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# Gardens of Scotland

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# GARDENS OF SCOTLAND

Celebrating 500 years of gardening history

Enjoy the best  
of Scotland



Ideal for groups and FITS on short breaks and touring holidays, Gardens of Scotland showcases the best of Scotland's gardens.

Our conservation charity is the largest garden owner in Scotland, with 70 gardens nationally, including 35 major gardens and designed landscapes, 18 National Plant Collections, 100,000 recorded plants and 13,500 varieties. Our gardens range from late medieval reconstructions and Victorian formality to early 20th-century masterpieces and modern creations. Whether ornamental, kitchen, organic, period, rose, cut flower, sensory, vegetable or woodland, each garden is unique and a seasonally changing living work of art.

**THE HILL HOUSE**



**CRARAE GARDEN**



**ARDUAINE GARDEN**



**INVERWE GARDEN**



**HUGH MILLER'S**



**BRODIE CASTLE**



**FVIE CASTLE**



**GEILSTON GARDEN**

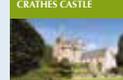




**PITMEDDEN GARDEN**



**CRATHES CASTLE**



**DRUM CASTLE**



**HOUSE OF DUN**



**HILL OF TARVIT**



**FALKLAND PALACE**



**CULROSS PALACE**



**POLLOK HOUSE**



**GREENBANK GARDEN**



**INVERES LODGE GARDEN**



**HARMONY GARDEN**



**PRIORWOOD GARDEN**



**BROUGHTON HOUSE**



**THREAVE GARDEN**



**CULZEAN CASTLE**



**BRODICK CASTLE**



**KEY**

- WEST HIGHLAND HIGHLIGHTS
- EAST COAST DELIGHTS
- SOUTHERN GEMS

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# WEST HIGHLAND HIGHLIGHTS

Start your journey from Glasgow or Edinburgh to discover:



## GEILSTON GARDEN

Cardross G82 5HD

### Garden of tranquillity

Escape to one of Scotland's most compelling and diverse gardens on the Firth of Clyde. Discover the walled garden, dating from 1797, with its giant Wellingtonia and impressive Mackenzie & Moncur heritage glasshouse, the kitchen garden and apple orchard, as well as the millpond, waterfall and Geils marriage well. During spring, stroll along the bluebell-lined paths beside the Geilston Burn and in summer be inspired by the prairie borders in full bloom.



### Other attractions in the local area:

Non-NTS: Dumbarton Castle (HS)



## THE HILL HOUSE

Helensburgh G84 9AJ

### Inspired by Charles Rennie Mackintosh

The beautifully restored gardens mirror Charles Rennie Mackintosh's stunning architectural masterpiece, from the 'lollipop' hollies in the carriage circle to the design and colours of the rose garden – echoed in the interiors by the famous Mackintosh rose design. In spring the garden is richly scented with azaleas and narcissus. Don't miss the unusual 'plum pudding' rockery, period kitchen garden and wildflower orchard.



### Other attractions in the local area:

Non-NTS: Argyll Forest Park (FCS); Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park



## CRARAE GARDEN

Crarae, Inveraray PA32 8YA

### Garden of 'champions'

Explore Britain's finest example of a Himalayan woodland garden with an international tree collection boasting 19 UK champions, 46 Scottish champions and 90 Argyll champions, as well as one of the UK's most extensive native fern collections. Magical all year round, with breathtaking views over Loch Fyne and renowned collections of rhododendrons, azaleas, camellias and magnolias.



### Other attractions in the local area:

Non-NTS: Auchindrain; Inveraray Castle (HHA); Inveraray Jail; Kilmartin House Museum



## ARDUAINE GARDEN

Arduaine, Oban PA34 4XQ

### Insectivorous plants, palms and ferns

Benefiting from the warm North Atlantic Drift, this green oasis overlooking the Sound of Jura boasts many rare plants from around the world, in particular South America and East Asia, including Japan, Korea and Taiwan. Blue Tibetan poppies, Chatham Island forget-me-nots and giant Himalayan lilies are just part of the perennial collection. Insectivorous plants, palms and ferns add to a sense of the exotic, while the magnificent rhododendron collection attracts enthusiasts from far and wide. The Loch Melfort Hotel bistro offers a wide variety of locally sourced dishes. [www.lochmelfort.co.uk](http://www.lochmelfort.co.uk)



### Other attractions in the local area:

Non-NTS: Bonawe Historic Iron Furnace (HS); Dunstaffnage Castle (HS); Oban Distillery



## INVEREWE GARDEN

Poolewe IV22 2LG

### Prehistoric trees

Within easy reach of Inverness, Fort William and Skye, journey through some of the wildest and most breathtaking scenery in Scotland and escape to the UK's most northerly subtropical-style garden and palm tree paradise. Nurtured by the warm currents of the Gulf Stream, Inverewe is on the same latitude as Hudson Bay in Canada. This oasis of the north boasts 10,000 recorded plants from around the world, including China, Chile, the Himalayas and the Indian subcontinent. Discover the Wollemi pine, until recently thought to be extinct and with fewer than 100 specimens in the wild – the leaves on these beautiful 'fossil trees' are said to resemble the spines on the back of a Stegosaurus dinosaur.



## CORRIESHALLOCH GORGE NATIONAL NATURE RESERVE

Visit one of the natural wonders of the Highlands, with its dizzying 46m high views over the tumbling Falls of Measach.



## HUGH MILLER'S BIRTHPLACE COTTAGE & MUSEUM

Cromarty IV11 8XA

### Multi-award winning Garden of Wonders

Dedicated to the life and times of the eminent geologist, writer and social commentator Hugh Miller, the intimate Garden of Wonders comprises exotic ferns, 'giant fossils', dramatic sculptures and a fascinating mystery trail.



### Other attractions in the local area:

Non-NTS: Chanonry Point; Glen Ord Distillery (DD)



## BRODIE CASTLE

Brodie, Forres IV36 2TE

### One of Scotland's greatest daffodil gardens

Dating from the 16th century, this iconic Scottish tower house is set amid 70 hectares of peaceful parkland. In spring, the grounds are carpeted with snowdrops, snowflakes and crocuses, followed by a sea of yellow daffodils comprising a National Collection of 110 varieties. Explore the sheltered woodland walks and visit the magnificent pond, an important part of the 18th-century designed landscape.



### Other attractions in the local area:

NTS: Culloden Battlefield

Non-NTS: Cardhu Distillery (DD); Culbin Forest (FCS); Dallas Dhu Historic Distillery (HS); Elgin Cathedral (HS); Knockando Woolmill; Spynie Palace (HS)



# EAST COAST DELIGHTS

Start your journey from Glasgow or Edinburgh to discover:



## CULROSS PALACE

Culross KY12 8JH

### Witches, potions and cures

Step back in time and explore the cobbled streets, historic palace, buildings and garden of this 17th-century Royal Burgh overlooking the Firth of Forth. Famed for its Scots Dumpty hens, the restored palace garden is rich in historic varieties of fruit and vegetables, scented herbs, aromatic and medicinal plants – all essential components of late medieval potions and cures.



### Other attractions in the local area:

NTS: Alloa Tower; The Battle of Bannockburn

Non-NTS: Duncarron Medieval Village; Stirling Castle (HS); Wallace Monument



## THE PINEAPPLE

North of Airth, Falkirk

### A fruity garden attraction

This iconic building, shaped like a pineapple, was built in 1761 as a garden retreat. Highlights include the walled garden with a crab apple orchard. The former curling and dipping pond is now home to the rare great crested newt and the surrounding woodland has an abundance of walks and wildlife.



### Other attractions in the local area:

NTS: House of the Binns

Non-NTS: The Falkirk Wheel



## FALKLAND PALACE

Falkland, Cupar KY15 7BU

### Percy Cane-designed gardens

This magnificent 16th-century royal hunting palace is where Mary, Queen of Scots spent some of the happiest days of her life. Explore the gardens designed by Percy Cane in the early 1950s – the only complete example of his work in Scotland; then take a stroll through the historic apple orchard where, in spring and summer, the blossom on the trees and wildflowers in the meadow give a spectacular display. The herbs planted in the style of a Renaissance physic garden, lush green lawns and many unusual shrubs and trees make this a garden lover's paradise.



### Other attractions in the local area:

Non-NTS: RSPB Loch Leven; Scottish Deer Centre



## HILL OF TARVIT

Cupar KY15 5PB

### Sir Robert Lorimer-designed gardens

One of Scotland's finest Edwardian mansionhouses, showcasing exquisite Chippendale-style furniture and masterpieces by Raeburn and Ramsay. The Lorimer-designed gardens, with formal lawns, yew hedging, flowering borders and sunken rose garden complement the estate's 9-hole hickory golf course. Step back in time and enjoy a round of golf as it was played over 100 years ago, with traditional clubs, bags, tees and balls.



### Other attractions in the local area:

NTS: Balmerino Abbey

Non-NTS: St Andrews Botanic Garden; St Andrews Castle and Cathedral (HS)



**KELLIE CASTLE**  
Pittenweem KY10 2RF

**Inspirational organic walled garden**

Dating from 1360, this enchanting castle is renowned for its lavish interiors, Sir Robert Lorimer-designed furniture and Hew Lorimer's sculpture studio. Cultivated on organic principles for over 20 years, the sensational 400 year-old walled garden is scented with old-world roses and is noted for its eclectic varieties of fruit and vegetables, from medieval Good King Henry, quince and medlar to figs, kiwifruits, peaches and nectarines.



**BRANKLYN GARDEN**  
Perth PH2 7BB

**A garden of intense experiences**

Gardeners and botanists the world over flock to this charming garden, famed for its National Collections of Meconopsis, Cassiope, Lilium and Rhododendron. A treasure chest of rare and unusual plants from across the globe, highlights include vivid blue Himalayan poppies, species collected by Scottish plant hunters Ludlow and Sherriff, and outstanding collections of rose alpines, herbaceous and peat garden plants.



**Other attractions in the local area:**

Non-NTS: Scone Palace (HHA); Stanley Mills (HS)



**HOUSE OF DUN**  
Montrose, Angus DD10 9LQ

**Inspired by the Château d'Issy near Paris**

Designed by William Adam, this Georgian masterpiece is set amid 300 hectares of formal Victorian gardens, expansive parkland and woodland. With wonderful views of the Montrose Basin and its world-famous nature reserve, the gardens feature 150-year-old giant redwoods, beautiful rose borders and a 'plum pudding' rock garden.



**Other attractions in the local area:**

NTS: Angus Folk Museum; J M Barrie's Birthplace; Barry Mill; Kirriemuir Camera Obscura  
Non-NTS: Arbroath Abbey (HS); Edzell Castle (HS); Glamis Castle (HHA)



**DRUM CASTLE** *Part of Scotland's Castle Trail*  
Banchory AB31 5EY

**Perhaps the most scented garden in Scotland**

Gifted by King Robert the Bruce in 1323, this Scottish stronghold combines medieval history, Jacobean romance and Victorian opulence. Sweet with the scent of blooms from around the world, the Garden of Historic Roses is a kaleidoscope of colour throughout spring and summer. Other highlights include snake's head fritillary meadows, tulip borders, a medieval potager, Victorian pinetum, 20th-century pond garden and holly collection. The Old Wood of Drum, a remnant of the ancient Royal Forest of Drum and a Site of Special Scientific Interest, is home to a variety of endangered species and rare lichens.





**CRATHES CASTLE** *Part of Scotland's Castle Trail*  
Banchory AB31 5QJ

**One of Europe's finest walled gardens**

This magical 16th-century turreted castle provides the backdrop to one of Europe's finest walled gardens. Developed over 300 years, the garden is divided into eight themed spaces, from the famous June borders to the red, golden and rose gardens. Highlights include the topiary yew hedges, which date from the early 1700s, and *Davidia involucrata* (handkerchief tree). Crathes also holds one of just two National Collections in the world of the rare Malmaison carnation. The estate is home to Go Ape! – the north-east of Scotland's only high wire tree-top adventure course [www.goape.co.uk](http://www.goape.co.uk).



**CRAIGIEVAR CASTLE** *Part of Scotland's Castle Trail*  
Alford AB33 8JF

**Idyllic Scottish glen garden**

Dating from c1610, this is the perfect example of a traditional Scottish tower house. Surrounded by extensive parkland as well as a small Victorian garden and Scottish glen garden.



**Other attractions in the local area:**

Non-NTS: Balmoral Castle; Cairngorms National Park; Royal Lochnagar Distillery (DD)



**LEITH HALL**

Huntly AB54 4NQ

**The highest altitude Trust garden in Scotland**

A delightful Scottish laird's residence framed by a scenic estate and sheltered gardens. The remarkable herbaceous and catmint borders are among the longest in Scotland. Highlights include the rock garden, vegetable garden and Chinese 'moon gate'.



**Other attractions in the local area:**

Non-NTS: GlenDronach Distillery; Huntly Castle (HS)



**CASTLE FRASER** *Part of Scotland's Castle Trail*

Inverurie AB51 7LD

**Medicinal, culinary and island borders**

One of the grandest Castles of Mar, set amid 137 hectares of gardens and open woodland. The 18th-century walled garden features medicinal, culinary and island borders, while the woodland garden is rich in rhododendrons, azaleas and water features.





## PITMEDDEN GARDEN

Ellon AB41 7PD

### 40,000 bedding plants and 85 varieties of apple trees

Dating from 1675, this is one of Britain's most famous historic gardens. The inspirational Great Garden has over 5 miles of intricate box hedging forming six parterres filled with 40,000 bedding plants. There are also extensive herbaceous borders fragrant with honeysuckle, jasmine and roses, as well as a herb garden, fountains, sundials, topiary and 85 varieties of apple trees.



### **Other attractions in the local area:**

Non-NTS: Glen Garioch Distillery; Tolquhon Castle (HS)



## HADDO HOUSE *Part of Scotland's Castle Trail*

Methlick, Ellon AB41 7EQ

### Victorian formality, secluded glades and knolls

This elegant Georgian mansion features a delightful terraced garden with geometric beds, herbaceous borders and commemorative trees planted by Queen Victoria and Prince Albert. A magnificent avenue of lime trees leads to the country park with its lakes, monuments and walks.



## FYVIE CASTLE *Part of Scotland's Castle Trail*

Fyvie, Turriff AB53 8JS

### Scotland's largest collection of Scottish cultivated fruits

The walled garden of this extraordinary 800-year-old Scottish Baronial fortress contains the most comprehensive collection of Scottish cultivated fruits in the country, showcasing modern and historic varieties of plum, pear, blackcurrants, raspberries and tayberries, and over 50 varieties of Scottish apple. Other highlights include the American Garden and beautiful lochside walks.



### **Other attractions in the local area:**

Non-NTS: Bennachie (FCS); The Malt Whisky Trail



# SOUTHERN GEMS

Start your journey from Glasgow or Edinburgh to discover:



## POLLOK HOUSE

Pollok Country Park, Glasgow G43 1AT

### Award-winning country park

Scotland's Downton Abbey – this grand country house, 3 miles from Glasgow city centre, boasts one of the finest collections of Spanish art in Britain. The extensive walled kitchen gardens illustrate how great houses such as Pollok were designed to be completely self-sufficient. Surrounded by elaborate parterre gardens, Pollok House is located in Pollok Country Park, home to the famous Burrell Collection.



### Other attractions in the local area:

NTS: The Tenement House

Non-NTS: The Burrell Collection



## HOLMWOOD

Cathcart, Glasgow G44 3YU

### Victorian kitchen garden

Considered to be Alexander 'Greek' Thomson's finest domestic design, this classically inspired villa is 4 miles from Glasgow city centre. Surrounded by 2 hectares of attractive riverside grounds, it includes a small kitchen garden planted with a range of Victorian herbs, fruit and vegetables



## GREENBANK GARDEN

Clarkston, Glasgow G76 8RB

### A celebration of the gardener's art

Designed with the domestic gardener in mind and divided into 30 themed living spaces, this 1 hectare garden boasts over 3,600 named varieties, including National Collections of Narcissus (over 580 varieties) and Bergenia (over 120 varieties). Even between Christmas and New Year there are 30-40 varieties in flower. Soaring beech trees, mini-orchards, chattering waters, ornamental pools and fountains help make this a garden for all seasons.



## WEAVER'S COTTAGE

Kilbarchan PA10 2JG

### Spin, wind and weave!

Built in 1723, the cottage houses the last of 800 handlooms once used in this traditional weaving village. Watch our weavers spinning, pirn winding and weaving wool – then perhaps have a go yourself! Explore the pretty cottage garden and discover the natural dyes used to colour the flax and wool, as well as colourful perennials, fruit bushes and culinary herbs. Don't miss the traditional bee boles and skeps, and enjoy the captivating stories about the archaeological digs.







## THREAVE GARDEN

Castle Douglas DG7 1RX

### A garden for all seasons

Nominated the second best garden in the UK by “The Independent”, Threave’s internationally-acclaimed School of Heritage Gardening has been training gardeners the world over since the 1950s. The 26 hectare garden boasts exotic plants, ‘champion’ trees and over 200 varieties of daffodils. There are many outdoor ‘rooms’ to explore, from the patio, peat and rose gardens to the secret, walled and woodland gardens. The Victorian glasshouses showcase many native and tropical plants, while the grounds are full of hidden surprises including water features and a sculpture garden.



### Other attractions in the local area:

Non-NTS: Caerlaverock Castle (HS); Drumlanrig Castle (HHA); Galloway Forest Park (FCS); Threave Castle (HS)



## BROUGHTON HOUSE

Kirkcudbright DG6 4JX

### Rare orchids and award-winning snowdrops

Home and studio to Scottish artist and ‘Glasgow Boy’ E A Hornel, this intimate garden is packed with surprises all year round, from spring-flowering snowdrops and floriferous borders (reflected in Hornel’s paintings) to cherries, wisterias, tree peonies and dwarf golden yew hedging. Highlights include a newly discovered variety of orchid (*Dactylorhiza* ‘Tizzy Hornel’) and the increasingly rare Japanese *Mitella kiusana*.



## PRIORWOOD GARDEN

Melrose TD6 9PX

### Scotland’s only dedicated dried flower garden

This rustic walled garden beside 12th-century Melrose Abbey is a specialist centre for the traditional craft of dried flower arranging. Explore herbaceous borders filled with tall delphiniums, ‘Danish Flag’ poppies and a myriad of scented blooms used in dried flower arranging and pot-pourri. Over 70 varieties of heritage apple are grown organically in the orchard, along with pears, plums, gages and damsons, as well as vintage fruits such as quinces, medlars and mulberries.



### Other attractions in the local area:

NTS: Robert Smail’s Printing Works.

Non-NTS: Abbotsford (HHA); Melrose Abbey (HS)



## HARMONY GARDEN

Melrose TD6 9LJ

### Wild orchids, dwarf narcissus and dog’s-tooth violets

Home to the Borders Book Festival, this is a garden of colourful herbaceous borders, enticing fruit and vegetable beds. In spring, the bulb lawn is a carpet of flowering dog’s-tooth violets, fritillaries, dwarf narcissus, wild orchids and crocuses, as well as old and rare daffodils. Highlights include the Victorian kitchen garden, bell-shaped border and golden border.





## INVERESK LODGE GARDEN

Musselburgh EH21 7TE

### Sweet-smelling winter paradise

Tucked away behind stone boundary walls, this secluded hillside garden is a delight for the senses all year round. Featuring many rare and unusual plants, including a National Collection of Tropaeolum. The garden is especially impressive throughout autumn and winter, starting with the reds, oranges, yellows and purples of Cercidiphyllum japonicum and its rich smell of toffee and strawberry jam.



### Other attractions in the local area:

Non-NTS: Glenkinchie Distillery (DD)



## NEWHAILES

Musselburgh EH21 6RY

### A maze of hidden treasures

With a library once described as 'the most learned room in Europe', Newhailes played host to many famous figures of the Scottish Enlightenment. Explore the 18th-century designed landscape and discover the shell grotto, water garden and raised walkway with views across the Firth of Forth.



## MALLENY GARDEN

Balerno, Edinburgh EH14 7AF

### National Collection of 19th-century shrub roses

Dominated by 400-year-old clipped yew trees, the garden is renowned for flamboyant plantings of old-fashioned roses and herbaceous perennials, greatly admired by garden enthusiasts and experts alike. The organic herb and vegetable garden is planted in a potager style, while the Victorian greenhouse offers spectacular summer displays of scented-leaf pelargoniums, fuchsias and heliotropes.



# GARDENS OF SCOTLAND



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Information available in different languages



Venue available for corporate and private hire



Walking trails



Areas accessible for wheelchair users



Facilities for hearing-impaired visitors



Information for visually impaired visitors



Good chance of spotting bats



Good chance of spotting wildlife



Plant sales

(DD) Discovering Distilleries

(HS) Historic Scotland

(FCS) Forestry Commission Scotland

(NTS) National Trust for Scotland

(HHA) Historic Houses Association

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The National Trust for Scotland for Places of Historic Interest or Natural Beauty is a charity  
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\*Excludes all island properties. Front cover photos clockwise from top right: Branklyn Garden, Inverewe Garden

Garden opening times may vary from general property opening times. For up-to-date information visit [www.nts.org.uk](http://www.nts.org.uk)