



# ENJOYING THE SOUTH OF SCOTLAND RESPONSIBLY

## *STARTS HERE*

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## WELCOME

We have very much missed you and we want to ensure a warm welcome to new and returning visitors.

Things are a bit different just now. By working together, we can enjoy the best the South of Scotland has to offer and also help our tourism industry and local communities, in a safe way.

Scotland starts here, and you are all very welcome.

## PLAN AHEAD

If crossing the border into Scotland make sure you have checked to see if there are any specific travel restrictions for Scotland that may vary from those in England, Wales or Northern Ireland. Latest updates can be found [here](#).

Check businesses are open and, if you need to, please pre-book.

Look out for businesses supporting the **'Good to Go'** and **'Safe Travels'** schemes – our businesses are working hard to ensure your safety and welcome.

We would recommend that you follow Scotland Starts Here on **Facebook, Twitter** and **Instagram**, tourism businesses or communities on social media for latest 'open' updates, or phone ahead to check.

Remember that many businesses may prefer card payments, but others may still prefer cash – so come prepared.



SCOTLANDSTARTSHERE.COM





## LOVE IT LIKE A LOCAL

Please treat the area as you would wish your own community to be treated.

Please try to avoid overcrowded places and use the **Scotland Starts Here** website and **app** for inspiration of other scenic places in the area you could visit.

If wild camping or touring in a campervan, then please be responsible and considerate to where you stop – keep things clean and safe. Please check **Scotland Starts Here** for more information.

Please help to keep The South of Scotland beautiful by ensuring no litter is left behind.

Some public toilets may remain closed, so please go before you venture out. Toilet facilities are listed on **Scotland Starts Here**.

Park considerately not blocking roads or access - if too busy, then carry on.

Please remember to observe the **Scottish Outdoor Access Code**.

## GETTING ABOUT

With an abundance of coastline, stunning landscapes, nature reserves and great wildlife – take your time, pause and enjoy the view and the wonderful fresh air. We encourage everyone to eat local, see local and buy local and immerse themselves in the South of Scotland community whilst visiting the area.

The South of Scotland has many excellent and varied walking and cycling routes – enjoy some slow travel. Remember to stick to paths where they are provided and don't disturb any wildlife. Be mindful of our working landscapes as well, and keep dogs on leads near livestock.

If using public transport observe the relevant requirements to allow travel. Local travel options can be found using **Traveline Scotland**.

Visit, any time of the year. Here in the South of Scotland, we welcome visitors throughout the year and it's great to explore across the different seasons. With the opportunity to actually experience four seasons in one day, you might want to come prepared. As the great Billy Connolly once said: "There's no such thing as bad weather, just the wrong clothing."





 DRUMLANRIG CASTLE | THORNHILL.

## PROTECT OTHERS AND YOURSELF

- ☒ Do not travel if you have **Covid-19 symptoms** or have been told to isolate.
- ☒ Observe physical distancing and wear a face covering when required.
- ☒ Regularly use hand sanitiser and wash your hands frequently.

## RESPECT, PROTECT AND ENJOY

From a historical and cultural perspective, the South of Scotland is central to Scotland's story, identity and soul. Follow the thread that connects the Scottish people to the place it is woven, along roads and pathways shaped over centuries. Explore areas that forged a nation, whose ancient battles echo across time and whose culture defined the national character. Stand in the places that inspired our greatest. Absorb the spirit of Scotland in the landscapes where it still flows freely, from rolling hills, incredible views and dramatic coastlines.

Scotland really does start here in the South and if we are all responsible visitors together, we can enjoy the beauty, scenery and all that the South has to offer for years to come! We can't wait to welcome you.