the gully through the high ramparts. The views are spectacular.

- Signposted off the A816, 2m S of Kilmartin



**34 Kilmartin Glen: Dunchraigaig Cairn**

An Early Bronze Age cairn nestling in an attractive woodland grove.

Look for two stone cists or graves. The Ballymeanoch henge and standing stones are close by. Remarkable prehistoric rock art depicting deer and other animals was found inside one of them in 2021.

- 1.25m S of Kilmartin off the A816





### 35 Kilmartin Glen: Glebe Cairn

Discover something of Kilmartin's later prehistoric past at this impressive Bronze Age tomb.

Two cists or graves and a stone circle are buried beneath its water-worn stones.

- At Kilmartin Glebe off the A816
- Access is over agricultural land
- Park near church and walk down hill towards garage



### 36 Kilmartin Glen: Kilmartin Stones

Discover effigies of medieval Gaelic knights and fantastic beasts in an outstanding collection of West Highland grave slabs.

- In Kilmartin Churchyard in the village of Kilmartin on the A816
- No tourist signposting from A816
- The church is currently closed. The stone crosses can be found in Kilmartin Museum and the sculpted stones in the church graveyard



### 37 Kilmartin Glen: Kilmichael Glassary Rock Art

Look for the keyhole motifs among the designs carved into this hillside outcrop some 4,500 years ago.

- Near the schoolhouse, Kilmichael Glassary off the A816
- No signposting from A816



### 38 Kilmartin Glen: Nether Largie Cairns

You can explore the Neolithic tomb at Nether Largie South, find Bronze Age carvings on the stone cist within Nether Largie North, and enjoy the view from Nether Largie Mid.

- Between Kilmartin and Nether Largie
- Parking at Lady Glassary Wood off the A816







**39 Kilmartin Glen: Ri Cruin Cairn**

Look for axehead carvings inside one of the cists or graves in this Bronze Age cairn, set in woodland.

- 1m SW of Kilmartin off the A816



**40 Kilmartin Glen: Temple Wood Stone Circles**

Two stone circles built here about 4,700 years ago, aligned to the movement of the Sun and Moon.

Look for carved spirals and the remains of cists or graves in one of Kilmartin's most famous monuments.

- 0.25m SW of Nether Largie off the A816
- Please use car park at Lady Glassary Wood



**41 Kilmodan Sculptured Stones**

A group of West Highland carved graveslabs, depicting warriors and swords, beasts and clerics, exhibited in a burial aisle within Kilmodan churchyard.

The surrounding woodlands support many ferns and mosses. Bats, red squirrels, otters and golden eagles are sometimes seen here.

- At Clachan of Glendaruel, 8m N of Colintrave off the A886



**42 Kilmory Knap Chapel**

A small medieval chapel with a remarkable collection of typical West Highland grave slabs and some early medieval sculpture.

In the church is MacMillan's Cross, a splendid piece of medieval carving.

- On the shore between Loch Sween and Loch Caolisport in South Knapdale off the B8025 past Achnamara
- Door is opened using a key, which is attached by chain to the door



## 43 44 Skipness Castle and Chapel

A fine castle of the 1200s, with a tower house of the 1500s in one corner.

A short walk leads from the castle to the late-medieval chapel, which lies near the seashore and holds a small collection of fine grave slabs.

- S of the village of Skipness on the E coast of Kintyre off the B8001
- Access to the chapel is over agricultural land



## 45 Stirling Castle

See pages 72-73 for full details.

## 46 Stirling: King's Knot

The earthworks of a splendid raised knot garden made around 1628 for Charles I.

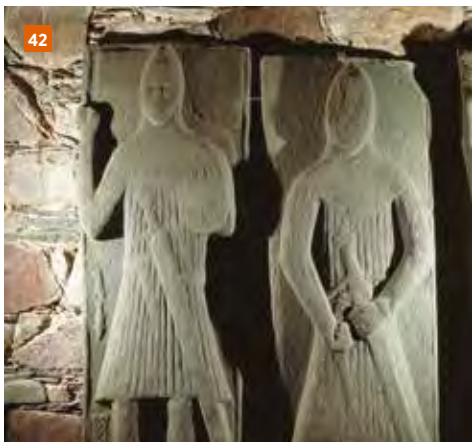
- Below castle rock, Stirling

## 47 Stirling: Mar's Wark

A Renaissance mansion built for the 1st Earl of Mar, who became regent in 1571 and held the post until his death in 1572.

Although never completed, it later became the town workhouse. View façade only.

- At the head of Castle Wynd
- External access only



## 48 Stirling Old Bridge

Built in the 1400s or early 1500s near the site of the famous battle of 1297, Stirling Old Bridge was partly destroyed by government forces during the 1745 Jacobite Rising, but is now one of Scotland's oldest bridges.

- On the River Forth off the M9 at Stirling
- On the scenic National Cycle Network Route 765 through Stirling

## 49 Westquarter Dovecot

A lectern dovecote, probably built in the early 1700s. It housed hundreds of pigeons, providing meat for local nobles.

- At Westquarter, near Laurieston. Access off the A803 on the Linlithgow to Laurieston Road into Westquarter, then into the west end of Dovecot Road
- View exterior only





45 **Stirling Castle**

For centuries, Stirling Castle was one of Scotland's most powerful and strategic strongholds, safeguarding a crucial crossing of the Forth.

It was also a primary residence for Scotland's royalty, where kings and queens held court, revelling in the grandeur and sophistication of their surroundings. The chapel royal was rebuilt for James VI in 1594. The castle later became an important military garrison. The castle will be part of celebrating 900 years of Stirling being a Royal Burgh in 2024. Now, the Royal Palace of James V and Mary of Guise has been impressively returned to its Renaissance glory, informed by a decade of in-depth research, and decorated by specialist craftspeople. This is a highlight of the visitor experience.

It is essential you book your entry timeslot online. We recommend the Castleview Park and Ride service (FK9 4TW) to avoid car park queues.

- Leave M9 at Junction 10 and use the Park and Ride or park in the city centre
- Postcode FK8 1EJ
- Telephone 01786 450 000
- As demand exceeds available spaces, parking is on a first come, first served basis. You may wish to use city centre parking or Castleview Park and Ride Service FK9 4TW
- £2 charge applies to car parking April to Sept (£4 for non-members), payable on arrival and is free for members in the winter
- To maximise available parking spaces, we do not permit trailers, caravans or mobile homes
- Our audio guide is downloadable onto your own mobile device for use during your visit
- For reasons of ease of movement, visitor safety and general security, suitcases and large rucksacks are not permitted in the castle. Bag searches may be carried out at the castle entrance as part of our security screening process



PPP ★★★★★

## Inside the Palace

Visitors can view the exquisite Unicorn Tapestries, commissioned from specialist weavers, and the painted replica Stirling Heads, carefully copied from oak carvings made for the Palace in the 1530s. Many of the originals are also displayed in our Stirling Heads Gallery.



© Andrew Godfrey Photography

## Other highlights

- **The Castle Exhibition**, bringing to life the exciting stories of the castle's history
- **The Great Hall**, built for James IV in the early 1500s as a huge space for feasting and state events
- **The Chapel Royal**, built for James VI in 1594, for the baptism of his eldest son Prince Henry
- **The Great Kitchens**, where vast banquets were prepared
- **The Regimental Museum of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders** was recently refurbished, and celebrates the history of a great Scottish regiment – check [argylls.co.uk](http://argylls.co.uk) for details

## Gifts and refreshments

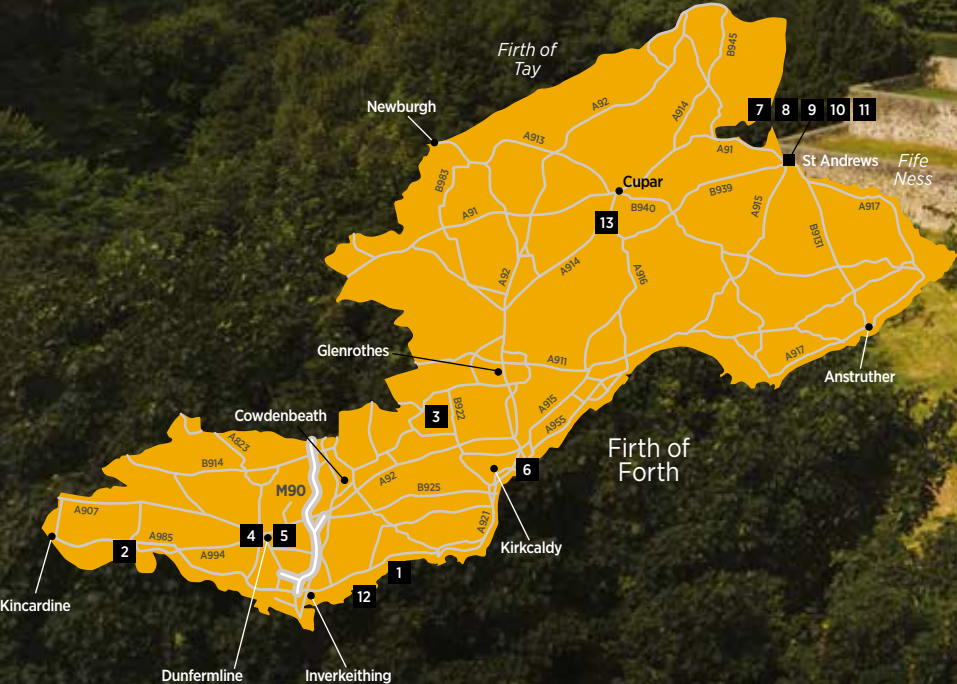
- Our shops sell a wide range of gifts, souvenirs, whisky, books, clan tartans and jewellery
- The Unicorn Café offers a delicious menu of hot and cold food
- The Pentice Café provides sandwiches, home baking and refreshments (open summer only)





# The Kingdom of Fife

A resting place of Kings, Fife’s history is as rich as its landscape. From the coastal cathedral and bishop’s castle at St Andrews, where Scotland’s leading churchmen held court, to the bustling abbey and royal tombs of Dunfermline, Fife has played host to many of the nation’s most powerful figures.



Aberdour Castle





### 1 Aberdour Castle and Gardens

This was once the luxurious Renaissance home and gardens of Regent Morton, in his heyday Scotland's most powerful man.

Aberdour was begun in the 1100s, making it one of Scotland's oldest stone castles; while the east range, with its fine painted ceiling, was added by the 8th Earl of Morton in the 1600s.

In recent years the Castle and Gardens have featured in *Outlander*.

- In Aberdour, 8m E of the Forth Bridges on the A921
- Postcode KY3 0SL
- Telephone 01383 860 519
- Railway station is a short walk from the castle
- Download the 'In the Footsteps of Kings' app before your visit to bring history to life in Fife



AAA ★★★★★

### 2 Culross Abbey

The ruins of a monastery on the site of an important Pictish centre.

The eastern parts of the abbey church are now the parish church and are not in the care of Historic Environment Scotland.

- At the head of the village of Culross off the A985. Access by foot (uphill) from parking on the shores of the Forth



### 3 Dogton Stone

Admire this rare free-standing Pictish cross, still in its original location.

Dating to about 900 AD, it is now a weathered fragment, but its carvings of an armed horseman and two beasts can still be made out.

- In a field at Dogton farmhouse, 1.5m E of Cardenden railway station off the B9222
- Not signposted – access is via agricultural land and not always possible



### 4 5 Dunfermline Abbey and Palace

Admire mainland Scotland's most complete Romanesque church and the only surviving royal guest house at a religious site in Scotland.

Founded as a priory by Queen, later Saint, Margaret, sometime after her marriage to Malcolm III in c.1070, Dunfermline was the first community of Benedictine monks in Scotland. It became a royal mausoleum with many royals, including David I and Robert I (the Bruce) being laid to rest in the medieval choir. The present parish church (not in Historic Environment Scotland care) was built over the site in the 1800s. Margaret was also buried here, with her body being moved to a separate shrine in the 1200s. The remains of this can be seen outside the east end of the parish church.

Charles I was born in the palace that was built alongside the abbey. Look for grand architecture, elaborate carvings, a painted vault of the 1500s, beautiful stained glass windows and displays of sculpture.

The Abbey Nave was a filming location for the Netflix film *Outlaw King*.

- In Dunfermline off the M90
- Postcode KY12 7PE
- Telephone 01383 739 026
- The Abbey church where the tomb of Robert I (the Bruce) is located is not managed by Historic Environment Scotland but please visit our website for opening times as we manage ticketing for both Abbey Church and Palace



4



## 6 Ravenscraig Castle

Begun in 1460 by Queen Mary of Guelders, wife of James II, this formidable coastal castle consists of two robust round towers linked by a cross range, with further buildings on the promontory. View exterior only.

- On the eastern outskirts of Kirkcaldy off the A955 Dysart Road
- Download the 'In the Footsteps of Kings' app before your visit to bring history to life in Fife



## 7 St Andrews Castle

For centuries, this was the grand residence of Scotland's most powerful churchmen. Its secrets include a remarkable mine, aimed at collapsing a castle wall during the siege of 1546-1547, and the countermine that intercepted it.

You can also gaze into the gloomy bottle dungeon carved into the rock under the castle.

The castle stands on a headland looking out into the North Sea. 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 477 196





8 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 Scotland's most senior bishop and a site of pilgrimage until the Protestant Reformation of 1560. The Cathedral's interiors, once filled with Catholic iconography, were badly damaged in 1559, but fragments survive in the museum. The museum together with the later Protestant cemetery (where many local luminaries are buried) offer over 1,000 years of grave monuments to explore.

- In St Andrews on the A91
- Postcode KY16 9QL
- Telephone 01334 472 563
- St Rule's Tower may be closed during high winds



9 St Andrews: Blackfriars Chapel

This attractive side chapel is the surviving remnant of a church built around 1516 for a Dominican friary.

Some carvings can still be seen in its vaulted ceiling. View exterior only.

- In South Street opposite junction with Bell Street
- Not signposted

10 St Andrews: St Mary's Church, Kirkheugh

The remnants of a small cross-shaped church near the cliff-edge. Located on the site of the earliest monastic complex at St Andrews, it was destroyed at the Reformation in 1560.

- On the coastal path to the pier and just north of St Andrews Cathedral
- Not signposted



## 11 St Andrews: West Port

A town gate built in 1589, one of only two surviving in Scotland.

Its towers are each equipped with a gunhole, and an elaborate parapet runs across the top. It was 'completely renovated' in 1843. View exterior only.

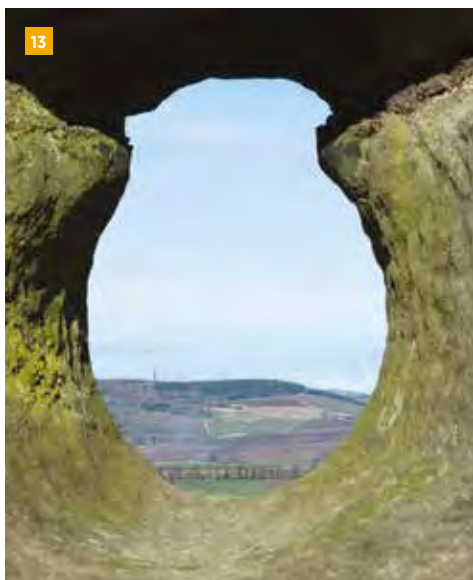
- At the junction of South Street with Bridge Street
- Not signposted

## 12 St Bridget's Kirk, Dalgety Bay

The shell of a medieval church, altered in the 1600s for Protestant worship.

At its west end are a burial vault and laird's loft (a private upstairs gallery), built for the Earl of Dunfermline.

- On the shores of the Forth, 2m SW of Aberdour off the A921. On the Fife Coastal Path (between Aberdour and Dalgety Bay)
- Not signposted



## 13 Scotstarvit Tower

Probably built in the 15th century and re-modelled in the 17th century.

Renowned as the home of Sir John Scot, author of *The Staggering State of Scottish Statesmen*. Explore the architectural puzzles of this quirky building. Views of the exterior throughout the year.

- 3m S of Cupar off the A916
- Internal access to the tower during Hill of Tarvit Mansion opening hours. Check [nts.org.uk](https://nts.org.uk) for opening hours
- No parking at the tower, but visitors can park at the Hill of Tarvit Mansion (approximately 1 mile away)



# Perthshire, Kinross & Angus

Between Scotland's rugged highlands and lush lowlands lie these fertile valleys. Formerly the heart of the country's political power, this region holds many of Scotland's most fascinating historical landmarks.











**1 Aberlemno Sculptured Stones**

A magnificent group of Pictish sculptured stones: three stand beside the road and one, a cross-slab with interlace decoration, Pictish symbols and a battle scene, is in the churchyard.

All are covered with wooden boxes from 1 October to 31 March to protect them from the elements.

- On the B9134 in Aberlemno village, 6m NE of Forfar
- Some of the stones are located next to a busy trunk road and care is required



**2 Abernethy Round Tower**

Climb one of Scotland’s most unusual historic buildings to enjoy sweeping views towards the Firth of Tay.

Believed to date from about 1100, this is one of only two Irish-style round towers in Scotland.

- In the village of Abernethy off the A913 just E of the Bridge of Earn
- Key available locally. Check [historicalenvironment.scot/abernethy-round-tower](http://historicalenvironment.scot/abernethy-round-tower) for more info



**3 Arbroath Abbey**

Discover the story of the Declaration of Arbroath, a letter sent from the abbey in April 1320, in which Scotland’s nobility proclaimed their independence from England – and the right of Robert I (the Bruce) to be recognised as king.

Explore the extensive ruins of a superb medieval abbey founded in 1178 by King William I, dedicated to the murdered English Archbishop Thomas Becket. Listen to your voice reverberate in the beautiful sacristy, which once rang with the clamour of ‘lunatics’ incarcerated here. Climb the hidden stairway in the south transept, just below the famous ‘Round O’ window, and discover the secluded medieval Abbot’s House.

The Visitor Centre exhibition explores the story of the Declaration of Arbroath and the history of the abbey through films, interactives and object displays, and hosts the superb Arbroath Tapestry.

- In Arbroath town centre on the A92
- Postcode DD11 1EG
- Telephone 01241 878 756
- Wheelchair available





#### 4 Ardestie Earth House (Souterrain)

A curved, 25-metre-long structure, once an underground passage attached to an Iron Age roundhouse.

- 0.25m N of A92 off B962 to Monikie
- Not signposted



#### 5 Balvaird Castle

An L-shaped tower house with refined architectural details, built in the late 1400s and extended in 1567, when a walled courtyard and gatehouse were added.

View exterior only.

- About 6m SE of Bridge of Earn off the A912



#### 6 Brechin Cathedral Round Tower

One of two round towers of the Irish type remaining in Scotland. Built in the late 11th century or the early 12th century, it has a remarkable carved doorway.

A stone roof was added in the 1400s.

View exterior only.

- In Brechin town centre off the A933
- Check the cathedral's website [brechincathedral.org.uk](http://brechincathedral.org.uk) for opening times

#### 7 Broughty Castle

An imposing stronghold overlooking the Tay and Monifieth Bay, Broughty Castle was built in the late 1400s and adapted for Victorian military use.

It now houses a fascinating museum operated by Leisure and Culture Dundee. The bay is important for wintering wildfowl, and dolphins are occasionally seen.

- On the shores of the Tay in Broughty Ferry, Dundee off the A930
- Postcode DD5 2TF
- Telephone 01382 436 916
- Please check the website [leisureandculturaldundee.com/culture/broughty-castle](http://leisureandculturaldundee.com/culture/broughty-castle), Broughty Castle Museum's Facebook page, email [broughty@leisureandculturaldundee.com](mailto:broughty@leisureandculturaldundee.com) or phone 01382 307200 for the most up-to-date information on opening hours
- The grounds of the castle are only accessible during the museum opening hours
- Retail discount is not available



#### 8 Burleigh Castle

The ruin of a tower house of about 1500, with a section of defensive barmkin wall and a corner tower.

- 0.5m E of Milnathort on the A911
- Access to the North Tower may not always be possible
- Exterior and grounds remain open throughout the year during daylight hours
- No car park at Burleigh Castle. Please take care when finding a parking space. Roadside parking is inadvisable and visitor parking is not permitted in the nearby housing estates
- Check website for more information [historicenvironment.scot/burleigh-castle](http://historicenvironment.scot/burleigh-castle)



## 9 Carlungie Earth House (Souterrain)

A complex underground structure of the Iron Age. About 40 metres long, it is now uncovered.

- 1m E of Templehall off the B962
- Not signposted



## 10 Caterthuns (Brown and White)

Two spectacular hill forts. The Brown Caterthun has four earth ramparts and ditches, while the White has a massive stone rampart, a ditch and outer ramparts.

- About 5m E of the village of Inchbare off the B966 Brechin to Edzell Road
- Access is over agricultural land



## 11 Claypotts Castle

Perhaps the quirkiest castle in Scotland. Explore its complex geometry of round towers, stair turrets and the corbelling of the attic rooms.

Built in 1569-1588, it was owned in the late 1600s by Jacobite John Graham of Claverhouse, known as 'Bonnie Dundee'.

- Off the A92 E of Dundee at Claypotts Junction
- Interior access is currently not available, please check the website for any changes to access

## 12 Dunfallandy Stone

An exceptionally well-preserved Pictish cross-slab with ornate decoration featuring men, monsters and Pictish symbols.

Covered by a protective enclosure.

- 1m S of Pitlochry off the A924
- Signposted off Bridge Road, Pitlochry



## 13 Dunkeld Cathedral

Standing beside the tree-lined River Tay, Dunkeld Cathedral took more than 200 years to build.

The ruined nave and tower are cared for by Historic Environment Scotland. A display of stone carvings includes Pictish slabs, decorative flourishes from the medieval cathedral and gravestones of the 1600s.

- In the village of Dunkeld off the A9, not signposted
- Postcode PH8 0AW
- Visit [dunkeldcathedral.org](http://dunkeldcathedral.org) for more information about the Parish Church (not Historic Environment Scotland)
- There is a small parking area for use by visitors with mobility difficulties. Please email [ArgyllsLodgingAdmin@hes.scot](mailto:ArgyllsLodgingAdmin@hes.scot) at least one working day in advance to arrange access to this car park





© Marcin Klimek

## 14 Eassie Sculptured Stone

An elaborately sculptured Pictish cross-slab with an intricate cross, angels, animals, warrior, Pictish symbols and three figures with shields.

Covered by a protective enclosure.

- In ruined church of Eassie, W of Glamis off A94
- Not signposted



## 15 Edzell Castle and Garden

The refined beauty of this tower house, later expanded to become a courtyard castle, was designed to herald the prestige of its owners, the Lindsays.

The elaborate walled garden was created in 1604. Resplendent with heraldic sculptures and carved panels, the architectural framework surrounding the garden is unique in Britain. The garden also includes a delightful summer house.

- At Edzell, 6m N of Brechin on the B966
- Postcode DD9 7UE
- Wheelchair available



## 16 Elcho Castle

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

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

- 5m NE of Bridge of Earn off the A912 and close to Rhynd
- Owing to limited parking spaces, book your visit 24 hours ahead at **historicensevironment.scot/elcho-castle**. Other times on the day subject to availability
- Postcode PH2 8QQ
- Telephone 01738 639 998
- Call site to arrange bus parking/access with neighbouring farm



## 17 Fowlis Wester Sculptured Stone

A tall cross-slab with Pictish symbols, figures and ornate decoration.

The original is now in the parish church, alongside another finely carved Pictish stone; a replica stands in the village square.

- At Fowlis Wester, 6m NE of Crieff off the A85
- Church open during daylight hours



21



## 18 Huntingtower Castle

Colonies of bats now fly around Huntingtower's twin tower houses, but according to legend a lovestruck maiden once leapt between them.

Mary Queen of Scots spent a night here with Lord Darnley soon after their marriage; it was also here that their son James VI was held hostage. Find out more as you explore the castle, which boasts a superb painted ceiling of the 1500s.

- Just W of Perth off the A85 to Crieff
- Postcode PH1 3JL
- Telephone 01738 627 231
- Car park not accessible for large cars or camper vans etc
- Disabled access limited to some lower parts of the castle



## 19 Innerpeffray Chapel

Find traces of pre-Reformation worship and a painted celestial ceiling in this beautiful church.

After the Reformation it was adapted to become Scotland's first lending library. The library is now housed in the Georgian building next door, in the care of an independent trust [innerpeffraylibrary.co.uk](http://innerpeffraylibrary.co.uk)

- Off the B8062 midway between Crieff and Auchterarder



## 20 Lindsay Burial Aisle

An attractive little chapel, built around 1550, and later adopted as a burial place for the Lindsays of nearby Edzell Castle. Exterior view only.

- In Edzell graveyard off the B966, 1m N of Edzell Castle
- Not signposted



## 21 Lochleven Castle

An island stronghold, where Mary Queen of Scots was famously imprisoned in 1567-1568.

Visit the room where Mary probably slept, miscarried twins and was forced to abdicate. Look out for waterfowl from the boat.

- On an island in Loch Leven reached by boat from Kinross off the M90 (weather permitting)
- Postcode KY13 8UF
- Telephone 01577 862 670 / 07836 313 769
- Boat can carry up to 12 passengers  
Book priority boat times 24 hours ahead at [historicenvironment.scot/lochleven-castle](http://historicenvironment.scot/lochleven-castle). Other sailing times on the day subject to availability
- No water supply for drinking. Hand sanitiser available for hand-washing
- No unauthorised private boat landings on the piers
- Public toilets available in the car park



PPPP ★★★★★

Advance booking is essential to avoid disappointment – visit [historicenvironment.scot/lochleven-castle](http://historicenvironment.scot/lochleven-castle) to book your ticket.

## 22 Maison Dieu Chapel, Brechin

This chapel once served a medieval hospital, founded here in the 1260s.

Surviving doorways and window openings give a glimpse of its former grandeur.

- In Maison Dieu Lane, Brechin off the B9134



## 23 Meigle Sculptured Stone Museum

One of the most important collections of early medieval sculpture in western Europe.

A simple display of 26 Pictish carved stones dating from the 8th to the late 10th centuries, including some superb examples.

These are the remnants of what was once an important centre of Pictish wealth and patronage.

- In Meigle, 6m W of Glamis off the A94, 14 miles NW of Dundee via B954
- Postcode PH12 8SB
- Telephone 01828 640 612



## 24 Muthill Old Church and Tower

Admire an important church of the 1100s with a surviving tall Romanesque tower.

Aisles were added to the nave in the 1400s, expanding the church. It may sometimes have been used as a substitute for Dunblane Cathedral.

- In Muthill, 3m SW of Crieff off the A822
- Access to exterior only



## 25 Restenneth Priory

Ruins of the church that once stood at the heart of an Augustinian priory.

The chancel and tower survive. The lower part of the tower is a very early example of the Romanesque style introduced by the Normans.

The adjacent Angus Archives houses a vast collection of items covering 800 years of the history of Angus and its people. Find out more at [angus.gov.uk/angus\\_archives](http://angus.gov.uk/angus_archives)

- 1m NE of Forfar off the B9113 Brechin Road



## 26 Roman Site: Ardunie Roman Signal Station

The site of a Roman watch tower on the Gask Ridge dating to the 1st century AD.

- Take Trinity Gask Church Rd out of Trinity Gask
- Signposted footpath 1m



## 27 Roman Site: Black Hill Camps

Search out the ramparts and ditches of two Roman marching camps, one of which gave overnight protection to the legions of Emperor Septimius Severus, between 208 and 211 AD.

- 0.5m N of Braco off the A822 Crieff Road just past the junction with the B827 Comrie Road
- Not signposted



## 28 Roman Site: Muir O'Fauld Roman Signal Station

The site of a 1st century Roman watchtower on the Gask Ridge. Red squirrels, osprey and red kites are often seen here.

- Accessed by woodland footpath 1m NE of Trinity Gask off the B8062 Crieff to Auchterarder Road
- Not signposted



## 29 St Mary's Church, Grandtully

A simple parish church probably built in the early 1500s.

Step inside to see its astonishing painted wooden ceiling, added in the 1630s.

- 3m NE of Aberfeldy off the A827
- Access is over agricultural land



© Marcin Klimek

## 30 St Orland's Stone

A tall Pictish cross-slab with a prominent, ornate cross, a hunting scene and a very rare Pictish depiction of a boat.

- 4.5m W of Forfar off the A926
- Not signposted
- No access through adjacent field
- Unsuitable for vehicles



## 31 32 St Serf's Church and The Dupplin Cross

A masterpiece of Pictish sculpture that is now displayed inside one of Scotland's oldest complete parish churches.

The Dupplin Cross is an ornate, 2.5-metre-high cross. It names the Pictish King Constantine and depicts warriors, animals and a harp player.

The cross stands in the 12th century tower of a church whose legendary founder slew a dragon.

- In Dunning Village on the B9141 from the A9
- Postcode PH2 ORR
- Telephone 01764 684 497
- Admission free – donations welcome
- Guided tours available but booking is strongly advised, for details visit [historicensevironment.scot/st-serfs-church](http://historicensevironment.scot/st-serfs-church)





### 33 St Vigean's Sculptured Stones

Immerse yourself in the enigmatic beauty of Pictish art.

One of the most important collections of Pictish Christian stones, all discovered in and around the local church. They include the Drosten Stone, which carries a remarkable inscription and includes a hooded hunter and a squatting imp.

- 1m N of Arbroath off the A92 to Montrose
- Postcode DD11 4RB
- Telephone 01241 878 756
- Check [historicensevironment.scot/st-vigean](http://historicensevironment.scot/st-vigean) for open dates
- On the Arbroath Path Network



### 34 Stanley Mills

Get hands-on at one of our most dynamic sites.

Sited on the banks of the Tay, Stanley Mills were founded to process cotton in the 1780s, repeatedly remodelled to adapt to changes in the textile industry, and finally closed in 1989.

Interactive games and displays bring the mill back to life. Listen to Gaelic poetry and stories of the displaced Highlanders who worked here after losing their homes in the Clearances.

- 9m N of Perth, follow signs for Stanley Mills
- Postcode PH1 4QE
- Telephone 01738 828 268



### 35 Sunnybrae Cottage

An ordinary small Highland house, probably begun in the 1700s and 'improved' in the 1800s and 1900s.

Remains of a cruck-framed roof survive beneath the corrugated iron roof. View exterior only.

- 156 Atholl Road, Pitlochry on the A924, the northernmost house
- Check [doorsopendays.org.uk](http://doorsopendays.org.uk) for information on access to the interior

### 36 37 Tealing Dovecot and Earth House (Souterrain)

An elegant dovecot of the late 1500s. Nearby are remains of an Iron Age souterrain, which is now uncovered.

Stones in the souterrain carry Bronze Age carvings.

- Close to the village of Balgray, 5m N of Dundee off the A90
- Access is over agricultural land
- Limited parking in farmyard beside dovecot



### 38 Tullibardine Chapel

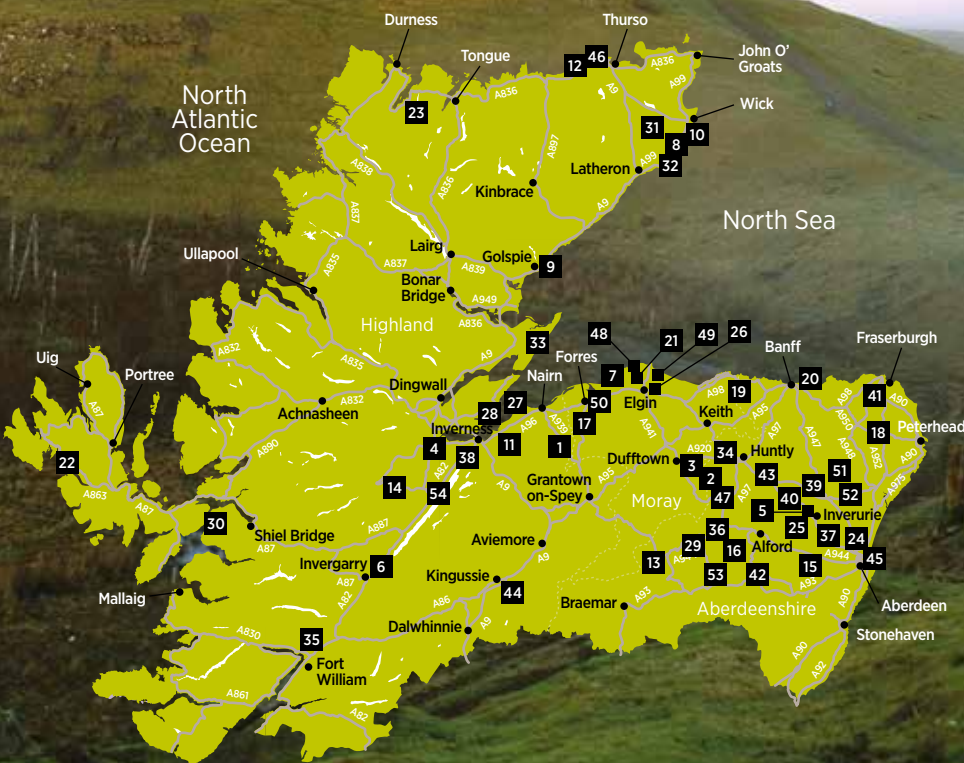
One of the most complete and unaltered small medieval churches in Scotland, founded in 1446 and largely rebuilt about 1500.

- 2m NW of Auchterarder off the A823 Crieff Road
- No bus/coach access



# North & Grampian

Featuring spectacular mountains and rugged coastlines, this region holds some of Scotland's most remote and distinctive monuments, including broch towers, medieval castles and Georgian barracks.





**1 Ardclach Bell Tower**

A fortified hilltop tower built as a watchtower and prison in 1655 but later used as a bell tower.

- 9m S of Nairn, signposted off the A939 to Grantown on Spey



**2 Auchindoun Castle**

Crowning a lonely hilltop, with dramatic views, Auchindoun dates from about 1480.

A ruined tower house with an almost-complete curtain wall. In 1571, the castle was burned in a local family feud.

- 2m S of Dufftown on the A941
- Access on foot only. The route is steep and can be muddy
- Access to the interior of the castle is restricted due to high-level masonry inspections, however, you can still visit the exterior to enjoy spectacular views of the landscape



**3 Balvenie Castle**

Defended by a formidable curtain wall and an iron yett, Balvenie was a powerful strategic stronghold in the north-east.

Home to the Stewarts, Comyns and Black Douglasses, it became the grand Renaissance residence of the Stewarts of Atholl.

- At Dufftown off the A941
- Postcode AB55 4GH
- Telephone 01340 820121



**4 Beaulieu Priory**

The handsome ruins of a monastery of the strict Valliscaulian order, including the attractive church.

The burial ground and priory include several impressive tombs and headstones.

- In Beaulieu on the A862



## 5 Brandsbutt Symbol Stone

A Pictish symbol stone with depictions of a serpent, and a crescent and V-rod symbol, as well as an inscription in the early-medieval writing system known as Ogham.

- About 1m NW of Inverurie off the A96

## 6 Bridge of Oich

A splendid suspension bridge built over the River Oich in 1854.

It has a sophisticated double-cantilevered chain construction with massive granite pylon arches.

- 4m S of Fort Augustus on the A82



## 7 Burghead Well

An underground well, 3 metres square and 1.3 metres deep, cut from the solid rock.

Once enclosed within a Pictish fort, its purpose is unknown but may have been ceremonial.

- In King Street, Burghead on the B9013. Signposted at the north end of Grant Street in the village
- Key required for access. For more information visit [historicenvironment.scot/burghead-well](http://historicenvironment.scot/burghead-well)



## 8 Cairn O'Get

A Neolithic burial cairn with two chambers, entrance passage, and two projecting 'horns'.

Now unroofed, it is located in an area of much archaeological interest.

- 1.5m SW of Ulbster off the A99. 0.75m from car park to site via black and white poles
- Access can be wet and muddy



## 9 Carn Liath

A fine example of an Iron Age broch tower, surviving to first-floor level, surrounded by a 'village' of outbuildings.

The remains of these structures are now grass-covered.

- By the A9, 3m ENE of Golspie
- Visitors should take care crossing the A9 trunk road



## 10 Castle of Old Wick

Discover one of the most striking medieval sites in Caithness.

This spectacular stronghold stands on a spine of rock projecting into the sea, between two deep, narrow gullies.

- Signposted from A99
- Visitors must take great care and close supervision of children is required



## 11 Clava Cairns

A well-preserved Bronze Age cemetery complex of passage graves, cairns and standing stones in a beautiful setting.

Please be aware that there is a vehicle weight restriction of 17 tonnes on the access road.

- 6m E of Inverness, signposted from the B9091, 300 yards E of Culloden Battlefield





**12 Cnoc Freiceadain Long Cairns**

A pair of Neolithic burial cairns of the 'long-horned' type.

They have not been excavated but are both thought to have been constructed about 5,500 to 5,750 years ago.

- 6m WSW of Thurso on A836
- Access is up an incline which is sometimes muddy



**13 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 government garrison fortress, largely to suppress Jacobite activity. Adaptations and additions included the distinctive star-shaped perimeter wall. The reconstructed barrack rooms offer a window onto military life in the late 1700s.

- 8m W of Strathdon on the A939
- Postcode AB36 8YP
- Telephone 01975 651460
- Pedestrian access only up steep dirt track
- For further access queries please call site



**14 Corrimony Chambered Cairn**

Explore a circle of standing stones and discover this ancient passage grave, dating back 4,000 years.

- In Glen Urquhart, 8.5m W of Drumnadrochit off the A831
- Access into cairn is by crawling which can be wet



**15 Cullerlie Stone Circle**

A circle of eight stones erected about 4,000 years ago.

They encircle an area which was consecrated by fires. Eight small cairns were later built within the circle.

- 0.75m S of Garlogie off the B9125



**16 Culsh Earth House (Souterrain)**

An underground passage or souterrain, dating from the Iron Age (about 2,000 years ago).

Still largely intact, explore the site and the possibilities for its original purpose.

- At Culsh, 1m E of Tarland on the B9119
- Access to chamber by crawling



## 17 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.

- 1m S of Forres off the A940
- Postcode IV36 2RR
- Telephone 01309 676548
- Dogs are welcome but not in roofed areas



PPPP ★★★★★

## 18 Deer Abbey

A ruined Cistercian monastery, close to the recently rediscovered site of an earlier monastery whose monks wrote *The Book of Deer*, containing the earliest surviving Gaelic text.

- 2m W of Mintlaw on the A950



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## 19 Deskford Church

Ruins of a small, late-medieval church.

The finest surviving feature is its sacrament house – a shrine-cupboard for the sacred bread and wine used during Mass – richly carved in a style characteristic of the north-east.

- 4m S of Cullen on the B9018 to Keith



## 20 Duff House

A magnificent Georgian mansion designed by William Adam, and used as a country house by the wealthy Duff family for 150 years.

After being a hotel, a sanatorium, a military base and a prisoner of war camp, it was restored in the 1990s. It is now furnished from the Dunimarle Collection of fine arts and decorative arts, as well as artworks on loan from the National Galleries of Scotland.

- In Banff
- Postcode AB45 3SX
- Telephone 01261 818181
- Guided tours available, check the website for details



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© New Wave Images



**21 Duffus Castle**

One of the finest examples of a motte and bailey castle in Scotland. Begun in the 1100s, it has a hall house of the early 1300s, and a stone curtain wall.

- 5m NW of Elgin on the B9012 to Burghead



**22 Dun Beag**

A fine example of a Hebridean broch tower, on a rocky hilltop providing excellent views.

- 0.25m W of Bracadale, Skye off the A863
- Sections of the access route are steep
- Site is accessed via land occupied by sheep



**23 Dun Dornaigil**

This broch tower, also known as Dun Dornadilla, dates back about 2,000 years to the Iron Age.

Standing almost 7 metres high today, it may once have been twice as tall.

- View exterior only
- 10m S of Hope, Sutherland off the A838



**24 Dyce Symbol Stones**

Two Pictish stones: one incised with a Pictish beast and double disc; the other with symbols, an ornate cross and ancient Ogham writing.

- 0.75m N of Kirkton off Aberdeen Airport ring road in ruined church



**25 East Aquhorthies Stone Circle**

A circle of 12 recumbent (lying flat) stones, with evidence of an earlier cairn at the centre, believed to date to about 2300 BC, with later additions.

- 1m W of Inverurie off the A96
- Car parking nearby



**26 Elgin Cathedral**

Enjoy the peaceful atmosphere among the ruins of this magnificent medieval cathedral, dating from the 1200s.

Admire the glorious west front, the sumptuous decorations and the atmospheric chapter house.

Discover the cathedral's superb carved stone collection in an exhibition in the towers, including the colourfully lit effigy of Bishop Archibald, and enjoy spectacular views from the top of the North tower.

- In Elgin on the A96
- Postcode IV30 1HU
- Telephone 01343 547171





## 27 Fort George and the Highlanders' Museum

Visit Britain's mightiest artillery fortress for an unforgettable experience, exploring an enormous military base protected by almost 1.6km (1 mile) of massive walls.

You can gain an insight into life as a Redcoat in a garrison fortress, built in 1748-1769, that has barely changed in its 250 years of active use. You could also join one of our dolphin watches, scouring the Moray Firth for its resident population of bottlenose dolphins.

- 6m W of Nairn, 11m NE of Inverness off the A96
- Postcode IV2 7TD
- Telephone 01667 460232
- Dogs are welcome but not in roofed areas



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### Your visit

The fort shop sells a wide selection of gifts, souvenirs, quality books and jewellery while our café serves traditional, Scottish home-baking.

Fort George is large and mostly open to the elements – please allow plenty of time for your visit.

### Highland stronghold

Built in the wake of the Battle of Culloden in 1746, the fort was initially intended to intimidate and subdue the local population. By the time it was finished, the Jacobite Risings were over, and the fort's defences were turned seaward in response to international threats. The fort became a recruitment centre and training ground. It retains a garrison to this day, housing a regular infantry battalion of the British Army.

### Ready for inspection

There is much for visitors to see including defences bristling with cannons, historic barrack rooms, an extensive 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.





## 28 Fortrose Cathedral

The red sandstone cathedral of Fortrose was the seat of the bishops of Ross for centuries. The oldest parts date from the 1300s.

Surviving architectural details hint at the splendour of this great centre of faith.

- In Fortrose on the A832



## 29 Glenbuchat Castle

An attractive Z-plan tower house in a picturesque location, built in 1590 and later remodelled. Its last laird, John Gordon, known as 'Old Glenbucket', was a notable Jacobite.

- 6m W of Kildrummy on the A97
- Currently closed to visitors. Please check the app or website for updates



## 30 Glenelg Brochs: Dun Telve and Dun Troddan

Two Iron Age brochs less than 500 metres apart. About a third of each broch's walls stand to considerable height – more than 10 metres at Dun Telve; 7.5 metres at Dun Troddan.

- 8m SE of Kyle of Lochalsh. Turn off at Shielbridge from the A87 onto unclassified road to Glenelg



## 31 Grey Cairns of Camster

Two Neolithic burial cairns, both of which have been fully investigated by archaeologists. One is about 60 metres long, with two internal chambers; the other is round, with a single chamber divided into three.

- 5m N of Lybster on the A99. Monument situated 5m along unclassified road
- Access to chambers is by crawling only and surface can be wet



## 32 Hill O'Many Stanes

More than 190 surviving low stone slabs arranged in rows on a hillside. Likely raised more than 3,000 years ago, their purpose and meaning remain a mystery.

- At Mid Clyth, 4m NE of Lybster on A99



## 33 Hilton of Cadboll Chapel

The foundations of a small rectangular chapel and, nearby, a modern carved reconstruction of the famous Pictish cross-slab found on the site.

- In village of Hilton off the B9166, 12m NE of Invergordon



### 34 Huntly Castle

With elaborate heraldry, carved fireplaces and refined décor, this palatial residence was a declaration of the power and wealth of the Gordons of Huntly.

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.

- In Huntly off the A96
- Postcode AB54 4SH
- Telephone 01466 793191



### 35 Inverlochy Castle

A well-preserved stronghold built by the Comyn family in the 1200s – one of Scotland's earliest stone castles.

It has a square courtyard, with round towers at the corners. The largest was the donjon or keep.

- 2m NE of Fort William off the A82



### 36 Kildrummy Castle

This great medieval castle was a stronghold of the earls of Mar. Built in the mid-1200s, it played a crucial role in the Wars of Independence.

Robert I (the Bruce) sent his family to Kildrummy for safety in 1306 but they were captured and his brother Neil executed. Three decades later, his sister Christian Bruce defended the castle against an army of 3,000 pro-English troops. It was also here that the 6th Earl of Mar mustered his forces for the 1715 Jacobite Rising.

- 10m SW of Alford on the A97
- Postcode AB33 8RA
- Telephone 01975 571331



### 37 Kinkell Church

A fine parish church of the 1500s. It contains the graveslab of a knight named Gilbert de Greenlaw, who was killed at the Battle of Harlaw in 1411.

- 2m S of Inverurie off the B993 to Whiterashes. Follow unclassified road to Mill of Fintray



© New Wave Images

**38 Knocknagael Boar Stone**

A rough slab carved with the Pictish symbols of a mirror case and a wild boar. Now displayed in a council building.

- In The Highland Council Offices, Glenurquhart Road, Inverness on the A82
- Viewing is through a glazed wall on the exterior of the Council Offices building

**39 Loanhead Stone Circle**

A recumbent stone circle and neighbouring cremation cemetery. Thought to be over 4,000 years old.

- Near Daviot, 5m NW of Inverurie. Signposted off the A920



**40 Maiden Stone**

A legendary Pictish cross-slab bearing a cross on one side and, on the other, Pictish symbols.

From October to March the stone is protected by a cover and is not visible.

- Near Chapel of Garioch, 4.5m NW of Inverurie on the A96

**41 Memsie Cairn**

An unusually large burial cairn and sole survivor of what was once a Bronze Age cemetery.

- 3.5m S of Fraserburgh on the B9032, 0.5m SW of Memsie Village



**42 Peel Ring of Lumphanan**

The site of an early timber castle, dating to at least 1250. Once the fortified residence of the mighty Durward family, a great earthwork motte survives.

- 0.5m SW of Lumphanan off the A980



**43 Picardy Symbol Stone**

A beautifully carved symbol stone, a testament to Pictish artistry. Three clearly incised symbols survive. It was associated with a low cairn, containing a grave.

- Signposted from B992 in the centre of Insch





#### 44 Ruthven Barracks

A striking infantry base on the elevated site of a medieval castle, with superb views down the Spey Valley.

It was built in 1719, following the Jacobite Rising of 1715; but then captured and burned by Prince Charles Edward Stuart's army in 1746.

- 1m from Kingussie, signposted from the A9 and the A86 in the centre of Kingussie



#### 45 St Machar's Cathedral Transepts

The nave and towers of this late-medieval cathedral remain in use as a church, while the ruined transepts are in our care.

In the south transept is the fine tomb of Bishop Gavin Dunbar.

- In Old Aberdeen

#### 46 St Mary's Chapel, Crosskirk

A simple dry-stone coastal chapel, probably built in the 1100s.

Although no earlier church seems to have stood here, a broch site and two long-cist burials were discovered nearby.

- 6m W of Thurso on the A836
- Access can be muddy



#### 47 St Mary's Kirk, Auchindoir

A fine medieval church, roofless but otherwise complete.

Built around the late 1200s or early 1300s, with an elaborately carved doorway, and altered in the 1500s and 1600s.

- Off the A944 between the villages of Rhynie and Lumsden on the B9002



#### 48 St Peter's Kirk and Parish Cross, Duffus

The ruins of this medieval church include the base of a western tower, built in the 1300s, a vaulted porch of the 1500s, and some interesting tombstones.

The associated cross dates from the 1300s.

- 0.5m E of village of Duffus, signposted from the B9012 in the centre of the village





**49 Spynie Palace**

For nearly 500 years, the bishops of Moray resided in this majestic complex of buildings, 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 the five-storey David's Tower, the palace's grandest building, where bishops once entertained kings and queens.

- 2m N of Elgin off the A941
- Postcode IV30 5QG
- Telephone 01343 546358

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**50 Sueno's Stone**

Scotland's tallest sculpted standing stone, over 6 metres high.

Its carvings include rare battle scenes, suggesting the area may have witnessed a Pictish battle or battles during the 10th century.

- Signposted from the B9011 in Forres

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**51 Tarves Tomb**

The elaborately carved tomb of husband and wife Sir William Forbes and Elizabeth Gordon.

The mason was Thomas Leiper, who built much of Tolquhon Castle.

- In Tarves kirkyard, 15m NNW of Aberdeen on the A920

**52 Tolquhon Castle**

Sitting within spacious grounds, Tolquhon is among Scotland's prettiest castles.

Sir William Forbes, who had the existing tower house expanded in the 1580s, intended it to be an impressive residence – though he incorporated plenty of gunloops to deter attackers.

- 15m N of Aberdeen on the A920
- Postcode AB41 7LP
- Telephone 01651 851286

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**53 Tomnaverie Stone Circle**

A grand recumbent stone circle, enclosing an earlier cairn.

It stands on a low hillside, with dramatic views in all directions – with Lochnagar framed by two of the large standing stones. Created about 4,300 years ago, it seems to have been used for cremations.

- Near Mill of Wester Coull, about 3m NW of Aboyne on the B9094





## 54 Urquhart Castle

Discover 1,000 years of drama, experience a glimpse of medieval life and enjoy stunning 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 picture the splendid banquets staged in the great hall. A 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.

- On Loch Ness near Drumnadrochit on the A82
- Postcode IV63 6XJ
- Telephone 01456 450551
- Please show membership card when purchasing Jacobite Cruise tickets to ensure Urquhart Castle entrance fee is deducted



Advance booking is essential to avoid disappointment, to book your ticket visit [historicenvironment.scot](http://historicenvironment.scot)

## Telling tales

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.

## Highland heritage

Urquhart has been a key stronghold in the Highlands through many centuries of Scotland's past. 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 MacDonalds struggled with the Crown for power in the 1500s.

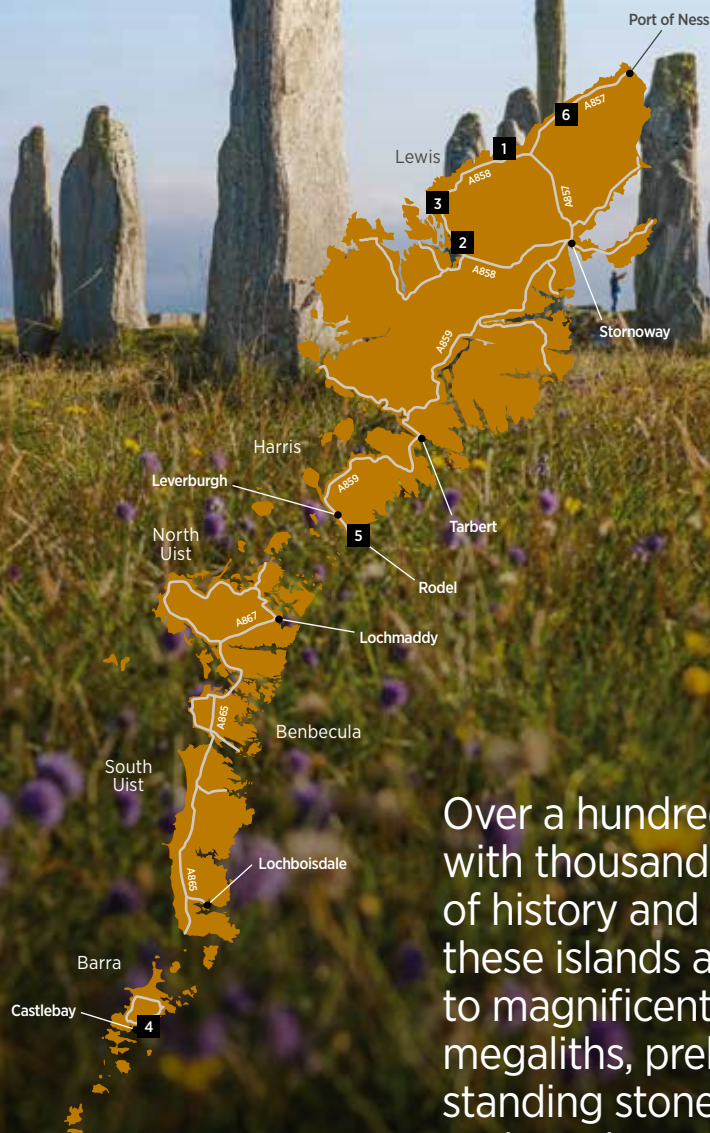
## Access

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

## Gifts and refreshments

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 Scottish gifts, souvenirs, quality books and jewellery.

# The Western Isles



Over a hundred miles long, with thousands of years of history and heritage, these islands are home to magnificent Neolithic megaliths, prehistoric standing stones, castles, and much more.

## 1 The Blackhouse, Arnol

A traditional, fully-furnished, thatched house, giving a unique insight into island life, with an attached barn, byre and stackyard.

A furnished 1920s whitehouse and ruined blackhouse can be seen nearby.

- In Arnol village, Isle of Lewis, 14m NW of Stornoway on the A858
- Postcode HS2 9DB
- Telephone 01851 710 395
- There are Gaelic speaking staff on site



## 2 Calanais Standing Stones

A stunning and celebrated Neolithic setting of standing stones, arranged in a cross shape, with a stone circle around a monolith at the centre.

- 12m W of Stornoway off the A859, Isle of Lewis
- Postcode HS2 9DY
- Telephone 01851 621 422
- Open all year
- The Calanais Visitor Centre will be closed for re-development during 2024. Access to the standing stones may be restricted during the work. For opening times please visit [calanais.org](http://calanais.org)
- Members' retail and café discount not applicable
- Used for filming in BBC drama *Call The Midwife*



## 3 Dun Carloway

One of the best-preserved Iron Age broch towers.

- 1.5m S of Carloway, about 16m NW of Stornoway, Isle of Lewis on the A858



## 4 Kisimul Castle

The seat of the chiefs of Clan Macneil of Barra is the best-preserved medieval castle in the Western Isles.

Much of the building probably dates from the 1400s. Abandoned in the 1700s, it was extensively restored after being purchased by the 45th clan chief in 1937.

- In Castlebay, Isle of Barra, reached by small boat from Castlebay (5 min trip, weather permitting)
- Postcode HS9 5UZ
- For more information visit [historicenvironment.scot/kisimul-castle](http://historicenvironment.scot/kisimul-castle)
- Admission includes boat trip



## 5 St Clement's Church

This cross-shaped church is the grandest medieval building in the Western Isles, built by the 8th Chief MacLeod, whose richly decorated wall-tomb is one of three inside.

- At Rodel, Harris on the A859
- Used for filming in BBC drama *Call The Midwife*

## 6 Steinalcleit Cairn and Stone Circle

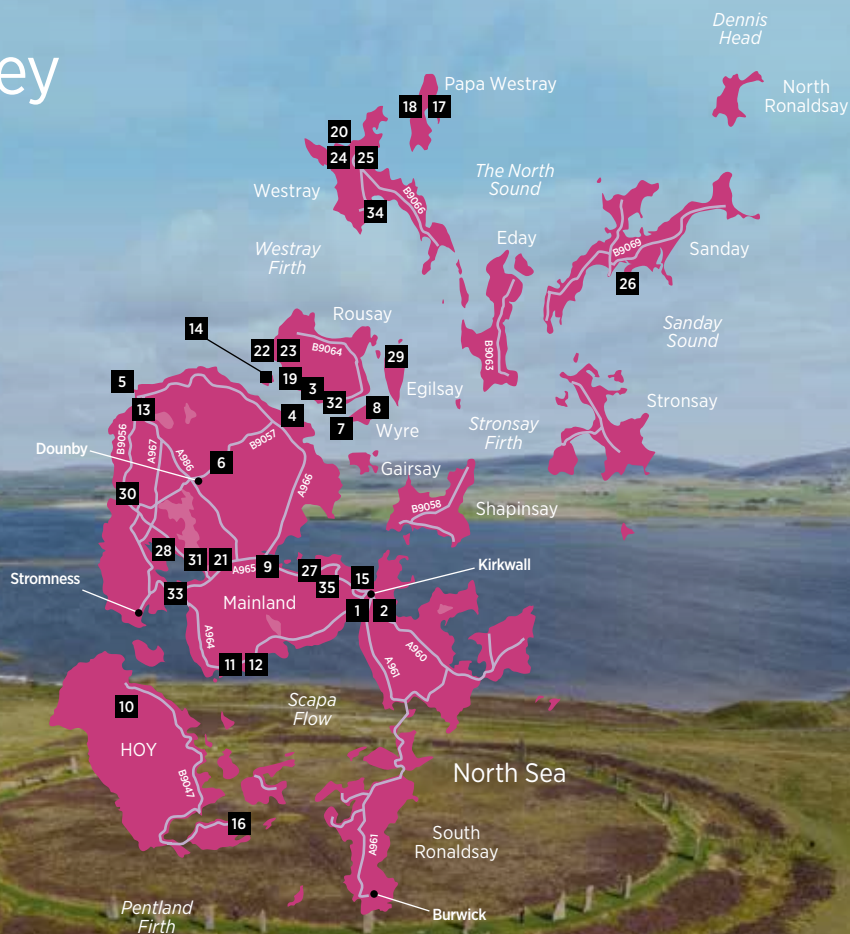
A peaceful prehistoric site, with a beautiful setting. Spend a while here and ponder how this site was once used. Long thought to have been the ruins of a Neolithic cairn, it is possible it was actually a small homestead.

- On the south end of Loch an Duin, Shader, Lewis, NW of Stornoway on the A857 to Ness
- Access can be wet and muddy





# Orkney



Rich in archaeological remains and UNESCO World Heritage sites, some over 5,000 years old, this archipelago off the northern tip of the mainland has been home to many vibrant cultures, from the Neolithic to the present day.

## 1 2 The Bishop's and Earl's Palaces, Kirkwall

A spectacular residence at the heart of Kirkwall.

The Bishop's Palace was built in the 1100s, around the same time as St Magnus Cathedral. King Haakon of Norway died here after the Battle of Largs in 1263.

In the early 1600s, the older building was incorporated into a superb Renaissance palace commissioned by Earl Patrick Stewart, Orkney's most notorious ruler.

- In Kirkwall, on the A960 close to the Cathedral
- Postcode KW15 1PD
- Telephone 01856 871 918



## 3 Blackhammer Chambered Cairn

A Neolithic burial cairn, similar in form to the contemporary Neolithic houses at Knap of Howar.

You can venture inside the chamber.

- On B9064 on Island of Rousay, 2m W of pier
- Access can be wet and muddy and involves a stile and ladder



## 4 Broch of Gurness

Explore this once mighty Iron Age settlement, with a cluster of small buildings arranged around a massive broch tower.

Surrounded by two rock-cut ditches and a rampart, this was probably a focus of power and status.

Look across Eynhallow Sound, once lined with brochs, and you might glimpse minke and orca.

- At Aikerness, 14m NW of Kirkwall on the A966
- Postcode KW17 2NH
- Telephone 01856 751 414



## 5 Brough of Birsay

Cross the causeway to a tidal island that was an important settlement first for Picts and later for Norse settlers.

The Norse remains include a ruined church that became a place of pilgrimage into medieval times.

This is also a great place to watch puffins gathering on the rocks in early summer.

- On a tidal island at Birsay, 20m NW of Kirkwall off the A966. Check tide tables at staffed sites across Orkney
- Postcode KW17 2LX
- Telephone 01856 841 815
- Causeway may be slippery when wet



**6 Click Mill, Dounby**

The last surviving horizontal water mill in Orkney, of a kind still well represented in Shetland and Lewis.

Probably built in the early 1800s, this simple drystone building was in use into the 1880s.

- 2.5m from Dounby on the B9057 to Evie village
- Access can be muddy

**7 8 Cubbie Roo's Castle and St Mary's Chapel, Wyre**

One of Scotland's earliest surviving stone castles, built around 1145 by the Norseman Kolbein Hróga ('Cubbie Roo').

The small rectangular tower is protected by a circular ditch. The nearby ruined chapel was built in the Romanesque style, probably in the late 1100s.

- On the island of Wyre, 0.5m from pier

**9 Cuween Hill Chambered Cairn**

This hillside tomb is a wonder of Neolithic architecture. Remains of humans and dogs were found inside its high central chamber and side cells.

- Located between Kirkwall and Finstown, signposted from Old Finstown Road
- Access can be muddy
- Access to chambers by crawling
- Torch required

**10 Dwarfie Stane**

A Neolithic burial chamber hollowed out from a huge block of sandstone.

An inscription in Persian was added by former spy William Mounsey, who slept here in 1850.

- Towards the N end of Hoy, 3.5m from Rackwick
- Access is very muddy

**11 12 Earl's Bu and Church, Orphir**

The foundations of an early-medieval building, possibly a Viking earl's residence.

The nearby church was built in the 1100s, and is Scotland's only surviving example of a medieval round church.

- 8m WSW of Kirkwall on the A964 to Houton and Orphir
- Parking nearby

**13 Earl's Palace, Birsay**

This expansive Renaissance palace was built for Robert Stewart, Earl of Orkney, the unruly illegitimate half-brother of Mary Queen of Scots.

Built in the 1570s, it comprised four ranges of buildings around a central courtyard. Much of the built fabric survives.

- In Birsay on the A966

**14 Eynhallow Church**

A pretty, monastic church of the 1100s or 1200s, with post-medieval domestic buildings, on Eynhallow ('Holy Island'), close to the Orkney Mainland but now uninhabited.

- Can only be reached by private hire boat from mainland Orkney or Rousay

**15 Grain Earth House (Souterrain)**

Overcome your claustrophobia to discover the underground chamber of this well-built Iron Age earth house or souterrain, supported on stone pillars.

- About 1m NW of Kirkwall in Hatston Industrial Estate off the A965
- Access to chamber is by crawling and can be wet
- Key required for access. For information visit [historicensevironment.scot/grain-earth-house](http://historicensevironment.scot/grain-earth-house)
- Torch required

## 16 Hackness Martello Tower and Battery

These defensive installations are remarkable remnants of war.

They were built in 1813-1814 to protect British convoys during the wars with America and France, and adapted during later conflicts. The Martello tower is one of three surviving examples in Scotland. Both the battery and the tower were built to guard the important shipping anchorage of Longhope Bay. Inside you can learn about military life and how the buildings were used by local people.

- At the SE end of South Walls
- Postcode KW16 3PQ
- Telephone 01856 701 727
- Visits by guided tour only. Check website for tour times
- Access to Martello Tower is by ladder
- Find ferry information through Orkney Ferries



## 17 Holm of Papa Westray Chambered Cairn

A massive tomb with a long chamber decorated with rock art, with 14 beehive cells opening into the walls.

- On the island of Holm of Papa Westray. Reached by private boat hire from Papa Westray
- Access to chamber by ladder and access to cells by crawling
- Torch required



## 18 Knap of Howar

Probably the oldest upstanding stone houses in north-west Europe, dating from the Early Neolithic period.

Two houses, with stone cupboards and stalls, contemporary with Orkney's early chambered tombs.

- On the island of Papa Westray about 0.25m W of Holland Farm



## 19 Knowe of Yarso Chambered Cairn

An oval cairn with concentric walls enclosing a Neolithic chambered tomb divided into four compartments.

- On the island of Rousay on the B9064, 3m from pier
- The walk is steep and can be muddy



## 20 Links of Noltland

A rich Neolithic and Bronze Age landscape showing extensive evidence of habitation.

Important discoveries include Neolithic figurines including the 4,500-year-old 'Orkney Venus', a Neolithic house whose walls incorporated 28 cattle skulls, and a Bronze Age ritual structure, possibly a sauna. Most of the upstanding structures are covered for their protection.

- On the Island of Westray





## 21 Maeshowe Chambered Cairn

Enter one of the finest Neolithic buildings in north-west Europe, a masterpiece of prehistoric engineering.

This chamber 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 form of extensive runic graffiti, as well as an extraordinary 'Maeshowe Dragon' carving.

- 9m W of Kirkwall on the A965
- Visit is by guided tour only – please check in at the Visitor Centre at Stenness village
- Postcode KW16 3LB
- Telephone 01856 851 266
- No parking available at Visitor Centre for coaches larger than 14 seats



Advance booking is essential to avoid disappointment – visit [historicenvironment.scot/maeshowe](https://www.historicenvironment.scot/maeshowe) to book your ticket.



**unesco**

World Heritage Site

## 22 Midhowe Broch

A well-defended Iron Age broch, similar to the one at Gurness across the water.

A small village of houses and workshops, and a protective perimeter can also be seen.

- On the island of Rousay on the B9064, 5m from pier
- Very steep access – follow the black and white poles



## 23 Midhowe Chambered Cairn

A huge and impressive megalithic chambered tomb of Neolithic date in an oval mound, with 12 stalls.

Now protected by a modern building with visual access from above via an elevated gangway.

- On the island of Rousay on the B9064, 5m from pier
- Very steep access – follow the black and white poles



## 24 Noltland Castle

An imposing, ruined Z-plan tower, built between 1560 and 1573 but never completed. Remarkable for the large number of gun loops and impressive staircase.

- On the island of Westray, 1m W of Pierowall village



## 25 Pierowall Church

Well-preserved ruins of a medieval church, overlooking Pierowall bay.

Two finely lettered tombstones are displayed in a protective shelter.

- On the island of Westray in the village of Pierowall



## 26 Quoyness Chambered Cairn

A 'Maeshowe-type' Neolithic tomb with triple retaining walls, containing a passage and main chamber, with six subsidiary cells.

- On the island of Sanday on the southern point of Els Ness, 2.5m from Kettlehoft village
- Access to chambers by crawling and can be wet
- Torch required





© Rob McDougall

## 27 Rennibister Earth House (Souterrain)

A good example of an Iron Age earth house or souterrain (underground chamber). Unusually, human remains were found inside at its discovery in 1926.

- About 4.5m WNW of Kirkwall on the A965
- Located within a working farm yard. Access by ladder

## 28 Ring of Brodgar Stone Circle and Henge

A magnificent circle of upright stones on a circular platform of more than 100 metres diameter, enclosed within a ditch spanned by causeways.

There are now 21 stones standing, of what may once have been 60. Thought to date to between 2600 and 2000 BC, the Ring of Brodgar is part of the Heart of Neolithic Orkney World Heritage Site.

Located between the lochs of Harray and Stenness which are important for wildfowl, particularly goldeneye, scaup, pochard and tufted duck.

- About 5m NE of Stromness on the B9055
- Our ranger service offers guided walks – check [historicensevironment.scot/orkney-events](http://historicensevironment.scot/orkney-events) for details



**unesco**  
World Heritage Site

## 29 St Magnus Church, Egilsay

The complete but roofless ruin of a church with a round tower, dramatically situated on the site where St Magnus was martyred.

It was built in the 1100s, a few decades after his death.

- On the island of Egilsay, 0.5m from pier



## 30 Skara Brae Prehistoric Village

Travel 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. It was first uncovered during a storm in 1850. Since then, this Neolithic village has become a place of discovery for archaeologists, students, artists and enthusiasts.

Step inside the replica house to gain an insight into the lives of the occupants, then follow an elevated path winding between these ancient houses, still equipped with their stone furniture.

The Visitor Centre displays many of the thousands of artefacts discovered here, and includes interactive touch-screen presentations.

The site is surrounded by a stunning variety of wild flowers and birdlife, and a visit is an aesthetic treat. 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 once the home of the man who discovered Skara Brae.

- 19m NW of Kirkwall on the B9056
- Postcode KW16 3LR
- Telephone 01856 841 815
- Café open in summer – the café closes 45 mins before the site closes. Self-service coffee machine available over winter
- Members' retail discount not applicable at Skail House
- Coaches must book in advance to guarantee entry



**unesco**

Advance booking is essential to avoid disappointment – visit [historicenvironment.scot/skara-brae](http://historicenvironment.scot/skara-brae) to book your ticket.

## 31 Stones of Stenness Circle and Henge

The remains of a Neolithic stone circle, arranged around a hearth, surrounded by a circular earthen bank or henge.

This is one of the earliest monuments in the Heart of Neolithic Orkney World Heritage Site, and one of the most impressive.

- About 5m NE of Stromness on the B9055
- Our ranger service offers guided walks – check [historicenvironment.scot/orkney-events](https://www.historicenvironment.scot/orkney-events) for details



**unesco**

World Heritage Site

## 32 Taversöe Tuick Chambered Cairn

A Neolithic chambered cairn with an unusual arrangement of two burial chambers, one above the other.

- On the island of Rousay, 0.5m W of pier
- Access can be muddy, and access to the lower chamber is by ladder





### 33 Unstan Chambered Cairn

A mound covering a Neolithic stone burial chamber divided by slabs into five compartments.

- About 3.5m NNE of Stromness on the A965
- Access into the chamber by crawling

### 34 Westside Church, Tuquoy

A small and elegant nave-and-chancel church, in a beautiful coastal location.

Now roofless, it was built by a wealthy Norse chieftain. The remains of his farm can be seen in the adjacent cliff section.

- On the island of Westray, 3m S of Pierowall village
- Access to the site is via a narrow coastal path



### 35 Wideford Hill Chambered Cairn

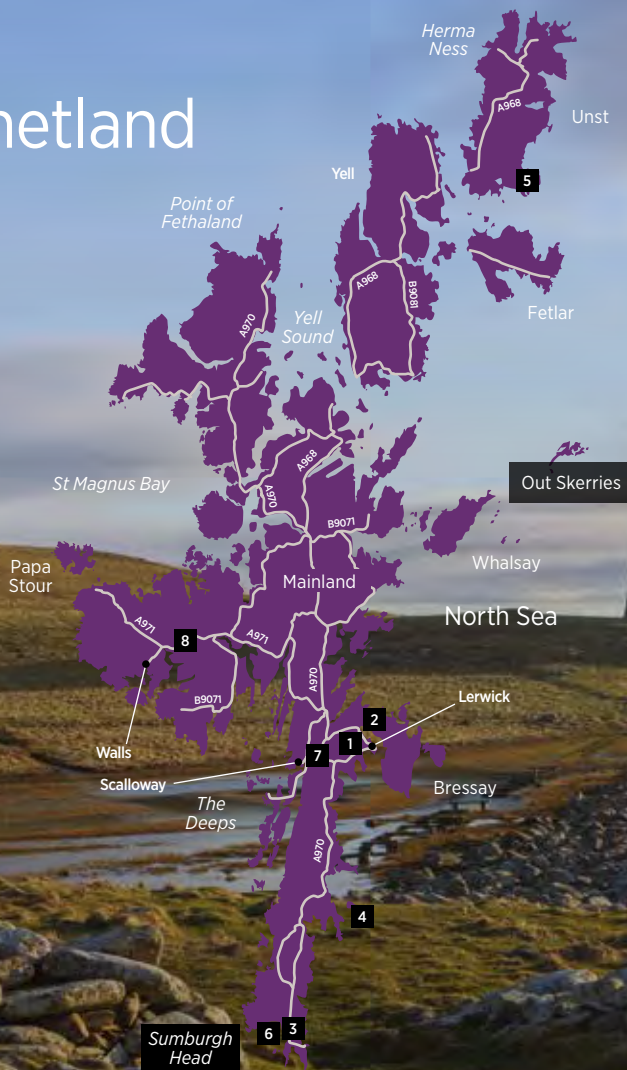
A fine Neolithic chambered cairn with three concentric walls. Its burial chamber contains three large cells.

- Located between Kirkwall and Finstown, signposted from Old Finstown Road
- Access is off a minor road
- Access to chamber by ladder and crawling. The 0.5km hillwalk to the site has outstanding views but is steep and can be muddy
- Torch required





# Shetland



The UK's northernmost region, these islands are rooted in both Scottish and Norse culture due to their proximity to Scandinavia. Many fascinating monuments and structures can be found in their untamed landscapes, from the ancient to the modern.

Mousa Broch, © 2022  
Ben Mullan Photography



## 1 Clickimin Broch

A large Iron Age complex centred on a broch tower, on the shore of Clickimin Loch

- About 1m SW of Lerwick on the A970



## 2 Fort Charlotte

A five-sided artillery fort with bastions projecting from each corner.

It was built in 1665 to protect the Sound of Bressay from the Dutch, but taken by them and burned in 1673. It was rebuilt in 1781.

- In centre of Lerwick, 3 mins walk from Viking Bus Station



## 3 Jarlshof Prehistoric and Norse Settlement

Wander through the past at a site where people first lived 5,000 years ago.

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. Puffins nest nearby.

- At Sumburgh Head, 22m S of Lerwick on the A970
- Postcode ZE3 9JN
- Coaches must book in advance to guarantee access



## 4 Mousa Broch

The tallest surviving Iron Age broch, over 13 metres in height.

This very impressive monument appears twice in Norse sagas.

- On the island of Mousa, accessible in the summer by boat from Sandwick, about 14m S of Lerwick on the A970
- Seasonal ferry service operates during the summer. Details of sailings are available at [mousa.co.uk](http://mousa.co.uk)



## 5 Muness Castle

A forbidding tower house, built in the 1590s. The most northerly castle in the British Isles.

- On Island of Unst, 4m NE from pier at Belmont off the A968



## 6 Ness of Burgi

Puzzling remains perched on high cliffs. A defensive drystone blockhouse, probably of Iron Age date, guards a narrow headland.

- At the SE point of Scatness, South Shetland, off the A970. Access is across rocks



## 7 Scalloway Castle

Throughout 2024 Scalloway Castle will be closed for conservation works – no access.



## 8 Stanydale 'Temple'

A Neolithic hall, heel-shaped externally, and containing a large oval chamber.

- 3m SW of Bixter on West Mainland off the A971. Follow marker poles, route can be very wet



**Angles** a Germanic tribe who invaded the British Isles in the 5th century. England is named after them, but they also conquered much of what is now southern Scotland.

**Anglian** relating to the Angles.

**Apse** the rounded or polygonal eastern end of a church.

**Augustinians** a monastic order, established in the late 11th century, whose canons followed the teaching of St Augustine of Hippo (d. 430). The first Scottish house was founded at Scone (Perthshire) by Alexander I around 1120.

**Bailey** the outer courtyard of a castle.

**Barbican** a defensive forework protecting the entrance to a castle.

**Barmkin** (corruption of 'barbican') a courtyard surrounding a tower house, defended by a perimeter wall.

**Bastion** a defensive projection at the angle of a rampart.

**Benedictines** followers of St Benedict of Nursia. The earliest monastic regimes followed the rule laid down by St Benedict for his monks at Monte Cassino, southern Italy, around 525. The first Benedictine house established in Scotland was in Dunfermline around 1070.

**Blockhouse** a small fort or artillery fortification.

**Bombard** a large medieval siege cannon.

**Broch** a circular drystone tower of the Iron Age; unique to Scotland.

**Bronze Age** the prehistoric era during which copper and tin were smelted and alloyed as bronze, but before iron was used. In north-west Europe, the Bronze Age is usually taken to mean around 2000 BC to around 700 BC.

**Brough** a settlement located on a naturally defensive headland.

**Cairn** a burial mound constructed from stones, containing one or more chambers.

**Canon** a member of a body of clergymen serving a cathedral or other church and living under a rule.

**Caphouse** a roofed section at the top of a stairway that leads to a parapet.

**Caponier** a stone-built, covered gunhouse in a ditch.

**Castellated** (*of a wall*) built with indentations from which a defender can fire weapons.

**Cenotaph** a monument to the dead.

**Chancel** the eastern section of a church or cathedral, including the altar, sanctuary and choir.

**Chapter house** a meeting room for canons or monks.

**Choir** the part of a church east of the nave, where clergymen or monks stood or sat.

**Cist** a burial chamber formed from stone slabs.

**Cistercians** a monastic order founded at Cîteaux, Burgundy, by St Robert of Molesme in 1098. The first Scottish house was established by David I at Melrose in 1136.

**Cloister** the domestic ranges of a monastery, usually built around a square garth or garden.

**Cluniacs** the first of the reformed Benedictine orders, founded in Burgundy in 910. Came to Scotland around 1145.

**Collegiate church** a church endowed with canons to provide Masses for the soul of a private patron.

**Coppice** woodland carefully managed to provide a continual supply of timber for charcoal, basket making etc.

**Corbel** a projection from a wall which supports a beam or similar structure.

**Cross-shaft** the upright section of a standing cross.

**Cruciform** cross-shaped: the conventional plan for a Christian church.

**Cruck-framed** constructed using a medieval technique in which tiers of curved timber supports are used to form the apex of the roof.

**Dalriada** (also spelled Dál Riata) a kingdom established around 500 AD by the Celtic people known as Scots, in what is now Northern Ireland, western Scotland and the Hebrides.

**Dominicans** the first order of friars, established at Toulouse, south-west France, in 1215 by St Dominic. Alexander II brought them to Scotland in 1230.

**Donjon** the main tower of a medieval castle.

**Dovecot** (or Scots 'dooct') a building to house doves or pigeons.

**Drystone** a building technique that does not use mortar.

**Earthworks** a fortification, burial mound or other construction created by excavating earth.

**Ecclesiastical** relating to church buildings or procedures.

**The '45** (short for 1745) the last of the Jacobite Risings which attempted to restore the Stewart/Stuart dynasty to the British throne. It was led by Prince Charles Edward Stuart ('Bonnie Prince Charlie'), grandson of the deposed James VII and II, and supported by many of the Highland clans. Following defeat at Culloden in 1746, many Jacobites were massacred. Charles eventually fled to France.

**Garret** a chamber within the roof space of a building.

**Gun hole** (or **gun loop**) an opening in a defensive wall through which a gun can be fired.

**Gunstone** a rough sphere of stone used as ammunition for a cannon.

**Hammerbeam** a technique used for constructing a large timber roof, in which the beams are supported by curved or diagonal braces.

**Henge** a circular enclosure defined by a ditch and bank, often in association with a wood or stone circle.

**Iron Age** the prehistoric era following the Bronze Age, during which iron was used to create tools, weapons and other items. In north-west Europe, the Iron Age is usually taken to mean around 700 BC to around 400 AD.

**Keep** the main tower of a medieval castle.

**Kirk; Kirkyard** (Scots) a church; a churchyard.

**Knights Hospitallers** a monastic order of knights introduced (along with the Knights Templars) into Scotland by David I. Following the suppression of the Templars in 1312, their properties passed to the Hospitallers.

**Laird** (Scots) a lord or landowner.

**Laird's loft** a gallery in a church set aside for the local landowner and his family.

**Laird's lug** (literally 'laird's ear') a hidden opening in the wall of a public room which allowed the owner to monitor conversations taking place within.

**Mascot** an animal kept by a regiment to bring good luck.

**Monastic** relating to a religious order.

**Motte** the mound on which a castle was built.

**Nave** the western section of a church, used by the congregation.

**Neolithic** the late Stone Age, when agriculture began to develop but metals were not used. In north-western Europe, the Neolithic era is usually taken to mean around 4500 BC to around 2000 BC.

**Norse** relating to the Scandinavian peoples who raided and invaded parts of Scotland and England from the 8th to the 11th centuries. Norse settlers had a particular influence on the culture of Orkney, Shetland and Caithness.

**Ogham** a writing system used by some groups of Celts, comprising straight lines drawn or carved at varying angles.

**Palisade** a fence built from stakes driven into the ground.

**Peel** (Scottish Borders) a fortified tower.

**Picts** the native peoples who occupied much of what is now Scotland around 400-900 AD.

**Premonstratensians** a priestly monastic order founded by St Norbert of Xanten at Prémontré, north-east France, in 1121. First introduced to Scotland at Dryburgh in 1150.

**Rampart(s)** the wall or embankment surrounding a fortification.

**Redcoat** (informal) a soldier of the British Army – the name refers to the main colour of the uniform from the 17th to the late 19th century. Following the Jacobite Risings of 1689-1746, Scottish Highlanders were considered a threat to the Crown and garrisons of Redcoats were stationed around northern Scotland.

**Reformation** the emergence of Protestant Christianity in northern Europe as a break from the Roman Catholic church. In Scotland, this was formalised in 1560 with the re-establishment of the Church of Scotland and the founding of the Reformation Parliament, which rejected papal authority.

**Regent** an administrator who governs on behalf of a monarch, usually because the latter is too young to rule.

**Renaissance** (literally 'rebirth') a period of great cultural flowering which occurred throughout Europe in the 14th to 17th centuries.

**Romanesque** (sometimes called 'Norman') a style of architecture prominent in southern and western Europe during the 10th, 11th and 12th centuries, characterised by massive stone constructions and rounded arches.

**Rood** a crucifix or Christian cross.

**Rood-screen** an ornate structure in a church, made from wood, stone or wrought iron, which divides the choir from the nave.

**Sacristy** the antechamber of a church or chapel where sacred vessels and vestments are stored.

**Scots** originally a Celtic tribe that established itself in the north-eastern part of Ireland. The Scots became a significant force in what is now Scotland around the 6th century AD.

**Site of Special Scientific Interest** (SSSI) a protected area designated for conservation by Nature Scot.

**Souterrain** an Iron Age underground chamber, probably associated with a house at ground level.

**Tironensians** a monastic order founded near Chartres, northern France, in 1109. The first of the reformed Benedictine orders to establish a monastery in Great Britain, at Selkirk, in 1113 (moved to Kelso 1128).

**Transepts** the northern and southern limbs of a cruciform church.

**Trinitarians** a monastic order founded near Paris in the late 12th century, initially to raise ransoms for the release of Christians held captive during the Crusades. Introduced to Scotland around 1240.

**Valliscaulians** a monastic order founded at Val des Choux, eastern France, in the early 13th century. They established three houses in Scotland around 1230.

**Vaulted** (*of a ceiling*) arched over in stone.

**Viking** a Norse raider or invader of the 8th to 11th centuries. Viking settlers are usually called Norse.

**World Heritage Site** a protected site designated by UNESCO as having outstanding cultural and/or natural importance.

**Yett** (Scots) an open-barred iron gate.

**Zoomorphic** (*of art*) representing animal figures or symbols.



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