

Royal Deeside

Explore the Royal Trail, where Queen Victoria's affection for the area in the 1880s made it a favourite of the Royal Family.

Itinerary



For information, contact:

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Photo Credit - Bothies and Bannocks
Location - River Dee

Two days

Length of trip



Two nights'

Overnight accommodation



Group & FIT friendly



Today's highlights

1 Crathes Castle

Enjoy a guided tour of this 16th century baronial castle and hear stories about the Burnett family who built and lived in the castle for over 350 years. Explore the 595-acre estate and enjoy the fairytale like turrets, gargoyles and landscape that makes this castle special. Enhance the experience with a carriage ride through the grounds as a collaboration with [Lochside Clydesdales](#).

 [Crathes Castle](#)



2 Aberdeenshire Highland Cattle

Farmer, Grace Noble, offers tours of her farm to share her experiences of the breed, stories of her life on a Scottish farm and provide your clients with a taste of Scottish hospitality. The cattle on the farm are her pride and joy, with their majestic horns and long flowing coats.

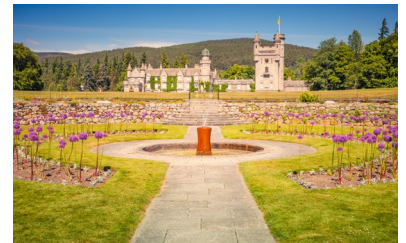
 [Aberdeenshire Highland Cattle](#)



3 Balmoral Castle

The opportunity to tour the famous [Balmoral Castle](#) is not to be missed. Hillgoers offer a guided walk around the grounds, up to the famous Prince Albert Cairns and within the castle. The team can offer a bespoke tour to meet clients' requirements and have alternatives in place for when the castle is closed so no matter what happens, you will be in for a memorable trip.

 [Hillgoers](#)



4 Glen Tanar Estate

Spend the evening at the prestigious, Glen Tanar Estate. Work with the team to create a personalised evening from whisky tasting to musical performances or craft classes. Immerse yourself in the history of the magnificent ballroom and surrounding estate. Visit for the evening or stay in one of the traditional, luxury lodges.

 [Glen Tanar Estate](#)



Falls of Feugh

Just a 10-minute drive from Aberdeenshire Highland Cattle is the majestic Falls of Feugh, where salmon leap upstream in the rushing waters of the River Dee. The best months to witness this natural spectacle are from August to November and February to March.

DID YOU KNOW?

The guides of Aberdeenshire take pride in showcasing the beauty of Royal Deeside. Whether your clients seek adventure with cycling and walking tours, prefer scheduled sightseeing, or want a focus on food and drink experiences, there is a perfect guide to suit every interest.

[Click here for more information](#)

Crathie Kirk

While near Braemar, be sure to visit the historic church where Queen Victoria's personal attendant, John Brown, is buried. The church remains a site of royal tradition, with the Royal Family still attending Sunday services there when staying at Balmoral Castle.

Today's highlights

1 Braemar Highland Games Centre

The centre focuses on the world-famous Braemar Gathering. It offers a fascinating exhibition exploring the history of the games in Braemar and their Royal connection. Enjoy a unique opportunity for your clients to experience their very own Highland Games in the Braemar Arena.

[@Braemar Highland Games Centre](#)



2 Braemar Castle

Situated near the village of Braemar in Royal Deeside, your clients will experience the turbulent history of this almost 400-year-old castle from its construction by the 2nd Earl of Mar in 1628, to its involvement in the Jacobite Uprisings through to the present day.

[@Braemar Castle](#)



3 Royal Lochnagar Distillery or Lost Loch Distillery

For whisky enthusiasts, a visit to Royal Lochnagar offers a perfect blend of Scotland's rich history and renowned whisky craftsmanship. This distillery provides a historic experience alongside its exquisite whisky offerings. For those with a passion for gin, the Lost Loch Distillery in Aboyne offers a unique opportunity to craft their own gin while learning about the distillery's collaborations with local castles to create exclusive blends. Whether your clients prefer whisky or gin, these destinations promise an unforgettable tasting and cultural experience.

[@Royal Lochnagar](#) and [Lost Loch](#)



4 Maryculter House

Maryculter House, dating back to the 13th century, has strong ties to the Knights Templar and the Jacobite Rebellion. Guests can explore its rich history while enjoying the themed '45 Uprising Dinner, featuring battle-inspired courses. The property also offers excellent overnight accommodations for both groups and FIT travellers, making it a perfect destination for a historically immersive stay.

[@Maryculter House](#)



Accommodation options



Hotels

The Boat Inn With its rich history, established in 1720, this hotel offers both a sense of tradition and comfort. The inn's appeal lies in its warm hospitality, complete with real log fires, a welcoming beer garden, and hearty pub food.

Fife Arms In the heart of Braemar is a luxurious hotel that blends historic charm with contemporary design, set in the scenic Scottish Highlands. Once a 19th-century hunting lodge, it now features eclectic interiors and contemporary amenities.

B&Bs

No.45 The Victorian granite house, built in 1890 is nestled within an acre of walled gardens at the end of a private drive. With Craighendarroch Hill in front and the scenic 'Old Line' walk behind, it offers picturesque views.

Lys-Na-Greyne 5 Star family B&B offers luxury accommodation in the heart of Royal Deeside. A peaceful retreat surrounded by natural beauty, with outdoor activities available year-round.

Exclusive Use

Kincardine Castle a stunning 19th-century Gothic Revival Castle, set amid lush grounds. It features 10 elegantly furnished rooms and richly decorated interiors.

Raemoir House Enjoy this charming Georgian mansion set in beautifully landscaped grounds. The house features 13 elegantly appointed rooms, each combining classic decor with modern amenities. Its serene setting and stylish interiors make it an inviting retreat.