



Places to visit whilst at Kites Cottage

Below is a list of various places and attractions to visit that are primarily in the local area, though there are a few that are a bit further afield. This is only a guide to help you enjoy your visit to Scotland and your stay at Kites Cottage.

Annandale Distillery



A whisky distillery producing single malt Scotch whisky in Annan. It does 30 minute tours starting at 10am every day, last tour 3.30pm. Check availability and book online.

Address: Annandale Distillery, Northfield,
Annan DG12 5LL

Distance from Cottage: 25 minutes by car.

www.annandaledistillery.com

The Oro Distillery (Gin)

Although the tour is currently not open, the Oro bar and garden is open for gin and nibbles. They offer lunches on Thursday, Friday and Saturday and a full bar each of those days.

Address: The Distillery, Dalton,
Nr Lockerbie, DG11 1DU

Distance from Cottage: 20 minutes by car.

www.oringin.co.uk

The Devil's Porridge Museum

An award winning, 5-star Museum with state of the art facilities exploring the fascinating history of World War One, World War Two and the Cold War.

Opening Times: Open daily from 10am-5pm, (10am-4pm on Sundays). Booking is recommended.

Address: Annan Road. Eastriggs, Dumfries, DG12 6TF.

Tel: 01461 700021.

Email: info@devilsporridge.org.uk

Distance from Cottage: 25 minutes by car.

www.devilsporridge.org.uk

Drumlanrig Castle



Drumlanrig Castle is situated on the Queensberry Estate in Dumfries and Galloway, Scotland. The category A listed castle is the Dumfriesshire home of the Duke and Duchess of Buccleuch and Queensberry.

Opening Times: Friday, Saturday, Sunday: 11am-3pm

Address: Drumlanrig Castle, Thornhill, DG3 4AQ.

Tel: 01848 331555.

Email: info@drumlanrigcastle.co.uk

Distance from Cottage: 50 minutes by car.

www.drumlanrigcastle.co.uk

continued

Peter Pan Moat Brae

National Centre for Children's Literature and Story-telling. **Please check that Moat Brae is open before you set off.**

A wonderfully designed and re-imagined house, an insight into JM Barrie and how he imagined children would read and interact with his stories.

Opening Times: Thursday/Friday: 10am-3pm, Saturday: 10am-5pm, Sunday: 10am-4pm

Address: Moat Brae, George Street, Dumfries, DG1 1EA

Distance from Cottage: 30 minutes by car.

www.peterpanmoatbrae.org

Lowther Hills



An extensive area of hill country in the Southern Uplands of Scotland.

Visit the website for details on walks on Green Lowther, Lowther Hill, and Wanlockhead.

Postcode (approx.): ML12 6TH

Distance from Cottage: 40 minutes by car.

www.walkhighlands.co.uk/galloway/lowther-hills.shtml

Moffat

Moffat is an attractive town, a coaching stop and a Conservation Area with a rich heritage and history and a thriving cultural, creative and musical scene.

Distance from Cottage: 50 minutes by car.

www.visitmoffat.co.uk

Grey Mare's Tail

Best known for its magnificent waterfall – the fifth highest in the UK – and uniquely dramatic scenery, Grey Mare's Tail is a superb example of a hanging valley.

Grey Mare's Tail is a paradise for wildlife enthusiasts, who come to see the rare upland plants, peregrine falcons, ring ouzels, feral goats and, if you're lucky, ospreys fishing in the loch. Loch Skeen is also home to Britain's rarest freshwater fish, the vendace.

There is a picture of the Grey Mare's Tail at the top of the spiral staircase.

Distance from Cottage: 40 minutes by car.

www.visitmoffat.co.uk/things-to-see/grey-mares-tail

Moffat Hills

The hills have numerous walks of varying degrees in length and severity, depending on your fitness and ability levels. There are 3 hills over 800 metres in these hills – White Comb (821m), Hartfell (808m) and Lochcraig Head (801m).

Postcode: DG10 9LQ

Distance from Cottage: Approx 40 minutes by car.

www.summitpost.org/the-moffat-hills/473057

Eskdalemuir



Eskdalemuir has a 'Hub' café. The Hub is located on a major cycle route, and is a popular refreshment point for cyclists.

If 'off-road' biking is your thing, then why not consider the "Scottish Enduro tour" of secluded trials and forest tracks, through the beautiful valleys and mountains of this stunning region.

The natural beauty of Eskdalemuir and beyond makes this a popular walking spot.

If history is your thing, then the local 'Prehistoric Trail' (which links several prehistoric sites of archaeological interest) may take your fancy.

Distance from Cottage: 20 minutes by car.

www.eskdalemuir.com

Kagyu Samye Ling Monastery

Please visit the website before visiting as the centre has been closed due to Covid-19 and have an unpublished reopening date.

Samye Ling is a monastery and international centre of Buddhist training, known for the authenticity of its teachings and tradition. It offers instruction in Buddhist philosophy and meditation within the Karma Kagyu lineage of Tibetan Buddhism. It is also a centre for the preservation of Tibetan religion, culture, medicine, art, architecture and handicrafts.

Address: Eskdalemuir, Langholm, Dumfries, DG13 0QL

Distance from Cottage: 20 minutes by car.

www.samyeling.org

7Stanes and The Forests of Scotland

The 7stanes are world-class mountain biking centres that span the south of Scotland. Their award-winning trails offer some of the best mountain biking in the country and attract riders from all over the UK and beyond.

Distance from Cottage: Varies dependant on site.

Nearest 7Stanes centres are:

Forest of Ae: DG1 1QB. 25 minutes by car.

Mabie Forest: DG2 8HB. 40 minutes by car.

Dalbeattie: DG5 4QU. 50 minutes by car.

<https://forestryandland.gov.scot/visit/activities/mountain-biking/7stanes>

Criffel Hill and Sweetheart Abbey



Criffel is a hill in the historical county of Kirkcudbrightshire, Dumfries and Galloway. It is a prominent feature in many of the views from the northern Lake District on a clear day.

www.walkhighlands.co.uk/galloway/criffel-new-abbey.shtml

Sweetheart Abbey is set against the backdrop of Criffel Hill.

Please visit the website before visiting as the Abbey has been closed due to Covid-19 and have an unpublished reopening date.

Address: New Abbey, Dumfries, DG2 8BU

Distance from Cottage: 40 minutes by car.

www.historicenvironment.scot/visit-a-place/places/sweetheart-abbey

Annandale Way

The Annandale Way is a 56 mile (90km) long distance walking route starting in the hills above Moffat and following the River Annan down to the Solway Estuary at Annan and can be walked either north to south or south to north.

Starting point: At the source of the River Annan heading south to the coast OR begin your walk on the coast and head northwards to Moffat. A cairn marks either end of the Way.

Walk Overviews

1. Moffat – Devil’s Beef Tub – Moffat

Distance: 22km (13½ miles). Upland Environment.

The walk starts above the source of the river Annan with a circumnavigation of the Devils Beef Tub (where the Border Reivers used to hide their stolen cattle) and then follows the river Annan along the valley bottom into the town of Moffat.

2. Moffat - St Ann’s

Distance: 11km (7 miles).

From Moffat the walk heads south following the ‘Crooked Road’ out of Beattock where it meets the Southern Upland Way. It continues over high ground then down onto the Lord of Annandale’s Estate where the route goes through oak forests and over farmland to Millhousebridge. Here, the route splits into two routes that go through Lockerbie and Lochmaben.

3. St Ann’s – Lochmaben – Hoddom

Distance: St Ann’s – Lochmaben 16 km (10 miles).

Lochmaben – Hoddom 22km (14 miles).

The western Lochmaben arm takes in Castle Loch with it’s ruined castle and a new sculpture trail then goes up past Joe Grahams monument where walkers can enjoy fantastic views of the whole of Annandale.

4. St Ann's - Millhousebridge - Hoddom

Distance: St Ann's – Lockerbie 20km (12½ miles).

Lockerbie – Hoddom 14km (9 miles).

The eastern Lockerbie arm takes in the Lockerbie Wildlife Trust's Eskrigg Nature reserve with its loch and abundance of wildlife.

5. Hoddom – Barnkirk Point – Annan

Distance: 17km (10½ miles).

The two routes above meet up just north of Hoddam Bridge where they follow the river Annan through Annan and on to its end at Newbie Barns on the Solway Coast with its wide panoramic views of the estuary and across the water to Cumbria.

www.annandaleway.org or www.dumfries-and-galloway.co.uk/walks/annandale-way.html

Caerlaverock Castle



Please visit the website and book online as you are not able to visit without an appointment.

A wide moat, twin-towered gatehouse and lofty battlements make Caerlaverock the epitome of the medieval stronghold.

Address: Castle End Road, Dumfries, DG1 4RU

Distance from Cottage: 40 minutes by car

www.historicenvironment.scot/visit-a-place/places/caerlaverock-castle

Garden of Remembrance



The garden lies towards the far end of the cemetery and is a beautiful and tranquil place in which to think about those who lost their lives in the skies above the town and on the ground. The garden leads you through beds of flowers and past individual memorials to the Lockerbie Air Disaster Memorial.

Address: Dumfries Road, Lockerbie, DG11 1HZ .

Distance from Cottage: 10 minutes by car.

www.parksandgardens.org/places/garden-of-remembrance-lockerbie

Red Kite Centre



The Red Kite feeding station situated in the Bellymack Hill on the Galloway Kite Trail. This is where the picture on the wall in the Cottage Living Room of the Red Kite was taken and also features on our postcards!

A small café is situated on site and you can sit on the balcony to watch the birds or sit inside the centre.

Opening times: 12 noon to 4pm with feeding time at 2pm.

Distance from Cottage: 1 hour by car.

Address: Lauriston, Castle Douglas, DG7 2PJ

www.bellymackhillfarm.co.uk

Eskrigg Nature Reserve

Eskrigg Reserve and the adjacent woodland walks offer visitors the opportunity to relax in peaceful surroundings and observe or photograph the resident fungi, flora and fauna. Key species include red squirrel, Tawny Owl, and Kingfisher.

The Reserve is open all year round.

Address: Eskrigg Farm road, Lockerbie, DG11 1HY.

Distance from Cottage: 15 minutes by car.

www.lockerbie-wildlife-trust.co.uk/eskriggreserve

Hadrian's Wall



The A69 between Newcastle and Carlisle runs parallel to Hadrian's Wall (approximately 2-5 miles south) and is the main strategic access route. You can join the A69 from the western side of the country along the M6 from the south and the A74 (M) from Glasgow to Carlisle. Access from the eastern side of the country is along the A1 (M) to Newcastle, with the option of using the A68 (which links Edinburgh and Darlington) to reach the central part of Hadrian's Wall Country. The Hadrian's Coast Tourist route follows the line of Hadrian's Wall and the coastal defences west of Carlisle, through the Solway Coast Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty to Maryport. The route takes you through some fascinating and out-of-the-way places along country lanes.

Address: Hadrian's Wall Tourist Information Centre, Lanercost, Brampton, Cumbria CA8 2HQ.

Distance from Cottage: 45 minutes by car to Tourist Information Centre.

www.english-heritage.org.uk/visit/places/hadrians-wall

Ellisland Museum and Farm

Visit Ellisland, the family home built by Robert Burns in 1788 for his bride Jean Armour. Set picturesquely on the banks of the River Nith, Burns could not have chosen a more idyllic spot.

To book please visit Eventbrite. For more information:

Email: info@ellislandfarm.co.uk or

Tel: 01387 740 426 (please note only manned Mondays and Wednesday's between 10am – 3pm).

You must book in advance.

Address: Holywood Road, Auldgirth, Dumfries DG2 0RP.

Distance from Cottage: 30 minutes by car.

www.ellislandfarm.co.uk

Dawyck Botanical Gardens

Dawyck Botanic Garden is a five star 65 acre garden renowned for its seasonal displays of snowdrops, bluebells, rhododendrons, azaleas, blue poppies and autumn colour.

Plants from the mountainous regions of Europe, China, Nepal, Japan and North America thrive here.

Opening Times: Open daily from 5 Apr – 30 Nov.

Address: Stobo, near Peebles,
Scottish Borders EH45 9JU.

Distance from Cottage: 1 hour by car.

www.rbge.org.uk/visit/dawyck-botanic-garden

Bowhill Estate



Please visit website for opening and book tickets.

Bowhill House and Country Estate, the magnificent country home of the Duke and Duchess of Buccleuch and home to part of the famous Buccleuch art collection.

Address: Bowhill House, Selkirk,
Scottish Borders, TD7 5ET

Distance from Cottage: 1 hour 10 minutes by car.

www.bowhillhouse.co.uk

Drummuir Ice Cream

Drummuir Farm Ice Cream is a family run business specialising in the production of over 30 flavours of delicious home-made ice creams with milk from their own herd of dairy cows.

Opening: Open Daily 10.30am-5.30pm

Address: Drummuir Farm, Clarencefield Road,
Collin, Dumfries, DG1 4PX

Distance from Cottage: 25 minutes by car.

www.drummuirfarm.co.uk

Threave Garden and Estate (National Trust Scotland)

A garden for all seasons and a haven for wildlife, with an osprey platform and bat reserve.

It is the only Scottish garden dedicated to the training of horticulturists, home of the School of Heritage Gardening since 1960.

Opening Times: 26 Apr-31 Oct, daily, 10am-5pm

Address: Threave Estate, Castle Douglas DG7 1RX

Distance from Cottage: 1 hour by car.

www.nts.org.uk/visit/places/threave-garden

Burnswark Hillfort

The earthwork complex at Burnswark consists of a Bronze Age cairn, Iron Age fort and settlement, Roman camps, medieval enclosures, Civil War battery and a triangulation station.

Burnswark Hill is an arresting sight. It rises to nearly 1,000 feet from the gentle surrounding countryside and is one of the most prominent landmarks of the Solway basin. On a good day, the panoramic views from the summit are breathtaking.

Postcode: DG11 3JZ

Distance from Cottage: 20 minutes by car.

Lochmaben – Castle Loch and Castle

The ruins of Lochmaben Castle are found on promontory at the south end of Castle Loch.

Surrounding the loch is the Castle Loch Nature Reserve which attempts to reconcile the various interests which use the area: Yachting, Coarse Fishing, Wild Fowling, Bird Watching.

Opening Times: Open all year round.

Postcode: DG11 1JE

Distance from Cottage: 15 minutes by car.

www.lochmaben.org.uk/about/lochs

The Solway Coast and The Solway Firth



The Solway Coast is an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. The area stretches from its easterly boundary at Floriston on the Border Esk to Maryport on the West Cumbrian Coast. Its area covers approximately 118 Sq km.

The Solway Firth stretches from St Bees Head in West Cumbria to the Mull of Galloway, the most southern tip of Scotland.

The two coastlines are very different. In England, it's based on soft sandstone, while the Scottish side is made of harder granite rocks giving the landscape a more rugged feel.

Then there's the huge variety of wildlife which makes the entire Firth its home. The whole population of Norway's Svalbard breeding barnacle goose are only found on the Solway Firth each winter, while murmurations of starlings can fill the skies in the winter months too.

Plantlife which wouldn't normally exist this far north exists here thanks to the warming influences of the Gulf Stream. That also affects the marine life, with an abundance of fish like tope, ray and pollock, as well as the porpoises which swim through the waves.

Distance from Cottage: Approx 30 minutes – varying.

Powfoot Beach

Powfoot Beach is a stretch of coastline along the Solway Firth, consisting of mud flats, a salt marsh, and some sections of shingle. From the attractive village of Powfoot there is a path along the coast taking walkers to the east, towards Annan and a shingle area of the beach.

Postcode: DG12 5PN

Distance from Cottage: Approx 30 minutes by car.

Longer Journeys

Peebles

The Ancient and Royal Burgh of Peebles is a genteel, handsome town on the River Tweed in the Scottish Borders.

It is situated just 45 minutes away from Edinburgh. It sits on the north bank of the River Tweed, where there is parkland with pleasant riverside walks, while the wide high street has a mix of Victorian architecture. As with most Scottish Borders towns, golf, fishing, mountain biking and walking are popular pursuits, with Tweeddale Forest and the Southern Upland Way within easy reach.

Distance from Cottage: 1 hour 20 minutes by car.

www.visitscotland.com/info/towns-villages/peebles-p242381

Edinburgh



Edinburgh is Scotland's compact, hilly capital. It has a medieval Old Town and elegant Georgian New Town with gardens and neoclassical buildings. Looming over the city is Edinburgh Castle, home to Scotland's crown jewels and the Stone of Destiny, used in the coronation of Scottish rulers. Arthur's Seat is an imposing peak in Holyrood Park with sweeping views, and Calton Hill is topped with monuments and memorials. Edinburgh Zoo has an array of attractions and animals for a great day out, visit their website for opening times and booking.

Distance from Cottage: 1 hour 40 minutes by car approximately.

Camera Obscura

Edinburgh has a wealth of tourist attractions but Camera Obscura is one of the highlights. With five floors and over 100 interactive, hands-on exhibits, there is something to entertain all ages. Tour Edinburgh's streets without moving. Test your brain against mind-bending illusions. Take spectacular cityscape photographs from our Rooftop Terrace. It's all

part of the Camera Obscura experience.

Situated just a stone's throw from Edinburgh Castle, at the top of Edinburgh's historic Royal Mile, see history and modern marvels together under one roof.

Opening Times: Open daily 9am-9pm.

Book tickets online beforehand.

Address: Castle Hill, The Royal Mile, Edinburgh, EH1 2ND

Distance from Cottage: 1 hour 50 minutes, 70 miles by car.

www.camera-obscura.co.uk

Glasgow



Glasgow is a port city on the River Clyde in Scotland's western Lowlands. It's famed for its Victorian and art nouveau architecture, a rich legacy of the city's 18th-20th-century prosperity due to trade and shipbuilding. Today it's a national cultural hub, home to institutions including the Scottish Opera, Scottish Ballet and National Theatre of Scotland, as well as acclaimed museums and a thriving music scene.

Distance from Cottage: 1 hour 15 minutes by car.

Loch Lomond

Loch Lomond is a lake in southern Scotland. It's part of the Loch Lomond and The Trossachs National Park. The surrounding highlands area is home to red deer and oak woodlands. On the eastern shore, footpaths and cycle trails criss-cross craggy Ben Lomond mountain and the smaller Conic Hill.

Address: Carrochan, Carrochan Road, Balloch, G83 8EG

Distance from Cottage: 1 hour 40 minutes by car.

www.lochlomond-trossachs.org

Additional Attractions

Attraction	Category	Website
Annan Shore Walk	Walks	www.annan.org.uk/shorewalk/thewalk.html
Crichope Linn	Walks	www.kirkennan.co.uk/blog/crichope-linn
Falls of Clyde	Walks	www.scottishwildlifetrust.org.uk/reserve/falls-of-clyde
Dryfe Water	Walks	www.routeyou.com/en-gb/location/view/48039688/dryfe-water
Hoddum Castle & Repentance Tower	Walks	www.castlesfortsbattles.co.uk/dumfries_galloway/hoddum_castle_repentance_tower
Spedlins Tower	Walks	www.thecastlesofscotland.co.uk/the-best-castles/other-articles/spedlins-tower
Queensferry	Walks	www.walkhighlands.co.uk/fife-stirling/north-queensferry
Southern Upland Way	Walks	www.walkhighlands.co.uk/southern-upland-way.shtml
Laggan Outdoor Activity Centre	Outdoor Activities	www.lagganlife.co.uk/laggan-outdoor
Galloway Activity Centre	Outdoor Activities	www.lochken.co.uk
Loch Ken Waterski and Wakeboarding	Outdoor Activities	www.lochken.co.uk
Forrest Estate Experiences	Outdoor Activities	www.forrestestateexperiences.co.uk
Barend Riding School	Outdoor Activities	www.info.dumgal.gov.uk/ClubsandOrganisations/Home/Details/33
Go Ape Peebles	Outdoor Activities	www.goape.co.uk/locations/glentress-forest
Bowhill Stables	Outdoor Activities	www.bowhillhouse.co.uk/outdoor-activities/horseriding
Chariots of Fire Equestrian Centre	Outdoor Activities	www.chariotscic.org.uk
Kayantics	Outdoor Activities	www.kayantics.com
Mabie Mountain Bike Trails	Outdoor Activities	www.forestryandland.gov.scot/visit/mabie
Winterhope Reservoir	Fishing	www.getoutside.ordnancesurvey.co.uk/local/winterhope-reservoir-dumfries-and-galloway
River Annan	Fishing	www.riverannan.co.uk
Broom Fisheries	Fishing	www.broomfisheries.co.uk
New Lanark World Heritage Site	Cultural	www.newlanark.org
Dryfesdale Visitor Lodge	Cultural	www.dryfesdalelodge.co.uk
Gretna Green Blacksmiths	Cultural	www.gretnagreen.com/famous-blacksmiths-shop-p1421
New Abbey Corn Mill	Cultural	www.historicenvironment.scot/visit-a-place/places/new-abbey-corn-mill
Caelaverock Nature Reserve	Nature Reserve	www.nature.scot/enjoying-outdoors/scotlands-national-nature-reserves/caelaverock-national-nature-reserve
Applegarthtown Wildlife Sanctuary	Nature Reserve	www.visitscotland.com/info/see-do/applegarthtown-wildlife-sanctuary-p245321
RSPB Mersehead Reserve	Nature Reserve	www.rspb.org.uk/reserves-and-events/reserves-a-z/mersehead/
Kirkconnel Flow Nature Reserve	Nature Reserve	www.nature.scot/enjoying-outdoors/naturescot-nature-reserves/kirkconnell-flow-nature-reserve
RSPB Ken Dee	Nature Reserve	www.rspb.org.uk/reserves-and-events/reserves-a-z/ken-dee-marshes
Moffat Community Nature Reserve	Nature Reserve	www.visitmoffat.co.uk/explore-moffat/moffat-community-nature-reserve
Savings Banks Museum	Museum	www.savingsbanksmuseum.co.uk
Dumfries & Galloway Aviation Museum	Museum	www.dumfriesaviationmuseum.com
Solway Aviation Museum	Museum	www.solway-aviation-museum.co.uk
Lead Mining Museum	Museum	www.leadminingmuseum.co.uk
Ninefold Distillery	Distillery	www.ninefolddistillery.com
Crafty Distillery	Distillery	www.craftydistillery.com

continued

Attraction

Powfoot Golf Club
Lockerbie Golf Club
Lochmaben Golf Club
Dalscone Farm Fun
Dino Park, Hetland Garden Centre
Mabie Farm Park
Cream of Galloway
Just Be
Thai Orchid, Dalton
Auldgirth Inn
Del Amitri
Cavens Kirkbean
Lime Tree Moffat
Townhead Hotel Restaurant
Mossburn Animal Centre
SW Coastal 300
Gretna Gateway Outlet Village

Category

Sport
Sport
Sport
Family Fun
Family Fun
Family Fun
Family Fun
Eat Out/Café
Eat Out
Michelin Plate 2021
Michelin Plate 2021
Michelin Plate 2021
Michelin Plate 2021
Restaurant Lockerbie
Animals
Driving tour
Shopping

Website

www.powfootgolfclub.com
www.lockerbiegolf.co.uk
www.lochmabengolf.co.uk
www.dalsconefarmfun.co.uk
www.dinopark.co.uk
www.mabiefarmpark.co.uk
www.creamogalloway.co.uk
www.justbe.scot
www.thaiorchiddalton.co.uk
www.auldgirthinn.co.uk
www.thepowfoothotel.com
www.cavens.com
www.hartfellhouse.co.uk/restaurant
www.townheadhotel.co.uk
www.mossburn.org
www.visitsouthwestscotland.com/attractions/swc300map/
www.gretnagateway.com

