Cairngorms National Park

Event Planners' Guide

Where Spectacular Events are Second Nature



VisitCairngorms

Tadhal air a' Mhonadh Ruadh

Event Planners Guide

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"One of the Top 20 places to visit in the world"

- National Geographic Traveller Magazine

Cover photo ©RideOut MTB Coaching by thomassalwayphotography

Main photo Scottish Illuminator Run at Glen Tanar Estate in Royal Deeside © Tim Winterburn

Welcome to The Event Planners Guide

This is your one stop guide to see what a spectacular and diverse space the Cairngorms National Park is.

The Cairngorms National Park hits the sweet spot when it comes to wild spaces, nature, culture, infrastructure, transport and truly sublime experiences.

We also have the largest residential conference resort in Scotland: Macdonald Aviemore Resort.

Decision Making Made Easy

VisitCairngorms
Tadhal air a' Mhonadh Ruadh

This guide will help you to:

Find the ultimate location and venue for your event

Plan your transport links

Give you all the insider know-how on finding accommodation, connecting with communities, suppliers and the nitty gritty you need to know when hosting events in the National Park

We have loads of ideas on what to do after the event is done; the possibilities for adventure, relaxation and culture are here in abundance - we love people to stay... just a little bit longer!

Let your event unfold in one of the most spectacular destinations in the world; the Cairngorms National Park will touch your soul.

What is so special about the Cairngorms?

The Cairngorms is the largest National Park in the UK. With its backdrop of mountains, forests, lochs and rivers the breathtaking scenery lends itself to any indoor or outdoor event!

Where Winter Comes to Life

The Cairngorm plateau is the highest and most extensive range of arctic mountain landscape in the British Isles. Cairngorms Culture embraces its environment and our ski resorts: Glenshee Ski Centre, Lecht Ski Centre and Cairngorm Mountain, means the scope for snowsports, winter mountaineering, climbing and gentler low level walking is endless. The winter bustle in the National Park rivals the summer months, with infrastructure to support this.

"The Cairngorms in winter opens up the chance for magical moments and life defining experiences. They offer something very unique in terms of both the potential for experiences and the natural habitat that makes up the environment."

Lesley McKenna,
Snowboarding Olympian

Nature and Wildlife

We know this is a special spot - and so does our wildlife. The National Park is home to a quarter of Britain's threatened species - wildcats, capercaillie, red squirrels, osprey, pine marten and golden eagle all call the Cairngorms home, and we take care of the National Park to ensure they can thrive. We have nine National Nature Reserves who protect our wildlife and their habitats; and help our visitors to enjoy nature and our environment safely. Spotting a red squirrel is one of life's joys!

Spectacular Mountain Ranges

The scope for 'true adventure' is huge; The Cairngorms National Park is one of the few places in the UK that has a genuine sense of wilderness and our mountain passes, steeped in history, provide spectacular routes. Twice as big as the Lake District and with a whopping fifty five munros (mountains over 3,000ft); our mountain ascents (and descents!) rival the Alps, they are spectacular. The scale of the National Park is breathtaking, the scope for escape, solitude and challenge is world class.

Lochs and Rivers

The vastness of the mountain ranges are punctuated by glorious and unique Lochs and Rivers. This breathtaking landscape is the perfect backdrop for moments of calm; and the perfect plunge pool for wild swimmers, paddlers and other water based adventurers.

Culture and Heritage

The sense of place in the National Park is unique. From Badenoch & Strathspey to Royal Deeside, where the King calls Balmoral home; a rich cultural history is threaded throughout the National Park. Storytelling, music, dance, stargazing and sport - the Highlands is like no place on earth; its people, culture and heritage belong to these lands, the connection is tangible and enticing. Our Cairngorms Creatives will bring the National Park to life.

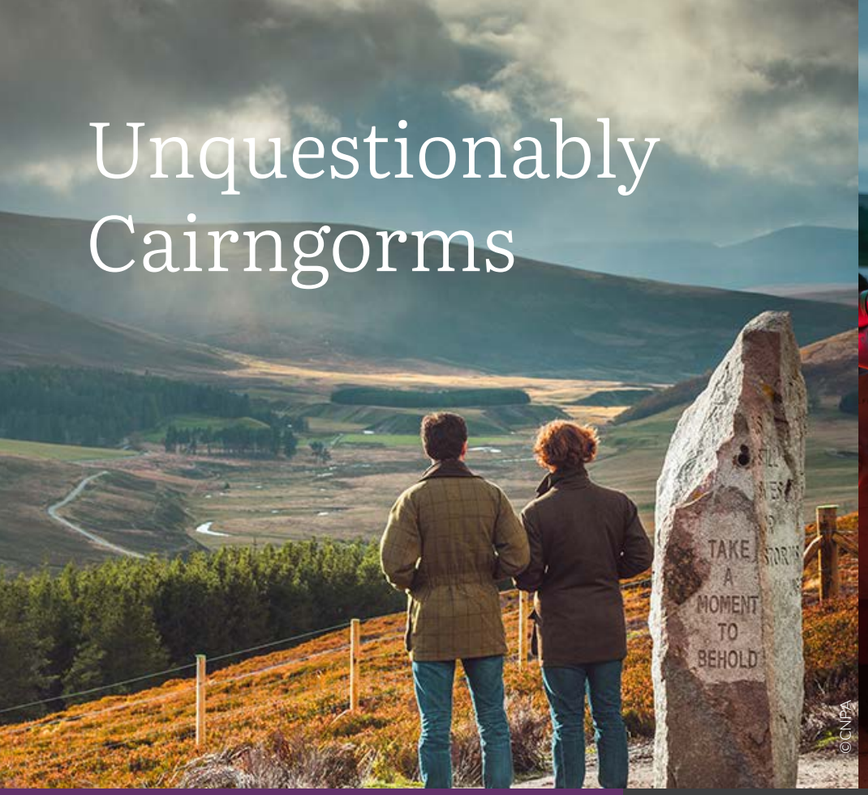
Forests and Trails

Some of the most important woodlands in Britain grow in the Cairngorms National Park: native tree species make up 79 per cent of the woodlands, and a quarter of Scottish native woodland is found in the National Park. The autumn colours are beyond spectacular; the managed trails that run through the Park's forests and woodland are world class; ensuring walkers and riders can experience this unique and precious environment - and the wildlife is protected. Crucially many trails are accessible by wheelchair - the National Park is here to be enjoyed by everyone.

"Immersing yourself in the energetic whisky-coloured mineral waters of the Cairngorms rivers and springs is one of the most invigorating and unique experiences"

Annie Armstrong
Cairngorms WILD Braemar

Unquestionably Cairngorms



©CNPA


© Eilidh Cameron Photography, Green Space Dark Skies Loch Insh Outdoor Centre.


© The Cairn Distillery

SnowRoads - Discover the heart of the Cairngorms National Park

Explore the 90 miles of the SnowRoads to discover wild landscapes and uncover the tales and hidden treasures of this untouched area.

Dramatic landscapes see the SnowRoads wind from the picturesque market town of Blairgowrie in Perthshire through to the Capital of Strathspey, Grantown-on-Spey.

Explore some of the highest public roads in Britain, this is a breathtaking route where you can glimpse snow-capped peaks almost all year round... with hidden gems, secret spots and special communities to seek out. Share in the secrets of the route, download the SnowRoads App and follow the 90 point treasure trail and fully immerse yourself into your surroundings.

SnowRoads.

Dark Skies and a Happy Soul

The Cairngorms National Park is home to some of the darkest and most magical skies in the world: lower light pollution means our dark skies are clearer, stars brighter and the vastness more palpable.

The Tomintoul and Glenlivet area was awarded the coveted Dark Sky Park status in 2018, and is the most northerly Dark Sky Park in the world...and a wondrous spot to see the Northern Lights.

Our dark skies are there for everyone to embrace. Finding a quiet spot on a starlit walk, taking in a loch side illuminated by moonlight...just stepping out and looking up into the depths of the Cairngorms night sky - these are breathtaking moments that will become etched on your soul.

The Dark Skies of the Cairngorms National Park will bring clarity, wonder and a uniqueness to your event.

Life is Better with a Wee Dram

There are lots of good things distilling in the Cairngorms National Park. The history of whisky production is a fascinating and truly significant part of Scottish heritage.

Warm your cockles at one of the many whisky distilleries across the National Park - from Royal Lochnagar in Balmoral to Dalwhinnie (the highest distillery in Scotland) on the western entrance.

This iconic industry has shaped Scotland and will bring a warming sense of place to your event.

Spectacular for Everyone

The Cairngorms National Park is here for everyone to access and enjoy, and we love events that are open to as many folk as possible.

The Cairngorms National Park Authority has some helpful information **here** and **Euan's Guide** and **Able to Adventure** (based just outside Aviemore), are a brilliant starting point for planning events that are accessible and inclusive. Able to Adventure offer off road wheelchairs and adaptive bikes for hire; brilliant for ensuring events are accessible to those who don't ordinarily have access to this equipment or whose own wheelchair is unsuitable.

If you need any more information please **get in touch** - we can point you in the right direction for venues, suppliers and lots more!


© David Lintern

Five very different, yet special areas, you really are spoilt for choice...

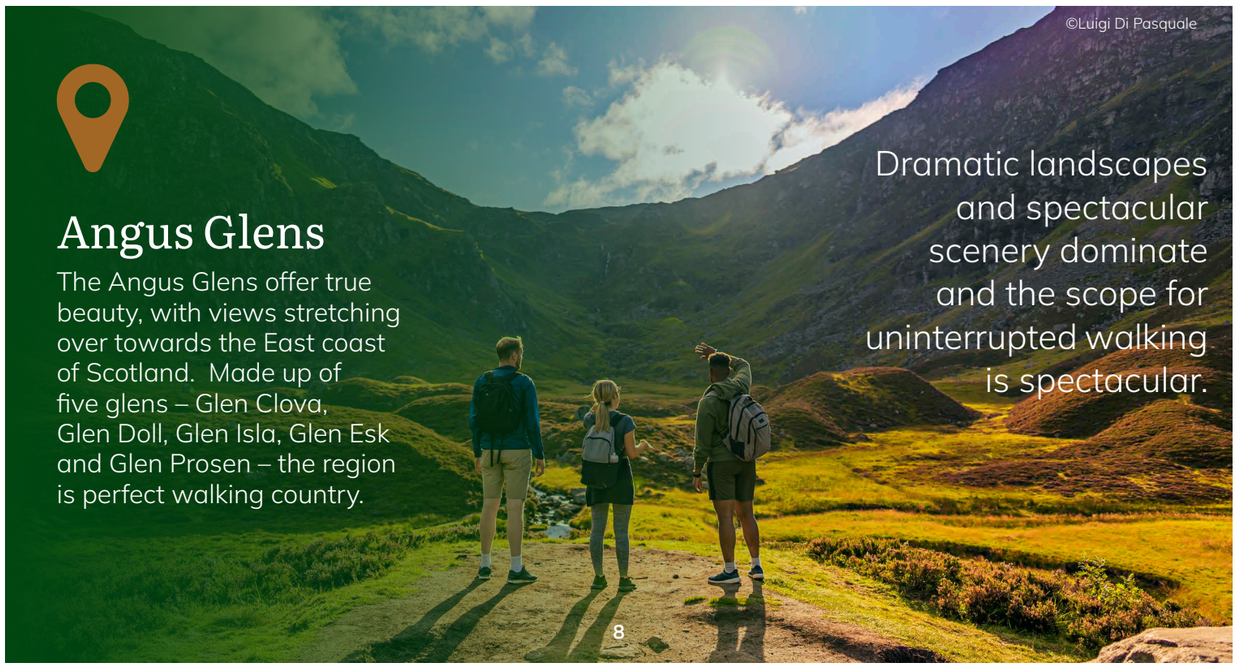




Aviemore, Badenoch and Strathspey

Aviemore, Badenoch and Strathspey is a honey pot of year round adventure activities which stretches roughly from Dalwhinnie in the south to the beautiful town of Grantown-on-Spey in the north.

Whether you want a low level walk through the Glenmore Forest Park, or you want to tackle a summit, this is the perfect gateway. The lochs and rivers come alive in the summer months, spectacular to look at, invigorating to plunge into!



Angus Glens

The Angus Glens offer true beauty, with views stretching over towards the East coast of Scotland. Made up of five glens – Glen Clova, Glen Doll, Glen Isla, Glen Esk and Glen Prosen – the region is perfect walking country.

Dramatic landscapes and spectacular scenery dominate and the scope for uninterrupted walking is spectacular.

Tomintoul and Glenlivet

Tomintoul is the highest village in the Highlands and the ideal base to explore the stunning Glenlivet Estate, the Speyside Whisky Trail and to take in the wonder of the Cairngorms Dark Skies.

There are hundreds of miles of uninterrupted walking on the Glenlivet Estate, this is perfect for those who like nothing better than some fresh air, beautiful views and the satisfaction of being in the great outdoors. Life on two wheels is pretty awesome here too!



The winter months see many people head to the slopes of The Lecht ski centre. Family and beginner friendly, this is an incredibly popular snowsport resort in the winter and a haven for mountain bikers in the summer.

Home to the most Northerly Dark Sky Park in the World.

Royal Deeside and Donside

As the Eastern gateway to the Park, the region is home to The Royal's summer residence, Balmoral Castle.

Beautiful Braemar and Ballater provide a fabulous base for visitors to Royal Deeside and with 24 munros and over many miles of high level walks and cycle routes, the region is a great place to get out and push your physical limits.

Over the years, the same landscape has also inspired many artists, musicians, poets, writers and sculptors and many still make the region their home. This lends the area to being full of artistic talent and creative communities which gives way to a packed events schedule throughout the year.

Atholl and Glenshee

The Southern gateway to the National Park, Blair Atholl sits at the bottom of the Cairngorm mountains and the Spittal of Glenshee.

Glenshee is Scotland's southernmost ski resort and the most extensive ski area in the UK, while Blair Atholl, is made up of a flatter landscape and hundreds of 'big trees' making the region very different from the rest of the National Park.

Vibrant greens and dappled sunshine in the spring and summer time give way to rich, deep russet colours in the autumn and snow-laden tree tops in the winter – it's a photographer's haven. "The Glen of the Fairies"



Five very different, yet special areas really are spoilt for choice...

Aviemore, Badenoch and Strathspey

- Loch Insh Outdoor Centre
- Badaguish
- Cairngorm Mountain
- Glenmore Lodge
- Cairngorm Activities
- Macdonald Aviemore Resort
- Rothiemurchus
- RailwayRooms/ Wildthinking

Tomintoul and Glenlivet

Royal Deeside

- Glen Tanar
- Candacraig

Atholl and Glenshee

- Atholl Estate
- Glenshee

Angus Glens

- VisitScotland iCentre
- Local Information Centre
- Ranger base
- Public toilets
- Long distance footpath
- National cycle route
- National Park Boundary
- National Nature Reserve
- SnowRoads scenic route
- Woodland
- 1244 Height in metres

N W E

0 5 10 15 kilometres
0 5 10 miles

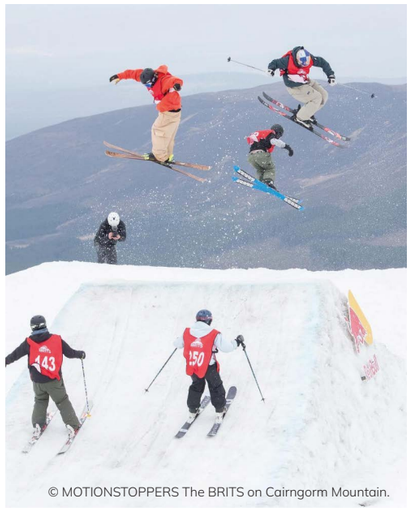
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Ordnance Survey Licence number 100040965 Cairngorms National Park Authority.

Events all year round

in our spectacular Cairngorms National Park

The Cairngorms National Park is a spectacular backdrop to superb events. Adventure, challenge, heritage & culture events shine amongst our breathtaking landscape...


© Aviemore Triathalon.


© MOTIONSTOPPERS The BRITS on Cairngorm Mountain.


© Blair Atholl Horse Trials


© Andy Martin. Thunder in the Glens.


© Sarah McGuire. Car Rally



© Jeroen de Brouwer. Fjallraven Classic

[Full listing >>>](#)

Aviemore Triathalon - sporting event
September 2023

The Brits, UK's official Snowboard and Freeski Championships
March 2023

Blair Atholl Horse Trials
August 2023

Thunder in the Glens - Harley Davidson Festival
August 2023

Glen Shee Car Rally
2022

Fjallraven Classic - walking event
September 2022

CAIRNGORM
MOUNTAIN SCOTLAND

Cairngorm Mountain, Aviemore, PH22 1RB
www.cairngormmountain.co.uk
info@cairngormmountain.co.uk

Cairngorm Mountain is Britain's 6th highest mountain, has **breathtaking views**, is home to the **UK's highest restaurant**, and even has a **mountain railway** to get you there!

This is an amazing spot for **outdoor events**, the facilities for **ski and snowboarding events** are world class, with excellent access to some of Scotland's most challenging **hill-walking** and **climbing terrain**. New **mountain bike trails** mean the scope ever expanding.

Your event doesn't have to be adventure based - The Ptarmigan **Restaurant and Bar** is spectacular. Dining for groups of up to 120 and the scope for exclusive use of **270-degree exhibition space** provides a superb option for **bespoke films** and **exhibitions**.

The viewing terrace, at 3500 feet above sea level, is breathtaking. There are two **cafes** at base station along with the **Mountain Tubing Park**, **guided walks** and a mountain garden, and a Motorhome Park available between Spring and Autumn.

- Ski and snowsport destination
- UK's highest Mountain Railway
- Bike Park
- UK's highest Mountain Restaurant
- 270 degree exhibition space with large screens
- Two base station cafes
- Large car park with regular bus service
- 10 miles from Aviemore



Loch Insh Outdoor Centre

Loch Insh Outdoor Centre,
Kingussie PH21 1NU
www.lochinsh.com
office@lochinsh.co.uk

- Ptarmigan venue - parties, conferences and corporate days
- Onsite Boathouse Restaurant
- Onsite accommodation
- Land and loch based adventure
- 6 miles from Aviemore

Sitting in the foothills of the Cairngorm Mountains, at the lower end of Glen Feshie, the River Spey widens to form Loch Insh. This is an iconic venue, perfectly suited for **activities**, **corporate days** with a bit of adrenalin, evening **wedding receptions** and a whole host of adventure.

Loch Insh is the whole package, with an onsite **restaurant**, The Boathouse, the iconic Ptarmigan building (a space with history and versatility!), **accommodation** (14 log cabins and Insh Hall with 86 beds) and an abundance of 'fun stuff' for everyone to get stuck into. Not to mention the sublime Dark Skies.

This is a natural and unspoilt wonderland with superb and considered facilities - what a combination!

BADAGUISH
SPEYSIDE TRUST

Badaguish, Glenmore, PH22 1AD
bookings@badaguish.org
www.badaguish.org

Badaguish sits in the heart of Glenmore Forest, and just ten minutes from Aviemore by car.

An impressive tree lined drive, just off the B970, leads you to spectacular facilities: **wide open spaces**, **a sports arena**, **activities hall**, **Conferencing** and **meeting rooms** with **media equipment,** onsite **catering** (available onsite by arrangement) and **lodges** (sleeping groups up to 12, 13 or 17) and 22 **camping pods** for overnight stays, as well as organised camping options.

This is a comprehensive venue set in the depths of Glenmore Forest. Perfect for **running** and **cycling** events, **performances**, **lectures**, **film nights**, **talks** and **wee festivals**.

- Spectacular secluded location
- Activities Hall, Sports Arena and wide open spaces
- Conference and meeting rooms with media equipment
- Onsite lodges, pods and camping facilities
- Catering available onsite, by arrangement
- 10 minutes from Aviemore by car
- Just off Old Logging Way by bike

Get on track with your retreat - reserve the Railway Rooms.

This newly renovated former railway building boasts contemporary, exclusive accommodation. Situated along the main Highland train line, it offers 12 ensuite bedrooms, a spacious oak-beamed lounge area, and a top-notch kitchen.

Ideal for teams and smaller corporate groups, this unique space is owned by Wild Thinking, a corporate training and facilitation company that can work with you to design your next retreat.

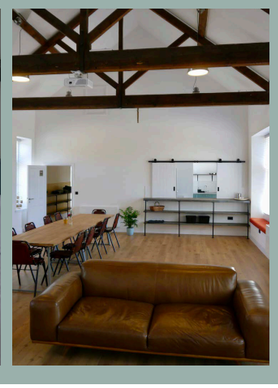
This superb accommodation is in the center of Kingussie and is accessible by car, and bus from across the UK, once you arrive, it's a breath of fresh air.

RAILWAY ROOMS
BOUTIQUE HOSTEL

www.railwayrooms.co.uk







Elevate your events with expert facilitation

Wild THINKING

Located in the Cairngorms National Park, our expert facilitators can seamlessly blend your work agenda into impactful events or retreats with thrilling outdoor adventures.

Plus, if you're planning a small to medium-sized event, consider our unique venue, the Railway Rooms. With 12 ensuite bedrooms, meeting facilities, and a distinctive atmosphere, it's the ideal retreat space.

Unleash your business's potential with our Wild Thinking team, unwind in our contemporary exclusive accommodation, and upon reaching us, it's a breath of fresh air as you embrace the beauty of the Cairngorms National Park.

www.wildthinking.co.uk



GLENSHEE
SKI AND SNOWBOARD

Cairnwell, Braemar, Ballater
AB35 5XU www.ski-glenshee.co.uk
info@ski-glenshee.info

Glenshee Ski Centre sits above the Cairnwell Pass at the head of Glenshee between Blairgowrie and Braemar.

It is **Britain's largest alpine snowsports area** and known as the 'Scottish Three Glens'.

With an impressive **22 lifts and 36 runs**, Glenshee has a range of natural terrains for all standards of **skiers** and **snowboarders** with superb access to the mountains for **walking**, **running**, **climbing** and **biking** out of snow season.

Tea@theshee and the Cairnwell **Cafe** offer superb **catering** facilities, along with a **boardroom** and ample parking.

The Glenshee team is a friendly bunch who will always try to accommodate. Flagship events previously hosted include the closing stage of the Tour of Britain, The Cannon Bawz Run - North East 250, Ride Across Britain and events for Snow Running UK - they know their events.

- Britain's largest alpine snowsports area
- Tea@theshee Cafe and Cairnwell Cafe
- Boardroom
- Large car park
- Located between Blairgowrie & Braemar



sportscotland
glenmorelodge
national outdoor training centre

Aviemore, PH22 1QZ
www.glenmorelodge.org.uk
events@glenmorelodge.org.uk

- Located in Glenmore Forest Park
- Range of meeting rooms
- Sports facilities include climbing wall, dry ski slope & kayak rolling pool
- Onsite bar and catering (with prior arrangement)
- Onsite accommodation
- 10 minute drive from Aviemore with good bus connections
- Old Logging Way provides great cycle access

Glenmore Lodge, **Scotland's National Outdoor Training Centre**, is the perfect venue for your **conference** or event, with a guaranteed warm welcome, inspiring location and a team committed to delivering great **experiences**.

We have eight fully equipped **seminar rooms**, seating between 10 and 80 people with internet signal and **AV equipment**. **Sports facilities** include a **climbing wall**, **dry ski slope**, and **kayak rolling pool**.

Offering **varied accommodation** for up to 85 people in single, twin, and family rooms and a range of **self-catering chalets** and **onsite catering** available, this is the full package – **extensive grounds**, onsite parking, delicious meals, and accessible bedrooms and meeting spaces.

Our location in the Glenmore Forest Park and within the SSSI **(site of special scientific interest)** create a unique setting and grant us wonderful views of Cairngorm. We are passionate about the outdoors and are striving to make our operations environmentally sustainable.





Candacraig is nothing short of breathtaking, a unique Scottish retreat nestled within the Highlands. This private house (formerly Sir Billy Connolly's Highland escape), is set in spectacular ground. It has a full and discrete team, a **private chef** available and the scope to tailor make your event or celebration.

The dining room and spacious drawing room lend themselves perfectly to **board meetings** and **team building** sessions, with 12 ensuite **bedrooms** offering Highland luxury.

The **sauna**, full size **snooker** table, **outdoor fire pit** and **barbeque** area, **fishing** for the River Don all make for a wonderfully **relaxing venue**, while the historic walled garden and formal Italian gardens and lawn, surrounded by the majestic beauty of the Cairngorms National Park, keep you firmly rooted in nature. A breathtaking backdrop for any celebration.

Candacraig is a wonderful and relaxing alternative to a hotel - relaxing beside the roaring fire in the comfort of this special home is unrivaled luxury.

With a Butterfly Mark awarded by Positive Luxury sustainability credentials you can be reassured that the team are working hard to take care of this wonderful corner they call home.

- One of Scotland's Finest **exclusive use venues**
- Entire house and grounds fully accessible
- 12 ensuite bedrooms
- Discrete inhouse staff
- Scope to tailor itineraries and events
- 1 hour from Aberdeen airport by car

CANDACRAIG

Candacraig House,
Strathdon, AB36 8XT
www.candacraig.com
enquiries@candacraig.com

CAIRNGORMS ACTIVITIES

Cairngorms Activities,
Craggan Golf Course,
Grantown-on-Spey, PH26 3NT
www.cairngormsactivities.co.uk
info@cairngormsactivities.co.uk

- Easy reach location, just off the A95 on the edge of Grantown on Spey
- Expansive open space with activity centre
- Traditional golf course with frisbee and football golf for extra fun!
- Onsite catering
- Large car park

Nestled on the edge of Grantown, this **activity centre** and golf course offer a captivating venue for grand events and celebrations.

With superb access off the A95, these expansive grounds, comprehensive facilities and breathtaking views, are in easy reach.

The space and scope for tailor making your event is vast and the addition of some extraordinary adventures makes this a great choice: **canoeing** expeditions, **scrambling** challenges through Cairngorms gorges, **archery**, and exploring the scenic landscape on **biking trails** are just a few of the options.

In addition to the adventure, a picturesque **9-hole golf course** offers traditional golf, the excitement of frisbee golf, and the enjoyment of foot golf, all set against the backdrop of stunning natural scenery. Embrace the perfect harmony of sport and nature in this unforgettable destination.

With nearby accommodation in Grantown and **catering** options onsite (BBQ featuring grilled meats, fresh salads, and enticing sides or a buffet-style lunch) Cairngorm Activities is a fabulous venue: exhilarating activities, loads of space and a friendly knowledgeable team.



More than a conference venue - Unique spaces in Scotland

Macdonald Aviemore Resort

If you are looking for a venue to host an International **conference**, high profile **meeting**, Gala **Dinner**, film production crew, vehicle or product launch, association, **exhibition** or incentive - Macdonald Aviemore Resort offers spectacular facilities, **accommodation**, superb transport links and a backdrop that will make your event stand out.

Macdonald Aviemore Resort can cater for up to 1,150 delegates across a combination of purpose built conference suites including a **650 seat auditorium**, impressive Osprey Arena, Peregrine Suite and a choice of up to 19 syndicate spaces.

Offering over 450 **bedrooms** across 4 Resort hotels and woodland **lodges**, this is the **largest residential conference centre in Scotland**, and an ideal fit for a range of events.

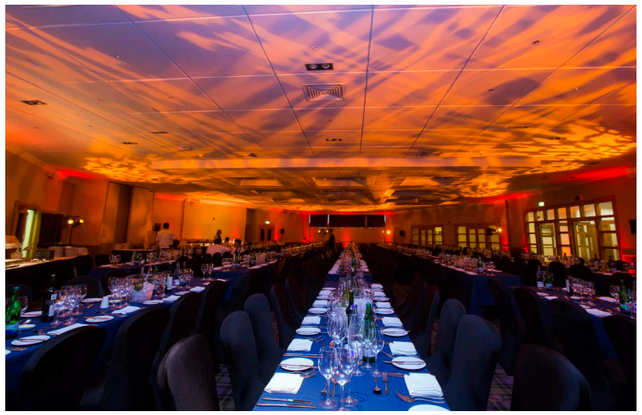
The impressive Osprey Arena is located on the ground floor with drive in access and is fully flexible in layout. It can be transformed from a daytime conference to a glamorous gala dinner for 650 in the evening.

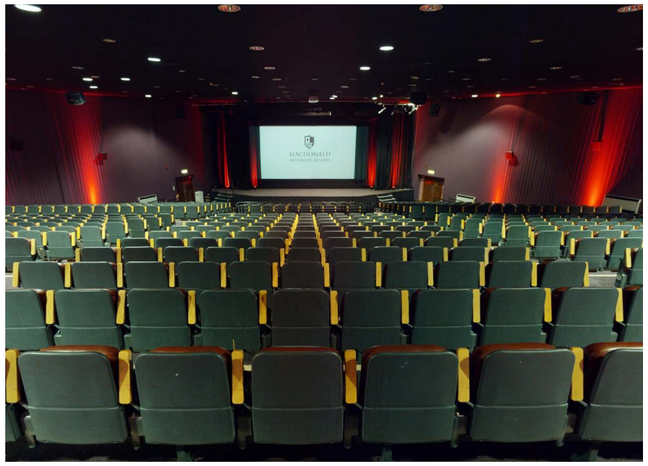
The Peregrine Suite is located on a dedicated and private floor with views over the Craigellachie Nature Reserve. It's ideal for an informal welcome dinner for up to 250. It has its own large **private bar**, **dance floor** and partition wall to provide greater flexibility.

The 650-seat Auditorium is directly accessible from the meeting rooms and breakout areas ideal for conferences, congresses, keynote presentations and seminars.

The private 90-acre Resort grounds can host events in large **marquees**, **tipis** and even an outdoor music **festival**.









This is a unique destination situated at the very heart of the Cairngorms National Park which is easily accessible from across the UK whether by train, car or plane. There's also complimentary onsite coach and car parking. Inverness airport is less than one hour away and Aviemore rail station is directly opposite the Resort, within a 5 minute walking distance.

WiFi and extra dedicated bandwidth up to 100MB is also available for faster connections and multiple users.

At a glance...

- Auditorium capacity for 650
- Osprey Arena has standing capacity for up to 1000 and 650 for conference
- Peregrine Suite can host 250 for gala dinner
- 450 bedrooms across the resort
- Up to 29 meeting/breakout rooms
- Free parking for up to 1000
- High quality flexible dining with 5 onsite restaurants and 2 coffee shops
- Flexibility to allow off site catering (POA)
- Dedicated on-site event team
- Free WiFi and extra dedicated bandwidth
- 1000m² exhibition space
- All-inclusive and bespoke delegate packages

MACDONALD
AVIEMORE RESORT

Macdonald Aviemore Resort

Aviemore

www.macdonaldhotels.co.uk/aviemore

specialevents.aviemore@macdonald-hotels.co.uk

Throughout history, Scotland has been proud of its magnificent country estates with their dramatic backdrops, impressive buildings and beautiful gardens.

Formerly, these residences were the lavish homes of Scottish landowners, and today, many of these centuries-old estates open their doors to everyone, offering unique **accommodation**, **food and drink** and **activities** in their grounds - and of course, cracking venues for events!

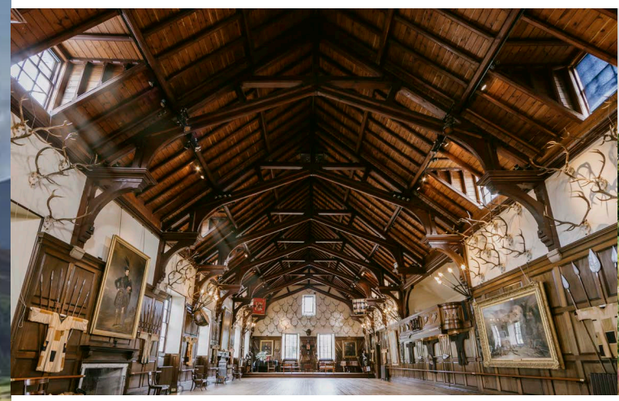
'Investment in carbon sequestration and biodiversity is at the heart of what we do, increasing protection and enhancement of both to ensure the natural environment is sustained for future generations.'
Atholl Estates

Atholl Estates

Blair Castle & Gardens, Blair Atholl, Pitlochry, PH18 5TL
www.atholl-estates.co.uk
events@blair-castle.co.uk

One of Scotland's best-known Highland Estates, Atholl Estates has impressed guests and visitors for the past 750 years. The grounds and Castle are spectacular; the scope for events is vast, and sustainability is at the heart of activities across Atholl Estates.

A quick run down...the **Ballroom** has excellent acoustics, a large stage, a fine dancing floor and atmospheric lighting systems deliver a perfect backdrop for corporate gatherings. Theatre style for up to 300 guests or dining for 60 – 220 guests.







Banvie **Hall** adjoins the Ballroom and is accessible via a 'secret' door. This is a contemporary option for registration, arrival drinks and exhibitions. It is also an ideal breakout space for larger groups. The glass wall frontage provides a view of the magnificent gardens of the Castle and the surrounding hills.

The State Dining Room is one of the most stunning rooms in the **Castle** and can accommodate drinks **receptions** for up to 120 guests or up to 50 seated for private dining. Finally, the Library, which is not open to visitors, is truly a peak behind closed doors; suitable for **small boardroom meetings** (20 guests) and drinks receptions for up to 40 people.

Onsite **accommodation** ranges from **Highland Lodges**, **cottages** and **luxurious Shepherds' Huts**, as well as Blair Castle Caravan Park.

Blair Atholl is the ideal venue for **private celebrations**, **corporate day meetings**, **corporate balls/occasions**, **incentive travel**, **Corporate Social Responsibility activities** and **'away days'** with **activities** on the estate.

The scope to tailor your event is impressive - **a full itinerary** from a picnic in the woods and hedge planting, to a gala ball in the ballroom. Atholl Estates events are bespoke and spectacular.

- Grand Ballroom with adjoining Banvie Hall
- State Dining Room
- Library for Board Meetings and smaller receptions
- Access to our recommended caterer list
- Spectacular grounds and access to the National Park
- Abundance of activities to tailor make itineraries
- Onsite accommodation including Highland Lodges, Cottages, Shepherds' Huts and Caravan Park
- Excellent road and rail links



- Victorian Ballroom
- Coats Meeting Room
- Onsite accommodation
- Expansive grounds
- Iconic location
- Excellent catering partners
- Onsite experts to help you plan the ultimate event

GLEN TANAR

Glen Tanar Estate, Aboyne,
AB34 5EU
www.glentanar.co.uk
info@glentanar.co.uk

Unique, authentic, atmospheric - this is Glen Tanar.

The ultimate secluded but fully accessible location, in the heart of Royal Deeside.

From rugged heather moorland to towering Caledonian pine forests, the winding River Tanar and the majestic waters of the River Dee, this working Highland estate has been responsibly cared for by four generations of the Coats family since 1905.

Host business meetings and **team building sessions** from The Coats Room which can accomodate 12 people in a **boardroom** format, 25 in for a **seminar** format, and up to 20 for **dinner**. The additional scope for **outside adventure and activities**, will bring a bit of Glen Tanar magic to your day of business.

For **larger events** The Victorian Ballroom is spectacular, with a sweeping driveway and wide flat lawn, a vaulted ceiling and soft-sprung oak floor. With seating for up to 160 guests this is a wonderful venue for a **dinner, dance, conference or concert**.

The grounds of Glen Tanar Estate are nothing short of spectacular: rare Caledonian Pinewood Forests and rolling glens are home to some of the rarest species in the UK. Glen Tanar Estate is committed to sustaining, preserving and regenerating this wonderful landscape for generations to come.

With an award winning events team, established catering partners, and **seven superb cottages**, Glen Tanar is the **full package**.

ROTHIEMURCHUS

Rothiemurchus, Inverdruie,
by Aviemore, PH22 1QH
www.rothiemurchus.net
groups@rothie.net

Rothiemurchus offers a remarkable venue for your event, providing flexible and bespoke options to entertain your guests. From encountering **Highland cows** at our Farm for picture-perfect moments, to **feeding Red Deer**, the breathtaking natural surroundings are the perfect backdrop to your event.

Step into traditional Highland estate life in one of the most picturesque spots in Scotland. Owned and cared for by the Grant family for over 500 years, Rothiemurchus is one of the many jewels of the Cairngorms National Park and has been recognised throughout history as a special place for its beauty, magnificent pine forests and abundant wildlife. David Attenburgh has described Rothiemurchus as **'one of the glories of Wild Scotland.'**

Our Rangers can guide your group, sharing insights about the history and natural heritage, as well as how we care for and look after this very special place.

We have multiple options for **catering**, depending on the size of your event and preference - choose from unique venues like our **Tipi**, traditional **Highland Bothy**, the **Victorian Ghillies Hall** at Drumintoul Lodge, or our **Vintage Marquee** that can be set up in various locations across the Estate.

Guests can participate in a range of over **30 different outdoor activities** including clay shooting, quad treks, falconry, pony trekking, archery, river adventures, guided walks, fishing and Highland Games.



Experience the flexibility and vast range of options available to host your event at Rothiemurchus, ensuring an unforgettable and tailored experience for all attendees.

Making Cairngorm Communities part of your Event

The communities of the National Park are full of talented, passionate folk, who feel a tangible connection to the place they call home.

Connecting your event with our communities, through organisations like the Cairngorms Trust, or through collaboration with the Cairngorms Creatives, gives a greater sense of place and belonging to your events.


© Liam Anderson

A small independent charity, passionate about making a difference to communities of The Cairngorms -

And your event can get involved too!

We provide grants and support for small-scale, sustainable community projects all over the National Park - and make a real difference with each new project.

CAIRNGORMS TRUST
GIVE • PROTECT • GROW

www.cairngormstrust.org.uk

If you would like your event to make a difference to Nature, Communities and Visitors please get in touch.

Events can...

> Do a donation on an event ticket fee
> Do a one off or monthly donation
> Have a collection tin or donate card at your event

We are always open to other ways to support the Cairngorms Trust so please get in touch if you would like to work with us and have an idea of how!

Supporting The Cairngorms Trust will help to create a National Park that is here for everyone to enjoy.


© Ed Smith

Add Some Cairngorms
Creativity To Your Event...

Created in 2022, **the directory** is used by residents, visitors and organisations planning events here in the National Park as an easy-to-use tool to discover the depth and breadth of creative activity, expertise, and resources in the Cairngorms National Park.

Cairngorms Creative Directory - Cairngorms National Park Authority



Organisations planning events in the National Park can access the Cairngorms Creative Directory through the QR code, and creative practitioners can be contacted directly.

Cairngorms National Park
Pàirc Nàiseanta a' Mhonaidh Ruaidh

Taing dhan
A' Mhaoin-Dualchais
Made possible with
Heritage Fund

Small Halls and Beautiful Places

The Cairngorms National Park is full of communities who celebrate all of the good stuff and we have many diverse venues in beautiful places that are immersed in our culture.

These hubs are perfect venues for events and your small hall festivals - thinking outside the box and using these wonderful community venues will bring unique authenticity to your event.



Castle Roy

The Castle is on a mound about one mile out of the village of Nethy Bridge, on the B970 on the way to Grantown, what three words... ///obscuring.fame.spits. This is a fabulous spot, steeped in history, resurrected by community passion and a wonderful location to make an event your own.
www.castleroy.org.uk.

Nethy Bridge Community Centre

Nethy Bridge, Inverness Shire PH25 3DA.
0795 4171 391
community.centre@nethybridge.com
www.nethybridge.com/community/community-centre/

Kincraig Community Hall

Kincraig, United Kingdom
01540 651663
admin@kincraigcommunityhall.co.uk
www.kincraigcommunityhall.co.uk

Dalwhinnie Village Hall

Dalwhinnie Village Hall, Dalwhinnie, PH19 1AB
dalwhinnievillagehall@gmail.com
www.dalwhinnie.org.uk

Laggan Bridge Community Hall

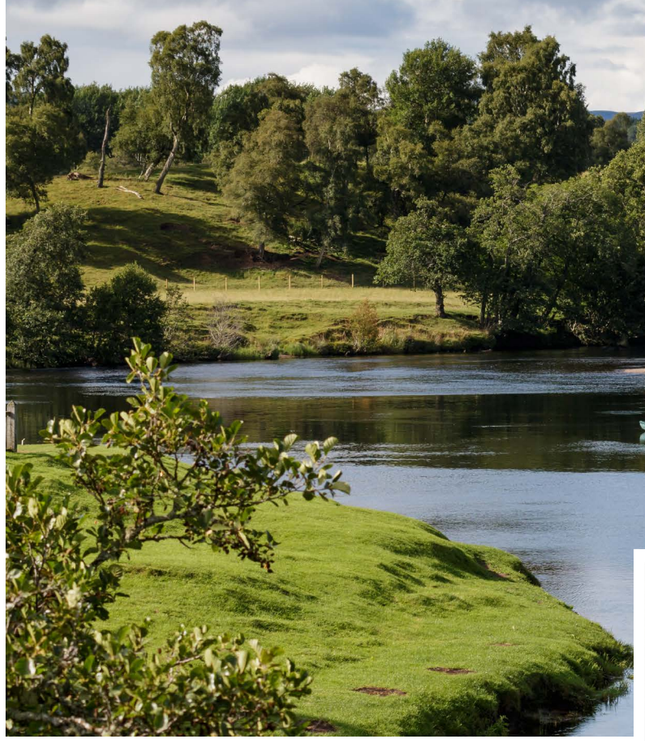
by Newtonmore, Inverness-shire PH20 1AN
01528 544309 or 07890114750
cathyslimon@hotmail.co.uk
www.laggan.com

Newtonmore Village Hall

Main St, Newtonmore PH20 1DA
01540 673301

Badenoch Centre

Spey St, Kingussie PH21 1EH
01349 781250
www.highlifehighland.com/badenoch-centre/





Boat of Garten Community Hall

Reidhaven Park, Craigie Avenue,
Boat Of Garten, PH24 3BL
www.boatofgarten.com
info@boathall.org.uk

The **Community Hall** at Boat of Garten is a shining example of how to do Community Halls! The space is superb and diverse and its setting in Boat of Garten is perfect - a fabulous village and community, with easy access onto the Speyside Way, Woodland Wheels Pump Track and many other National Park adventures.

The main Hall has a **capacity of 300** standing and 200 seated with the option of having a **stage**, **stage lighting**, **tiered seating**, tables and chairs, use of **PA**, **projector and screens**. There are the additional options of having a **cinema screen** and even a rotating disco ball...this space is **super flexible**! The **Boardroom** can accommodate around 20 people, with the option of **AV equipment** and can also be divided in two.

In addition to these larger spaces there is a **Gallery**, ideal for up to ten people, and more relaxed meetings, and a **small meeting room** well suited to 1:1 meetings.

The Hall sits next to a **football pitch** and the Hall has large **toilets** and **changing rooms**, which can be hired out individually or with the hall.

All of this...and a **Public Car Park**, fabulous local shop, Boat Hotel and Bar, self catering accommodation within the village, wonderful woodland walks and beautiful Loch Garten, make this Community Hall a fabulous events venue.

The **Lounge Room** has the option of tables and chairs and has a capacity of 100 standing or 50 cabaret style. The doors open outside to the Pergola which is another flexible room.

- Main Hall, Boardroom and Lounge Room
- Catering kitchen available with list of catering partners available
- Nearby large public car park
- Adjacent to football pitch
- Large changing rooms available

The Victoria and Albert Halls (Ballater) Trust

Learning / Working / Playing / Celebrating

www.victoriaandalberthalls.co.uk

gordon.riddler@btinternet.com

VictoriaandAlbertHalls.Ballater/

The Victoria Hall on the ground floor opens onto the courtyard and Station Square. It has a curtained stage, modern sound system and film screen. Capacity for 200 seated, 150 for dancing and small table layout, and 120 for set dinner. Modern kitchen with dishwasher, fridge freezer, hob and oven. WiFi and nearby toilets.

The Albert Hall on the first floor with access via an elevator or stairs. Small stage and sound system. Capacity for 110 seated, 90 for dancing and small table layout, and 100 for set dinner. Modern kitchen with dishwasher, fridge and warming equipment. WiFi and nearby toilets.

The Mike Sheridan Room on the first floor with elevator and stairs access. Carpeted and can seat 75. Modern equipment for cinema and streaming and the main venue for Ballater Films. Small adjoining kitchen and activity store. Popular venue for community events and meetings. WiFi and modern sound system.

The Beaton Craigie Room is on the lower ground floor with ramp access. Carpeted with small tables each with 4 chairs. Capacity 36 persons and a tea bar.

On A93 and has a Stagecoach Bus service approximately every 2 hours transport links are superb. Car parking available in Station Square and surrounding Ballater streets.



Talla Nan Ros Hall
King Street, Kingussie
01349 781250

Carrbridge Village Hall
Main Road, Carrbridge
01479 841817
carrbridgevillagehall@gmail.com

Grantown Community Centre
80 High St, Grantown-on-Spey PH26 3EL
grantowncommunitycentre@gmail.com
www.grantowncommunitycentre.org/

St Margaret's Braemar
Glenshee Rd, Braemar, Ballater AB35 5YQ
admin@stmargaretsbraemar.org.uk
ww.stmargaretsbraemar.org.uk

Dulnain Bridge Village Hall
Dulnain Bridge, Near Grantown, PH26 3LT
07801 569323
dulnainbridgevillagehall@gmail.com

Richmond Memorial Hall
Tomnabat Lane, Tomintoul, Ballindalloch, AB37 9EZ
simon.hanmer@gmail.com

Glenlivet Public Hall
Bridgend of Glenlivet, Ballindalloch,
Moray, AB37 9BX 01807 590 205
bookings@glenlivethall.co.uk
www.glenlivethall.org.uk

Kirkmichael Ex-Servicemen's Hall
Kirkmichael, Ballindalloch, AB37 9AQ
tayportzelda@gmail.com
mcclellan@btinternet.com

Lonach Hall
Strathdon, AB36 8UN 07547 713793
lonach.hall@hotmail.com
www.lonach-hall.com



Storylands Sessions © Peter Dennis

Kinord Hall
Ballater Road, Dinnet, United Kingdom
Info@kinordhall.org **kinordhall.org**

The Victoria & Albert Halls
Station Square, Ballater
info@victoriaandalberthalls.co.uk
www.victoriaandalberthalls.co.uk

Braemar Village Hall
Mar Road, Braemar, Ballater,
Aberdeenshire AB35 5YL 01339 741220
www.braemarscotland.co.uk

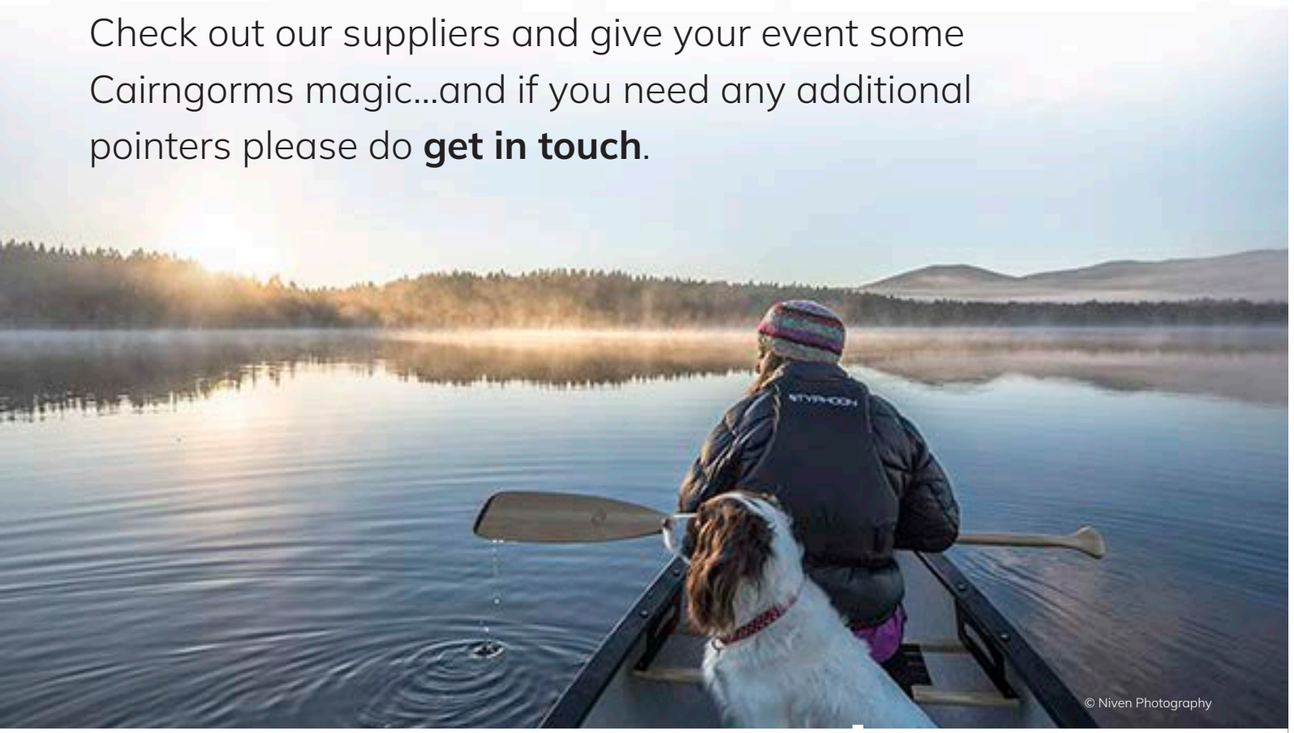
Cromdale Village Hall
Cromdale, Grantown-on-Spey PH26 3RA
cromdalehall2019@gmail.com
www.cromdale.org

St Margaret's Braemar
Glenshee Rd, Braemar, Ballater AB35 5YQ
admin@stmargaretsbraemar.org.uk
www.stmargaretsbraemar.org.uk

Finding the
Best Suppliers
to support Your Event

The Cairngorms National Park has superb suppliers in abundance and looping in with the businesses and communities who hail from the National Park will give your event a true sense of this place.

Check out our suppliers and give your event some Cairngorms magic...and if you need any additional pointers please do **get in touch**.


© Niven Photography


Spud the Piper © EdSmith


© Speyside Kitchen


© Glentanner


© Cairngorm Mountain


© Rothiemurchus

CRAIC
EVENTS CAIRNGORMS NATIONAL PARK



A community-based events company with a commitment and passion to create, host and develop events in the Cairngorms National Park.

Get in touch if you would like a local event partner or would like to hire equipment from our ever expanding inventory which currently includes:

- a large selection of professional easy up gazebos
- a large 19m Twinstar marquee
- PA system suitable for audiences from 100-500 including professional mixing desks
- 2 way event radios, projectors and screens
- Local to the Cairngorms
- Trusted partner for businesses, community organisations and charities'
- Passionate about Events

Craic Events
07510 035135
craicevents.com
hello@craicevents.com

Community & Life in the Spey Valley

SPEYSIDE KITCHEN
FRESH LOCAL MEALS DELIVERED

Taste the Highlands with Speyside Kitchen

07925 544473
speysidekitchen.co.uk
info@speysidekitchen.co.uk

A homegrown catering company based in the Cairngorm National Park and Speyside Region.

Experts in delivering bespoke event catering, with flexibility to accommodate events of all sizes - from smaller occasions and corporate meetups or Highland Ceilidhs, AGMs & conferences.

Speyside Kitchen brings high-quality, home-cooked dining to events, and works with event organisers to ensure its bespoke packages suit the event venue and your audience.

'Renowned for grazing platters, picnics and more'

This is authentic Highland catering, from one of the most breathtaking locations in the National Park. Take a look at our website to find out more or drop us a line by email.

Business listings

Businesses local to the Cairngorms National Park bring authenticity and a local connection to your event.

Please email @events@visitcairngorms.com if you would like any further advice or introductions to our local business.

Estates and Landowners

Alvie Estate
Kincraig, Kingussie, PH21 1NE

Ardverikie Estate
Kinloch Laggan, Newtonmore, PH20 1BX

Atholl Estates & Blair Castle
Blair Atholl, Pitlochry, PH18 5TH

Ballindalloch Castle and Gardens
Ballindalloch, Banffshire, AB37 9AX

Balmoral Castle & Estate
Ballater, Aberdeenshire, AB35 5TB

Braemar Castle
Braemar, Aberdeenshire, AB35 5XR

Dalnaglar Castle Estate
Glenshee, Blairgowrie, PH10 7LP

Forestry and Land Scotland

Glen Tanar Estate
Aboyne, Aberdeenshire, AB34 5EU

Glenlivet Estate Office and Information Centre
Main Street, Tomintoul, AB37 9EX

Invercauld Estate
The Estate Office, 4 The Keiloch, Invercauld, Braemar, AB35 5TW

Mar Lodge
Mar Lodge Estate, Braemar AB35 5YJ

Rothiemurchus Centre
Aviemore, PH22 1QH


© Glenlivet Bike Trails

Venues

Glenlivet Bike Trails
Kirkmichael, Ballindalloch, AB37 9AR

Laggan Wolftrax
7 Forestry Houses, Strathmashie, Laggan, Newtonmore PH20 1BU

Lagganlia Outdoor Centre Kincraig
Feshiebridge, Kingussie PH21 1NG

Loch Morlich Watersports
Loch Morlich, Glenmore

The Lecht 2090 Ski Centre
Strathdon, Aberdeenshire, AB36 8YP


© Rothiemurchus

Transport

Aviemore Car and Van Hire
Station Square, Aviemore, PH22 1PD.

Badenoch & Strathspey Transport Co
2 Inverewe, Grampian Road, Aviemore, PH22 1RH

Highland Yaks Transport
Aviemore.

Stagecoach North Scotland
Square Bus Station, Guild Street, Aberdeen AB11 6NA

Mountain Rescue

Braemar Mountain Rescue Association

Cairngorm Mountain Rescue Team

Charity Partners

Cairngorms Trust

Scotland The Big Picture

First Aid

Outwardly Mobile First Aid



© Kenny Lam, Wild Swimming at Loch Morlich

Photography and Media

Aboyne Photographics

Eleven41 Gallery / Ed Smith Photography

Niven Photography

Perfect View Productions

Richard Elliott Aerial Filming

Rupert Shanks

Scotica Film

Speysound Radio

Catering & Other Suppliers

Alvie Forest Food

Fitnessat58 Degrees North

Grantown Diner & Takeaway

KJ's Bothy Bakery

Lunch Box Boys

Speyside Kitchen

Spud the Piper

Wide Sky Weddings

Where to Stay

You can see loads of accommodation options throughout the National Park here on VisitCairngorms.

Please check out the listings below for larger sites to include Camping & Caravan Parks, Youth Hostels & Bunkhouses and Hotels. The campervan culture is also alive and kicking - check out our guide **here**.

There are many self catered holiday homes and options throughout the National Park... go to www.visitcairngorms.com to be truly spoilt for choice!

AVIEMORE

Camping & Caravan Parks

Oakwood Caravan & Camping Park
Granish, PH22 1QD 01479 258 197

Dalraddy Holiday Park
Aviemore, PH22 1QB 01479 810330

Cairngorms Motorhome Park
Cairngorm Mountain Aviemore, PH22 1QQ
01479 861261

Rothiemurchus Camp & Caravan Site
Coylumbridge, PH22 1QU 01479 812800

Badaguish Forest Lodges
Badaguish, Glenmore, Aviemore, PH22 1AD
01479 861285

Glenmore Caravan and Camping Site
Glenmore, PH22 1QU 01479 861271

Hostels & Bunkhouses

Aviemore Youth Hostel
25 Grampian Road, PH22 1PR 01479 810 345

Aviemore Bunkhouse
Dalfaber Road, PH22 1PU 01479 811181

Cairngorm Lodge Youth Hostel
Glenmore, PH22 1QY 01479 861 238

Hotel

Macdonald Aviemore Hotel
at Macdonald Aviemore Resort, PH22 1PN
01479 815100

Cairngorm Hotel
Grampian Road, PH22 1PE 01479 810233

Rowan Tree Country Hotel & Restaurant
Loch Alvie, PH22 1QB 01479 810207

BALLATER

Camping & Caravan Parks

Ballater Caravan Park
Anderson Road, AB35 5QR 013397 55727

Hostels & Bunkhouses

Ballater Hostel
Bridge Square, Ballater, AB35 5QJ 01339 753752

Hotel

Alexandra Hotel
12 Bridge Square, Royal Deeside, AB35 5QJ
013397 55376

Balmoral Arms
13-15 Victoria Road, AB35 5RA 01339 755413

BLAIR ATHOLL

Camping & Caravan Parks

Blair Castle Caravan Park & Camping Pods
Blair Atholl, Pitlochry, Perthshire, PH18 5SR
01796 481263

Hotel

Atholl Arms Hotel
Old North Road, PH18 5SG 01796 481205

Mansion House Rooms – The Old Manse of Blair
Blair Atholl PH18 5TN 01796 483344

BOAT OF GARTEN

Hostels & Bunkhouses

Fraoch Lodge
Deshar Road, PH24 3BN 01479 831331

Hotel

Boat Country Inn
Deshar Road, PH24 3BH 01479 831 258

BRAEMAR

Camping & Caravan Parks

Braemar Caravan Park and Camping Pods
Glenshee Road, AB35 5YQ 01339 741373

Hostels & Bunkhouses

Braemar Youth Hostel
Corrie Feragie, 21 Glenshee Road, Royal Deeside, AB35 5YQ 01339 741659

Mar Lodge Bunkhouse
Braemar, AB35 5YJ 013397 21063

Hotel

The Fife Arms Hotel
Mar Road, AB35 5YN 01339 720200

CARRBRIDGE

Hotel

Dalrachney Lodge Hotel
Grantown Road, PH23 3AT 01479 841252

Carrbridge Hotel
Carrbridge, PH23 3AB 01479 841202

The Cairn Hotel
Main Road, Carrbridge, PH23 3AS 01479 841212

CLOVA

Hotel

Glen Clova Hotel
Clova, Nr Kirriemuir, DD8 4QS 01575 550350

DINNET

Hotel

Loch Kinord Hotel
Royal Deeside, Nr Ballater, AB34 5LW
01339 885229

GLENFESHIE, KINCRAIG

Hostels & Bunkhouses

Glen Feshie Hostel
Balachroick House, Glen Feshie, PH21 1NH
07720432079

GRANTOWN ON SPEY

Hostels & Bunkhouses

Cairngorms Activities Glenbeg Bunkhouse & Bothy
Grantown-on-Spey, PH26 3NT 01479 873283

Hotel

Grant Arms Hotel
25-27 The Square, PH26 3HF 01479 872526

Culdearn House
Woodlands Terrace, PH26 3JU 01479 872106

KINGUSSIE

Hostels & Bunkhouses

The Railway Rooms
Ruthven Road, Kingussie, PH21 1EN 01540 661 363

Hotel

Duke of Gordon Hotel
High Street, PH21 1HE 01540 661302

McInnes House Hotel
Newtonmore Road, PH21 1HE 07840 255 007

NETHYBRIDGE

Camping & Caravan Parks

The Lazy Duck Basecamp
Nethybridge, PH25 3ED 07846 291154

Hostels & Bunkhouses

The Lazy Duck Lookout Bunkhouse
Nethybridge, PH25 3ED 07846 291154

Hotel

Nethybridge Hotel
Main Street, Nethy Bridge, PH25 3DP 01479 821203

NEWTONMORE

Hostels & Bunkhouses

Newtonmore Hostel
Craigellachie House, Main Street, PH20 1DA
01540 673360

Cairngorms Adventure Centre, Golf Course Road, PH20 1AT 01540 210000

TOMINTOUL

Hostels & Bunkhouses

The Smugglers Hostel
Main Street, Ballindalloch, AB37 9EX 01807 580364

Make it Yours

Escape for Longer

The National Park is the perfect location to host events - and what we really love is when people coming to your events bring their family and their buddies... and stay just a little bit longer!

Our businesses, communities and visitors love it when there is loads going on, especially in shoulder season when we have more capacity. The season being stretched is great news for the local economy.

Shouting about the awesomeness of the National Park might just be the required nudge to get the mountain biker to choose your event - if they know they can bring the kids and make a cracking weekend out of it, or the athlete might decide that Aviemore Triathalon is the tri for them if they can build a cosy Cairngorm escape into the weekend.

"Our summer holiday for 2022 was in the Cairngorms - and it well and truly delivered. Our kids (age 10 and 13) had an absolute ball - the balance between wild adventure and fresh air, peaceful escapes (fishing at Rothiemurchus and quiet Loch side walks...these were bliss!) and loads of fun stuff at Landmark Park and Macdonalds Resort meant we got the balance just right. **Claire & Karl from Mid Wales**

Get in touch to chat over your requirements and aims - we love working with event organisers to maximise the positive impact of events on the National Park and we are here to support you.

© Ed Smith


© Atholl Estates


© Blair Castle (Alex Boxter)


© Nethy Bridge Field and Gun


© Cairngorm Mountain


© Falconry at Rothiemurchus

The Journey to Net-Zero

Working towards a sustainable future is a fundamental objective for the Cairngorms National Park. Nurturing our environment and safeguarding its future is non-negotiable and we understand that hosting sustainable events and leaving no trace is a priority for event organisers too. Let us help you to do this.

Working in collaboration with landowners and the Cairngorms National Park Authority, you can ensure that your event takes place in suitable locations and at appropriate times of the year. We take protecting our habitats and wildlife seriously, and we will support your event to do the same.

We will also help to minimise the carbon footprint of your events, help you to find the right partners with the same values and help you and your guests to offset any carbon excess through local projects.

How to make your event more sustainable:

Think outside the box (or car!)

Encourage participants to take the most sustainable travel options, this may be taking the train, coach or finding a car share - social media can be a great tool for facilitating community ahead of the main event.

When you are within the National Park there are loads of **public transport** options, with brilliant access on foot and our bike shops have loads of hire options, including e-bikes.

You can see the National Park from your car...but you **feel it on foot or by bike**

Look for the accredited suppliers (we can help you to find them!)

The Cairngorms Business Partnership - The Local Chamber of Commerce, and the Cairngorms National Park Authority are working closely with venues, hotels, accommodation and suppliers to encourage them to gain accreditation through Green Tourism - this will give you confidence in your supplier choices and their commitment to sustainable practices.

Choose the right menu

The food culture in the Cairngorms is second to none. You have great choices whether you want sustainable meat choices, vegetarian or vegan options. Let our suppliers guide you - local producers, farmers and growers will love to see support for their businesses and local means less food miles. Venison is one of the most sustainable meat choices in the UK, and the Highlands, of course, is the perfect place to serve local venison.

Keep it local

Local suppliers and services will bring knowledge, passion and 'know how' that are unique to the National Park. This minimises the carbon footprint, boosts the local economy and brings a community vibe. 'Made in the Cairngorms' goodies will let your walkers, runners and bikers take a genuine bit of the Cairngorms home with them.

Use digital media - go print free where you can

Use QR codes to share PDFs, digital brochures, contact information, educational information, and more - sustainable, portable on mobile phones and easy to edit and update. QR codes only take minutes to make.

Reusing, recycling and waste disposal

Seek out vendors who use sustainable products, packaging, cleaning supplies and avoid single use plastic. Prioritise waste management and recycling - ask your suppliers about their policies.

Do the maths - and Offset your surplus

Taking steps to reduce the carbon footprint of your event is excellent - but you may still be in a surplus. You can offset what you can't reduce by 'offsetting'. This can be a useful tool to ensure your event is carbon neutral. A carbon calculator will allow you to do the maths and calculate if you have a carbon surplus.



Make The Journey an Adventure

Getting here - Superb rail links, road networks and two airports mean every base is covered for travel within Scotland, the UK and beyond.

Train - Getting to the Cairngorms by rail is relaxing and convenient. Rail services from across the UK offer great links and there are 6 stations throughout the National Park; trains between London and Inverness stop off at either Kingussie or Aviemore, and Aberdeen is the closest station to the east side of the Park. Head to Dundee if your event is in the Angus Glens.

Night Train - The Caledonian Sleeper is the perfect option for night travel and offers multiple stop offs at stations throughout the National Park, Aberdeen and Dundee. Travel in style, recharge your batteries and arrive in the Cairngorms ready for adventure. London to the Highlands has never felt so relaxing.

CALEDONIAN SLEEPER

Coach - Regular coach services are available from London, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen and Inverness. Local buses connect the towns and villages throughout the National Park, including dial-a-bus services and minibus services. The Stagecoach Aviemore Adventurer also provides a regular bus service (with space for skis, bikes and big bags!) through Glenmore and up to Cairngorm Mountain.

Car - The route into the National Park from the South of the UK is beautiful. The drive is spectacular throughout the seasons, with the colours of autumn getting a special mention.

Bike - National Cycle Route 7 runs from Glasgow to Inverness passing through Aviemore. Cycle Route 7 is a combination of on and off-road sections and links up the communities of the Aviemore and the Cairngorms area. What an exhilarating entrance!



Air -

Arriving by air, travel times to the National Park:

Inverness Airport – 30 minutes

Aberdeen Airport – 1hr

Glasgow Airport – 2hrs 45 mins

Edinburgh – 2hrs 30mins

VisitCairngorms
Tadhal air a' Mhonadh Ruadh





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Permission and Access

Depending on the nature of your event, you may need to obtain official permission from the landowner(s). **This is an essential first priority when planning your awesome event.**

Gaining permission from landowners may take time and require flexibility...but hosting your event in the Cairngorms National Park will be more than worth it.

The Cairngorms Business Partnership is a great place to start exploring your options on venues, scheduling and signposting to guidance and landowner contacts.



© Ed Smith

Here are some top tips for smooth, timely and collaborative communication with landowners:

1 Make contact as early as possible - timely communication is essential.

2 Have an outline of your event prepared for your initial contact
- What you are proposing
- A route map (with a willingness to be flexible)
- Dates
- A rough idea of the event size.

3 Ask the landowner what information they will need and when. Some will have documents and protocols in place, and others will be more flexible in their approach. Standard requirements include:

- **Schedule including dates, numbers, route map**
- **Public Liability Insurance Certificate**
- **Health and Safety Risk Assessments**

Additional information may include a spectator management plan, waste management, licensing etc etc

4 Chatting on the phone or over video call is great - but follow up emails to confirm time lines and the information required are invaluable

5 The National Park is the perfect location to host your event - we especially love events that are:

- **Inclusive and accessible to all**
- **Held in the shoulder seasons**
- **Held in different areas of the Park to spread benefits to communities and avoid creating undue pressure on any single area**
- **In support of our many local businesses**
- **Inclusive of local communities**
- **Sustainable as standard**
- **Taking place in a suitable location and at the most suitable time of year for our wildlife and habitats**
- **Encouraging participants to attend with family & friends and building in the option to stay just a little bit longer.**

Try to include all - or as many of these elements as you can in your event.

6 When you have your permits and permissions in place, please remember that flexibility may still be required before the event and this might include changes to the route. It is important that marketing of your event does not begin until you have permissions in place).

7 Maintain open and regular communication.

8 Remember to follow up appropriately after your event, make sure you have done everything you said you would and engage in the debrief sessions.

There are some helpful documents to guide you through the planning stages of your event - have a good read and start your planning early!

SCOTTISH **OUTDOOR ACCESS** CODE
outdooraccess-scotland.scot

Cairngorms National Park
Pàirc Nàiseanta a' Mhonaidh Ruaidh

The Scottish Outdoor Access Code and **Your Event**

It is **imperative** that you are fully aware of the permissions **your event will** require, and that you seek any relevant permissions in good time.

Although The Scottish Outdoor Access Code does mean that some very small events do not require permission, the majority of events **do require permission**.

Lead times are considerable when seeking permission (check out the table below) and having clarity at the outset will enable timely communication with land owners and relevant organisations.

The Scottish Outdoor Access Code can be seen here.

If you are in any doubt about what permission your event may need, it is essential that you seek advice at the earliest opportunity.

Get in touch if you need any advice or guidance here.

The Scottish Outdoor Access Code (SOAC) does mean that some very small events do not require permission. Check the requirements of SOAC carefully (it's not just about participant numbers!) and get in touch if you have any questions. It is good practice to inform landowners of planned activities, even if your event falls within the parameters of SOAC - great communication is key for superb events.

Cairngorms National Park Authority

The Cairngorms National Park Authority has many helpful resources on Outdoor Access Advice which you can see here.

This link will take you to a useful map of the National Park, detailing the landowners within the park.

These guidelines: Guidance for Organised Outdoor Access Events published by the Cairngorms National Park Authority, are also a valuable resource.

Forestry Land Scotland

Forestry Land Scotland are one of the biggest landowners in Scotland and they have comprehensive direction on seeking permission for events - check out the Forestry Land Scotland Permits and Permissions Guidance here.

Event type	Small event	Medium event	Large event
Walking/running*	25-50 participants	50-200 participants	200+ participants
Cycling**	25-50 participants	50-100 participants	100+ participants
Equestrian	10-25 participants	25-50 participants	50+ participants
Planning lead time (minimum)	**3-6 months**	**6-12 months**	**1-2 years**

* includes orienteering, canicross and similar. ** includes triathlon, adventure racing, sled dog racing and similar.
NB. Group outings by club members are not classed as events.

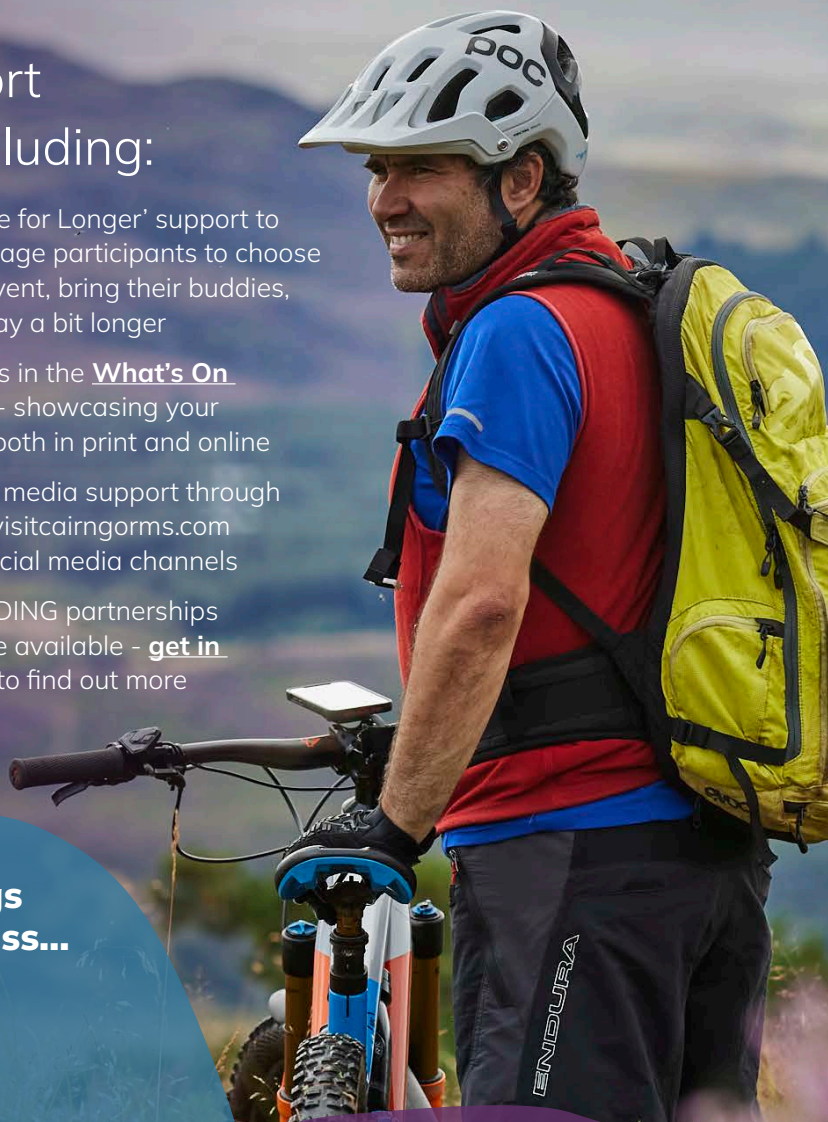
We are 100% biased but this really is one of the most spectacular places on earth, guaranteed to test you, enchant you and touch your soul like no other.

The Cairngorms Business Partnership is dedicated to supporting event organisers in hosting spectacular events within the National Park.

Cairngorms Business Partnership Event Support

We are able to offer support through various means including:

- Access to over 400 CBP member businesses who maybe the perfect partners for your event
- Liaison with landowners and the Cairngorms National Park Authority
- Guidance on locations
- Guidance on businesses and organisations to contact for collaboration and support
- Provide details of who to contact in local communities & businesses to inform of your event.
- Guidance on funding that may be available and supporting applications where suitable
- 'Escape for Longer' support to encourage participants to choose your event, bring their buddies, and stay a bit longer
- Listings in the **What's On guide** - showcasing your event both in print and online
- Digital media support through www.visitcairngorms.com and social media channels
- BRANDING partnerships may be available - **get in touch** to find out more



Here is a quick recap of the things we really love events to encompass...

- Inclusive and accessible
- Held in the shoulder seasons
- Support our many vibrant local businesses
- Are inclusive to local communities
- Are sustainable as standard
- Bring visitors to the events...and then encourage them to stay just a little bit longer

Please get in touch

if you would like to discuss your event plans - we love to hear what might be in the pipeline and are here to help bring your ideas to life in the Cairngorms.

Produced and published by the Cairngorms Business Partnership with support of featured businesses through 'paid for' partnerships'.

Cairngorms Business Partnership - Your local Chamber of Commerce
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w: www.visitcairngorms.com www.cairngormschamber.com

Cairngorms Business Partnership
Your Local Chamber of Commerce Working for You

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