Many amazing adventures have been born in the Forth Valley, the cradle of much of Scotland’s fascinating history. Here you can travel back in time and walk in the same castle hallways as ancient kings, or look to the future and try an exciting new sport. You can lead your loved ones into the romantic wooded glens and tranquil lochs of the Trossachs, or take on the dramatic Ochil Hills, a long range of steeply sided hills. You’ll find it’s easy to get here from both Glasgow and Edinburgh, whether you travel by car or public transport.

There are many ways to discover the area’s fascinating history, from its epic bloody clashes to dramatic clan tales passed down through generations.

At the Battle of Bannockburn Visitor Centre, immerse yourself in the sights and sounds of medieval warfare, or see fine examples of Renaissance architecture at Stirling Castle.

In Stirling, you’ll find a distinctive blend of history and modernity.

Not far away you’ll find the Falkirk Wheel and the Kelpies, the world’s largest equine sculpture, while in the east you can explore the ancient glens of Clackmannanshire, an area of natural beauty with splendid walks.

There are a host of outdoor activities to be experienced from cycling and paddle boarding to kayaking and rock climbing, and with the Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park only 30 minutes from Stirling it could not be easier to get out and explore.
You are about to explore the geographical and historical heart of Scotland – the Forth Valley. This region includes the ancient city of Stirling, the town of Falkirk and the county of Clackmannanshire and here you can enjoy a wonderful variety of sights and experiences. Start your day in Stirling’s imposing castle then browse the shops and grab some lunch before heading off to soak up the region’s splendid scenery of rolling hills, dramatic deep glens and shimmering lochs.

Stirling
Stirling is one of Scotland’s seven cities, and you’ll find it to be a fascinating blend of ancient royal stronghold and modern living metropolis. As you approach you’ll see Stirling Castle dominating the city from its airy, crag-top position. Spilling down the hill from the castle is the charming historic old town, with cobbled streets and medieval buildings, as well as modern amenities including the Thistles Shopping Centre, gift stores and artisan coffee shops. Get ready for a few huffs and puffs as you climb the spiral staircase to each of the three levels on the Monument. Get your breath back to the top of the National Wallace Monument.

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Lose yourself in the beauty of the Campsie Fells which stretch from the west of Stirling towards Glasgow. Fintry has been voted Scotland’s ‘Best Kept Village’ on several occasions, while Killearn has attractive traditional holiday cottages if you fancy a break in the country.

Try winter sports all year round on the dry slopes of Fir Park Ski Centre at Tillicoultry. As well as snowboarding and skiing, have a go at tubing where you whizz down the slopes on a rubber tube!

You can also get ski practice at Polmonthill Ski Centre, with its 100m-long artificial slope.

Off the beaten track is the enchanting Lake of Menteith where you can spot ospreys, or cast off and catch some of the best rainbow trout in Scotland at the fishery. Visit the island and Inchmahome Priory in the summer.

Follow the BLiSS Trail, and enjoy art installations through the heart of Rob Roy country, with an audio tour available to download in advance.

You can see William Wallace’s mighty sword at the National Wallace Monument.

You know you’ve reached somewhere special when you walk along the streets of this charming small town at the heart of the Trossachs. There are plenty of quirky local shops to wander in and out of, a sleepy river, woods and the invigorating Bracklinn Falls walk. This mile-long route takes you from the village centre up into the forest and across a bridge over a 100m-deep gorge with spectacular white torrents.

Stirling Old Bridge.
Enter the gates and you’ll see that Stirling Castle is really a mini-city rather than a single fortress. You can explore the Great Hall, Chapel Royal, Great Kitchens, Tapestry Studio and the Royal Palace built by James V, which has been restored to its impressive Renaissance glory.

Nerve-wracking? Thrilling? Or flat-out terrifying? Find out exactly what it felt like to line up in the ranks of soldiers at the Battle of Bannockburn visitor centre. At this completely interactive 3D experience, the first of its kind in the UK, come face-to-face with characters from the 1314 battle. Watch arrows fly overhead as you become a warrior, make strategic battle decisions and discover the accounts of bystanders.

Climb to the top of the National Wallace Monument, known as ‘Stirling’s Crown’, and today your view is peaceful and pleasant. But when William Wallace looked down from this very crag he saw two bloodthirsty armies ready to fight at the Battle of Stirling Bridge. Recently refurbished, explore the monument’s new interactive exhibitions, including their Hall of Heroes.

Got a couple of hours free time? Pop into the Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum – it’s free to enter and has fascinating exhibits including the oldest football in the world. You can also see the menacing cloak and axe of the headman who decapitated the ringleaders of the radical rising of 1820.

Wind your way through the narrow heart of Stirling’s Old Town, with its ancient buildings and cobbled streets. Sheltering just below the castle, these wynds used to be hives of activity where trading and socialising took place and gave the town its distinctive historic appearance. Follow the Back Walk and look out for purple plaques which tells the city’s historic story.

Pick up some glamorous gifts from high street brands at the Thistles Shopping Centre, or discover independent shops at the beautifully restored 19th-century Stirling Arcade. Head out of the city to Bridge of Allan, a former Victorian spa town, for great delis and boutique shops with bespoke items.

Don’t miss...
- Use the Stirling City Pass for exploring many of the city’s gems, including Stirling Castle and the National Wallace Monument, whilst saving some money.
- The Bastion, a 16th-century hidden gem which sits beneath the Thistles Shopping Centre – in past times shoplifters would find themselves here if they were caught!
- The Church of the Holy Rude, founded in 1129, is the second oldest building in the city after Stirling Castle.
Are we on a boat or a plane? You might wonder when you take a trip on the world’s only rotating boat lift, the Falkirk Wheel, which rises 35m into the air! On board, you’ll hear the story of this unique feat of engineering and discover how it links the Forth & Clyde and Union Canals. Plus, you can enjoy the pleasant walks along the towpath, many of which are flat and ideal for wheelchair access. Enjoy exciting off-road guided Segway tours around the grounds and woodland paths for breathtaking views. If boats are not for you, then try zorbing beneath the Falkirk Wheel. You simply roll across the surface of the water in a giant clear plastic sphere – easy! Or paddle out in a canoe and explore the canal in a more serene way. Stretch your legs and breathe the fresh air on the John Muir Way, a recently extended long distance heritage of central Scotland. They are made from galvanised steel and stand 30m high – the equivalent of eight double decker buses. Step back in time at the 5-star Callendar House in Falkirk, a fine 14th-century mansion. Visit the working Georgian kitchen where costumed interpreters bring to life the running of a 19th-century household, and you get to sample some of the food too! Then explore the 170 acres of parkland with its golf course, lake and natural play trail. You can also pedal your cares away on the estate’s 12 miles of cycle track with routes to suit all levels of skills. Or pump up the thrills on the mountain bike trails of the Carron Valley with its challenging sections, such as the Pipe Dream and the Cannonball Run. Golfers can tee off at five golf courses nearby, so be sure to plan time for a round or two at Glenbervie, Falkirk, Polmont, Grangemouth or Callendar Park. Set sail to Blackness Castle, a formidable 15th-century stronghold which looks remarkably like a ship. From its towers you’ll be treated to some breathtaking views of the Firth of Forth Bridges and across to Fife. Did you know...?
Nearby, you can see other international influences at the Japanese Garden, Cowden. There are several acres of Japanese influenced landscapes and woodland walks to explore as the garden continues to be restored to its original 1908 design. Play at being a medieval aristocrat by following the Tower Trail. You'll take in five splendid tower houses built by ambitious nobles, which all have fascinating stories to tell. Drive through Clackmannanshire on the trail of artworks by Andy Scott, an internationally-acclaimed sculptor. This trail, designed to be explored by car, will lead you to inspiring, larger-than-life works such as River Spirit, which stands 6m high and Lifeline, an 8m high piece.

Do you have Scottish ancestors? Find out for certain at the Alloa Speirs Centre thanks to the millions of Scottish family records they keep. At the Dollar Museum, find out about the prehistoric finds in the region, the history of Castle Campbell and the town’s industrial heritage, as well as a variety of temporary exhibitions.

Fancy a peaceful afternoon relaxing in the countryside? Head to the parkland around Gartmorn Dam where you can spend a few hours walking, cycling, fishing and birdwatching. Do you have Scottish ancestors? Find out for certain at the Alloa Speirs Centre thanks to the millions of Scottish family records they keep. At the Dollar Museum, find out about the prehistoric finds in the region, the history of Castle Campbell and the town’s industrial heritage, as well as a variety of temporary exhibitions.

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Soothe your spirits with a spot of retail therapy at Sterling Mills Outlet Shopping Village. You can pick up some bargains at designer outlets offering up to 70% off the recommended retail price, and the kids will love the play area.

Fore! You can tee off from seven golf courses and two golf ranges here. Sitting at the foot of the majestic Ochil Hills, you’ll find that the scenic 9-hole courses of Alva Golf Course and Tillicoultry Golf Club are both great for challenging games with unparalleled views.

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Welcome to Scotland’s smallest county – it’s a wee gem of a place! You can easily get here from Stirling, Perthshire and Fife and when you do you’ll discover loads of history, culture, beauty and sheer fun.

Castle Campbell is the kind of place that makes you want to pick up a pen and start writing historical romance novels. It perches imposingly above Dollar Glen, surrounded by deep woods and overlooked by the brooding Ochil Hills. Visit the terraced gardens and on the east side, look out for the loggia, an architectural feature more often seen in the buildings of Spain or Italy.

DIID YOU KNOW?

The Ochil Hills are loved by walkers, fell runners, mountain bikers, and paragliders.
You certainly won’t explore all of Helix Park on your first visit! Here you can walk and cycle on miles of traffic-free trails, and there’s a peaceful lagoon where you can hire kayaks, canoes and pedalos.

Enjoy Xtreme Combat, a painless laser tag mission sure to bring out your competitive side, in 5 acres of woodland at Loanfoot Wood near Falkirk.

At Helix Park the kids can run wild in the amazing adventure park and just remember to leave time to admire Andy Scott’s magnificent 30m sculptures, The Kelpies.

You can hire bikes from the Falkirk Cycle Hub or if you are in Stirling, from Nextbike with 23 stations across the city. For a ride with a difference, try an e-bike, available for hire in Falkirk town centre, at the Falkirk Wheel and Helix Park.

Exploring the region by bike is a great option with a superb choice of paths, both short and long, and also waymarked routes including the National Cycle Network and the John Muir Way. Why not enjoy the flat towpaths of the Forth & Clyde Canal and the Union Canal, visiting the iconic boatlift, the Falkirk Wheel. You can hire bikes from the Falkirk Cycle Hub or if you are in Stirling, from Nextbike with 23 stations across the city. For a ride with a difference, try a seven-day walk following the tracks and paths used by Rob Roy MacGregor in the 17th and 18th centuries. You start from Drymen on the West Highland Way and wind your way through the hills north east to finish in Pitlochry. The way is 77 or 94 miles depending on the route taken.

If you love a spot of fishing then remember to pack your rod. You can enjoy first-class salmon rivers, coarse fishing at Loch Venachar, as well as seven fisheries in the Falkirk area alone.

Loch Katrine is full of natural beauty, atmospheric landscapes and adventure. There is an abundance of hiking, climbing and biking opportunities here, as well as bird watching aboard the famous Steamship Sir Walter Scott. With endless mountains to explore, gift shops to browse and history to discover, Loch Katrine is a special beauty you’ll want to visit.

Bracklinn Falls is situated in a beautiful wooded gorge near Callander. Surrounded by woodland and mountains it makes the perfect place for walkers and hikers of all abilities. For gentler walks, explore the woodland walkways which take you to the iron-cast Bracklinn Falls Bridge, which Queen Victoria herself paid a visit to in the 1870s. Or for the more experienced, why not venture towards Stuc a’Chroin for spectacular views across the region.

There’s nothing quite like getting outdoors and having an adventure. Here in the Forth Valley area of Stirling, Falkirk and Clackmannanshire, you can challenge your body with an adrenaline sport or relax your spirits with a more mindful pursuit. Why not try water sports, golfing, fishing, sailing, hot air ballooning or even zorbing? Or simply free your mind on mile after relaxing mile of walking routes and cycle paths.
We hope you have a hearty appetite! You don’t have to go far in the Forth Valley area to find great eateries and mouth-watering foodie events, such as farmers’ markets and festivals. From hotels and restaurants to tiny tearooms and cosy cafés, you can have a casual coffee and bite to eat, relax at one of the many bars and pubs, or indulge yourself with luxury dining in this region.

Get the finest produce straight from the farmer at the local farmers’ markets in Falkirk and Stirling. You can purchase everything from succulent meats including Highland beef, venison and wild game to scrumptious homemade scones, cakes and organic vegetables. Discover fresh, creamy delights at the Milk Barn, an artisan ice cream parlour set just outside Falkirk, where you can tuck into flavours such as sticky toffee pudding, jaffa cake or even birthday cake.

Have a barbecue outside at the Birds & Bees in Stirling, or head inside and enjoy a more traditional meal, followed by after dinner drinks by the log fire. After enjoying the art at Stirling Smith Art Gallery and Museum, stay to savour the delicious home baking, light lunches and snacks at the Museum Café.

Find a cozy nook in Callendar House’s teashop to enjoy afternoon tea and cakes. Savour the incredible food combinations of famous chef Nick Nairn at The Kailyard by Nick Nairn at DoubleTree by Hilton Dunblane Hydro. Kick back with friends and family in the sunshine with some delicious al fresco dining at the Meadowpark in Bridge of Allan. Or if the weather’s chilly, head inside and enjoy the crackling coal fire.

Tucked away just off the High Street in Falkirk, Tea Jenny’s is a cake lovers paradise, or head to Mannerstons Cafe and Farm Shop, near Linlithgow with an in-house bakery and award-winning ice cream.

Get a taste for fine dining without the price tag, while enjoying one of the best views in the area. The Gallery Restaurant is part of the Forth Valley College and showcases some impressive talent from upcoming chefs with views of the Wallace Monument, the River Forth and the Ochils.

In Stirling, Meraki is a modern, funky cocktail bar with amazing cocktails. Or visit Curly Coo Bar, Stirling’s only Whisky Bar.

Behind the Wall in Falkirk has been serving for 30 years and is one of Scotland’s platinum award-winners for continued excellence in the ‘Best Bar None Awards’.

if you have a sweet tooth, you’ll love the award-winning fudge and tablet from The Ochil Fudge Pantry, or head to The Japanese Garden Tea Room near Dollar for home baking and special scones.

Enjoy a dram of Scotland’s finest whisky during Whisky Month in May at some great events, including the hotly-anticipated Spirit of Stirling Festival.

Celebrate hoppy Scottish beverages at the Trossachs Beer Festival in September where you can savour 25 cask ales, over 100 beers and live music.

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In Bo’ness, head to the Corbie Inn and sample real ale and cask beer from the in-house Kinneil Brew Hoose microbrewery.

Sip the ‘water of life’ in a tour at Deanston Distillery, or bottle your own whisky at Glengoyne Distillery from an exclusive single cask and record it in the official customs.

Head to Allanwater Brewhouse in Bridge of Allan, and go on their fascinating – and refreshing – tour. Drop into a few of our many bars and pubs and look out for local beers and ales from Alva’s Harviestoun Brewery or Alloa’s William Bros. Brewing Company. Back in the city, make sure to take a tour and sample Stirling Gin, with the distillery located just behind the Castle.

The Explore Stirling App is your perfect tool to help find a delicious bite to eat when you’re out and about.

www.yourstirling.com
Centrally located, the Forth Valley offers brilliant outdoor activities, from gentle walks and hiking, to cycling trails, angling and golf. Spot rare wildlife in protected nature reserves, admire panoramic landscapes shaped by the River Forth from deep glens, and learn about the importance of the canals. All aboard the Steamship Sir Walter Scott, sailing across the tranquil Loch Katrine and boasting beautiful views of the surrounding area, or head to nearby Loch Venachar for some fishing, or simply admire the view from the lochside restaurant. In Aberfoyle, hire a bike and explore the family friendly trails around Loch Ard, or head to the Falls of Leny near Callander, which can easily be explored on foot or on two-wheels.

At the Lake of Menteith, Scotland’s only Lake, take a boat trip in the summer and wander the peaceful ruined island priory of Inchmahome, an Augustinian monastery dating back to 1238 and used as a refuge by the 5-year old Mary Queen of Scots. In the city of Stirling, wander down the cobbled old town streets from Stirling Castle towards the city centre, with the perfect mix of rich history and modern amenities. In the shadow of Stirling Castle and by the River Forth, explore Cambuskenneth Abbey, founded about 1140. Enjoy the beautiful Darn Walk from Bridge of Allan to Dunblane, which hugs the river for most of the way and follows an ancient path which dates back to Roman times.

In Falkirk, explore the magnificent Kelpies at Helix Park for a fantastic family day out, or head to the Falkirk Wheel to see the world’s first and only rotating boat lift, connecting the Union, and Forth & Clyde canals. Why not have your very own boating holiday and explore the canals at your leisure? Scotland’s water not only enhances the landscape but without it, we would not have whisky. Don’t miss the Falkirk Distillery and learn all about its production, the importance of a local water source and of course sample a wee dram too.

Scotland’s coasts and waters have shaped our history, from fishing and textiles to whisky and wave power, they have influenced our culture, our stories and our way of life. This influence is still seen today throughout The Forth Valley, from the rainwater which adds to the drama of waterfalls to the glistening canals and rivers. There is also plenty of fun to be had, including canal cruising and fishing or discovering stunning walks.

Used as a filming location for Outlander, Blackness Castle is often referred to as the ‘ship that never sailed’ due to its shape. It is a formidable fortress with sweeping views across the Forth, providing the perfect view towards the Forth Bridges.

In Clackmannanshire the imposing Ochil Hills can be seen for miles around and are peppered with impressive gorges and waterfalls, all making for some impressive walks such as Dollar Glen. Many of the walks showcase how important the hills and burns were in the once thriving textile industry which dominated the area.

Explore wildlife havens including Gartmorn Dam and Black Devon Wetlands, where you can spot an array of birds in unspoilt landscapes.

**Don’t Miss...**

- **Trossachs Mobility in Callander** which offers all terrain wheelchairs, meaning there are no limits to experiencing and exploring the countryside.
- **The Helix around town tour** which is great for cycling or the Charlotte Dundas Trail to learn more about the impact of the canals.
- **Dating back 200 years, the Falkirk Tunnel** is located just behind Falkirk High Railway Station. Find out more about why Burke and Hare have connections to this tunnel, or attend events by Scottish Canals in the atmospheric surroundings.

Come and celebrate Scotland’s Coasts and Waters in 2020! Don’t miss a packed programme of events happening across the area and the rest of the country.

For more information visit [www.visitscotland.com/ycw2020](http://www.visitscotland.com/ycw2020)

Share your experiences using #ScotlandIsNow and #YCW2020
Sit back and take in live music, theatre, exhibitions or try an art class at the Tolbooth, a famous Stirling venue. Atmospheric and welcoming it has the perfect mix of modernity and history, with many original features dating from 1708.

Step back in time for a weekend of classic and rare silent films, together with musical accompaniment and special guests at the Hippodrome Festival of Silent Cinema in March.

Enjoy a nip of our national drink at the Spirit of Stirling Whisky Festival in May. Gin lovers should also check out the Stirling Gin Festival, happening in November.

Get into the festival spirit at Doune the Rabbit Hole, an intimate, independent music and arts festival taking place near Port of Menteith. In July, don’t miss the Wee Cycle Festival at Sterling Mills Outlet Shopping Village in Tillicoultry.

The Doune and Dunblane Fling is an annual festival of music and culture, offering great family fun and wonderful folk and jazz performances from local musicians and artists from further afield. Jazz fever takes hold of the picturesque town of Callander in October, with nearly 50 gigs showcasing an array of local, national and international talent.

Ever seen a caber tossed as the bagpipes skirl? Come to a Highland games which take place in spring and summer months in places such as Bridge of Allan, Airth, Stirling and the Famous Alva Games.

In June, you can step inside dozens of artists’ studios and workshops during Forth Valley Open Studios. It’s a great opportunity to see some creative spaces and engage directly with local artists.

Join the masses as they cheer on the runners in the Stirling Marathon, taking place at the end of April. Or, if you’re feeling up to it, why not give it a shot yourself and put your fitness abilities to the test?

In September, don’t miss the Alva Glen Illuminations, a visually stunning spectacle, or head to the exhilarating Bo’ness Revival, a classic show and hill climb event showcasing vintage cars. Delve into a world of corrupt deeds and dark psyches at September’s Bloody Scotland, Scotland’s crime writing festival, in Stirling.

Food and drink is a big part of the September events calendar, with both the Trossachs Beer Festival and Alva’s ScoFest taking place. In May, don’t miss MhorFest for food & drink, music, dance, song and theatre in the warm and welcoming surroundings of Stirlingshire.

Join in a party you’ll never forget and see in the New Year in style at Stirling’s Hogmanay celebrations, all part of Stirling Winter Festival, followed by the Fire & Light experience at the Kelpies on 1st and 2nd January, with impressive illuminations and surprising performances. Celebrate the festive season at Santa’s Woodland Experience in Balfron throughout December.

January sees the return of the Great Stirling Castle Run, a 7km off-road course through some of Stirling’s most iconic locations.
You can easily reach the Forth Valley from both Glasgow and Edinburgh, with excellent motorways leading directly to Stirling and Falkirk. Then in just a turn or two you can be on delightful quiet roads heading into the Trossachs or the towns and villages of Clackmannanshire and the Hillfoots. You’ll find great rail and bus links from Scotland’s cities to all parts of the region and bring your bike for splendid stress-free cycling.

You can easily zip around the area by car on a first-class road network. Stirling and Falkirk are particularly well served by motorway links. From there you can take main roads heading into the Trossachs or the towns and villages of Clackmannanshire and the Hillfoots. Falkirk is accessible by motorway and main road and is only 30 minutes away from Edinburgh Airport and 45 minutes from Glasgow Airport.

**By air**
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**By rail**
Stirling railway station is located right in the centre of the city, with lines serving towns across Scotland. Falkirk is particularly well served from Edinburgh and Glasgow, as it lies on the fast service between the cities, with departures every 15 minutes during the day. It’s also easy to get into rural Clackmannanshire thanks to regular services to Alloa railway station.

For more rail information go to [www.scotrail.co.uk](http://www.scotrail.co.uk). Alternatively call 08457 484950 or visit [www.nationalrail.co.uk](http://www.nationalrail.co.uk).

**By bus**
Use the excellent local bus services to travel round Stirling and Falkirk, as well as some of the smaller villages in the Forth Valley.

Rural areas in Stirling where there are no regular bus routes are serviced by Demand Responsive Transport, which operates like a taxi and costs around the same as a bus fare. Find out more at [stirling.gov.uk/drt](http://stirling.gov.uk/drt).

To make visiting all of Stirling’s top attractions easy, take advantage of the hop-on hop off bus which runs 7 days a week from July to September.

For more information and to plan your journey visit [www.firstgroup.com](http://www.firstgroup.com).

**By bike**
For a long-distance cycle take Route 76 of the National Cycle Network which runs from Edinburgh through Falkirk, Stirling and Alloa before continuing around to Fife. The section of the route between Grangemouth and Stirling takes you through some stunning countryside, with wonderful views over the Forth Estuary to the Ochil Hills beyond.

As well as the national routes there are family friendly cycle routes, forest treks or mountain trails and challenging terrain, so there’s something for all cycling abilities. There are miles of great cycle paths and routes around Stirling too, with The Stirling Cycle Hub and The Forth Valley Tourist Route which runs 7 days a week from July to September. You can discover Callendar House in Falkirk, the magnificent Ochil Hills and venture into the city of Stirling.

For more information visit [www.visitscotland.com/touristroutes](http://www.visitscotland.com/touristroutes).

**WHERE TO FIND OUT MORE**
Discover more of The Forth Valley in a VisitScotland iCentre. Our friendly information experts can offer advice on what’s on and where to go as well as book accommodation and tickets for events, activities and transport.

Our Shop Local initiative promotes local artisans so you can also help you find the perfect Scottish gift.

Find us at:
• Old Town Jail, St John Street, Stirling, FK8 1EA

You can also get tailored advice and top tips on the local area from our accredited iKnow Partners.


**NATIONAL TOURIST ROUTES**
1. **The Forth Valley Tourist Route**
   The Forth Valley Tourist Route will take you from Edinburgh to Linlithgow, Bo’ness, Falkirk or Stirling through some magnificent scenery and past many historic sites and attractions. You can discover Callendar House in Falkirk, the magnificent Ochil Hills and venture into the city of Stirling.

For more information visit [www.visitscotland.com/touristroutes](http://www.visitscotland.com/touristroutes).

**DID YOU KNOW?**
The landtrain in Stirling city centre for a great way to explore the city and castle!
PRACTICAL INFORMATION

The listings within this guide have been split into the following sections:
- Places to visit
- Leisure activities
- Shopping
- Food & drink

Businesses within these sections are listed in alphabetical order by business location then by business name. Each entry has a map reference (see example) rating to the map which appears at the back of this guide. Most entries have a postcode which can be used to pin point locations but it is always wise to check the actual location before making your journey.

SAMPLE ENTRY

Location
‘By’ designates that a property is within 10 miles of this location. Mileage in brackets after the location indicates the distance from the named location.

Name of business

Contact details

Business description

Quality award

Where a Quality Assurance award has been included on an entry, the business has been graded by VisitScotland and provides assurances on quality and standards. Further information on page 23 of this guide. Quality Assurance awards are correct as at January 2020.

Pricing

Prices shown in entries for admission, services and facilities are provided by the advertisers. Please note that prices are for your guidance only and include VAT where applicable (VAT as at December 2019). It is always advisable to check cost prior to booking.

Booking

Accepting a booking by telephone or in writing means you have entered into a legally binding contract with the proprietor of the establishment. If you cancel or fail to turn up, for whatever reason, the proprietor has the right to ask you for compensation. You should always check the cancellation terms in advance and, if you must cancel a booking, advise the business immediately. Online bookings are also subject to terms and conditions, please check directly with the proprietor of the business.

Insurance and cancellations

Should you have to cancel for whatever reason, it is reassuring to know that you can be insured against any compensation claim. It is advisable to take out cancellation insurance prior to your trip.

Accessibility

Whether you want a cosmopolitan city break or a relaxing holiday in the countryside, you’ll find a great range of accessible accommodation, attractions, things to see and do and transport. You can stay in a bustling city centre, with great access-friendly attractions right on your doorstep, or out in the countryside, where you can enjoy accessible walks or trips to the beach. For more information go to www.visitscotland.com/holidays-breaks/accessible. Also go to www.euansguide.com for information on businesses throughout Scotland with good access reviews from disabled people, their family and friends.

Businesses with the logo (below) have their own Accessibility Guide which will include information on their facilities such as onsite restaurants, free WiFi, hearing loop, level access and accessible parking or drop off points. It is always advisable to check the businesses own website for this information, which will be highlighted by this symbol (创立).

Facilities and symbols

See page 23 and the page opposite for details.

Map reference

To assist you further in locating each business, this grid reference relates to the maps on pages 50 to 52.

Opening times and admission prices

Insurance and cancellations

Many establishments will be able to cater for those with a sensory impairment but please do check with the business before booking and visiting.

SB Short breaks available*

There is a fabulous range of accommodation throughout Scotland. Many offer short breaks options. Many establishments have offers throughout the year, contact direct for latest special offers.

Family fun*

There is a wealth of things to see and do that will keep smiles on faces all day. Businesses that are particularly suitable for children can highlight this within their entries.

Dogs welcome*

Dogs are welcome to this establishment, on the understanding that they are on their leash and are kept under control. You may have to check with each establishment whether there are restricted areas for your dog.

Refreshments available*

Café or refreshments are available at this business. Please check prior to visiting if you have particular requirements.

WiFi available*

Guest WiFi access is available at this location.

Wild camping

Wild camping is legal in Scotland but there are guidelines that all campers should follow. Please camp responsibly, in particular campers should follow. Please

Drinking and driving

Scotland’s drink drive limit is 50 mg (of alcohol per 100 ml of blood). The Scottish Government recommends the best approach is to have no alcohol at all, if you are intending to get behind a wheel in Scotland. *Denotes that these symbols establishments have some access, and guide dogs are made welcome but please do check with the business before booking or visiting.

For further information go to www.visitscotland.com

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Only in Scotland can you find information and advice in so many places.

Our friendly information experts can offer advice on what’s on, where to go and book tickets for events, activities and transport. Our Shop Local initiative promotes local artisans so we’re sure to help you find the perfect gift from Scotland. Find us on page 19.

Our accredited iKnow Partners are based throughout Scotland and can offer tailored advice to help you make the most of your visit. Chat with them for insider tips about the must see attractions in the local area. Find them at visitscotland.com/iknow

You’ll be surprised where our search for quality takes us

Quite simply, it takes us the length and breadth of Scotland to visit thousands of different properties every year and grade them on the things we know matter to you. Things like the overall quality on offer and warmth of welcome to help you make a more informed choice. VisitScotland Quality Assurance – Quality you can trust.

- An acceptable standard
- Very good standard, with attention to detail in every area
- Excellent – superb food where provided and friendly, professional service
- An exceptional standard where quality, hospitality and service are hard to fault

Taste Our Best
One way to ensure that you’ll enjoy great quality Scottish food and drink, prepared with care and delivered with passion, is to look for places that are part of Taste Our Best, our food and drink quality scheme.

Green Tourism—because we care
Businesses that work in a sustainable, environmentally friendly way are graded: Bronze (1), Silver (2) or Gold (3). Find them at www.green-tourism.com

For any feedback or comments you may have on quality assured properties please email us on qa@visitscotland.com.
Places to visit

Castles, historic homes & attractions

Also check Visitor attractions

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VISITScotLAND.COM
Places to visit
Visitor attractions
See also other categories

STIRLING
Dollar Academy.
Dollar village, the Devon Valley Railway and century woollen mill, exploring the history of dollarmuseum@btconnect.com
Award-winning museum in a former 19th century building on the site of the former woollen mill, a renowned woollen mill in the 19th century. The museum is home to a collection of artefacts and documents relating to the history of woollen manufacturing.

FALKIRK (4 miles)
Torwood Garden Centre
Central Park, Bellshill Road, Upton FK4 5GC
T: 01324 533152, 01324 537710 info@torwoodgardencentre.co.uk
www.torwoodgardencentre.co.uk

BO’NESS & KINNEIL RAILWAY
The Bo’ness & Kinneil Railway
Union Street, Bo’ness EH51 9AQ
T: 01506 822298 enquiries@bkers.org.uk
www.bkers.org.uk
‘Full steam ahead’ for family fun! Soak up the atmosphere of this heritage railway. Travel by steam train and explore Scotland’s largest railway museum.

DOUN
Argy
Lundie Farm, Argyll, Dounie FK16 6LJ
T: 01786 596496 Hello@stirlinggin.co.uk
www.bkrailway.co.uk
www.stirlinggin.co.uk
T: 01786 596496 Hello@stirlinggin.co.uk
Stirling Gin & Liqueurs. Home to handcrafted Scottish Gins & liqueurs. Stirling Distillery
Admission: Free. Disabled access and parking available. Permanent & temporary exhibitions throughout year.

BO’NESS
Museum of Scottish Railways
Union Street, Bo’ness EH51 9AQ
T: 01506 822298 enquiries@bkers.org.uk
www.bkers.org.uk
Plenty to see and do, from climbing on the footplate of a locomotive, to sorting letters in the Post Office Sorting Couch.

Macrobert Arts Centre
University of Stirling FK9 4LA
T: 01786 466 666 boxoffice@macrobertartscentre.org
macrobertartscentre.org
Macrobert Arts Centre offers a varied programme of entertaining and engaging experiences – cinema, comedy, dance, entertainment exhibitions, family shows, music, opera, theatre – and lots of opportunities to get involved!

STIRLING
Church of Holy Rude Stirling
Church Secretary/Sessions Clerk, Church of the Holy Rude, St. John’s St, Stirling FK8 1ED
T: 01786 475275 holyrude@holyrude.org www.holyrude.org
Church of Holy Rude Stirling
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By CALLANDER
The Steamship Sir Walter Scott Ltd
Trossachs Pier, Loch Katrine, Callander, Stirling FK7 7HZ
T: 01387 376353 reservations@lochkatrine.com www.lochkatrine.com

FALKIRK (4 miles)
Torwood Garden Centre
Central Park, Bellshill Road, Upton FK4 5GC
T: 01324 533152, 01324 537710 info@torwoodgardencentre.co.uk
www.torwoodgardencentre.co.uk

BO’NESS
The Bo’ness & Kinneil Railway
Union Street, Bo’ness EH51 9AQ
T: 01506 822298 enquiries@bkers.org.uk
www.bkers.org.uk
‘Full steam ahead’ for family fun! Soak up the atmosphere of this heritage railway. Travel by steam train and explore Scotland’s largest railway museum.

DOLLAR
Dollar Museum
Castle Campbell Hall, Dollar FK14 7AY
dollarmuseum@btconnect.com
www.dollarmuseum.org
Award winning museum in a former 19th century wooden mill exploring the history of Dollar village, the Devon Valley Railway and Dollar Academy.

Macrobert Arts Centre
University of Stirling FK9 4LA
T: 01786 466 666 boxoffice@macrobertartscentre.org
macrobertartscentre.org
Macrobert Arts Centre offers a varied programme of entertaining and engaging experiences – cinema, comedy, dance, entertainment exhibitions, family shows, music, opera, theatre – and lots of opportunities to get involved!

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info@nationalwallacemonument.com
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Bridgeness Road, Bo’ness, West Lothian, EH1 9JR
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www.bonessmotormuseum.co.uk | Follow & Connect

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www.deepseaworld.com

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**Cafés/tearooms/coffee shops**

**Food & drink**

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19 King Street, Stirling, Stirlingshire, FK8 1DN
01786 478097

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www.contempoonline.co.uk

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**Deanston, by Doune**

The Coffee Bothy. Deanston Distillery
Deanston, by Doune, Stirling FK16 6AG
T: 01786 843013 info@deanstondistillery.com

Deanston, by Doune, Stirling FK16 6AG
T: 01786 843013 info@deanstondistillery.com

Open: All year. Daily: 10am-4.30pm. Closed 25 & 26 Dec and 1 & 2 Jan. Reduced opening times during Christmas and New Year.

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**Stirling**

The Pend Café, Deli & Bistro
81 Perth Street, Stirling FK8 2XR
T: 01786 479759

We are serving excellent international and Scottish infused meals from traditional breakfasts to exciting seafood and Italian and French Platters. International wine and beer list. Fantastic ambience, friendly staff and great cooking.

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**Blair Drummond, near Stirling**

Blair Drummond Smiddy Farm Shop
Willie Blair Drummond, Stirling, FK9 0UY
T: 01786 335024 hello@blairdrummondsmiddy.co.uk
www.blairdrummondsmiddy.co.uk

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Open: All year, Daily. Times available on our website - www.blairdrummondsmiddy.co.uk

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**Falkirk**

Pierre’s
140 Grahams Road, Falkirk FK2 7BZ
T: 01324 635843
info@pierresinfalkirk.com
www.pierresinfalkirk.com

First opened in 1918 as a French restaurant, Pierre’s, under new ownership since 2005, now serves the best of Scottish fare with French influences.

Open: Wed-Fri; 12noon-2pm and 6-9pm, Sat; 5.30-9pm. Sun; 12noon-3pm.

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**The Kilted Kangaroo**

9 Upper Craigs, Stirling FK8 2DG
T: 01786 451330 info@kiltedkangaroo.com www.kiltedkangaroo.com

If you’re looking for a fantastic meal, a cold beer and some great entertainment in the heart of the city - this is the place to go. We have a great selection of freshly prepared dishes from across the globe as well as a wide range of drinks to complement them. You can enjoy live entertainment every night!

- Aussie bar & grill • Great food • Live music • Stand up comedy • Open mic • Pub quiz • Karaoke • Huge beer garden

Open: All year: Mon Wed, 11am-12midnight. Thurs, 11am 1am. Fri-Sat, 11am-2am. Sun, 12noon-12 midnight. Opening times may vary: please phone to check current opening times.

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Damgoodcoffee17@gmail.com

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E. info@mcqueengin.co.uk

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*Children’s quiz*

See also pages 25 & 31
These indicate schemes the establishment may be a member of, and signposts whether they have accessible facilities and if they offer short breaks. See pages 21 & 23.

Accessible
Symbol denotes that this establishment offers access, please check with establishment prior to booking.

Further information
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