

Aberdeen City & Shire

A Food & Drink adventure (Two days)



Discover a land where majestic landscapes meet the sea and the flourishing Granite City boasts beautiful architecture and cultural gems. Aberdeen City and Shire is adored by the Royal Family, and is a region with a maritime heritage which offers lively events and a selection of thrilling activities.

Scotland's Malt Whisky Trail

The Malt Whisky Trail in Speyside, Aberdeenshire is the only whisky trail in the world and along the trail visitors can discover nine of the area's most-loved distilleries. Along the trail you can take in the beautiful natural environment, fantastic accommodation and top restaurants. The trail includes the following distilleries - Benromach, Cardhu, Dallas Dhu Historic Distillery, Glenfiddich, Glen Grant, The Glenlivet, Glen Moray, Speyside Cooperage and Strathisla. www.maltwhiskytrail.com

Taste Our Best

Scotland has a fantastic range of high quality produce with an enviable choice of world-class cuisine. Taste Our Best is VisitScotland's Quality Assurance food and drink award scheme, recognising and showcasing the high quality standards of eating and drinking experiences and consumer choice on Scottish produce on offer throughout Scotland.



The scheme is relevant for hotels, restaurants, cafes, takeaways, visitor attractions and guest houses/B&Bs. The scheme also recognises ethnic restaurants that use Scottish produce as the basis for their cuisine. The assessment is undertaken by VisitScotland Quality & Tourism Advisors. The requirement is to have a minimum of 40% of Scottish produce visible on the menu.

The Taste Our Best scheme has been developed in response to consumer demand. Research carried out by VisitScotland has found that sampling local produce is the 2nd top activity undertaken by visitors to Scotland. (VisitScotland 2011/2012 Visitor Attitude Survey). The scheme helps to identify places where Scottish produce is guaranteed to be on the menu.

www.visitscotland.com/tasteourbest

The use of the Taste Our Best logo in the itinerary indicates that the business has been Taste Our Best accredited.



Getting around

www.visitscotland.com

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Car hire

Arnold Clark is our reliable partner: <http://www.arnoldclarkrental.com/>

Train

Scot Rail: <http://www.scotrail.co.uk/>

Coach

First Group www.firstgroup.com/ukbus/aberdeen

For assistance in booking carhire or train travel contact the consumer PR team on 0131 472 2222 or travelpr@visitscotland.com.

Accommodation

Suggestions

Atholl Hotel

54 King's Gate, Aberdeen AB15 4YN

Tel: +44 (0)1224 323505

www.atholl-aberdeen.co.uk



Or

Udny Station Hotel

Udny Station, Ellon, Aberdeenshire AB41 6QJ

Tel: +44 (0)1651 842216

www.udnystationhotel.co.uk



Day 1

Morning

After breakfast at your hotel, why not stop for lunch at:

Formartine's Visitor Centre (only 40 minutes' drive from Aberdeen city centre)

Tarves, Ellon, Aberdeenshire, AB41 7NU

+44 (0)1651 851 123 contactus@formartines.com

www.formartines.com



Set within rich woodlands in the Aberdeenshire countryside and near the Haddo Trout Lake, Formartine's in Ellon has a food hall and eatery that offers some of the best in local and seasonal ingredients. Visitors can enjoy breakfast, brunch, lunch and afternoon tea or just relax with a coffee and cake after a walk in the woods. Another option is to go al fresco with a glass of wine and deli-board on the deck outside!

Why not combine with a visit to:

Fyvie Castle Fyvie, Turriff, Aberdeenshire, AB53 8JS

www.nts.org.uk

Dating back to the 13th century, Fyvie Castle is found about a mile north of the village of Fyvie in Aberdeenshire.



This stunning castle was once a royal stronghold, one of a chain of fortresses throughout medieval Scotland. The oldest part of the castle still stands today, dating from the 13th century, which houses a great wheel staircase, the finest in Scotland.

[About Scotland's Castles Trail](#)

Scotland's only dedicated Castle Trail lets you discover the dramatic stories of 17 of Aberdeenshire's most famous castles. <http://www.visitscotland.com/see-do/itineraries/castles/scotlands-castle-trail>

Evening

Eat on the Green restaurant, Ellon (only 30 minutes by car from Aberdeen city centre)

Udny Green, Ellon, Aberdeenshire AB41 7RS

+44 (0) 01651 842337 email: enquiries@eatonthegreen.co.uk



The restaurant at 'Eat on the Green' reflects a passion for fine food in a relaxed setting. Only the best ingredients make it on to the menu. From locally reared Aberdeen Angus beef to Stornoway black pudding, Highland venison and homegrown fruit and vegetables - dining at Eat on the Green will take you on a journey through Scotland's larder.

Day 2

Morning

Finzean Estate Farm Shop & Tearoom, Banchory (25 minutes' drive from Aberdeen City Centre)

Finzean, Royal Deeside, Aberdeenshire, Scotland AB31 6PA

Tel: +44 (0)1330 850710

www.finzean.com



Finzean Estate, Aberdeenshire, with its beautiful scenery of rich woodlands, heather hills and abundance of wildlife, has been home to the Farquharson family for sixteen generations, including the renowned Victorian landscape painter Joseph Farquharson.

Pop into the farm shop for a cup of tea and one of the homemade cakes. There is also the option to linger over lunch with one of Royal Deeside's most spectacular views.

Lunch at **The Rockfish Restaurant** (1 hour, 20 minutes from Aberdeen City Centre)

3 Loch Street, Whitehills, Aberdeenshire AB45 2LT

Tel: +44 (0)1261 861 531

Rockfish is a family owned fish and chip shop and café. The family has over 100 years of experience in fishing and supplying the Rockfish Restaurant through their own vessel, Audacious. Based in the Aberdeenshire village of Whitehills, the restaurant has an extensive fish menu where haddock, smoked haddock, lemon sole, skate, rock turbot, halibut and cod are all available.



Why not combine with a visit to:

Duff House

Banff AB45 3SX

Tel: +44 (0)1261 818 181

www.duffhouse.org.uk

Duff House, designed by Scottish architect William Adam (1689-1748), is the grandest classical country house to be built on a fresh site in early

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18th century Scotland. It is considered to be an Adam masterpiece and is one of the most important buildings in the North.

And

Dallas Dhu Distillery

Forres IV36 2RR
www.dallasdhu.com

Dallas Dhu is single malt Scotch whisky distillery in the famous Speyside distilling region of Scotland. The distillery closed in 1983 and today is owned and run as a visitor museum by Historic Scotland. A state owned distillery.



Evening

Fourmile House Restaurant

Old Skene Road, Kingswell, Aberdeen, AB15 8QA
Tel: +44 (0)1224 740318
www.fourmile.co.uk



The restaurant is open every day for lunch and dinner serving an extensive menu with dishes to tempt all tastes. The emphasis is on offering quality home cooked meals coupled with value for money and friendly efficient service.

Useful information

- **You may wish to bring:** Passport
- Warm and waterproof clothing, e.g. wellingtons/ overcoat etc. (*if applicable*)
- Practical/ flat footwear

If Tweeting/ posting on Facebook during your press trip please use the following Twitter handles and hashtags:

VisitScotland Twitter: @VisitScotland #VisitScotland
@mediahub2014

ASVA passes are available for use on your trip upon request from the Consumer PR team at VisitScotland. These passes allow you free entry to most visitor attractions in Scotland. For more information on where to use these passes, please see www.asva.co.uk.

FACTBOX INFORMATION

Please include the following information in all features written following your trip:

For more information on events, accommodation and visitor attractions in Glasgow and throughout the rest of Scotland visit: www.visitscotland.com

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For further information on the Glasgow 2014 Commonwealth Games, please go to www.glasgow2014.com

Accommodation-

VisitScotland's internationally recognized Quality Assurance scheme is a benchmark for quality and service standards across the tourism industry and operates across accommodation, visitor attractions and food sectors.

DISCLAIMER

VisitScotland will provide the services mentioned in the attached itinerary. VisitScotland shall act only as agent for the passenger in making arrangements for hotels, transportation, restaurants, or any other service and does not assume any liability whatsoever for any injury, damage, death, loss, accident or delay to person or property due to an act of negligence of, or default of, any hotel, carrier, restaurant, company or person rendering any of the services included in the said itinerary, or by act of God.

Further, no responsibilities are accepted for any damage or delay due to sickness, pilferage, labour disputes, machinery breakdown, quarantine, government restraints, weather or other causes beyond their personal control. No responsibility is accepted for any additional expense, omissions, delays, re-routing or acts of any government or authority. The passage contract in use by the airlines concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and passenger.