



**NATIONAL
TRUST *for*
SCOTLAND**

***B2B UNIQUE EXPERIENCES
2023-24***

We're the proud guardians and largest protector of Scotland's assets, and we offer a unique insight into her magnificent stories, places and people. At the heart of the Trust are our values; caring, brave, curious, vibrant and inclusive and they shape the immersive experiences we offer and those that continue to evolve. We create experiences that challenge the norm, experiences that aspire to be different and experiences to immerse your clients in the precious historical places and outstanding natural landscapes that belong to the Trust.

By choosing the Trust, you are supporting our rangers, conservation experts, property teams and volunteers committed to caring for our buildings, protecting our mountains and wildlife, and engaging people with our past – inspiring a Love for Scotland.

The experiences set out below are just the tip of the iceberg of what we can offer your clients. We would be delighted to create a bespoke experience and help you to plan their 'wow moment' in Scotland. To find out more, email traveltrade@nts.org.uk

Highlands and Islands

Brodie Castle



A Castle After Dark

- An immersive experience where one by one, the members of the group will embark on a tour of Brodie Castle after dark. A 'friendly ghost' will lead them through the castle, instructing them in adventure and activities. Includes welcome canapes and a drink.

Head Housekeeper Tour

- Meet Julie, who spent much of her childhood at Brodie Castle and worked there from a young age. With so many fond memories of the family, this tour is full of wit, stories and gossip.

A Tale of War and Daffodils

- Be immersed in a story about the healing power of nature and learn of Laird Ian Brodie, who recovered from war-time trauma by breeding daffodils. First, tour the castle and then receive behind the scenes access to our daffodil breeding facilities.

Optional Extras

- Daffodil themed gift
- Use of library for pre/post tour drinks

Culloden



Bagpipes Exposed with Burgess Bagpipes

- Meet Burgess Bagpipes, professional bagpipe makers who craft these instruments for the best pipers in the business. This experience includes a private workshop with the opportunity to learn the history of bagpipes, their importance in the battle of Culloden and how they are made today.

Meet the Cavalry

- Culloden isn't just a human story. Both the battlefield and the wider Highlands owe much to the animal kingdom. Our guide will provide a guided walk of the battlefield with one of our gorgeous Highland Ponies, giving insights of the importance of the cavalry to the battle of Culloden. Then they will introduce our famous Highland Coos and talk about how they have been used by Highlanders over the years.

Optional Extras

- Dram of Culloden whisky
- Artisan food platters

Culloden continued...



Ancestry Experience

- Discover the importance of names and unique ties within the Scottish Clan System. Working with Hall of Names we can search names to deliver bespoke experiences uncovering the origins of names, their meaning and the history they share with the Highlands and Culloden. Our experts may uncover a family crest or hidden connections from the past. A personal scroll for display with all the details of the family name is included with this experience.

Optional Extras

- Dram of Culloden whisky
- Artisan food platters
- Plaid demonstrations

Glencoe National Nature Reserve



Turf House Traditions

- This experience uses our turf house as the perfect setting to tell the story of Highland living. 300 years ago, hundreds of Highlanders lived in townships, up and down the glen. Get a flavour for Clan MacDonald's way of life, hear about how the Glen provided sustenance and participate in a hands-on workshop to make a traditional good luck charm which would have been found in Turf Houses across Scotland.

Meet the Ranger

- We care for 5665 hectares (around the size of 4000 football pitches) at Glencoe National Nature Reserve. Meet one of our rangers to find out how we look after the wildlife and rare habitats before venturing out to the glen. Lucky explorers may spot a red deer, wild mountain goats or even a golden eagle soaring overhead. Includes exclusive use of the cinema room for a ranger led talk.

Optional Extras

- Platter of Highland Fare
- Dram of whisky
- Low level guided walk of the glen

Glenfinnan Monument



Toast to the Train

- A few times a day, the Jacobite Steam Train glides by the Glenfinnan Monument. Your clients will be met upon their arrival for the 'Toast to the Train' experience by our knowledgeable guide who will guide them to the monument. There, they'll share the story of this Highland gem from which to imagine the day when one of the most important events in Scottish History began here: the 1745 Jacobite Rising. They'll be given a private talk on the heritage of the site before climbing the monument, which is exclusively theirs to watch the Jacobite Steam Train cross the world-famous Glenfinnan Viaduct. They'll be given a dram to toast the train, as well as a certificate as a memento of their experience.

Isle of Canna

Songs and Stories

- This small island to the south-west of Skye is bursting with human history. Canna is thought to have been inhabited since 5000BC, and as well as now supporting a small and vibrant island community, is home to a huge archive of Gaelic songs and stories. During their time here, your clients will have exclusive use of St Columba Chapel, where they will meet Canna House Archivist and award-winning Gaelic singer, Fiona J Mackenzie, for a private musical talk on the treasures of the island. She can also teach them how to say hello and introduce themselves in Gaelic or, most importantly, how to ask for a gin!



North East



Pitmedden Garden



Meet the Ploughman

- Meet Jim Elliot, the British horse-drawn ploughing champion. Famous enough to have appeared in Downton Abbey, Jim is well-respected in his field – literally. Jim will introduce your group to the rich farming heritage of the area and give them a private demonstration of horse-drawn ploughing in a nearby field. Entry to Pitmedden Garden is included in this experience.

Optional Extras

- Ploughman's Lunch
- Apple juice made from Pitmedden Apples (seasonal)



Fyvie Castle & Garden



The Future of Sustainable Gardening

- The Walled Garden of Scottish Fruit at Fyvie Castle is home to the largest collection of Scottish fruits and vegetables. Join our gardener to hear what to plant and when, and how to tend to a garden in the most sustainable way. They will share hints and tips on how to make the most of a produce garden. This experience includes a guided tour of Fyvie Castle.

Optional Extras

- Lunch
- Tasting of produce from the garden (seasonal)
- Hands on workshop using produce from the garden (seasonal)

Drum Castle & Garden



Jacobites: Behind the Scenes

- Experience 700 years of history before discovering tales of intrigue and romance from the turbulent days of the Jacobite Uprisings, and follow in the footsteps of the 17th Laird of Drum, who fought alongside Bonnie Price Charlie at the Battle of Culloden. He survived the battle and made his way home to Drum where his sister is said to have hidden him in the castle walls to escape persecution from government forces.

Garden of Historic Roses

- Join our head gardener on a tour of the Garden of Historic Roses, which features an enormous array of rare and exotic roses, where they will share how different types of roses have been grown over the centuries.

Optional Extras

- Hands on gardening workshop
- Lunch in the historic library

House of Dun



Step back in Time for Tea

- Built in 1743 and with stunning views over the Montrose Basin, House of Dun is every inch the perfect 18th-century Laird's home. Experience a welcome from the 'household staff', where they will share the secrets and stories from the House of Dun. Then retreat to the Old Library, not normally available to the public, for tea with the 'Lady of the House' to find out how guests were entertained at Dun in the Victorian, Georgian and Edwardian period.

Optional Extras

- Upgrade to afternoon tea
- Tour of the walled garden

South & West



Culzean Castle



Garden Tasting Tour

- Built in the 18th century, the Walled Garden at Culzean is one of the largest in Scotland and a significant garden in our care. It consists of two sections divided by a spine wall – the pleasure garden and the kitchen garden, which grows an array of fruit and vegetables year round. Join our garden team to learn what we plant, when and why, before enjoying some seasonal produce from the garden. Includes a guided tour of Culzean Castle.

Optional Extras

- Gin and tonic garnished with produce from the garden
- Pre/post tour drinks in the castle

Robert Burns' Birthplace



Poets and Pints

- Welcome to Burns Cottage, where Robert Burns spent the first seven years of his life. The cottage was later turned in to a pub and historical graffiti dating from the 1800s where patrons of the Burns Head Inn wanted to leave their mark can still be seen today. In the authentic atmosphere of the cottage, enjoy a tasting of local ale, named after Burns characters, whilst hearing tales and poems aplenty. Then explore the rest of the site and museum, visiting places that inspired the works of Scotland's Bard before finishing the experience by raising a pint to Rabbie Burns!

Optional Extras

- Tastings of Ayrshire Fare
- A traditional Burns' supper of haggis, neeps and tatties
- View artefacts from the vault

Robert Burns' Birthplace continued...



Superstition and Belief

- This immersive experience brings to life the superstitions, tales and history behind the epic poem, Tam o Shanter, which is widely regarded as Burns' masterpiece. Your clients will be welcomed by our Burns expert, who will guide them around the amazing built heritage of Alloway that inspired this tale, sharing tales of folklore and witchcraft from letters that Burns himself wrote. The experience includes visits to Alloway Auld Kirk and the iconic Brig o' Doon, before concluding at the museum for tastings of local beer, whisky and cheese. Your clients will be given a gift manuscript of Tam o Shanter as a memento of their experience.

Optional Extras

- Tastings of Ayrshire Fare
- A traditional Burns' supper of haggis, neeps and tatties

Pollok House



The People of Pollok House

The ancestral home of the Maxwell family since the 13th century, the current Pollok House was built in 1752 and extended in 1890. In Pollok's heyday there were 48 household members of staff to look after just 3 members of the family. The house was famed for its unparalleled hospitality. Join us as we share the stories of the people of Pollok House - find out how the Maxwell's shaped and were shaped by Scotland's history, see 'how the other half lived' in the grand upstairs of the main house, and venture downstairs to the vast servants quarters to hear stories about the staff and how they ran the house.

Optional Extras –

- Cream tea or afternoon tea in the Servants Hall or in the Dining Room
- Cookery demonstration in the 'Still Room'

Weaver's Cottage



The Fabric of Scotland

- Weavers Cottage, located in the village of Kilbarchan, transports visitors back 200 years to a time when hand-woven textiles were the pride of Scotland's weaving industry. This quaint little cottage, with its low beams and period furniture shows the process of making cloth on a working loom and using yarn dyed using plants from its garden, a truly sustainable means of colouring the fabric. Kilbarchan was once known as the village of a thousand looms, times have changed dramatically since then. Today Weavers Cottage is home to the last working handloom in the village and used by specialist weavers to make tartan. Your clients can join us to learn the history of tartan, hear what life was like for the weavers who lived here and see our 200-year old loom in action, before trying their hand at weaving on our more modern loom – a great photo opportunity! Includes exclusive use of Weaver's Cottage.

Edinburgh & East



The Georgian House



Historic Wine Tasting

- Join our team in Edinburgh's new town for a closer look at the important part that wine played when entertaining guests in the Georgian period. During this experience, your client will sample four different wine recipes, hearing about their history, origin and how they were made. They will be introduced to Georgian wine practices and learn when wine was drunk and by who. Wine tastings are accompanied by Georgian snacks.

An Evening With...

- Indulge your clients in an evening with one of our experts from the National Trust for Scotland – an ideal pre-dinner experience. Our team of curators, conservators, rangers, gardeners, archaeologists and volunteers are available to share their expertise across a range of interests and specialisms. Includes a welcome drink, exclusive use of The Georgian House and an audience with an NTS expert.

Gladstone's Land



Tables Through Time

- Join us for a taste of the past on this immersive tour. Following the lives of three women that lived and worked in Gladstone's Land, *Tables Through Time* tells the story of changing tastes in food in Edinburgh's Old Town and the impact of trade, class and fashion on people's diets. Tastings included!

Intimate Lives: A history of sex and desire

- This experience at Gladstone's Land looks at an important part of everyday social history – the history of sex & desire in Edinburgh. Learn about topics such as contraception, masturbation, sex work and LGBT+ relationships, including some very crude (but historically correct!) language. The experience concludes with a workshop, where your clients can make their very own version of 18th century contraception*.

The History of Tea

- "Tea is one of the mainstays of civilisation in this country" writes George Orwell in 1946. But when and how did the British develop such an affinity for a drink that they had to travel halfway across the world to obtain? And how has tea time become such a staple of the British cultural identity? Gladstone's Land cordially invites your clients to a very special tea party indeed. Our costumed storytellers share the fascinating story of tea over a cup of tea. Or two. Or three.

Newhailes House

Outlander Tour

- Travel back in time with us as we explore Newhailes House during the height of Jacobite activity in Scotland. What battles and skirmishes were waged in the area? What were the family doing, and where did their sympathies lie? More than 250 years later Outlander began filming at Newhailes using the library and the dining room in Season 4 Episode 1 as the home of Mr Lillington. Here Jamie and Claire meet Governor Tyron and attempt to navigate American high society. How did the NTS and the production company transform Newhailes into Mr Lillington's home, and how do we make a historic house work as a 21st century film set? Join us as we explore Outlander and 18th century Scotland on location.

A Newhailes Haunting

- Join us on the spine-chilling haunted tour of Newhailes House, built in 1686, this eerily majestic Palladian mansion house was home to the wealthy, influential and often infamous Dalrymple family for nearly 300 years. We'll divulge dark tales of the death, murder, scandal and heart ache that plagued the Dalrymple family for centuries, with many tragedies happening right within these very walls. Such was the extent of the misfortune that the house was and is still to this day regarded as cursed. With all these echo's from the past is it any wonder that Newhailes is said to be paranormally active and haunted. With frequent accounts of ghostly apparitions, the feeling of being watched or touched, poltergeist activity and strange unexplainable occurrences, chances are you'll experience something for yourself, a former inhabitant maybe, who has never truly left....



Newhailes House



'Do more good' at Newhailes

- We invite your clients to spend a morning or afternoon 'doing more good' at Newhailes House, where they can support with the restoration of the historic landscape feature known as 'Ladies' Walk', a 'ha-ha wall' that connects the house to stunning views across the River Forth. Our garden team will provide them with expert tuition and equipment for them to do some hands-on conservation work assisting with the delicate task of clearing overgrowth from the wall. Refreshments will be provided.

Optional Extras –

- Lunch
- Afternoon tea
- Guided tours of Newhailes House

Hill of Tarvit Mansion



Kingarrock Hickory Golf

- Swing back in time on our hickory golf course to an era when golf was a game of skill, strategy and technique rather than one driven by innovation and technology. After a welcome from our golf team, we will provide a set of hickory shafted clubs, authentic performing balls, golf bag, tees and a few tips to get the best return from the antique equipment! After the round, the golf team will provide the traditional Fife post round refreshments of shortbread and ginger beer.

Optional Extras –

- Private guided tour of Hill of Tarvit House
- Lunch

For the *love* of Scotland

For more information, please email
traveltrade@nts.org.uk