



Hazard Information for teachers

Urquhart Castle

Urquhart Castle is situated on Loch Ness near Drumnadrochit on the A82. The site consists of a loch-side ruined tower, other ruins and a Visitors Centre.

It is the responsibility of teachers and group leaders to complete a risk assessment prior to any site visit with a group. This is a requirement of most education authorities. The following information is intended as a preparatory tool and does not replace a teacher's or group leader's own risk assessment.

Please be aware that changes in weather may affect the risks inherent in an outdoor site. Pupils should dress for outdoors.

For more information about hazards at Urquhart, or to arrange a free pre-visit, please contact the monument manager on **01456 450551**.



Potential hazards at Urquhart Castle

Pedestrian access to site

- Large, busy car park; take care when disembarking and when crossing from coach bays to access the steps and path to the Visitors Centre.

External Hazards

- Many low walls, steep drops and ditches.
- Steep grassy banks leading down to castle from Visitors Centre.
- Flight of 48 steps in stages to dovecot and a further 30 to view point.
- Access to shore of loch which is deep and cold.
- Courtyard has uneven cobbles; most paths have even, non-slip surfaces.
- View point at top of the Grant Tower is high; barriers are in place.

Internal Hazards

- Narrow spiral staircase within the Grant Tower.
- Uneven stairs down to the cellars.
- Low doorways on first floor level of the gate house and also into the Grant Tower.