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## OUTLANDER DRESS TRAVELS THROUGH TIME TO BE UNVEILED AT CULROSS PALACE

- The dress worn by character Geillis Duncan in season one of "Outlander" will be on display at Culross Palace from 16 July.
- The Royal Burgh of Culross is the setting for the fictional village of Cranesmuir in seasons one and two of the series.
- Film, TV, and literature serve as a driver for more than 36% of European and long-haul visitors to Scotland.

The National Trust for Scotland is unveiling a dress worn by the character Geillis Duncan in "Outlander" at Culross Palace in Fife as it shines a spotlight on film tourism for the first time.

The Royal Burgh of Culross, along with many other places in the conservation charity's care across the country, have been used as filming locations for the hit television series. As it enters its eighth and final season later this year, the Trust is celebrating this global phenomenon by displaying a real costume that brings a piece of the story to life for fans and visitors alike.

The character Geillis, played in the series by Lotte Verbeek, is first seen in Season 1 and wore the dress made of felted wool bodice and a heavy wool weave skirt. Geillis' costumes were deliberately designed to reflect her 1960s life to create a feeling for the audience that she was out of place in the 18th century, before it was revealed that she was a time traveller. From 16 July, the dress, by Terry Dresbach, costume designer on Outlander Seasons 1-4, will be on display within Culross Palace with its accompanying white under garment, corset, and underskirt.

Geillis Duncan, or Gillie Duncan, was a real person. She was accused by magistrate David Seton of witchcraft in 1590 and her forced confession fuelled witchcraft accusations in Scotland, contributing to the North Berwick witch trials and accusations against more than sixty people.

Anna Rathband, the National Trust for Scotland's Filming Manager, said: "We've had a great relationship with the production of "Outlander" for more than a decade. Six out of its eight seasons filmed at Trust places, including Culross Palace, Falkland Palace, the Hermitage, Newhailes, and Preston Mill.

"Hundreds, if not thousands, of "Outlander" fans have already come from across the world to engage with the story and to learn more about the history of our country. We're excited to bring a piece of "Outlander" to Culross Palace and make Geillis' dress available for the public to see up close. Many fans of the series will recognise Culross as the fictional village of Cranesmuir in seasons one and two, and the village, Culross Palace, and the Palace's garden have featured in a variety of scenes throughout the

series, so it will give them a chance to stand in the "Outlander" world and connect with a piece of its history."

In the "Outlander" story, Geillis first appears in 1743 and befriends the main character, Claire Randall. Eventually, Geillis is tried and executed for witchcraft, revealing her real name is Gillian Edgars, a Jacobite who deliberately returned to Scotland before the 1745 uprising, to try and change the course of history.

Dozens of the National Trust for Scotland's special places serve as the backdrop for film and television projects, including Skyfall, Outlaw King, and Mary Queen of Scots, amongst many more. <u>VisitScotland's 2023 visitor survey</u> indicated that 36% of European visitors and 37% of long-haul visitors were inspired to visit because of film, TV, and books featuring Scotland so engaging in film tourism connects with people from around the world.

Matthew B. Roberts, Ronald D. Moore of Tall Ship Productions, Maril Davis, Toni Graphia, Luke Schelhaas, Andy Harries of Left Bank Productions, Jim Kohlberg of Story Mining & Supply Company, Caitríona Balfe, and Sam Heughan serve as executive producers on "Outlander," which is produced by Tall Ship Productions, Left Bank Pictures and Story Mining & Supply Company, in association with Sony Pictures Television.

The "Outlander" television series is inspired by Diana Gabaldon's international best-selling books, which have sold an estimated 50 million copies worldwide, with all nine of the books gracing the New York Times best-seller list. The "Outlander" television series has become a worldwide success with audiences, spanning the genres of history, science fiction, romance, and adventure in one amazing tale.

The display of the dress is included with admission to Culross Palace and Garden. The Palace is open daily, 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. until 30 September, and daily, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. from 1-31 October. More information can be found at <a href="https://www.nts.org.uk/visit/places/culross.">www.nts.org.uk/visit/places/culross.</a>

Film tourism supports the National Trust for Scotland's vision to care for, protect, and share Scotland's nature, beauty and heritage for everyone, as outlined in its 10-year strategy, launched in 2022. For more information on the National Trust for Scotland, visit <a href="https://www.nts.org.uk">www.nts.org.uk</a>.

## **ENDS**

Images: https://www.flickr.com/gp/133918740@N04/Ty31Gh3Vbe

## **About the National Trust for Scotland**

Established in 1931, the National Trust for Scotland is Scotland's largest conservation charity and cares for, shares and speaks up for Scotland's magnificent heritage.

Over the last 90 years the Trust has pioneered public access to and shared ownership of some of the most magnificent buildings, collections and landscapes in Scotland. It cares for more than 100 sites, from ancient houses to battlefields, castles, mills, gardens, coastlines, islands, mountain ranges and the plants and animals which depend upon them.

In March 2022 the National Trust for Scotland launched *Nature, Beauty & Heritage for Everyone*, its ten-year strategy which sets out the ambitions of the charity over the coming decade. From speaking up for Scotland's heritage which doesn't have a voice, to improving the lives and wellbeing of people across the country, and responding to the climate and biodiversity crisis, the Trust will build on its work in recent years to grow its impact and conserve and restore more of Scotland's heritage, as it moves towards its centenary in 2031.

Scotland's largest membership organisation, the National Trust for Scotland relies on the support of its members and donors to carry out its important work.

For more information on the National Trust for Scotland visit www.nts.org.uk.

The National Trust for Scotland is a charity registered in Scotland, Charity Number SC 007410.