

NOW
STREAMING

SCOTLAND: THE HOME OF
OUTLANDER

FILMING LOCATIONS GUIDE
—— SPECIAL EDITION ——

Scotland's landscapes, towns and villages, and historic places are at the heart of the story of Outlander. As you follow in the footsteps of Claire and Jamie and create your own Scottish adventure, remember that it is one filled with real people, real places, and real history. Plan your journey carefully and explore responsibly—respecting local communities, protecting our natural environment, and leaving every place as magical as you found it.

Tapadh leibh (Thank you).



This guide has been
created by VisitScotland

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In association with
Sony Pictures Television



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“I chose Scotland as the setting for my first novel because of a man in a kilt, but upon looking into things more deeply, was enchanted to discover a country and a people like no other, whose traditions and history are as strikingly beautiful as its landscapes.”

Diana Gabaldon
Author
Outlander

“Scotland’s rich history provides a dynamic backdrop to the story of Outlander. This country has a particular quality to it. The light has a particular quality, the grass, the trees, the landscape itself is a character in the show.”

Ronald D Moore
Executive Producer
Outlander

"From day one, the people of Scotland welcomed a small group of Sassenachs from Los Angeles with open arms. They didn't just let us film here—they embraced us, shared their stunning landscapes and culture, and made us feel like we belonged."

Matthew B. Roberts
Executive Producer & Showrunner
Outlander

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THE HOME OF OUTLANDER

“There's no place on earth with more
magic and superstition mixed into its
daily life than the Scottish Highlands.”

Frank Randall
Outlander, Season One

Outlander (or Cross Stitch to UK readers)
was first published in 1991.

It was author Diana Gabaldon's second brush with
Scottish 'history', if you take account of her comic
strips for Disney's Scrooge McDuck.

The historical fantasy follows the story of Claire
Randall, a married English combat nurse from 1945
who, while on a second honeymoon in Inverness, is
mysteriously swept back in time to the 18th-century
Scottish Highlands. There she meets Jamie Fraser,
a chivalrous young warrior, with whom she becomes
romantically entwined.

A further eight novels and several spin-offs have
been published in 43 countries and in 39 languages,
selling more than 35 million printed copies
worldwide.

It wasn't until 2014 that Outlander made its screen
debut.

Developed by American screenwriter and producer
Ronald D. Moore (Star Trek, the reimagined
Battlestar Galactica), it put Caitríona Balfe in the role
of Claire and Galloway-born actor Sam Heughan in
the role of Jamie.

Moore admitted that he didn't know much about
the history of Scotland when he first read the book

but was drawn to the historical world Gabaldon had
populated and saw the potential for a TV series.

When it came to choosing where to shoot the series,
it could only be Scotland.

The production created its own studio in
Cumbernauld and, bar brief sojourns to Eastern
Europe and South Africa, over the course of eight
seasons Scotland has been the home of Outlander,
with locations across the country doubling for the
USA, France and even the Caribbean.

Scotland isn't shy of appearing on screen, from
Hollywood blockbusters to cult classics; film fans
have been flocking to discover the real country
for decades.

But there has been nothing quite like the
Outlander effect.

Whether it is filming locations or attractions linked
to Scotland's past, all have been touched by the
fans. Their enthusiasm for the series has helped
to support so much of the country's heritage,
even supporting conservation projects, such as
Tibbermore Church, and the National Trust for
Scotland's Preston Mill.

DELVE INTO THE WORLD OF OUTLANDER

...and discover the locations which featured in the hit TV series. From Castle Leoch to the North Carolina wilderness, follow this map and explore for yourself the Scottish sites that were used in filming Claire and Jamie's adventures.



Map for illustration purposes only

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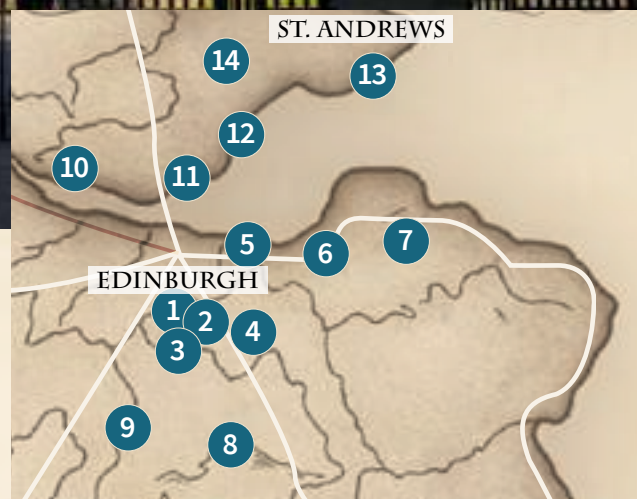
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To avoid disappointment, make sure to check opening dates and times on each location's website before visiting.



EAST

EDINBURGH, EAST LoTHIAN,
MIDLoTHIAN & FIFE



1 Tweeddale Court - Edinburgh Season 3

The hustle and bustle of the market where Claire is reunited with Fergus was filmed here. The entrance to this time capsule of a street is from the historic Royal Mile. Take time to explore one of the oldest parts of Edinburgh.

Edinburgh, EH1 1TE
www.ewh.org.uk



2 Bakehouse Close - Edinburgh Season 3

Bakehouse Close just off Edinburgh's Royal Mile was the setting for Jamie's Print Shop and where Claire reunited with Jamie after years of separation. This is one of the best-preserved closes in the city and was transformed into 18th century Edinburgh for exterior shots of the Print Shop. Why not visit the fascinating Museum of Edinburgh next door?

Edinburgh, EH8 8DD
www.edinburghmuseums.org.uk

FACILITIES

National Trust for
Scotland Location

Historic Environment
Scotland Location

Parking / Parking Nearby

Cafe / Restaurant

Shop / Visitor Centre

Admission Fee

Toilet Facilities



3 Signet Library - Edinburgh Season 3

The stunning interior of the Signet Library in Edinburgh's Old Town was transformed into the Governor's Mansion in Jamaica. The library is home to the prestigious Society of Writers to His Majesty's Signet which dates back to the 15th century.

Edinburgh, EH1 1TE
www.ewh.org.uk



4 Craigmillar Castle - Edinburgh Season 3

The ruined medieval castle of Craigmillar became Ardsmuir Prison, the place of Jamie's incarceration. Visit the castle to admire the views across Edinburgh. Interesting fact: Mary Queen of Scots used the castle as a safe-haven in 1566.

Edinburgh, EH16 4SY
www.historicenvironment.scot



5 Newhailes House - East Lothian Season 4

Located just a few miles east of Edinburgh, this 17th century Palladian villa served as Governor Tryon's home in North Carolina, where Jamie discussed the offer of a land grant in exchange for service to the English Crown. Newhailes also featured when Jamie and Claire were introduced to Wilmington Society.

Musselburgh, EH21 6RY
www.nts.org.uk

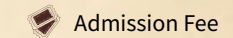
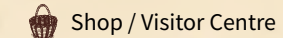
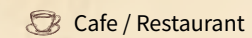
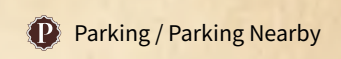
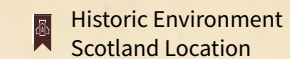
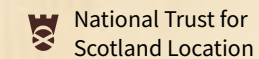


6 Gosford House - East Lothian Seasons 2 & 3

Originally designed by one of Scotland's greatest architects, Robert Adam, the grounds that surround this lavishly decorated house doubled as the Palace of Versailles in France (S2) and Helwater and Ellesmere (S3). Note: part of the grounds is available for public use, but the house is only open for visiting on certain days. Please check before you travel.

Longniddry, EH32 0PY
www.gosfordhouse.co.uk

FACILITIES



7 Preston Mill - East Lothian Season 1

In the village of East Linton is the picturesque Preston Mill – one of the oldest working, water-driven meal mills in Scotland. It provided the backdrop for several scenes during the Jacobite Uprisings. Tour the mill to see the mechanisms in action and learn about its history and the people who lived and worked there.

East Linton, EH40 3DS
www.nts.org.uk



8 Arniston House - Midlothian Season 4

Home to the Dundas Family for over 400 years, this magnificent mansion house set in acres of parkland is located 11 miles from Edinburgh. It doubled as both the theatre entrance and lobby where Jamie and Claire attended a play in Wilmington with Governor Tryon, and where Claire's medical skills saved Edward Fanning's life.

Gorebridge, EH23 4RY
www.arnistonhouse.com



11 Aberdour Castle - Fife Season 1

This 12th century castle doubled as the monastery where Claire and Murtagh brought Jamie to recover after his ordeal at the prison, with the Old Kitchen and Long Gallery used for filming. Situated on the Fife coast, this splendid ruined castle is amongst the oldest standing masonry castles in Scotland.

Aberdour, KY3 0SL
www.historicenvironment.scot



12 Dysart Harbour - Fife Season 2

Situated on the Fife Coastal Path, this picturesque harbour became the French port of Le Havre where Jamie and Claire landed after their escape to France, and the location of St. Germain's warehouse.

Dysart, KY1 2TQ
www.fifecoastalpath.co.uk



9 Glencorse Old Kirk - Midlothian Season 1

This charming church, nestled in the grounds of Glencorse House in the foothills of the Pentlands, is where Claire and Jamie tied the knot. With its lush parkland, lake and splendid garden, it is a wonderfully atmospheric and romantic wedding venue for any Outlander fan. Please note that visits to the Kirk are by appointment only by contacting Glencorse House.

Milton Bridge, EH26 0NZ
www.glencorsehouse.co.uk



10 Culross - Fife Seasons 1, 2, 4 & 7

The Mercat Cross in the coastal village of Culross was transformed into Cranesmuir, and its Palace grounds as Claire's herb garden at Castle Leoch (S1). The ruined Black Kirk (S1) is close to the village centre. Culross also featured as a Jacobite encampment and makeshift hospital (S2) and Balriggan Cottage where Laoghaire lived (S4) and where Gelis has déjà vu meeting Roger (S7)

Culross, KY12 8JH
www.nts.org.uk



13 The Scottish Fisheries Museum - Fife Season 2

The Reaper is an historic two-masted 'Fifie' fishing boat that appeared as one of the vessels in Dysart Harbour, which portrayed the port of Le Havre in Outlander. She is currently being restored to her original glory and is one of the last authentic survivors of this type of vessel. Berthed in Anstruther harbour, she is cared for by the Scottish Fisheries Museum.

Anstruther, KY10 3AB
www.scotfishmuseum.org



14 Falkland - Fife Seasons 1, 2 & 4

The town of Falkland was transformed into 1940s (S1) and 1960s (S2, S4) Inverness. The Covenanter Hotel became Mrs. Baird's Guesthouse; the Bruce Fountain was where Jamie's ghost looked up at Claire's window; Fayre Earth Gift Shop doubled as Farrell's Hardware and Furniture Store; and Campbell's Coffee House and Eatery featured as itself.

Falkland, KY15
www.welcometofife.com



CENTRAL

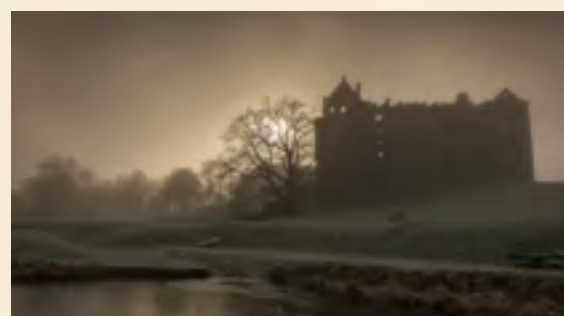
WEST LOTHIAN, FALKIRK,
STIRLINGSHIRE, LOCH
LOMOND & THE TROSSACHS



15 Beecraigs Country Park - West Lothian Season 4

Situated near the town of Linlithgow, this 913-acre country park is a great place for enjoying the countryside and visiting red deer and Highland cattle. Have fun at the play area or stay for longer at the caravan & camping site. The park doubled as the North Carolina wilderness which Jamie and Claire rode through after leaving River Run. On the journey through the forest, they became separated during a thunder storm and Claire was haunted by the ghost of Otter-Tooth.

Linlithgow, EH49 6PL
www.westlothian.gov.uk

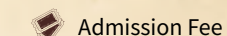
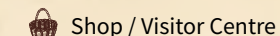
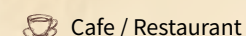
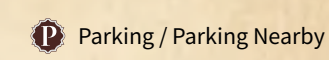
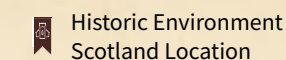
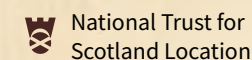


16 Linlithgow Palace - West Lothian Season 1

The entrance and corridors of this ruined palace were used as Wentworth Prison where Jamie was imprisoned. Once a favoured royal residence of the Stewart kings and queens and the birthplace of Mary Queen of Scots, this wonderful 15th century site, with its elegant courtyard, still oozes charm.

Linlithgow, EH49 7AL
www.historicenvironment.scot

FACILITIES



17 Hopetoun House - West Lothian Seasons 1, 2, 3, 7 & 8

One of Scotland's finest stately homes, Hopetoun House doubled as the home of the Duke of Sandringham (S1); provided the backdrop for Parisian streets; a room in Jamie and Claire's Paris apartment; and the Hawkins Estate (S2); and Ellesmere and the stables at Helwater (S3). In the final 2 seasons, it was the scene of the London Tube station flashback, Lord Harald Grey's Westminster Office, Lord John Grey's Residence in Savannah, a Shadow Lake residence and Mohawk Village in New York.

South Queensferry, EH30 9RW
www.hopetoun.co.uk



18 Midhope Castle - West Lothian Multiple Seasons (including 1,2,3 & 7)

This 16th century tower house is used as the exterior of Lallybroch, the estate of Brian and Ellen Fraser. It is here that Roger meets Brian and Jenny wants Claire to cure Ian. It is also used as North Carolina and the New York battlefields.

South Queensferry, EH30 9SL
www.midhopecastle.com



19 Muiravonside Country Park - Falkirk Seasons 2 & 5

Located between Linlithgow and Falkirk, the park lent its backdrop to the dramatic Battle of Prestonpans, and doubled both as a British encampment and the English countryside. It is also where Jamie and Roger are seen hunting buffalo when Jamie is bitten by a snake.

Whitecross, EH49 6LW
www.falkirkcommunitytrust.org.uk

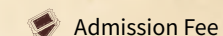
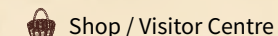
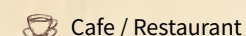
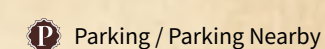
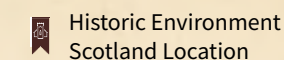
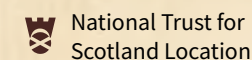


20 Gray Buchanan Park - Falkirk Season 4

Known locally as Parkhill, the site has pretty woodland areas alongside the meandering Polmont Burn, and large rolling parkland areas with mature tree avenues. This is where Jamie and Young Ian buried Gavin Hayes after he was hanged for stealing in Charleston, South Carolina. Please note there is no graveyard in the park.

Polmont, FK2 0XR
www.falkirk.gov.uk

FACILITIES



21 Callendar House - Falkirk Season 2

Steeped in history, this gorgeously decorated 14th century house, set within the grounds of Callendar Park, is an architectural gem. The authentic Georgian working kitchen was used as part of Bellhurst Manor, the home of the Duke of Sandringham.

Falkirk, FK1 1YR
www.falkirkcommunitytrust.org.uk



22 Bo'ness & Kinneil Railway - Falkirk Season 1

The Bo'ness & Kinneil Railway was transformed into a wartime London railway station where Claire and Frank said their goodbyes. Tour this heritage railway and explore Scotland's largest railway museum, before taking the chance to board a preserved vintage steam or diesel-hauled train.

Bo'ness Station, EH51 9AQ
www.bkrailway.co.uk



25 University of Stirling - Stirlingshire Season 4

The University is situated on the outskirts of the city of Stirling, on the site of the historic Airthrey Estate. The walkway between the university buildings doubled as the walkway at Boston Airport where Brianna met Roger when he came to visit her.

Stirling, FK9 4LA
www.stir.ac.uk



26 Doune Castle - Stirlingshire Season 1

Stunning Doune Castle near Stirling plays a leading role in the show, substituting for the fictional Castle Leoch – home to Colum MacKenzie and his clan in the 18th century. It also features in the 20th century episode when Claire and Frank visited the castle in ruins on a day trip.

Doune, FK16 6EA
www.historicenvironment.scot



23 Blackness Castle - Linlithgow Seasons 1 & 2

Standing looking out over the Firth of Forth near Edinburgh is the impressive Blackness Castle, often referred to as 'the ship that never sailed' due to its ship-like shape. This 15th century fortress provided the setting for the Fort William headquarters of Black Jack Randall, and also featured in the heart-wrenching scene of Jamie's incarceration.

Blackness, EH49 7NH
www.historicenvironment.scot



24 Duncarron Medieval Village - Falkirk Season 7

Located near the Carron Valley Reservoir near Stirling, this impressive recreation of a medieval village was built by The Clanranald Trust for Scotland. The village doubles as Fort Ticonderoga, where William meets Simon Fraser and Claire is held to treat patients.

Denny, FK6 5JL
www.duncarronmedievalvillage.com



27 Deanston Distillery - Stirlingshire Season 2

Housed in a former cotton mill, Deanston Distillery provided the setting for Jamie's cousin Jared's wine warehouse at the docks in Le Havre. Take a behind-the-scenes tour of the distillery to discover the centuries-old tradition of whisky distilling.

Doune, FK16 6AG
www.deanstonmalt.com



28 Loch Katrine - Loch Lomond & The Trossachs Season 2

Soak up the peace and tranquillity of the area, and discover the roads travelled by Roger and Brianna when they first became friends after meeting in Inverness. Boat trips from the Trossachs Pier.

Callander, FK17 8HZ
www.lochkatrine.com



NORTH

HIGHLANDS, PERTH & KINROSS



29 Tibbermore Parish Church - Perth & Kinross Season 1

This characterful church featured as Cranesmuir Church for the scene of the infamous witch trial. Why not stand in Claire and Geillis's footsteps in the pulpit – if you dare! Note: There is no parking available at the church – please show consideration when parking nearby.

Tibbermore, Perth, PH11QJ
www.historicchurches.scot

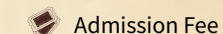
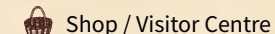
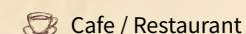
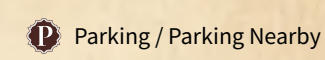
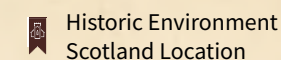
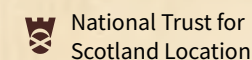


30 Dunkeld House Hotel - Perth & Kinross Seasons 4 & 5

Nestled in the beautiful Perthshire countryside and overlooking the River Tay, this hotel sits in 280 acres of woodland which doubled as the North Carolina wilderness where Jamie, Claire and Young Ian set off in search of Roger who had been sold to the Mohawk. It was also the site where the MacKenzies disappear through the stones and where Claire washes blood off her face in the waterfall.

Dunkeld, PH8 0HX
www.dunkeldhousehotel.co.uk

FACILITIES



31 Drummond Castle Gardens - Perth & Kinross Seasons 1, 2 & 3

These stunning gardens, designed in the Italian Parterre style, stood in for the Palace of Versailles, and are approached by a mile-long driveway of beech trees. Note: the castle is not open to the public.

Muthill, Crieff PH7 4HN
www.drummondcastlegardens.co.uk



32 Kinloch Rannoch - Perth & Kinross Season 1

The idyllic area around Loch Rannoch and Kinloch Rannoch, in Highland Perthshire, was seen in the background as Claire and Frank enjoyed their second honeymoon, following the end of the war. Why not take your own tour of the area and explore the awe-inspiring scenery of high mountains and sparkling lochs, as enjoyed by the couple in the first episode?

Kinloch Rannoch, PH16
www.rannochandtummel.co.uk



33 Highland Folk Museum - Highlands Season 1

Replicas of 18th century turf-roofed crofts at the Highland Folk Museum in Newtonmore made the ideal choice for period scenes, including when Dougal collected the rent. Visit to learn how Scottish Highlanders lived during this century. Donations welcome.

Newtonmore, PH20 1AY
www.highlifehighland.com



34 Glen Coe - Highlands Season 1 - opening credits

One of the highlights of any trip to Scotland, the spectacular Glen Coe is a world-famous Scottish landmark with high mountain peaks, ridges, rushing rivers and waterfalls. Not far away is the legendary Glenfinnan Monument where Bonnie Prince Charlie raised his standard and started the Jacobite Rising of 1745.

Ballachulish, PH49 4HX
www.nts.org.uk



WEST

GLASGOW & CLYDE VALLEY



35 University of Glasgow - Glasgow Seasons 3 & 4

Glasgow University doubled as Harvard University where Frank taught as a professor and where Brianna visited him in his office. Established in 1451, Glasgow University is the 4th oldest university in the English-speaking world. Pre-bookable guided tours for visitors.
Glasgow, G12 8QQ
www.gla.ac.uk



36 Kelvingrove Park - Glasgow Season 3

The beautiful Kelvingrove Park in Glasgow became the Boston Park where Claire frequently took walks. Visit the park with its many statues, monuments and varied wildlife and the nearby Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum.
Glasgow, G3 6BY
www.glasgow.gov.uk

FACILITIES

- National Trust for Scotland Location
- Historic Environment Scotland Location
- Parking / Parking Nearby
- Cafe / Restaurant
- Shop / Visitor Centre
- Admission Fee
- Toilet Facilities



37 George Square - Glasgow Season 1

The historic George Square in Glasgow was turned into a 1940s set to film Frank's spontaneous proposal to Claire. Look up at the impressive architecture around you, as Glasgow is home to many ornate buildings with fine period features.
Glasgow, G2 1AL
www.glasgow.gov.uk



38 Glasgow Cathedral - Glasgow Season 2

The crypt of this imposing medieval cathedral doubled as L'Hopital Des Anges in Paris where Claire volunteered as a nurse. The cathedral is a stunning example of Gothic architecture and boasts one of the finest post-war collections of stained glass windows in Britain.
Glasgow, G4 0QZ
www.glasgowcathedral.org.uk



39 Queen's Park - Glasgow Season 5

This park was created by renowned Victorian landscape gardener and designer, Sir Joseph Paxton, and dedicated to the memory of Mary, Queen of Scots. It plays Boston Park and it is here that Claire asks Brianna to go to London with her. The glasshouse and front gardens have set opening hours.
Glasgow G42 9QL
www.glasgow.gov.uk



40 Pollok Country Park - Glasgow Seasons 1, 2 & 7

This beautiful park doubled as the grounds of fictional Castle Leoch (S1) and the French countryside that the characters travelled through between Le Havre and Paris (S2). It also doubles as Pennsylvania where Claire and Jamie are reunited and Claire finds Mrs. Raven hiding (S7). Explore this extensive woodland area which was once voted the best park in Britain and Europe.
Glasgow, G43 1AT
www.glasgow.gov.uk



41 Coats Church - Renfrewshire
Season 5

This iconic former 19th century church, constructed in memory of philanthropist Thomas Coats, is now a wedding and events venue. It plays St Finbar's Church. Visit by arranged tour – see website for details. Some areas limited accessibility.

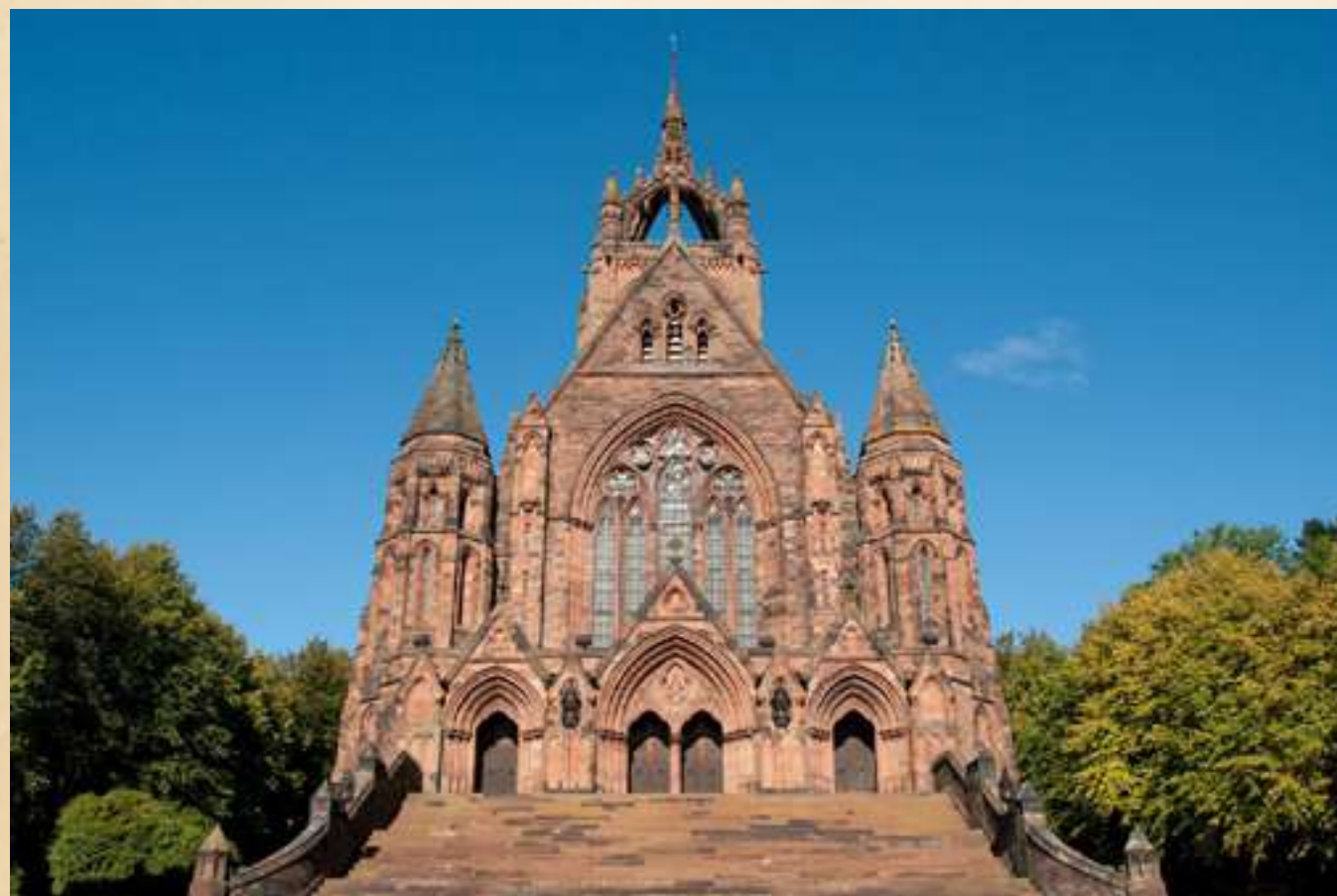
Paisley, PA1 2BA
www.coatspaisley.com



42 Calderglen Country Park
- South Lanarkshire
Seasons 4 & 8

Situated 30 minutes outside Glasgow, the park is home to a zoo, nature trails, golf course, gardens and historic Torrance House. The park was the backdrop when Jamie took Willie on a hunting and fishing trip with dangerous consequences. It also doubled as NYC where Ian shares a moment with Emily and Ahroniawonrateh tells Ian to go to the village. Admission charge to zoo.

East Kilbride, G75 0QZ
www.southlanarkshire.gov.uk



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SOUTH



FACILITIES

- National Trust for Scotland Location
- Historic Environment Scotland Location
- Parking / Parking Nearby
- Cafe / Restaurant
- Shop / Visitor Centre
- Admission Fee
- Toilet Facilities



45 Dunure Harbour - South Ayrshire Seasons 3 & 4

This little harbour stands in for Ayr Harbour where Claire and Jamie left Scotland in pursuit of Young Ian in Season 3 and where Brianna and Roger are reunited in Wilmington, North Carolina in Season 4. Nearby, is Dunure Castle which featured as Silkie Island in Season 3. Facilities in the village. The castle is a ruin.

Dunure, KA7 4LN
www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk



46 Eglinton Country Park - North Ayrshire Season 8

Located in the grounds of the old Eglinton Castle estate in Kilwinning, the grounds are used as the exterior of Lord John Grey's house where William and Amaranthus discuss the future while Lord John returns home. It is here also that Claire gives William advice on parenthood while Jamie and Lord John share possibly their final moment together.

Irvine, KA12 8TA
www.north-ayrshire.gov.uk



43 Dean Castle - East Ayrshire Season 2

Set in a wooded glen, this 14th century castle doubled as Beaufort Castle where Claire and Jamie asked Lord Lovat for aid for Charles Stuart.

Discover its history and collections at the nearby Dick Institute Museum and Gallery.

Kilmarnock, KA3 1XB
www.deancastlecountrypark.com



44 Troon - South Ayrshire Season 3

The quaint seaside town of Troon was the setting for the scene where Claire, Jamie and Murtagh arrived at the coast and boarded a 17th century ship to deliver Jamie to France. Overlooking the Isle of Arran, Troon boasts stunning sandy beaches and is a wonderful destination for a relaxing seaside holiday.

Troon, KA10
www.south-ayrshire.gov.uk



47 Drumlanrig Castle - Dumfries & Galloway Season 2

This 17th century castle situated near Thornhill boasts over 40 acres of beautiful gardens. The exterior, living rooms and bedrooms doubled as Bellhurst Manor, including a bedroom once slept in by the real Bonnie Prince Charlie on his way north to Culloden.

Thornhill, DG3 4AQ
www.drumlanrigcastle.co.uk



48 Manderston House - Scottish Borders Season 5

This magnificent Edwardian stately home in the Scottish Borders was designed by Scottish architect, John Kinross, and is now a wedding and events venue. The House doubles as River Run stables where Claire is attacked by Wylie and Jamie arrives just in time to rescue her. Visits available on specified public open days – see website for details.

Duns, TD11 3PP
www.manderston.com



SCOTLAND'S HISTORY

The standing stones of Craigh na Dun are the link between the past and present in Outlander.

The fictional stones are inspired by the real historic sites of Clava Cairns, found outside of Inverness, and the Calanais Standing Stones on the Isle of Lewis.

Scotland is a land full of standing stones – 1,233 sites in total, including 352 which feature a Pictish symbol stone – some of which are the most ancient in Europe.

These include UNESCO World Heritage Site, the Heart of Neolithic Orkney, which features The Stones of Stenness (considered the earliest henge monument in the British Isles) and The Ring of Brodgar.

And while they may not contain time-travelling properties, they do connect the country to its past, having watched over Scotland for 5,000 years.

Let's look at some of those moments from Scotland's past which led to the events portrayed in Outlander.

1100-1300s

The establishment of the clan system in Scotland.

1295

The Auld Alliance is created between Scotland and France. The military and diplomatic alliance was in response to threats by the English kingdom.

1314

The Battle of Bannockburn, in which Robert the Bruce, King of Scots, defeats King Edward II of England, was a major turning point in the Scottish wars of independence. The National Trust for Scotland's The Battle of Bannockburn visitor experience is a must-visit to understand the importance of this event.

1320

The Declaration of Arbroath is signed. The original copy is held in the National Library of Scotland however, the story of the declaration is recounted at Historic Environment Scotland's Arbroath Abbey.

1542

Mary, Queen of Scots is crowned at only six days of age. She reigned until her forced abdication in 1567, and was later sentenced to death by her cousin Queen Elizabeth I of England. Historic Environment Scotland's Lochleven Castle, near Kinross, was the dramatic setting of her escape from captivity.

1567

James VI, the son of Mary, Queen of Scots, is crowned King of Scots. He would later take the throne of England, following the death of Queen Elizabeth I, uniting the crowns in 1603. The Church of the Holy Rude in Stirling was the site of his coronation to the Scottish throne, and is still in use today.

1707

The Acts of Union between the English and Scottish parliaments take place.

1745

Bonnie Prince Charlie launches an attempt to reclaim the throne his grandfather, King James VII of Scotland and II of England, lost in 1688. It would become known as the 1745 Jacobite Rising.

1746

The Battle of Culloden, on the outskirts of Inverness, marked the end of the Jacobite Rising. Visitors can find out more about the battle and explore the field at the National Trust for Scotland's Culloden site.

1771

Sir Walter Scott, creator of the modern historical novel is born. His Jacobite novels Waverley and Rob Roy were a sensation with the reading public and sparked an interest in Scotland and the Highlands.

CLANS & ANCESTRY

What do Highlander Jamie Fraser and a sonic screwdriver-carrying timelord have in common?
The answer is, of course, Diana Gabaldon.

The story goes (by the author herself) that she was watching a repeat of the Doctor Who episode, The War Games (1969), when she came across The Doctor's Scots companion Jamie McCrimmon (played by English actor Frazer Hines).

McCrimmon had become a regular companion in the BBC science fiction series following the 1966 episode, The Highlanders, set appropriately after the Battle of Culloden – the real-life battle spelled the end of the Jacobite Rising.

Gabaldon found the kilted piper “fetching” and the rest is (Scottish) history.

But while Jamie Fraser may be a fictional character, his family's clan is very real.

With a motto of “Je Suis Prest” (I Am Ready), the Fraser clan is said to have been first recorded in Scotland in about 1160 with a Simon Fraser who owned land in Keith in East Lothian.

Today, Fraser of Lovat – “of Lovat” refers to the lands where the family seat resides – is a prominent Highland Scottish clan situated around the River Beauly in Inverness-shire.

Serendipitously, during Gabaldon's research she uncovered an account of a Fraser of the Master of Lovat's regiment who survived Culloden, providing further inspiration (and the idea for continuing the story past one book).

But what is a clan?

The origin of Scotland's clan system dates back to the 12th century, rooted in the Scottish Highlands.

The term “clan” comes from the Scottish Gaelic word “clann” meaning children. And while clans are rooted in family, not all those members were related. Many were those who lived off land owned by the clan chief or who joined for protection and identity.

While the clan system may no longer have a stronghold in modern day Scotland, there is no less fascination for it (and even some clan chiefs still around, if you fancy joining one), especially for those seeking to trace their Scottish roots.

And if you are tracing your Scottish ancestors, The National Records of Scotland and Scotland's People are a good place to start.



Highland Games

Some believe the origins of Highland games date back to the 11th century, when King Malcolm III organised a race near Braemar to find the fastest runner.

The games, as we know them now, were borne out of clan gatherings which featured parades, music, dancing and tests of strength and endurance, overseen by a ceremonial chieftain.

By the 1800s, they had largely fallen into decline until Queen Victoria helped revive the tradition after granting the Braemar Gathering Royal Patronage.

Nowadays, Highland games are a staple of Scotland's events calendar, taking place up and down the country over the spring and summer months.





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TARTANS & TEXTILES

Every picture tells a story but so, too, does an outfit.

The costumes and textiles in Outlander are a dazzling and gritty feast for the eyes, inspired by Scottish history, nature and the characters who inhabit them. It's no surprise given Scotland's fame for fabrics and fashion, from the Paisley Pattern and the textile industry in the Scottish Borders, to Harris Tweed in the Outer Hebrides.

Tartan, as you'd expect given its focus on clans, is prominent throughout Outlander, and the show even created its own official tartan, woven in Scotland and based on original, historic designs.

For those unfamiliar (and there may be some), tartan is a piece of woven cloth made up of horizontal and vertical stripes in different colours, on a coloured background. The interwoven stripes, known as a "sett", create the unique design, and plants, mosses and berries were originally used to dye the wool.

According to the Scottish Register of Tartans, there are now more than 10,000 registered tartans in Scotland.

There are many places throughout Scotland to uncover the country's textile heritage.

Take a trip to the Outer Hebrides to discover Harris Tweed, the only fabric to be guarded and protected by its own Act of Parliament and statutory body, the Harris Tweed Authority. The Harris Tweed Trail takes visitors on a journey to weavers, shops, and places of interest connected to the world-famous weave. Attractions include the Harris Tweed Story Room which offers tours which tell the story of the fabric from the very beginning right through to the present day and live demonstrations of the weavers in action.

The Great Tapestry of Scotland, meanwhile, is a fascinating attraction in the Scottish Borders that combines Scotland's expertise in the craft with the history of the country. A thousand volunteer stitchers, from the Borders to the Highlands and Islands, used 300 miles of woollen thread to depict 420 million years of Scotland's story to create the 160 panels.



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GAELIC LANGUAGE

“Sassenach,” says Jamie.

It may have traditionally been a derogatory term for an English person – derived from the word Saxon – but fans will recognise its more affectionate usage as the nickname our Highlander gives Claire.

Jamie’s fondness for the Scottish Gaelic (Gàidhlig) word even translated off-screen when Sam Heughan gave it to the name of his very own tippie. Slàinte mhath!

Sassenach, however, isn’t the only use of Scotland’s native tongue throughout the seasons.

Indeed, the production hired a Gaelic instructor and dialect coach to teach the cast the language and ensure historical accuracy.

An unforgettable moment in the series is Claire’s introduction to wool waulking in Season One (Episode 5: Rent) filmed at the Highland Folk Museum, in Newtonmore.

Wool waulking is a centuries-old Scottish practice from the Highlands which women did to strengthen and finish freshly woven woollen fabric. The rhythmic ritual involved soaking the fabric before beating and kneading it to the beat of Gaelic songs sung in time.

Badenoch Waulking Group appeared in the episode and the song – “Mo Nighean Donn” which translates as “My brown-haired lass” – is one that has been passed down through the generations as is the oral tradition of these Gaelic compositions.

It’s a memorable scene and one that made the group social media sensations. Since their appearance in Outlander, videos of their annual performances at the Highland Folk Museum have been viewed by millions online.

But Scots Gaelic isn’t restricted to age-old traditions. It is still in use today.

In fact, around 70,000 Scots speak it or are able to understand the language. Venture to the Highlands and islands, the Outer Hebrides, the Isle of Skye, and some places in Argyll & the Isles, and you’re likely to hear it in conversation.

For those more culturally inclined, there is the Royal National Mòd, Celtic Connections, or Scotland’s first ever Gaelic Poetry Path (Slighe

nam Bàrd), created by Sabhal Mòr Ostaig, the National Centre for Gaelic Language and Culture, which takes visitors on a poetic pathway around the Isle of Skye.

You can even spot Gaelic on road signs across the country.

All of this, despite the language being heavily suppressed in the late 18th century, during the infamous Highland Clearances, following the Jacobite Rising. Its resurgence came, in part, by the writings and influence of 19th century Scottish author Sir Walter Scott (check out Abbotsford in the Scottish Borders for more on the novelist).

A little Gaelic to get you started

Pronunciation tip: bh and mh often sound like v, and ch is the back of the throat sound in loch.

Fàilte! (Welcome) – FAHL chuh

Halò! (Hello) – ha LO

Ciamar a tha thu? (How are you? – informal) – KEE mar uh HA oo?

Tapadh leat / leibh (Thank you – informal / formal) – TA puh LYAHT / LAYV

Slàinte mhath! (Cheers!) – SLAAN chuh VAH

Tìoraidh! (Cheerio/Bye) – CHEE ree

FOOD & DRINK

As a combat nurse, Claire's medical knowledge comes in handy in 18th century Scotland. But with no access to modern medicines, she must get up to speed on herbal remedies.

Off-screen, another Claire was guiding cast and crew in the ways of traditional medicine.

Scottish medical herbalist and founder of Herbal Heritage Scotland, Claire Mackay, worked on the series as herbal consultant. She not only assisted Caitríona Balfe (Claire

Fraser) with knowledge of herbs and their preparation, but her expertise helped shape scenes throughout the series.

Here she explores what food and drink was like at the time of Outlander...

The diet of ordinary Highland people was simple, seasonal, and heavily dependent on what could be grown locally or preserved through harsh winters.



Oats formed the basis of everyday food, most commonly eaten as porridge, oatcakes, or bannocks cooked over the hearth. **Barley** was also widely used, especially in broths and ale. **Meat** was less common for poorer families and was often reserved for special occasions, though fish, particularly herring, salmon, and shellfish in coastal areas, were important sources of protein.



Dairy foods such as butter, buttermilk, crowdie cheese (a soft cottage cheese traditionally made by crofters), and kail (cabbage commonly added to broths and stews) featured regularly in the diet. **Root vegetables** including turnips and potatoes became increasingly important, especially in the Highlands where the potato thrived in poor soil and gradually transformed rural nutrition.



Whisky was widely consumed, though often rougher and more locally distilled than the modern spirit. A pound of **tea** was more expensive than the cost of a single sheep,



Seasonal wild herbs were relied upon to add diversity of flavours to meals, especially in households that didn't have access to or couldn't afford foreign spices. A herb that might be included was Soorach, or wild sorrel, found in woodland areas from early spring until late summer and adding a citrus sourness that is also a source of vitamin C.



Watercress found in streams was also gathered for culinary purposes, as was nettle and other herbs which all added a variety of important vitamins and minerals to the diet that would otherwise result in nutritional deficiencies.



Knowledge of plant medicines was a matter of survival and could be the difference between life or death in some instances. Without the medicines which we take for granted today, such as analgesics (pain-relievers) and antibiotics, an understanding of how to effectively use herbal remedies was highly valued.



So much that the **Beaton physicians** were highly esteemed in the Scottish courts and placed in high positions, and gifted lands, on account of their carefully preserved medical knowledge.



It wasn't only professional physicians that went to great lengths to record their wisdom, however, as we see in the 18th century **herbal notebook**, held at the Royal College of Physicians and Surgeons in Glasgow, which contains herbal cures written in lowlands Scots.

Geillis Duncan's Digestive Tea

15g Parsley
8g Fennel Seed
8g Peppermint
1/2 tsp Ground ginger (or 1/2 inch chopped fresh)

Instructions:

Chop fresh leaves and crush seeds.
Cover herbs with boiled water and infuse for 5 minutes.
Strain and serve, with honey to sweeten if required.
Drink a cup after meals to aid digestion.

The digestif is a common practice in many cultures and traditionally it would have been commonplace to take a digestive aid after meals, such as a tonic or tea.

Outlander fans may remember in series one when Geillis Duncan complains to Claire about her husband's digestive problems, and uses peppermint oil to bring him relief.

Here is a herbal tea that can be made with a mix of fresh and dried herbs, including peppermint that are common kitchen ingredients that have been used to treat digestive complaints historically.



TUNE IN

Watch Outlander via these broadcasters

USA Starz	UK MGM+	Canada Netflix (S1-7 English)	Tou.TV Extra (French)	Australia Foxtel (Season 8) Stan (Seasons 1-7)	
New Zealand Sky	France Netflix	Germany Netflix (S1-7 only)	Spain Movistar+	Italy Sky	



Even although the seasons are over, the Outlander story doesn't have to end here. Step back into the world of Outlander with **Outlander: Blood of My Blood** - the epic new prequel series exploring the love stories that shaped Jamie and Claire long before they met.

Once again set against the dramatic landscapes of Scotland, the series follows the lives of their parents; of two passionate romances spanning generations, weaving together family legacy, loyalty, and destiny.

NOW
STREAMING

Images for locations 2, 3, 5, 8, 9, 12, 14, 15, 22, 25, 26, 31, 37 & 42
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Diana Gabaldon quote (page 1) on acceptance of the International Contribution to Scottish Tourism award at the Scottish Thistle Awards (2019).

Ronald D. Moore quote (page 1) taken from an Outlander behind the scenes featurette.

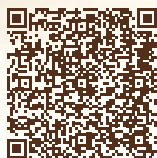
Media articles, online resources, Outlander behind the scenes featurettes, and visitScotland.com were used in the research of Scotland: The Home of Outlander. Special thanks to Sony Pictures Television and Claire Mackay.



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