



ABERDEENSHIRE

SAMPLE ITINERARY

Day One

Kincardine Castle

Superb Victorian castle in Royal Deeside. Accommodation, private dining, meetings, weddings, conferences. Wonderful grand family home and 3,000-acre estate on a hillside overlooking Royal Deeside and the hills of the Cairngorms National Park. Magnificent gardens, super views. World-class hospitality from the Laird, his wife and their team including full-time chef, with delicious food and superb wines. Fabulous art, furniture, treasures, music and stories. Learn at first-hand from the Laird the challenges of managing a Scottish Estate. Meeting facilities and, for the active, lots to do in the big outdoors locally. Just 35 minutes from Aberdeen Airport.

Kincardine Castle

Kincardine O'Neil,
Aboyne,
AB34 5AE

W: <https://www.kincardinecastle.com>

Braemar Highland Centre

The Braemar Highland Games Centre explores a living tradition, the Highland games, focusing on the world-famous Braemar Gathering. The picturesque village of Braemar, situated in the heart of Royal Deeside and the Cairngorms National Park, is home to the world-famous Braemar Gathering and now the Braemar Highland Games Centre. Housed in the stunning Duke of Rothesay Highland Games Pavilion, the new centre offers a fascinating exhibition exploring the history of the games in Braemar, as well as an elegant cafe and quality gift shop. Walking through the doors into the gallery space, visitors will see photographs and trophies from games past, before entering the spectacular octagonal exhibition room.

Braemar Highland Centre

Duke of Rothesay Highland Games Pavilion,
Broombank Terrace,
Braemar,
Aberdeenshire,
AB35 5YZ

W: <https://www.highlandgamescentre.org/>



Aberdeenshire Highland Beef Farm

Highland Beef Farm in the heart of Deeside, Aberdeenshire. Highland Cattle herd outdoors all year round in Aberdeenshire. Visitors can join Grace, the owner of the farm, for an intimate tour around the farm, where Grace will personally welcome your clients for a unique experience to see the working farm, meet the iconic Highland Cattle in the heart of the Scottish Countryside, meet them up close and photograph them followed by refreshments and the chance to taste some of their delicious beef.

Highland Beef Farm

Lochton of Leys,
Banchory,
Aberdeenshire,
AB31 5QB

W: <https://aberdeenshirehighlandbeef.com/>

**Porter's Gin tour**

With a passion for creating better drinks, they turned the basement of a bar in Aberdeen, into one of the UK's most innovative micro-distilleries. They built their own vacuum still, which distils botanicals at low temperatures, retaining their fresh, natural flavour. While working closely with the UK's most respected gin distillers, they perfected the art of cold distilling botanicals. This respect for tradition while innovating results in exceptionally well balanced, refined, high quality gin recipes that bring together the best of classic and contemporary botanical distilling.

Porter's Gin

Orchid Aberdeen,
51 Langstane place,
Aberdeen,
AB11 6EN

W: <https://portersgin.co.uk/>

**Day Two****Peterhead Prison Museum**

The Museum is dedicated to the staff that worked in Peterhead Prison between 1888- 2013. Set within the granite prison walls you will experience how life was as an officer serving at Peterhead. Walk through time from 1888 when it first opened its doors to 2013 when it closed and witness how life was for staff serving in this prison. Hear some staff members speak of their experiences as you make your way through the halls, reception, shower block, court room segregation wing, silent cell and hospital. Your clients will sense the tension of daily work within the red granite buildings and try to imagine how it would have felt working in this environment daily.

Peterhead Prison Museum

Admiralty Gateway,
South Road,
Peterhead,
Aberdeenshire,
AB42 2ZX

W: <https://peterheadprisonmuseum.com/>



DogTap Brewdog

Located on a green field site in Ellon, north of Aberdeen, is our state-of-the-art brewery. One of the most technologically advanced in the world, from here we strive constantly to challenge people's preconceptions about what beer is and how it can taste. Ellon is also home to our Overworks Brewery - dedicated to sour beer - and the DogTap tap room, serving up the freshest beer straight from the brewery. With ten taps, the onsite bar opened in 2014, and sits in the shadow of the giant external fermenters, separated from the brew kit by a single glass door.

DogTap Brewdog

Balmacassie Dr,
Ellon,
AB41 8QR

W: <https://www.brewdog.com/uk/locations/brewery/ellon>

Fyvie Castle

Cared for by the National Trust for Scotland, a magnificent fortress in the heart of Aberdeenshire, Fyvie Castle's 800-year history is rich in legends, folklore and even ghost stories. Your clients will discover the amazing collection of antiquities, armour and lavish oil paintings, stroll around the picturesque loch or visit the restored glass-roofed racquets court and icehouse. Visitors can lose themselves in the glory of Fyvie's landscape and the richness of its past. Ghosts, legends and folklore are all woven into the tapestry of Fyvie's 800-year-old history. Outside, the 18th-century walled garden has been redeveloped as a garden of Scottish fruits and vegetables. Fyvie Loch is a picturesque landscape feature which supports large numbers of wildfowl.

Fyvie Castle

Turriff,
Aberdeenshire,
AB53 8JS

W: <https://www.nts.org.uk/visit/places/fyvie-castle>



Glen Garioch Distillery

Established in 1797, Glen Garioch, is Scotland's most easterly distillery and is situated in the historic old town of Oldmeldrum near Aberdeen. This small granite distillery takes its name from the valley of the Garioch, traditionally the finest growing barley area of Scotland. For over 200 years, Glen Garioch Distillery has been handcrafting a beautiful range of single malt scotch whiskies which have won highly acclaimed awards at international competitions across the world.

Glen Garioch Distillery

Distillery Road,
Oldmeldrum,
Inverurie,
Aberdeenshire,
AB51 0ES

W: <https://www.glengarioch.com/>

Day Three

Nuart Walking Tour

Nuart Aberdeen welcomes an international cast of highly acclaimed street artists to the city every April. Using walls and streets as their canvas these talented street artists make their mark around the city centre producing works which range from super-sized murals to smaller hidden artworks. Tours depart from The Green taking a route of approximately 1 mile, lasting around 90 minutes and run come rain or shine.

Nuart Walking Tour

W: <https://www.aberdeeninspired.com/festival/nuart-aberdeen/nuart-aberdeen-walking-tours>



Aberdeen Art Gallery

Aberdeen Art Gallery is home to one of the finest collections in the UK, with works by important Scottish artists, designers and makers as well as nationally and internationally acclaimed artists. A must-see on any Granite City itinerary, an exceptional experience awaits visitors. Your clients can enjoy world-class art in one of Aberdeen's finest buildings which blends historic and contemporary architecture to stunning effect.

Aberdeen Art Gallery

Schoolhill

Aberdeen

AB10 1FQ

W: <http://www.aagm.co.uk/>



Dunnottar Castle

Dunnottar Castle is a romantic, evocative and historically significant ruined Castle perched on a giant conglomerate on the edge of the North-Sea. Visiting Dunnottar Castle, your clients will have an unforgettable experience and will also discover the importance of Dunnottar – an impregnable fortress that holds many rich secrets of Scotland's colourful past. The dramatic and evocative ruined cliff top fortress was the home of the Earls Marischal, once one of the most powerful families in the land. William Wallace, Mary Queen of Scots, the Marquis of Montrose and the future King Charles II have graced the Castle with their presence. Most famously though, it was at Dunnottar Castle that a small garrison held out against the might of Cromwell's army for eight months and saved the Scottish Crown Jewels, the 'Honours of Scotland', from destruction.

Dunnottar Castle

Stonehaven,

Aberdeenshire,

AB39 2TL

W: <https://www.dunnottarcastle.co.uk/>



VisitScotland's Themed Years

Year of Scotland's Coasts and Waters 2020

In 2020, Scotland celebrates its Coasts and Waters with a year-long programme of events and activities which will shine a spotlight on these vital elements of our landscape.

From our beautiful natural features including coasts, lochs and rivers to our industrial heritage such as our canals, mills and the creation of our national drink – whisky, Scotland's Coasts and Waters have shaped our culture, our stories and our way of life.

So, whether you want to navigate your way around distant isles or canals, experience Scotland's maritime heritage at a visitor attraction, enjoy Scotland's abundant natural larder or discover Scotland's wildlife on a local boat trip - Scotland's coasts and waters are perfect for get-away-from-it-all adventures.

For more info www.visitscotland.com/ycw2020 and join the conversation using #YCW2020



Year of Scotland's Stories 2022

Scotland's Year of Stories 2022 will shine a spotlight on the richness of our stories, past and present; celebrating our literary Icons and heroes, diverse voices, stories that have leapt from page to screen and stage, the richness of our myths, legends and local tales - and the places that have inspired them.

The words of Robert Burns are known and celebrated across the world, as are works by Sir Walter Scott and Robert Louis Stevenson, while stories by modern Scottish authors, such as JK Rowling's Harry Potter tales, are inspiring today's generation.

The story of real-life legends such as King Robert the Bruce, Sir William Wallace, Mary Queen of Scots have inspired poems, books and even Oscar winning movies.

Stories of magic, ghosts, witches, haunted castles and tales of mystical figures such as Kelpies abound, and there are the oral traditions handed down through generations in Scotland's many diverse communities. We invite visitors to join us in exploring the rich history of Scotland's stories in 2022, including a programme of events which will take place across the year.



VisitScotland Websites

Our travel trade website offers the travel industry a one-stop-shop for **Scotland information, inspiration and tool kit**. The site is designed to assist tour operators and agents to sell destination Scotland more effectively to their clients.

Travel trade website **www.visitscotlandtraveltrade.com**

Destination Education Programme **www.visitscotlandtraveltrade.com/scotsagent**

VisitScotland consumer site **www.visitscotland.com**

Information on travel trade website

- Inspirational itineraries
- Downloadable e-brochures and maps
- Link to multimedia library for images and videos
- Online destination education programme
- Opt-in to receive our monthly travel trade e-newsletter.
- A comprehensive directory of Scottish companies who have committed to special rates, discounts and commissions exclusively available for the travel trade.

General websites

Britrail	<u>www.britrail.com</u>
News & Weather information	<u>www.bbc.co.uk/weather</u>
British Train information	<u>www.nationalrail.co.uk</u>
Scottish Train information	<u>www.scotrail.co.uk</u>
Bus information	<u>www.citylink.co.uk</u>
Historic Environment Scotland	<u>www.historic-scotland.gov.uk</u>
National Trust for Scotland	<u>www.nts.org.uk</u>
Scottish Tourist Guides Association	<u>www.stga.co.uk</u>