Discovering Bonnie Prince Charlie and the Jacobites
DISCOVERING BONNIE PRINCE CHARLIE & THE JACOBITES

The story of Prince Charles Edward Stuart (Bonnie Prince Charlie) and the Jacobites is embedded in Scotland’s rich and turbulent history, resonating across the centuries. This enduring fascination now has global appeal sparked by the TV adaptation of Diana Gabaldon’s internationally acclaimed Outlander novels.

The National Trust for Scotland, National Museum of Scotland, Palace of Holyroodhouse and Historic Scotland have joined forces to make it easier for groups and FITs to discover some of Scotland’s most famous Jacobite sites. From the gory victory at Killiecrankie in 1689 to the bloody defeat at the Battle of Culloden in 1746, learn about the Jacobites and their ill-fated campaigns to restore the Stuart monarchy to the British throne.

Start your Jacobite journey with a visit to the National Museum of Scotland’s new exhibition, opening 2017.

EDINBURGH & THE LOTHIANS

For information and bookings contact each partner organisation directly. Contact details are listed at the end.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND
Edinburgh EH1 1JF

NEW EXHIBITION FOR 2017
Bonnie Prince Charlie and the Jacobites
23 June–12 November 2017

This major new exhibition examines the Jacobite legend and legacy. Drawing on a rich wealth of material, the exhibition tells a compelling story of love, loss, exile, rebellion and retribution and challenges many of the misconceptions that still surround the Jacobite cause.

The very best of Scotland’s national collections will be exhibited alongside treasures from across the UK and Europe. Artefacts include glassware, jewellery, costumes, paintings and documents from the period, all giving a detailed picture of this complex and absolutely intriguing period in Scottish, British and European history.

PALACE OF HOLYROODHOUSE
Edinburgh EH8 8DX

The Palace of Holyroodhouse stands at the foot of the Royal Mile and was once the symbolic residence of the Stuart prince. In September 1745, when the Jacobite army took the Scottish capital, Bonnie Prince Charlie set up court at the palace. Visit the rooms that became the focus of the Jacobite cause in Edinburgh, experience the Great Gallery where the Prince held a lavish ball, and see the bed he slept in.

Today, the Palace of Holyroodhouse is The Queen’s official Scottish residence. Visitors can explore Mary, Queen of Scots’ historic chambers, the magnificent State Apartments, the romantic ruin of Holyrood Abbey and beautiful gardens.

EDINBURGH CASTLE (HS)
Edinburgh EH1 2NG

A mighty fortress, the defender of a nation and a world-famous visitor attraction, Edinburgh Castle has dominated the skyline for centuries. The castle’s powerful stone walls have endured many sieges and its sumptuous apartments were an important residence of Scottish kings and queens.

In 1689, Edinburgh Castle was the last castle in Britain to be held for James VII. Government besiegers armed with heavy artillery eventually gained the surrender of the Jacobites within, with sickness amongst the garrison weakening them to the point of capitulation. The Jacobites laid siege during the 1715 and 1745 Risings but failed to capture the castle.
CENTRAL SCOTLAND

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STIRLING CASTLE (HS)
_Stirling FK8 1EJ_

Stirling Castle is a truly great day out. From the grandeur of the Great Hall to meeting the costumed characters of the magnificent Renaissance palace, there’s plenty to see and do. Explore the Chapel Royal, Great Kitchens and the regimental museum, and then take a guided tour of the castle and nearby Argyll’s Lodging, all while admiring the spectacular views.

The defences of the castle were strengthened after a French fleet, carrying James Francis Edward Stuart, tried to land in the Firth of Forth in 1708. In 1746 Charles Edward Stuart laid siege to Stirling Castle (unsuccessfully) on the march northwards to Culloden.

KILLIECRANKIE (NTS)
_Pitlochry PH16 5LJ_

‘But I met the devil and Dundee / On the braes o’ Killiecrankie, O!’

Penned by Robert Burns, ‘Killiecrankie’ is one of his most popular and rousing songs. It celebrates the Battle of Killiecrankie on 27 July 1689, when the tranquillity of this beautiful gorge was shattered by the first shots fired in the Jacobite cause. One government soldier escaped by making a spectacular jump across the River Garry at a spot known today as Soldier’s Leap. The visitor centre tells the story of the battle and the rich natural history of the Pass.

You can also visit the nearby town of Dunkeld, site of the Battle of Dunkeld 21 August 1689.

ALLOA TOWER (NTS)
_Alloa FK10 1PL_

Take a whistle-stop tour through 700 years of Scottish history at one of Scotland’s largest and oldest keeps, the ancestral home of the influential Erskine family, the Earls of Mar and Kellie. The Erskines were loyal supporters of several Stuart monarchs who spent part of their early lives at Alloa Tower, including Mary, Queen of Scots and James VI and I. The tower was also home to John Erskine, 6th Earl of Mar, the famous Jacobite who led the 1715 Rising.

As you explore the four floors, imagine the incredible stories that the walls and dungeon of this medieval tower could tell!

LINLITHGOW PALACE (HS)
_Linlithgow EH49 7AL_

Built over two centuries by successive Stuart kings of Scotland, Linlithgow Palace was a comfortable country retreat, conveniently located between Stirling and Edinburgh.

Both James V and his daughter Mary, Queen of Scots were born here. In 1745 Charles Edward Stuart visited the palace during his march south. The courtyard fountain is said to have run with red wine in his honour. In 1746, the Duke of Cumberland and his troops reached Linlithgow in pursuit of retreating Jacobites. Cumberland stayed in the palace. As the government forces left, a fire took hold of the palace and left it ruined.

Today, this superb Renaissance residence offers a unique insight into the domestic life of Scottish royalty.
DOUNE CASTLE (HS)
Doune FK16 6EA
This near-intact castle, set amid lovely Stirlingshire countryside, was built in the late 1300s as the home of Regent Albany, Scotland’s ‘uncrowned king’. It has served as a royal residence, a dower house for widowed queens and a prison. The castle was occupied by government troops during the 1689 and 1715 Risings but was taken by the Jacobites in 1745. Government prisoners were held here after the Battle of Falkirk in January 1746. Those imprisoned included the writer John Home and John Witherspoon, who was later a signatory to the American Declaration of Independence. The castle was partially restored in the 1880s, and the great hall and kitchen tower are particularly impressive.

HUNTINGTOWER CASTLE (HS)
Perth PH1 3JL
Lord George Murray was born at Huntingtower, and both he and his brother Charles were involved in the 1715 Rising. George also took part in the 1719 Rising but was wounded at the Battle of Glen Shiel.

Bats now fly around the castle’s twin tower houses, but legend holds that a love-struck maiden once made the perilous leap between them. Find out more as you explore the many rooms of this castle, which boasts a fabulous painted ceiling from the 1500s, depicting strange beasts and monsters.

INVERNESS & MORAY
For information and bookings contact each partner organisation directly. Contact details are listed at the end.

CULLODEN BATTLEFIELD (NTS)
Culloden Moor, Inverness IV2 5EU
This multi-award-winning visitor attraction will transport you back over 250 years to one of the bloodiest periods in Scottish history and to the final place where the Jacobite army of Bonnie Prince Charlie fought to reclaim the throne. Listen to first-hand accounts leading up to 16 April 1746 when the course of British, European and world history changed forever. Experience the battle in the 360-degree immersion theatre and view breathtaking displays of artefacts and weaponry. Then, pick up one of the multi-lingual electronic guides and walk the battlefield, where over 1,200 Jacobites died in just one hour.

BRODIE CASTLE (NTS)
Brodie, Forres IV36 2TE
Alexander, 19th Brodie of Brodie, was Lord Lyon King of Arms and firmly on the side of the government (Hanoverian) forces. Although Brodie did not take an active part in the Battle of Culloden, family history tells of government troops being camped in the wood behind the castle, in an area known today as the ‘45 Wood.

Today, you are guaranteed a warm Highland welcome at this iconic Scottish tower house. Admire the impenetrable 16th-century guard chamber, flanked by a 17th-century wing and a Victorian extension. In spring the grounds display one of Scotland’s greatest daffodil collections.

FORT GEORGE (HS)
Inverness IV2 7TD
March into one of Britain’s mightiest fortresses for an unforgettable experience. Explore this enormous military base, protected by almost 1.6km (1 mile) of massive walls, and gain an insight into life as a Redcoat. This fortress has barely changed during almost 250 years of active service. It was established in the aftermath of Culloden to house government soldiers and was named after George II. However, the Jacobite ‘threat’ was a spent force by the time construction was complete in 1769.
URQUHART CASTLE (HS)
Drochilt IV63 6XJ
Discover 1,000 years of drama, experience a glimpse of medieval life and enjoy stunning panoramic views over Loch Ness from the ruins of one of the most famous castles in the Highlands. Climb the Grant Tower to keep a lookout, peer into a gloomy prison cell and imagine the splendid banquets staged in the Great Hall. In 1689, government troops were garrisoned here; on their departure in 1692, they blew up the gatehouse to ensure it could not be used by the Jacobites.

ABERDEEN & GRAMPIAN

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DRUM CASTLE (NTS)
Drumloch, by Banchory AB31 5EY
Drum is a Jacobite castle. Alexander Irvine, 17th Laird of Drum fought alongside Bonnie Prince Charlie at the Battle of Culloden. After the defeat, both he and his younger brother Robert were listed as ‘never to be pardoned’. Robert died in prison in Edinburgh, but Alexander made his way back to Drum and was hidden by his sister (Mary Irvine) in a secret room to avoid capture from the Redcoats. The secret room was rediscovered by archaeologists in 2014 within the walls of the 14th-century Tower of Drum. Fighting alongside Alexander at Culloden was Drum’s head gardener, who subsequently made his fortune by collecting and selling booty from the fallen.

FYVIE CASTLE (NTS)
Fyvie, Turriff AB53 8JS
When the government troops marched through Fyvie on their way to Culloden, the Duke of Cumberland produced an orange and handed it to Lady Fyvie’s young son, remarking ‘I can only hope that your son will one day prove as loyal an adherent to the House of Hanover as your brother has been to the House of Stuart’.

The boy grew up to become General William Gordon of Fyvie and proudly served both Britain and the House of Hanover. However, in 1766 he caused controversy when he had his portrait painted by Pompeo Batoni – he chose to be swathed in the illegal Huntly Gordon tartan of his mother and Jacobite uncles. This painting now hangs in the drawing room at Fyvie. Also look out for roses carved on the library fireplace – a Stuart symbol.

CASTLE FRASER (NTS)
Sauchen, Inverurie AB51 7LD
This castle was one of the strongholds of the Clan Fraser, who came out for the Jacobites in the ‘45. Much of the castle survives as it was at this time. The 6th Lord Fraser’s eldest son commanded the Fraser Regiment at Culloden and was wounded on the battlefield. He was killed by a government soldier the following day.

As you explore this magnificent fortified castle, look out for the Laird’s Lug, secret staircases, a spy hole, hidden trapdoors and Charles Mackenzie Fraser’s wooden leg!

CRAIGIEVAR CASTLE (NTS)
Alford AB33 8JF
Built in the 17th century, the castle boasts a fine collection of baroque furniture, original Jacobean woodwork and intricately decorated plaster ceilings. Taking pride of place in Craigievar’s manuscript cabinet is an Order of Battle for the Battle of Culloden. While there is no record of the Forbes family’s affiliation in the battle, the manuscript shows the Sempill family on the side of the government forces. The Forbes and Sempill families were joined by marriage in the 19th century. During the 1715 Rising, it is said that John Paton of Grandholm, an Aberdeenshire laird and Jacobite fugitive, hid at Craigievar Castle under the protection of the Forbes family.
LEITH HALL (NTS)
Huntly AB54 4NQ
Andrew Hay, John Leith II’s brother-in-law, was an ardent Jacobite and friend of Bonnie Prince Charlie. Andrew took part in the long march to Derby and was the first Scot to enter Manchester; at 7ft 2in tall, he must have been an imposing sight to his enemies. A number of artefacts gifted by the Prince to Andrew are on display at Leith Hall. After the defeat at Culloden, Andrew went into hiding before fleeing to mainland Europe. Although still a wanted man, he returned years later and was eventually pardoned by George III; the pardon is on display in Leith Hall’s military exhibition.

KILDREUMMY CASTLE (HS)
Kildrummy AB33 8RA
The great castle of Kildrummy was the stronghold of the Earls of Mar. The castle was the seat of John Erskine, 6th Earl of Mar – he launched the 1715 Rising from Kildrummy, which was subsequently forfeited from his family after the Jacobite defeat.

Although ruined today, it remains a good example of a 13th-century castle with many fine features including a strong curtain wall, tall circular towers and a gatehouse probably commissioned by the English king Edward I.

CORGARFF CASTLE (HS)
Strathdon AB36 8YP
This remote tower house in the Cairngorms was a residence of the Forbes family. After the Battle of Culloden, it was converted to become a Redcoat fortress, largely to suppress Jacobite activity in the area. Additions at this time included the distinctive star-shaped perimeter wall. The reconstructed barrack rooms offer a window into military life in the late 1700s.

In 1715, the Earl of Mar marched here after launching the Rising, receiving reinforcements and ammunition. The castle was also used as an ammunition store by Jacobites in 1746, but it was abandoned on the approach of government troops.

ANGUS
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HOUSE OF DUN (NTS)
Montrose DD10 9LQ
This atmospheric Georgian house was built for David Erskine, 13th Laird of Dun and a senior judge of the Scottish Court of Session – an employee of the Hanoverian government. However, David was also a distant cousin of John Erskine, the 6th Earl of Mar and fervent Jacobite.

Become a Jacobite detective and help decipher the hidden meanings, veiled themes and subtle nuances throughout the house that hint at David Erskine’s clandestine loyalties – from the white roses (a symbol of the Jacobite cause) to a resplendent Poseidon on his sea chariot (representing the arrival from over the sea of Bonnie Prince Charlie).
LOCHABER & ARGYLL

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GLENCOE (NTS)
Glencoe PH49 4HX
This dramatic landscape of towering peaks and sweeping glens is both beautiful and mysteriously forbidding, and is regarded by many as a natural monument to the infamous massacre of February 1692 – one of the most tragic events in Scottish history. 38 people from the MacDonald clan, who had supported the 1689 Jacobite Rising, were killed by government troops.

Nestling at the foot of the glen along the A82, the award-winning visitor centre is the perfect stop-off point to enjoy the awe-inspiring views. Pre-book a ranger-led walk or Land Rover safari and experience the glen and its wildlife from a totally different perspective.

GLENFINNAN MONUMENT (NTS)
Glenfinnan PH37 4LT
Stand on the site where Bonnie Prince Charlie came ashore on 19 August 1745 and raised the Stuart standard. Thus began the final Jacobite Rising, which would end at Culloden. The lone kilted Highlander atop the 18m-high column is a tribute to the Jacobite clansmen who fought to defend the Highland way of life. Climb to the top of the monument and admire views that sweep across the mountains out to Loch Shiel. At the visitor centre, learn about the ’45 and this tumultuous chapter in Scotland’s history as well as enjoying spectacular views of the viaduct.

DUNSTAFFNAGE CASTLE (HS)
Oban PA37 1PZ
From the rugged battlements of this strategically sited castle you can see how it once dominated Loch Etive. Built by Duncan MacDougall in the 1200s, the castle was captured by Robert the Bruce in 1308.

The castle was garrisoned by government troops during the ’45 and plans were made for its use as a staging post to return people home in the event of Fort William being evacuated. Most famously, Flora MacDonald was briefly imprisoned here after helping Bonnie Prince Charlie escape Scotland following the defeat at Culloden.

DUMBARTON CASTLE (HS)
Dumbarton G82 1JJ
Conquer over 500 steps to stand atop one of Scotland’s greatest strongholds. Dumbarton Castle was the centre of the ancient Kingdom of Strathclyde and became a cornerstone of medieval royal power. It latterly served as a military base and prison. You can explore its many fortifications on the interactive family trail.

The government garrison here increased during the 1745 Rising, mostly as a precautionary measure. Aeneas MacDonald – one of the ‘seven men of Moidart’ who had accompanied Charles Edward Stuart to Scotland – was imprisoned at the castle after Culloden.
FOR INFORMATION & BOOKINGS

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- Good chance of spotting wildlife
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