

The Campbells had a reputation for staunch loyalty to the Crown. At Culloden they fought on the government side against the Jacobites. The clan gathered great power across the centuries and is linked to many historic sites. But as some discovered – the further you rise the further there is to fall.



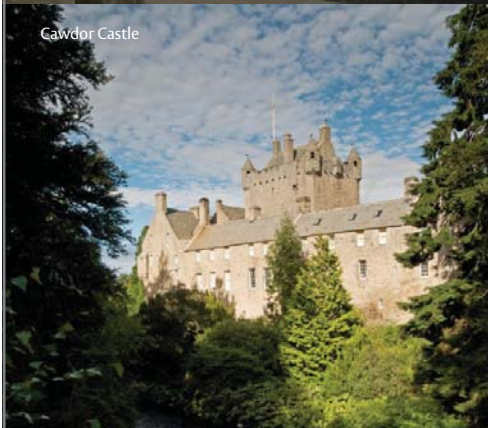
THE NAME **CAMPBELL** IS GAELIC,
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THE FAMILY HAD ITS ORIGINS IN THE KINGDOM
OF DAL RIADA AND CLAIMS DESCENT FROM THE
WARRIOR **DUIBHNE**

Campbell Clan tartan

Argyll's Lodging



Cawdor Castle



MAIN STORY

Argyll's Lodging is a superb Renaissance townhouse where the Campbell earls of Argyll lived and entertained when the royal court was at Stirling.

Archibald, the 9th earl was a deeply committed Protestant and returned from exile in 1685 to lead an uprising after the openly Catholic James VII took to the throne.

The rebellion failed and Argyll was locked away in Edinburgh Castle to await his death sentence.

Visitors to the lodging can see what the mansion, beside Stirling Castle, would have been like before the earl's downfall.

The clan, whose name is Gaelic, *cam beul*, meaning 'Crooked Mouth', had its origins in the kingdom of Dalriada and claim descent from the warrior Duibhne.

They were prominent supporters of Robert the Bruce who rewarded them with lands.

But it was under the early Stuarts that they became particularly closely associated with the Crown – a link which saw them accumulate property and influence.

Campbells were, for example, associated with Dunstaffnage Castle as early as 1321 but it was only a century and a half later that it came permanently under their control.

In 1463 a squabble between the MacDougalls and the castle's keeper, John Stewart of Lorn, had seen the latter stabbed to death.

King James III then granted Dunstaffnage to his supporter Colin Campbell, 1st Earl of Argyll, to prevent further unpleasantness.

The castle was then occupied by hereditary captains, rather than the earls themselves. The captains lived there until 1810.

Among the most famous residents was Flora MacDonald, who was held there temporarily for helping Bonnie Prince Charlie escape to France after the final Jacobite Rising ended with defeat at Culloden in 1746.



Coin found at Dunstaffnage Castle.

KILCHURN CASTLE

Largely surrounded by the waters of Loch Awe, this ruin is a place of particular romance, set amidst the mountains of Argyll.

From the 15th century it was home to the Campbells of Glenorchy, the second most powerful branch of the clan.

They dominated lands right across to the east end of Loch Tay where the first Glenorchy lairds had another important residence on an artificial islet, or crannog, called Priory Island.

Kilchurn was improved and expanded many times as the family's wealth increased but by 1740 it was abandoned in favour of a modern and comfortable mansion.

THE CAWDOR BRANCH

The assassination of his father in a rare internal clan feud meant Sir John Campbell of Cawdor arrived prematurely at the head of his family.

Their castle, near Nairn, was made infamous when Shakespeare linked it to his villain Macbeth.

In 1614 Sir John was sent to Islay to help put down a rebellion, after which he decided to buy forfeited MacDonald lands.

Family silver was sold to help pay the bill.

It was an ill-fated move.

Sir John passed the island to his son John but he was declared insane in 1639.

Kilchurn Castle



Glencoe



HE WAS A CRUSADER, RIDING ALONGSIDE THE KNIGHTS HOSPITALLERS OF ST JOHN

BLACK COLIN

As founder of the Campbells of Glenorchy 'Black Colin of Rome' was among the clan's most important figures.

Born in around 1395 he lived to about 80 and managed to acquire extensive lands through a series of advantageous marriages.

As second son of Duncan Campbell of Lochawe he had been granted extensive property in 1432 including the area at the head of Loch Awe where he built Kilchurn Castle as his family's new home.

Colin appears to have been a widely travelled man in an era when going abroad involved considerable challenges.

The story that he visited Rome three times was enough to lead to his nickname.

It is also said that he was a crusader, riding alongside the knights hospitallers of St John against the Turks in Rhodes.



CAMPBELL SITES

- 1 Argyll's Lodging:**
The magnificent town house of the 9th Earl of Argyll near Stirling Castle.
- 2 Burg:**
A wilderness area on the coast of Mull that was bequeathed to NTS in 1932 by Mr A Campbell of Dolgelly, and was one of the first properties to come into its care
- 3 Canna:**
The island was left to the NTS by the folklorist John Lorne Campbell.
- 4 Carnasserie Castle:**
Built for Bishop of the Isles, John Carswell, and came into the hands of the Campbells of Auchinbreck.
- 5 Castle Campbell:**
Originally Castle Gloume, it came to Colin Campbell, 1st Earl of Argyll who changed its name in 1489.
- 6 Castle Sween:**
Granted to Colin Campbell 1st Earl of Argyll in 1481 by James III.
- 7 Cawdor Castle:**
Home of the Campbells of Cawdor
- 8 Crarae Garden:**
Lady Grace Campbell began the development of these 25ha gardens in 1912. They were turned into a charitable trust in 1978 but forced to close in 2001 but were saved for the nation by a £1.5m appeal.
- 9 Culloden:**
Campbells were the only Highland clan to fight on the Government side.
- 10 Dunstaffnage Castle:**
Held by the clan since the fifteenth century and Campbells remain captains of the castle to this day.
- 11 Edinburgh Castle:**
In 1685 Archibald, 9th Earl of Argyll, spent the days before his execution here after rebelling against the Catholic King James VII. The Argyle Tower is named in his honour.
- 12 Glencoe:**
Campbell of Glenlyon led 128 soldiers who stayed with MacDonald families for 12 days and then turned on their hosts in the early morning of 13 February 1692, massacring 38.
- 13 Inveraray Castle:**
Home to the Earls and Dukes of Argyll.
- 14 Kilchurn Castle:**
Built about 1450 by Sir Colin Campbell 1st Lord of Glenorchy.
- 15 Skipness Castle:**
Acquired by the Campbells in 1502.

- Key to sites**
- Historic Scotland
 - National Trust Scotland
 - Historic Houses Association



Cawdor Castle

Dunstaffnage Castle

