



HISTORIC SCOTLAND'S VISITOR CHARTER

Historic Scotland is committed to safeguarding Scotland's historic environment and promoting its understanding and enjoyment. In undertaking this work we also have a responsibility to ensure that we tackle sustainability issues as an organisation and to minimise the impact of our day-to-day work on the natural environment. Historic Scotland staff play a key role in delivering this vision, but we recognise that our visitors' assistance is fundamental in making this possible. Here are some small steps that you can take to help:

Built Heritage

- It is vitally important to look after these properties for future generations and to uphold the integrity of our cultural heritage. Please respect the fragility of the historic fabric at our monuments and behave appropriately.
- We look after a wide range of ancient monuments which require specialist conservation techniques to look after them. Feel free to ask the steward what work is happening on site.
- Historic Scotland's stewarding staff are on hand at all of our paid attractions to help answer any questions that you may have. Please adhere to our stewards' advice and requests for your safety and enjoyment of the site. Please also pay attention to our signage on site.
- Not all of our properties are staffed, it is particularly important at such sites to follow instructions laid out by signage to protect and preserve the historic fabric. If you wish to comment on our sites please e-mail us through our website www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/contact_us

Natural Heritage

- All work to our monuments considers the biodiversity around our sites and we encourage its conservation. Please enjoy the variety of plants and wildlife around our monuments, but do stay on nature trails where they are provided and do not disturb wildlife. More information on flora, fauna and wildlife of interest will be found in our green visitor folders on sites.
- Most of our properties are open to dog walkers; exceptions tend to be roofed buildings or monuments within a working farm. Please check our website ahead of visiting to avoid disappointment. Please note guide dogs are welcome at all of our sites.
- We are in the process of developing Environmental Statements for our sites which will inform the ongoing management of them to protect and enhance the biodiversity across our estate. Where available, these will be put in green visitor folders on sites.

Transport

- Where possible please consider using public transport to get to and from Historic Scotland's properties to minimise carbon emissions. Our website contains details of public transport options to all of our sites and can help you plan your visit: www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/places. You may also wish to look at www.travelinescotland.com for information about transport services in the area. Cycling is an ideal way of visiting many of our monuments which are in close proximity to each other. Many of their stories are inter-linked and it can help widen your knowledge and develop understanding.

Local amenities

- Whilst visiting our monuments around the country we encourage you to support local businesses such as small shops and farmers markets. More details of these may be found in our green visitor folder or ask a steward on site.
- Please also consider members of the Green Tourism Business Scheme when looking for accommodation. A list can be found in the green visitor folder or by checking www.green-business.co.uk.

Rubbish

- Please help us keep our sites clean by using the bins provided or taking your rubbish away and recycling at the nearest point.

Events

- Historic Scotland has an array of exciting and interactive events including battle re-enactments, costumed performers and jousting competitions for you to experience. Our events programme is packed full of different ideas for young and old, giving a unique balance of enjoyment through learning. Ask a member of staff for details or check our website for upcoming events across the estate www.historic-scotland.gov.uk/events

Historic Scotland hopes that your visit is an enjoyable and memorable one. We hope that by respecting our built heritage and natural environment your experience will be enhanced. By visiting our sites you have contributed to the ongoing conservation of these monuments for the enjoyment of future generations.