



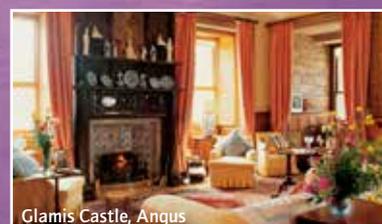
Scottish Crannog Centre, Perthshire



View along Loch Lomond



Crail, Fife



Glamis Castle, Angus

Ideas to inspire

Central Scotland : Kingdom of Fife, Dundee & Angus, Perthshire and Loch Lomond & Trossachs

In 2016 Scotland will celebrate and showcase its historic and contemporary contributions to Innovation, Architecture and Design. We'll be celebrating the beauty and importance of our built heritage, modern landmarks and innovative design, as well as the people behind some of Scotland's greatest creations.

In late 2014 Dundee became the first UNESCO City of Design in the UK, a prestigious award that recognises the huge contribution the city has made to design worldwide. Dundee has long since enjoyed a reputation as a leading destination in the fields of arts and science and the next exciting development in the field of design will occur when the V&A Museum of Design Dundee opens in 2017. Other attractions in the city and the county of Angus include Captain's Scott's ship RRS Discovery, Glamis Castle - former Home of HM The Queen Mother and atmospheric Arbroath Abbey.

Attractions in the Kingdom of Fife include Dunfermline Abbey in the town which was the nation's ancient capital and intriguing Falkland Palace set in the middle of an enchanting conservation village.

In Perthshire you can go back in time to experience life in an Iron-Age dwelling at the Scottish Crannog Centre or experience country living at one of the area's splendid castles.

In Loch Lomond the Trossachs you can experience the splendour of Loch Lomond from two very different architectural viewpoints, experience the bygone area of steam with a cruise on Loch Katrine or visit the castle that witnessed the comic genius of the Monty Python team.

Events:

Festival of Architecture - throughout the Year – Since 2016 is our Year of Innovation, Architecture and Design, we'll celebrate our rich architectural past and present with a Festival of Architecture taking place across the nation.

East Neuk Festival, Fife - late June/early July – The picturesque coastal villages of the East Neuk of Fife are the perfect setting for this annual celebration of world-class, critically-acclaimed classical chamber music, as well as jazz art and literature. www.eastneukfestival.com

Doors Open Days - September – Every weekend throughout September, buildings not normally open to the public throw open their doors to allow visitors and exclusive peak behind the scenes at museums, offices, factories, and many more surprising places, all free of charge. www.doorsopendays.org.uk/opendays

Blair Castle International Horse Trials - September – A celebration of arts and crafts against the backdrop of Cairngorms National Park where you can explore the work of artists, crafts people and musicians and even have a go at creating something yourself! www.braemarcreativearts.co.uk

Loch Lomond Food & Drink Festival - September – The annual Loch Lomond Food & Drink Festival takes place in early September, celebrating great local food, drink and entertainment. www.lochlomondfoodanddrinkfestival.co.uk

Central Scotland: Kingdom of Fife, Dundee & Angus, Perthshire and Loch Lomond & Trossachs

Day 1 - Perthshire



1
SCONE PALACE – The grand and impressive Scone Palace was the ancient capital and religious gathering place of the Picts. It has served as the seat of parliaments and the crowning place of the Kings of Scots, including Macbeth and Robert the Bruce. The Palace's art treasures include furniture, clicks, ivories, porcelain, paintings and tapestries and the gardens include a magnificent Pinetum containing giant redwoods and noble firs!



2
SCOTTISH CRANNOG CENTRE – One of the more unusual structures to be found amid the Perthshire countryside, the Scottish Crannog Centre is faithful recreation of a traditional Bronze Age loch-dwelling found in the Loch Tay area round 2,500 years ago. The Centre tells the story of why these ancient people built their homes in the water and lets you experience first-hand how they lived.



3
BLAIR CASTLE – From its cold medieval beginnings to embroilment in political struggle and the lucky inheritance of a smuggler-infested island which helped to turn it into the comfortable home we see today, Blair Castle has played its part at the heart of Scotland's history. With its distinctive white-washed edifice, Blair is an excellent example of the Scottish Baronial style.



4
FERGUSSON GALLERY – Of all Scotland's art galleries, Perth's Fergusson Gallery must be one of the most unusual, as it's located in the city's former water tower! The gallery celebrates the life and work of Scottish Colourist J.D. Fergusson (1874-1961), one of the most influential and important Scottish artists of the 20th Century, and his wife Margaret Morris an innovator in the field of dance.



5
STANLEY MILL – Stanley Mills is one of the best-preserved relics of the 18th-century Industrial Revolution. Textiles were produced for over 200 years in the mill, built in this location so it could be powered by the water pressure in an adjacent bend of the River Tay. Hear the stories of those who worked there and the products they made thanks to a new high-tech visitor experience.

Day 2 - Kingdom of Fife



1
FALKLAND PALACE – Set in the heart of Falkland conservation village, and surrounded by extensive gardens, this partly restored Renaissance palace allows you to experience a day in the life of the Stuart monarchs. Falkland was their country residence for 200 years, and was a favourite place of Mary, Queen of Scots. The grounds contain the oldest Royal tennis court in Britain, built for King James V.



2
DUNFERMLINE ABBEY – Dunfermline was once Scotland's ancient capital and ancient history awaits around every corner at Dunfermline Abbey, founded in the 11th century. The Abbey church is the last resting place of many Scottish kings and queens including King Robert the Bruce. King Charles I was born here in 1600, the last king to be born in Scotland.



3
SCOTTISH FISHERIES MUSEUM – Situated in picturesque Anstruther Harbour, the Museum tells the story of how, through a constant process of innovation, the Scottish fisheries became such an important part of the lives of Scottish people. Exhibits include wonderful examples of historic fishing boats and gear as well as artefacts and images which illustrate the geography and social structures of fishing communities.



4
SWILCAN BURN BRIDGE – Of all the world's best known bridges, one of the most famous must be the tiny Swilcan Burn Bridge on the celebrated Old Course at St Andrews, known as the Home of Golf. The bridge lies between the first and eighteenth fairways and has itself become an important cultural icon in the sport of golf.



5
CAMBO ESTATE AND GARDENS – Cambo's 'Secret Garden' has been described as a plantsman's paradise. Hidden within ancient walls, the garden has been superbly designed with naturalistic, modern plantings contrasting with traditional Victorian garden complete with box hedges, lilacs and roses galore. In spring, Cambo is one of the main venues in the annual Snowdrop Festival.

Day 3 - Dundee & Angus



1
DISCOVERY POINT / VERDANT WORKS Discover one of the reasons why Dundee is known as the 'City of Discovery' as you board the Dundee-built RRS *Discovery* – the actual vessel which carried Captain Scott and his crew on their remarkable Antarctic expedition. Then visit Verdant Works which weaves the tale of Dundee's jute trade with the life and work of old Dundee, transporting you back over 100 years when jute was king and Dundee was its realm.



2
GLAMIS CASTLE – For over 600 years, Glamis Castle has been the ancestral family home of the Earls of Strathmore and Kinghorne and was the childhood home of HM Queen Elizabeth, The Queen Mother. Situated in the foothills of the scenic Angus Glens, Glamis is reputedly the most haunted castle in Britain! The castle's informative and entertaining guides have many stories to share.



3
BARRY MILL – Barry Mill is a magnificent example of Scotland's industrial heritage. Though Barry Village in which it is situated is now a tranquil rural place, you discover during your visit what life was like here when this 19th Century grain mill was at the heart of the community. A real miller will demonstrate this disappearing craft with the splash of the waterwheel in the background.



4
THE MCMANUS – Housed in a splendid Gothic Revival-style building, the McManus has been at the heart of Dundee's visual arts offering since 1867. As well as displaying items from its own collections, the McManus will be presenting touring exhibitions from the Victoria & Albert Museum, London as part of the pre-opening programme of exhibitions for V&A Museum of Design Dundee, opening in 2017.



5
ARBROATH ABBEY – Arbroath Abbey was founded in 1178 by order of King William the Lion. It is here the famous Declaration of Arbroath – a declaration of Scotland's independence from England – is believed to have been written in 1320, following King Robert the Bruce's victory at the Battle of Bannockburn in 1314. A new display tells the story of the day the famous Stone of Destiny came to the abbey in 1951.

Day 4 - Loch Lomond & The Trossachs



1
LOCH LOMOND SHORES – When it was constructed in 2002, Drumkinnon Tower at Loch Lomond Shores was described as a modern take on a traditional Scottish castle. Today it houses an aquarium and a nearby retail offering including an outlet of Jenners of Edinburgh, known as 'the Harrods of the North', not to mention the amazing views of the Loch itself from this vantage point.



2
SS SIR WALTER SCOTT – The historic steamship Sir Walter Scott has been taking visitors on cruises to enjoy the splendour of the Trossachs scenery and the beauty of Loch Katrine for over a century. Visitors can depart from either Trossachs Pier or Stronachlachar. Set sail across the loch at the gentle pace of a bygone era and watch the stunning scenery go by.



3
DOUNE CASTLE – This 14th century courtyard castle in Doune has a striking 100 ft high gatehouse and one of the best preserved great halls in Scotland. The castle was used as a film location for the film Monty Python and the Holy Grail. There's an audio tour of the castle narrated by Monty Python's Terry Jones and a recently introduced nature trail in the castle grounds.



4
LUSS, LOCH LOMOND – Luss is an enchanting conservation village on the eastern shore of Loch Lomond. The community largely comprised of picturesque cottages with quirky individually designed gardens, and there are a number of cafes to enjoy a tasty snack. Walk through the village to the edge of the Loch – a popular embarkation point for loch cruises.



5
DUNBLANE CATHEDRAL – Dunblane Cathedral stands on a site that has been sacred for well over one thousand years. Some of its architecture, notably the lower part of the tower is in 11th Century Romanesque style, although its Gothic interior shows the sign of continued attempts at rejuvenation over the years. Inside, visitors will discover Pictish carved stones, rare 15th-century choir stalls, and handsome 19th-century church furnishings.