Every day is different in Moray Speyside. Start your morning by wandering around a charming fishing village, before walking to a secluded cove or a sandy beach where dolphins play in the surf offshore. Then head into the heart of ‘Malt Whisky Country’ and follow Scotland’s Malt Whisky Trail®. Then step back in time to our Pictish past at one of our ancient castles, heritage centres and mystical standing stones or learn more about the distinctive Doric language. You can round off your day with a well deserved meal of delicious local fare and a craft beer or malt whisky.

And tomorrow? Well, you could get active and have a go at thrilling watersports, such as sea kayaking and surfing, or get on your walking boots and discover waymarked trails. Relax and fish for salmon on the River Spey or play a round on some of Scotland’s most picturesque golf courses. Days and days of adventures are all here ready and waiting for you to enjoy.
Moray Speyside
Moireabh Taobh Spê Aon Sealladh

Start your day shopping in a historic market town, have a picnic lunch in the dunes of a sweeping beach before rounding off the day touring a distillery and sampling the very finest Scotch whisky. Then the next day... well, that’s up to you. You can make endless discoveries in Moray Speyside, in enchanting places with real character and meet real characters in beautiful places.

Forres, Findhorn, Burghead and Hopeman
Stop to smell the roses in Forres’ award-winning parks and gardens. Then head for the harbour in nearby Findhorn to watch the sailing boats come and go. In Hopeman, you’ll find two long sandy beaches and a great 18-hole golf course. Step back into prehistory at Burghead which was once the site of a large Pictish fort. Why not walk some of the Moray Coast Trail while you’re here?

Elgin and Lossiemouth
Elgin Cathedral has been drawing pilgrims since it was founded in 1224. Enjoy a moment of peace here at one of Scotland’s most beautiful medieval buildings.

Visit Gordon & MacPhail, the world’s leading malt whisky specialist, and go for a fascinating free tour of Johnstons of Elgin, renowned for its luxury cashmere garments. You can take your pick of two classic links golf courses and two superb stretches of golden sand at Lossiemouth.

Fochabers, Keith, Buckie and Cullen
Nestling on the banks of the River Spey, Fochabers is an attractive village where you’ll find Baxters Highland Village, Christie’s of Fochabers and Gordon Castle. Discover the market town of Keith, which is so proud of its linguistic heritage that it was named Scotland’s First Scots Toun. Visit Strathisla Distillery, Scotland’s oldest continuously operating distillery. Watch fishermen land their catch at Buckie harbour, and stroll along Cullen’s broad bay which is backed by a spectacular viaduct.

Speyside
Follow the Malt Whisky Trail® through Speyside, where you can tour world-famous distilleries and visit the award-winning Speyside Cooperage. Dally for an afternoon in Dufftown, the ‘Malt Whisky Capital’, and wander around Aberlour, an attractive village by the River Spey. Tackle a section of the Speyside Way, a long-distance walking route, and admire the dramatic Grampian Mountains.

DID YOU KNOW?

The local dialect spoken in the north east is called Doric.

DID YOU KNOW?

Look out for rare Pictish sculptures and Scotland’s tallest gravestone at Elgin Cathedral, which is known affectionately as ‘the Lantern of the North’.

Go green at the Findhorn Foundation, a fascinating eco-village which hosts a programme of workshops and events. It’s home to the Phoenix, a shop packed with organic produce, gifts and books.

At the WDC Scottish Dolphin Centre, you can watch for dolphins in Spey Bay and take a tour of the ancient icehouse.

Don’t Miss...

The atmospheric ruins of Balvenie Castle and Auchindoun Castle, both near Dufftown.

Bow Fiddle Rock, a spectacular arch-shaped rock formation, which can be seen from Portknockie.

The colourful beach huts which line Hopeman’s beautiful east sands, great for a photo opportunity.

Elgin Cathedral has been drawing pilgrims since it was founded in 1224. Enjoy a moment of peace here at one of Scotland’s most beautiful medieval buildings.
The Malt Whisky Trail® will take you past seven working distilleries, a historic distillery and the award-winning Speyside Cooperage. Each distillery has its own traditions and methods when it comes to whisky production, from malting the barley to the size of the stills. Visit www.maltwhiskytrail.com for full information on the trail.

Benromach Distillery in Forres is the smallest working distillery in the region. The nearby Dallas Dhu Distillery may no longer produce whisky, but you’ll find it’s a fascinating time capsule that’s worth exploring. Look out for the impressive whisky barrel stencil which dates from the 1920s and was used to mark the barrels of whisky.

Bring more delicious whisky flavours and collections of your favourite tipples at the new Macallan visitor centre, which opened last year. This provides an immersive visitor experience for those interested in finding out what makes Macallan special. Founded in 1786, Strathisla Distillery in Keith is the oldest working distillery in the Highlands and is the home of Chivas Regal. Glen Grant in Rothes was established by the Grant brothers in 1840 and has a lovely Victorian garden.

The first spirit flowed from the stills of Glenfiddich Distillery on Christmas Day in 1887. It’s now the world’s favourite single malt Scotch whisky. The Glenlivet Distillery, home of ‘the single malt that started it all’, is in Ballindalloch. The Speyside Cooperage is the only working cooperage in the UK where you can experience the art of coopering. Witness the master craftsmen hard at work making whisky casks using traditional methods and tools and have a go at making your own mini-cask!

Check out www.maltwhiskytrail.com for more details on the world’s largest concentration of whisky distilleries.

Glenfarclas, The Balvenie and The Macallan are just some of the malt whiskies produced in the region. How many have you tried?

Glenfarclas in Ballindalloch has been owned and run by the same family since 1865 and is one of only a few independent distilleries left in Scotland.

The Balvenie Distillery uses a special combination of craftsmanship and natural alchemy for its whisky. It’s the last distillery in the Highlands to still have its own malting floor, and it also grows its barley on site.

Take a ride on Britain’s most northerly heritage railway, the Keith and Dufftown Railway. This 11-mile line links the whisky centre of Dufftown to the market town of Keith.

Pop in to Balvenie St Ice Cream while in Dufftown to sample whisky ice cream!
THE MORAY COAST TRAIL
SLIGHE COSTA MHOIREABH

If you like walking, lace up your boots and pack a sandwich because you’re in for a real treat. The Moray Coast Trail is one of the finest walks in a country that is full of memorable trails. On your 50-mile adventure, you’ll get to know a dramatic coastline of rugged cliffs, stunning beaches and hidden coves. This route is recognised by National Geographic as one of the most beautiful places in the world. As you make your way from Forres to Cullen, you’ll wander through pretty fishing villages and will probably see some of our remarkable wildlife, including the bottlenose dolphins of the Moray Firth.

You can walk the whole trail comfortably in three days, or you can choose to walk smaller sections between the coastal communities. Find out more information on the trail at www.morayways.org.uk/moray-coast-trail.asp

Starting from Forres, one of your early highlights will be Findhorn Bay Nature Reserve, where the tidal basin attracts a variety of birdlife including ospreys in the summer months. Watch out for otters here at dawn and dusk.

The dense pinewoods of Roseisle Forest back the broad sweep of Burghead Bay, while the village of Burghead, set on a narrow promontory, was once a major Pictish settlement.

A couple of miles past Burghead is Hopeman which has two beautiful beaches. After here, the trail gets very dramatic: sandstone cliffs, stunning coves and miles of golden sand are overlooked by Covesea Lighthouse on the approach to Lossiemouth.

At the Scottish Dolphin Centre by Spey Bay, learn about the Moray Firth’s resident pod of dolphins from the centre’s volunteers. If you’re lucky, you might just spot these playful creatures off the coast!

Beyond Spey Bay and the Scottish Dolphin Centre lies the busy harbour of Buckie and then there’s Findochty, a traditional fishing town. Portknockie has tons of character and a proud fishing heritage.

Your final stop on the Moray Coast Trail is the seaside town of Cullen. Its pretty beach and impressive grand viaduct provide a fitting finale to your efforts. Now it’s time to reward yourself with a bowl of Cullen Skink, the delicious smoked haddock and potato soup which is the town’s speciality.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Covesea Lighthouse is a historic landmark and sits opposite the Halliman Skerries, a reef of rocks that are covered at high tide. You can even stay in this lighthouse!
- Just off the coast of Portknockie is Bow Fiddle Rock, an amazing rock arch shaped by waves over many centuries.
- Covesea Lighthouse, Lossiemouth

PLANNING YOUR TRIP

- You can reach the Moray Coast Trail by train at Forres, with a cycle route then linking it to Findhorn.
- Local buses serve all of the coastal settlements, with connections to Elgin.
- If you are travelling by car, you can park free in each coastal village.
- The Moray Coastal Cycle Route runs for 29 miles between Burghead and Cullen, offering you an alternative way to explore this coast.

VISITScotLAND.com
It’s playtime. Welcome to an outdoor wonderland where you can experience everything from adrenaline-pumping adventures to magical dolphin encounters. Get out and about and throw yourself into action in our landscape of stretching golden sands, coastal plains, deep forests and rolling hills. Moray Speyside is calling you...

Bring or hire a bike and get your pedals moving on the Moray Monster Trails – 18 miles of single-track routes linking up three great biking centres. Dare you tackle Gully Monster at Ordiequish? At Whiteash you can ride for five glorious miles on the Fochabers Ring trail. While the Hammer at Ben Aigan promises you an exhilarating ride through the forest.

One of the mountain bike routes on the Glenlivet Estate is ideal for families while the other will challenge even experienced riders. You can also explore the estate on horseback or on a Land Rover safari, or try gorge walking at the Bridge of Brown with either Aquaplay Scotland or Craggan Outdoors. Kids can let off steam at the adventure playground.

Zip up your wetsuit – the Moray Firth is a fantastic setting for all kinds of watersports. Go on a dolphin sea kayaking trip with Full on Adventure or paddle out to the magnificent Bow Fiddle Rock with Explore, or enjoy a range of activities with Cullen Sea School. You can get windsurfing and sailing tuition, or take a boat trip to admire the coastal scenery and to spot wildlife.

Brave the rapids of the River Findhorn on a white-water rafting or river tubing trip with Ace Adventures.

Get your thrills with an adrenaline sport such as combat laser tag or quad biking. Or try archery and Segway riding in lush countryside at The Loft in Kinloss.

Golfers are spoiled for choice here. Moray Golf Club in Lossiemouth has two classic links courses. The Old Course was created by ‘Old’ Tom Morris and has one of the country’s finest finishing holes, while the New Course was designed by the illustrious Henry Cotton.

A few miles along the coast, the beautiful seaside course at Hopeman offers the stunning 12th hole, the Prieshach. Hit your tee shot well and it will soar satisfyingly out on a dramatic drop from tee to green – this is truly one of the finest par 3 holes in the country. It’s one of former Open champion Paul Lawrie’s favourite golf holes.

Then you have Cullen, a quirky coastal course with some scenic tee shots, and Dufftown, a delightful inland golfing experience in the heart of Speyside.

For a testing heathland golf course in immaculate condition, try Elgin Golf Course. As you play you’ll enjoy panoramic views as far as the Cairngorm mountains.

Bring lots of balls if you’re playing Forres – its infamous 16th hole, aptly named ‘The Pond’, provides a watery grave for any errant shot.

If you like a relaxing spot of fishing you’ll have plenty of opportunities here. The River Spey is one of Scotland’s big four salmon rivers, and the River Findhorn, flowing from the Monadhliath mountains to Findhorn Bay, is excellent for salmon and trout. The fishing season runs from February to September.

Go for a paddle in an inflatable kayak with Aquaplay Scotland or Ace Adventures and head down the scenic River Spey. Or why not take up boogie board surfing on the Moray Firth?
Head to Gordon Castle for an idyllic setting used for Highland games, weddings, relaxing strolls, and fishing, or why not explore the walled garden and cafe for a lovely spot of afternoon tea?

How far back in time do you want to go? At Elgin Museum, you can travel to the sixth century thanks to the beautiful Pictish carved stones. A trove of silver coins will take you to Roman times before you enter prehistory by examining some amazing fossils. It’s Scotland’s oldest independent museum and is well worth an afternoon’s exploration.

Discover the fascinating fishing heritage of the area’s coastal communities. The Lossie Fisheries & Community Museum is home to many wonderful images from bygone eras, or learn about the history and traditions of the fishing and boat building industries at the Buckie & District Fishing Heritage Centre.

Don’t miss the Findhorn Village Icehouse and Heritage Centre, where you can explore the underground chambers and find out about the salmon fishing industry in the area.

Uncover the legend of Randolph’s Leap and the Wolf of Badenoch at the River Findhorn Heritage Centre. This fascinating exhibition is based at Logie Steading, which also features a wonderful art gallery, art and craft workshops, and a farm and garden shop.

Take a trip on Scotland’s most northerly heritage railway, the Keith & Dufftown Railway. The ‘Whisky Line’ will take you 11 miles through rich farming land and forests from the world’s ‘Malt Whisky Capital’, Dufftown, to the market town of Keith.

It’s easy to imagine humble monks going about their daily rituals in the romantic ruins of Kinloss Abbey. Founded in 1150 as a Cistercian abbey, it was first colonised by monks from Melrose Abbey in the Scottish Borders, and it still casts a peaceful spell today. Pluscarden Abbey is not to be missed either.

FOO DIV YE SPIK I’ DORIC?

How do you speak Doric?

Doric is a Scots dialect spoken in the north east around Moray, Aberdeen & Aberdeenshire. The term ‘Doric’ comes from the Greek for ‘rural’ or ‘rustic’ due to its associations with the farming and fishing communities of the region.

Wifie – Woman
Mannie – Man
Quine – Girl/Daughter
Loon – Boy/Son
Bairns – Children
Toonser – From the city
Teuchter – From the rural country
Fit like? – (What like?) How are you?
Rowie/Buttery – Savoury bread roll
Follow the Malt Whisky Trail® through Speyside, the only trail of its kind in the world, and discover the people, traditions, and craft behind some of the finest malt whisky distilleries. See pages 4 and 5 for more information.

Pop into the Whisky Shop in Dufftown and you can choose from over 600 single malts and try a whisky tasting. The Whisky Castle in Tomintoul is an emporium for the amber-coloured spirit and is home to the largest bottle of single malt whisky in the world.

Revive your spirits with a local spirit in the Quaich Bar in the Craigellachie Hotel. It’s often included on lists of Scotland’s best whisky bars and stocks more than 700 whiskies.

Brodie Countryfare near Forres, stocks a huge range of goods in the delicatessen, and its foodhall has one of the best selections of Scottish and Speyside produce. Browse the impressive range of gourmet foods at Baxters Highland Village in Fochabers and sample some delicious home-made pancakes fresh from the griddle.

At the award-winning Phoenix Shop in the Findhorn Foundation you can pick up a wonderful array of organic and fairtrade goods. On site, you can enjoy a coffee at the Blue Angel Café in the tranquillity of the charming garden terrace.

The Macallan Distillery and Visitor Centre, near Aberlour

The rich landscape of Moray Speyside produces a wealth of fabulous food and drink – all you have to do is sit down, lay out your napkin and take your pick. Here you can eat in excellent tearooms, cafés, pubs, bars, bistrots and restaurants, or visit delis, farm shops and farmers’ markets and pick up local and seasonal produce. And you simply have to explore at least one malt whisky distillery – we have over half of Scotland’s total! Taste the light, sweet single malts of Speyside and learn about how uisge beatha, ‘the water of life’, is made.

Your mouth will be watering by the time you’ve read this page, we guarantee it! The rich landscape of Moray Speyside produces a wealth of fabulous food and drink – all you have to do is sit down, lay out your napkin and take your pick. Here you can eat in excellent tearooms, cafés, pubs, bars, bistrots and restaurants, or visit delis, farm shops and farmers’ markets and pick up local and seasonal produce. And you simply have to explore at least one malt whisky distillery – we have over half of Scotland’s total! Taste the light, sweet single malts of Speyside and learn about how uisge beatha, ‘the water of life’, is made.

Get your produce direct from the farmer at Elgin Farmers’ Market on the third Saturday of each month. Local producers sell fruit and vegetables, Aberdeen Angus beef, breads and baking, and cheese from Wester Lawrenceton Organic Farm near Forres.

At Pluscarden Abbey, you can buy honey made in the monks’ apiary and fresh fruit from the abbey’s walled garden.

At the Tannochbrae Restaurant and Stables Whisky Bar in Dufftown offers over 200 single malts and serves delicious locally sourced ingredients including herbs from their own garden.

At Bijou in Batchen Street, Elgin where you will find a wonderful coffee shop with freshly baked cakes and a great place for lunch.

Enjoy a fantastic taste of Moray at the Bothy Bistro, a true hidden gem in the heart of Burghead.

Miele’s of Forres has been producing Italian ice creams for over 70 years. If you fancy a meal they also serve traditional fish and chips.

A Taste of Speyside in Dufftown for its fine Scottish dining. Try everything from vegetable crumble to crabbit hen.

The Tannochbrae Restaurant and Stables Whisky Bar in Dufftown offers over 200 single malts and serves delicious locally sourced ingredients including herbs from their own garden.

Bijou in Batchen Street, Elgin where you will find a wonderful coffee shop with freshly baked cakes and a great place for lunch.

Enjoy a fantastic taste of Moray at the Bothy Bistro, a true hidden gem in the heart of Burghead.
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, our way of life.

Moray Speyside boasts a hugely diverse coastal scenery, ranging from dramatic cliffs and sea stacks to gleaming white beaches, and a rich offering of inland waters, rivers, loch and waterfalls.

Outdoors adventures
As an area with sheltered coastal waters, beautiful coastline and rushing rivers, Moray offers a wide range of water based activities: kayaking and whitewater rafting; sailing and windsurfing; sea kayaking and paddle-boarding; surfing; boat trips and sea-angling charters; salmon and trout fishing.

Navigate the Moray Coast Trail, from Forres to Cullen, passing through idyllic villages along the vast coastline. You could also be surfing on the Moray Firth in the morning and hiking to hidden mountain lochs in the afternoon.

Outfit Moray provides a range of adventurous outdoor pursuits, including gorge swimming, kayaking, white water rafting and more. If you love golf, look no further than the Old Course classic links designed by Old Tom Morris!

Go wild
Did you know that the Moray Firth has the largest resident colony of bottle-nosed dolphins in the UK? Other cetaceans can also be spotted along the coast from Hopeman to Covesea, including minke whales and even killer whales! There is plenty to learn at the Scottish Dolphin Centre in Spey Bay, with regular shore watches and walks, audio visual presentations and interactive exhibitions.

Nearby, the Spey Bay Wildlife Reserve is worth visiting and you can sometimes see ospreys fishing at the mouth of the River Spey in summer. Birdwatchers will also enjoy the views from the hide at Spynie Loch to the north of Elgin.

From sea to plate
Whether you choose a 3-course dinner in a restaurant by the coast or a picnic on a beach, look out for local produce and enjoy an authentic taste of Moray Speyside, from wild salmon to fresh seafood.

Of course, no visit to Moray Speyside would be complete without visiting a whisky distillery. This is the famous Speyside malt whisky region after all. The clear, pure water from our natural springs is combined with locally-grown barley to produce, after years of slow maturation in the distillery warehouses, Scotland’s magical national spirit.

Stacks to do
Discover some great attractions set amidst stunning coasts and waters of Moray Speyside.

Ye Olde Scotsman
Don’t miss a packed programme of events happening across Moray and the rest of the country. For more information visit www.visitscotland.com/ywc2020
Share your experiences using #ScotlandIsNow and #YCW2020
If you’re here in spring, you can’t miss Brodie Castle’s Daffodil Weekend. Join in some great guided walks and enjoy these beautiful flowers. You can also purchase some plants to take away with you.

What’s your favourite dram? Find out at the Spirit of Speyside Whisky Festival in May. Expect music, tastings, behind-the-scenes distillery tours and lots of fun.

Leave your everyday cares far behind at the Moray Walking Festival in June. It also hosts the lip-smacking World Tattie Scone Competition. Yum!

Ever seen a 20 ft larch tree fly through the air? Come along to a Highland games in the summer and you will – that’s what tossing the caber is all about! Come to Dufftown, Forres or Tomintoul and you can enjoy Highland dancing, bagpipe playing and traditional sports.

You won’t forget a weekend spent at Speyfest, a July celebration of traditional and contemporary Celtic sounds. Top performers from Scotland and beyond gather in Fochabers to lay on three days of music, traditional music workshops and a craft fair.

The Tomintoul & Glenlivet Walking and Cycling Festival takes place at the end of the summer. All walks usually begin from Tomintoul, before heading out to explore the wider area with experienced leaders.

Treat your tastebuds to the sensational flavours of local goodies at the City of Elgin Food and Drink Festival. Once your tum is full, check out the craft stalls with their unique gifts, cookery demonstrations, and kid’s activities.

Get into the festive spirit by browsing local Christmas markets and fairs. You can buy everything from locally made hats and scarves to jewellery, soaps and vintage-style candles.

Sports events, foodie festivals, musical performances, top theatrical shows – they’re all happening this year in Moray Speyside. Throw yourself into an event or two and we guarantee you’ll go home with a lifelong love of Moray Speyside’s culture, heritage and people!

Moray Art Centre at Findhorn runs a great year-round programme of local and international exhibitions.

The 4th biennial Findhorn Bay Festival in September is a spectacular six-day celebration of arts and culture. This year, it will showcase Moray’s shimmering rivers and award-winning coastline via an exciting new ‘Source to Sea’ programme of activities, including traditional boat sailings, interactive waterside performances, walks, talks, tours and more.

Meet, greet and learn from the whisky masters, sample the best drams, beers and gins and discover new flavours at Speyside: Distilled in September.

The Cullen Skink World Championship is held at the Cullen Bay Hotel in November. Watch this famous dish being created by eager competitors – then savour the results!
You’ll find getting to and around Moray Speyside is part of the pleasure of a visit. Distances between towns are never great, whether you are skirting the coast or exploring the countryside. We have an extensive local bus network and a regular rail service between the main towns.

You can easily reach Moray Speyside from both Inverness and Aberdeen airports. The area is very close to the city of Inverness, making it an ideal day-trip destination. The Malt Whisky Trail® distilleries are accessible by car, bus and, in some cases, train.

By road
The A96 is the main road in the region. It runs between Inverness and Aberdeen and passes through towns including Forres, Elgin and Keith. The A941 from Elgin to Aberlour gets you to the heart of Speyside and the A98 from Fochabers takes you to the coastal towns and villages including Buckie and Cullen.

By bus
The main bus operator in Moray Speyside is Stagecoach Bluebird. The company’s daily number 10 service runs regularly between Inverness and Aberdeen stopping at Forres, Elgin, Fochabers and Keith. The number 35 also runs regularly between the two cities, stopping in Forres and Elgin, while service 36 runs from Elgin to Dufftown via Glen Grant Distillery and Glenfiddich. Elgin bus station is a hub for the region.

For more information visit www.stagecoachbus.com and www.travelinescotland.com

By rail
You can catch a regular daily train service between Inverness and Aberdeen which stops at Forres, Elgin and Keith. The ‘Whisky Line’ is a unique seasonal route that covers the 11-mile stretch between Keith, Scotland’s First Scots Toun, and Dufftown, the ‘Malt Whisky Capital’.

For more information visit www.scotrail.co.uk and www.keith-dufftown-railway.co.uk

By bike
Cycling around Moray Speyside is a great way to explore the region at a gentle pace. You can follow the National Cycle Route 1, which passes through the area as it runs between the cities of Inverness and Aberdeen.

You can find more information on a number of routes, including the Elgin Experience, Lossiemouth Loop and Moray Coastal Cycle Route, at www.morayways.org.uk

EXPLORIE MORE
- Fancy an unforgettable road trip? Explore 90 miles of amazing scenery through the heart of the Cairngorms National Park on the SnowRoads Scenic Route.
- You can explore the Malt Whisky Trail® by car by following the distinctive brown and white trail signposts.
- Experience the Ultimate Scottish Road Trip on the North East 250 route, a unique Scottish road trip taking you through whisky distilleries, mountain passes, famous castles, rugged coastline, and picturesque seaside villages.
- Take your bike on the train to Forres and trottle along the cycle route to the Moray Coast Trail at Findhorn.
- Get on your bike and take the 12-mile Speyside cycle route, following the River Spey from Fochabers to the Boat o’ Brig.
- For information on all the tourist routes including the Moray Firth Route which stretches from Inverness to north of Dornoch, visit www.visitscotland.com/touristroutes
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.euanguide.com for information on businesses throughout Scotland with good access reviews from disabled people, their family and friends.

Businesses with the logo (below) on their www.visitscotland.com entries 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 (ález).

Facilities and symbols

See page 23 and the page opposite for details.

Opening times and admission prices

For further information go to www.visitscotland.com
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

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 ★, Silver ★★ or Gold ★★★★

www.green-tourism.com

We want you to feel welcome—find establishments that pay particular attention to your specific needs:

Walkers
Anglers
Classic Cars
Visiting golfers
Field Sports
Ancestral Tourism
Experiencing Gaelic

Cyclists
Bikers
Golfers
Children
Groups
Pets

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

VisitScotland Quality Assurance—Quality you can trust.

- An acceptable standard
- A good, all round 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

Serviced accommodation establishments awarded gold stars have consistently achieved the highest levels of excellence within their star grading.
**Ballindalloch Castle**
National Trust for Scotland, off A96, 6 miles west of Forres, IV36 2TE
T: 01309 641371 brodiecastle@nts.org.uk www.nts.org.uk
Brodie Castle, home of the Brodie clan for over 400 years, is a magnificent turret castle nesting in the Moray countryside with extensive walks and nature trails for visitors. It is the venue for an exciting range of events throughout the year, including the world-renowned Dufftown Festival which is held each spring. Tour the magnificent art collection, view the rare Robert the Bruce letter and don't miss the family favourite magical Playful Gardens, inspired by the castle’s family history. Take a break in our cosy cafes which serve tasty refreshments made from locally sourced ingredients.
- Woodland walks • Adventure playground • Art collection • Tearoom & shop • Holiday accommodation • Picnic areas

**Open:** Please see our website or call for opening times and admission prices.

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**The GlenAllachie Distillery**
GlenAllachie Distillery, GlenAllachie, Aberlour, AB38 9LR
T: 01340 872547 T: 01326 442192 visitscotland.com/glenallachie.com
The GlenAllachie Distillery is 100% Scottish owned and managed, making us one of the few independently owned distilleries in Scotland. The most exciting part of rediscovering a brand is learning about the depth, character and quality that lies deep within each cask - we’ve unlocked an exceptional single malt, do you dare to discover?

**Open:** All year. Admission: Free.

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**Drumlanrig Castle**
Historic Scotland, Drumlanrig Castle, Ayrshire KA12 9QP
T: 01563 591191

Drumlanrig Castle is set in beautiful grounds with woodland walks, attractive walks nearby.

**Open:** See attractions in the local area.
**Visitscotland.com**
GLENDRONACH DISTILLERY

32

GlenDronach Distillery
Forgue By Huntly AB54 6DB
T: 0131 456 2679 info@gldronachdistillery.co.uk
www.gldronachdistillery.co.uk
Visit our visitor centre and gift shop, guided tours run regularly throughout the day. Relax & enjoy a dram or one of our tasting flights in our newly refurbished whisky lounge.

★★★★ Visitor Attraction
Open: Daily 10am-4.30pm
Admission: Glendronach Distillery Tour £10. Connoisseurs Tour £35. Please visit our website for availability and to book.

VISITSCOTLAND.COM

WINDSVIEW BREWING CO

31

Windsview Brewing Co
Coulbank Industrial Estate IV31 6NG
T: 0143 814310 windsviewbrewing.com
Come and enjoy our award-winning craft beer at our brewery. Our Tap Room bar & shop is the perfect place to enjoy our beers - tastings available throughout the day. We serve hot, soft drinks & snacks. Tours run regularly each week - book via our website or call.

Open: Mon-Thu, 10am-5pm. Fri, 10am-10pm. Sat, 10am-5pm. Sun, Closed.
Admission: Tastings available at the Tap Room (no booking required)
Tours £10pp (includes 6 beer tasting). Book via website.
Children welcome until 6pm.

VISITSCOTLAND.COM

GLENGLASSAUGH DISTILLERY

30

Glenglassaugh Distillery
Sandend, Portsoy AB45 2SQ
T: 0131 335 5135 info@glenglassaugh.com
Join us at Glenglassaugh Distillery to experience the revival of this fantastic coastal distillery. Tours running throughout the day.

★★★★ Visitor Attraction
Open: From May until September. Outwith these times tours by appointment only.
Admission: Please visit our website for prices and to book.

VISITSCOTLAND.COM

ROTHES

29

Glen Grant Limited
Uigin Road, Rothes, Banffshire AB38 7BS
T: 01340 832118 9: 01340 832123 visitorcentre@glengrant.com
Founded 1840 by John & James Grant. Guided tours of production areas and warehouse, tasting of Glen Grant Single Malt whisky. Then walk around the secluded Victorian Woodland Gardens, see the waterfall, glimpse deer and maybe red squirrels.

★★★★ Visitor Attraction
Open: Mid Jan-Mid Dec, Apr-Oct: Mon-Sat, 9.30am-5pm (last tour 4pm); Sun, 11am-5pm (last tour 4pm). Nov-Mar: Mon-Sat, 9am-3.30pm; Sun, Closed.

VISITSCOTLAND.COM

FOCHABERS

28

Gordon Castle Walled Garden
Gordon Castle, Fochabers IV32 7PQ
T: 01343 612171 T: 01343 612115 info@gordoncastlescotland.com
www.gordoncastle.co.uk
Visit our beautiful Walled Garden at Gordon Castle, which is being lovingly restored to its former glory. Over two hundred years old, it is one of Scotland’s largest and oldest gardens complete with children’s play area, shop and delicious café. Home to Gordon Castle Gin.

• Garden tours • Children’s play • Kitchen food • Shop • Disabled friendly • Exclusive events • Outdoor theatre • Café

★★★★ Visitor Attraction
Open: Café and garden open all year. Seasonal hours apply please see website for details.

VISITSCOTLAND.COM

ELGIN

27

Elgin Museum
1 High St, Elgin IV30 1EQ
T: 01343 543675 curator@elginmuseum.org.uk
www.elginmuseum.org.uk
Scotland’s oldest independent museum. Displays from all around the world, dating from before the dinosaurs to the present day. Small gift shop.

★★★ Museum
Open: Apr-Oct: Mon-Fri, 10am-5pm. Sat, 11am-4pm.

VISITSCOTLAND.COM
DELGATIE CASTLE
Open 10am-5pm daily last entry 4pm

Delgatie Castle, as ‘Best Visitor Experience’ Award winner, is a unique and interesting castle with the ambiance of a lived-in home. The ‘Laird’s Kitchen’, Scottish Home Baking Award winners, offers a lunch menu, building on its already excellent reputation for home-made delicious cakes, Why not pay us a visit today?

Delgatie Castle, Delgatie, Turriff, Aberdeenshire AB53 5TD
Tel: 01888 563479 www.delgatiecastle.com

Ballindalloch Castle
One of Scotland’s most romantic castles, set amidst magnificent gardens

Ballindalloch Castle, a much-loved home still occupied by its original family, is open to visitors daily (except Saturdays); from Good Friday until 30 September, from Good Friday until 30 September, 10.00am – 5.00pm (last entry 4.00pm)

• GARDEN AND RIVER WALKS • TEAROOM & SHOP • AUDIOVISUAL • CHILDREN’S PLAYGROUND • ROCK AND ROSE GARDENS • GATE LAWN • DOG WALKING AREA

Email: enquiries@ballindallochcastle.co.uk • www.ballindallochcastle.co.uk

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1st APRIL - 31st OCTOBER 10:30am - 5pm
Winter opening hours:
Nov-mid Dec: 10:30am-5:30pm Thursday-Monday
Mid Dec-mid Feb: Closed
Mid Feb - 31st March: 10:30am-3:30pm Thursday-Monday
T 01349 820 573 www.lochness.com

DIRECTIONS: FROM INVERNESS, FolloW the Loch Ness Trail along the A82 to Drumnadrochit.
FROM DRUMNAcroCHIT, follow A82 sign for Inverness.

Drumnadrochit, Loch Ness, Inverness-shire IV63 6TU

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SPEY BAY, MORAY. IV32 7PJ
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- Land based dolphin watching
- Lochness tours
- “Dry Dive”
- Wildlife on sale
- Restaurant
- Cafe
- Icehouse Gift Shop
- Drumoich Visitor Centre
- Bistro & Family Fun Days

Open 7 Days a Week
1st April - 31st October: 10:30am - 5pm
Winter opening hours:
Nov - mid Dec: 10:30am - 5:30pm Thursday - Monday
Mid Dec - mid Feb: Closed
Mid Feb - 31 March: 10:30am - 3:30pm Thursday - Monday
T 01343 820 339
dolphincentre@whales.org
dolphincentre.whales.org

WILDLIFE EXPERIENCE
FREE ENTRY

SCOTTISH DOLPHIN CENTRE
SPEY BAY, MORAY. IV32 7PJ
T 01343 820 339
dolphincentre@whales.org
dolphincentre.whales.org

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FOCHABERS, MORAY

Restaurant | Foodhalls | Whisky, Gins & Craft Beers
Cookware | Gifts | Museum | Play Area | Nature Trail

Our friendly team look forward to welcoming you to Highland Village.
Our foodhalls exclusively stock the entire range of Baxters iconic recipes and delicious speciality foods along with many other fine Scottish food products, gins, whiskies craft beers and gifts. Sample quality home cooked Scottish food in our restaurant or courtyard, including Baxters famous soups and delicious pancakes.

Open 7 days a week, All Year Round. 10am - 5pm.
A96, between Aberdeen and Inverness.
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www.shop.baxters.com | www.baxters.com

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ALBA AGAMHOR

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Urquhart Castle
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Speyside’s first gin visitor experience
Balmenach Distillery, Cromdale, PH26 3PF

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+44 (0)1479 874933 or book online at: www.caorunngin.com/book-a-tour-booking/

Discover more at www.caorunngin.com
Leisure activities

### Hopeman Golf Club

@ Hopeman Golf Club

“I spent many happy hours there, learning how to play certain shots and being imaginative on the course which is great fun and has some brilliant holes – the signature Par 3 12th hole, the Prieshach, is one of the best of its kind anywhere!” Paul Lawrie

Single Round Price Jun, Jul & Aug Mon-Sat - £49
Super Sundays - £39
Twilight Round from 3pm - £20

Hopeman Golf Club, Lodge Road, Hopeman, Moray IV30 5YA
Tel No 01343 830578 | Website: www.hopemangolf.club
Email: clubmanager@hopemangolf.club

The Incredible panoramic views across the Moray Firth that golfers are faced with are unparalleled. Equally the 12th hole was voted by many as one of the best par 3’s in Scotland.

Let us inspire you to discover more of Scotland. Pop in and we’ll point you in the direction of the best the country has to offer, whether you need advice on what’s on or where to go, or even if you’re looking to book accommodation or tickets for all kinds of events, activities and transport. Come and talk to our knowledgeable and friendly information experts. You never know, we might just let you in on a few local secrets.

Find out where we are and when we’re open at visitscotland.com/icentre.

### Glenlivet Mountain Bike Trails

Glenlivet Mountain Bike Trails
Kekmichael, Nr Tomintoul, Moray AB37 9AR
Tel: 01479 870070 bike@glenlivetestate.co.uk
www.glenlivetestate.co.uk

Blue and red grade mountain bike trails, pump track and skills area on the stunning Glenlivet Estate, not only fantastic fun packed trails, but spectacular scenery as you cycle.

Let us inspire you to discover more of Scotland. Pop in and we’ll point you in the direction of the best the country has to offer, whether you need advice on what’s on or where to go, or even if you’re looking to book accommodation or tickets for all kinds of events, activities and transport. Come and talk to our knowledgeable and friendly information experts. You never know, we might just let you in on a few local secrets.

Find out where we are and when we’re open at visitscotland.com/icentre.

### Burgie Arboretum

The largest collection of rare trees and shrubs from around the world in the north of Scotland.

The collection is displayed in zones in the wood. These zones are broken down into species and geographical position in the world.

Most of the trees are grown from hand collected seed and are grown in our Green house.

The arboretum extends over sixty acres and is being developed all the time. It includes a Bog Wood and a Japanese Garden

The pathways are both hard surface and over grass. Largely suitable for disabled persons but if the use of chairs or buggie are required then a code for the locked gate will be required by telephone or email.

www.burgie.co.uk/
scotlandsgardens.org/burgie/
01343 850 231 or hamish@burgie.org
Woodside Croft, Burgie, Forres, Moray, IV36 2QU

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LEISURE ACTIVITIES
**FINDHORN, by FORRES (4 miles)**

**Findhorn Pottery**
Bella Bindschield, Shore Road, Findhorn IV36 3YJ
Tel: 0751 978 7817 findhornpottery@yahoo.co.uk
www.findhornpottery.com

Bespoke, individually hand crafted pottery, gifts, souvenirs and sculptural pieces. Local, independent pottery using only natural materials. All our pottery is food, dishwasher and microwave safe. Ideal souvenirs from the heart of Scotland. Our unique glazes reflect the colours of sea, sand and the moors of the stunning landscape of the Moray Firth. All our ceramics are made in the studio set in the picturesque heritage village of Findhorn, surrounded by beautiful beaches and dunes. A great day out for all the family. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram.

- **Stoneware pottery**
- **Bespoke, Handcrafted**
- **Wheel thrown and hand techniques**
- **Local artists**
- **Unique souvenirs**

**Open:** All year. Summer: Mon, Thurs, Fri, Sat: 11am-5pm; Sun, 12noon-5.00pm. Winter: Mon, Thurs, Fri, Sat 11am-4pm; Sun, 12noon-4pm. Tues & Wed closed. Dog friendly, and good cafes close to studio.

**Admission:** Free.

---

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Open 7 Days, 9.00am - 5.00pm • T: 01464 851114 | www.kellockbank.co.uk

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To find out more go to visitscotland.com/tasteourbest
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Accompany a ranger on a fascinating ‘behind the scenes’ tour of Balmoral Estate. An excellent opportunity to experience the stunning mountain scenery of the Cairngorms National Park from the comfort of a luxury Land Rover Discovery.

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Safaris available April to July and late-October to December.

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North East's Premier Agricultural Show
SUNDAY 2ND AND MONDAY 3RD AUGUST 2020
300 Quality Trade Stands, Food and Drink Marquee, Arts and Crafts, Shopping Mall, Ferguson Hall, Exhibition Marquee, Industrial and Horticultural and Codonas Funfair.

SUNDAY
300 Quality Trade Stands, Food and Drink Marquee, Arts and Crafts, Shopping Mall, Ferguson Hall, Exhibition Marquee, Industrial and Horticultural and Codonas Funfair.


The Tomintoul Gathering is “Always the third Saturday in July”

Games officially opened at 1.00pm with the Pipe Band Procession. Junior & Senior Piping, Dancing, Races; tug-o-war, other events and stalls. A full programme of Heavy and Light events: light & heavy hammer, stone, weight over the bar, weight for distance and the caber

• The Friendly Games, we are one of the oldest and most traditional Highland Games
• Events commence at 11.00a.m.
• We are the venue for the British 56lb weight for distance Competition

Come and join us Sat Nav: AB37 9EX
The Highest Village in the Cairngorm National Park
www.tomintoulhighlandgames.co.uk
Tuesday – Horse and Pony, Cattle, Canine, Caves, Figures, Pony Driving and Open Dog Show.

Admission: Adults (16+) £13, Conc (60+) £10, Children (5-15) £7, Family (2 adults, 3 children) £35. Free parking.
Buy tickets online before 1st May and save 10% on gate prices.

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179th Tomintoul Highland Games
Saturday 18th July 2020
The Tomintoul Gathering is “Always the third Saturday in July”

Games officially opened at 1.00pm with the Pipe Band Procession. Junior & Senior Piping, Dancing, Races; tug-o-war, other events and stalls. A full programme of Heavy and Light events: light & heavy hammer, stone, weight over the bar, weight for distance and the caber

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Facilities symbols
See explanation below and check at all time of booking. Not verified by VisitScotland.

Accommodation options and costs
Number in brackets refers to number of rooms/units of that type.
Sgl – Single
Db – Double
Twn – Twin
Fam – Family
Ste – Suite
Twn – Twin
Dbl – Double

Facility symbols - please note that you should always check that a particular facility or service is available at the time of booking.

Service Apartments Map 2 F4

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
Facility symbols – please note that you should always check that a particular facility or service is available at the time of booking.

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

Further information
For further information either visit www.visitscotland.com or contact the accommodation provider directly.

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Millbank
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T: 01787 633 4680 M: 01787 633 4680 lizziemillbank@gmail.com www.airbnb.co.uk/rooms/2429963

Self Catering
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Bedrooms (1) Sleeps (6)

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T: 01542 840746 enquiries@cullenbay.co.uk www.cullenbayholidaypark.co.uk

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Bedrooms (2-3) Sleeps (6-8)

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T: 01343 880400 enquiries@ortonestate.com

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Are situated on a family run farm in Drybridge near Buckie Moray, which has all your amenities, restaurants, shops & swimming pool. The historic Craigmin Bridge is situated just a small walk from us! We are a short drive from 3 golf courses Buckpool, Strathlene & Cullen. Walkers will enjoy lovely coastal and country paths near by.

**Property amenities**
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Greencraig Farm, Buckie AB56 5JN Scotland
greencraigpods@gmail.com
07734 355451

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Call 01343 880240 or email enquiries@ortonestate.com

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Contact Elizabeth Turner: 07876334680
email: lizziemillbank@gmail.com  •  https://www.airbnb.co.uk/rooms/24299683

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**The Old Smiddy**

The Old Smiddy is a delightful & unique cottage situated in a peaceful rural setting in Chapeltown of Glenlivet. A perfect family getaway or romantic retreat with 3 bedrooms and 2 bathrooms. Perfectly situated for whisky enthusiasts

Contact Elizabeth Turner: 07876334680
email: lizziemillbank@gmail.com  •  https://www.airbnb.co.uk/rooms/13346472
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Forres, Moray IV36 2RU
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www.blervie.com

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The GlenDronach Distillery, Forgue, Aberdeenshire, AB54 6DB
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Call 0131 456 2672
Email info@glendronachdistillery.co.uk

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drinkaware.co.uk

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For more info go to www.nts.org.uk/brodie

Find us on Brodie Castle, Brodie, Forres, IV362TE

nts.org.uk

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