

Aberdour – 19 miles, 25 mins - Fife Riviera: an attractive village with a 14th castle, - *Aberdour Castle* - harbour, several pubs and restaurants and two beaches. *Silver Sands* is a blue flag beach.

http://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/aberdour/aberdour/index.html

Airth – 13 miles, 20 mins - The *Airth Pineapple* – A bizarre structure, in the shape of a pineapple, was built in 1761 as a garden retreat. Now a holiday home available via the Landmark Trust.

http://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/airth/airth/index.html

Alloa Tower –11 miles, 18 mins - Run by NTS. Dating from the 14th century, it is the largest surviving keep in Scotland. http://www.nts.org.uk/Property/3/

Bannockburn, Nr Stirling -23 miles, 30 mins - Here, in 1314, Bruce gathered his men to take on the army of King Edward II. The *battle of Bannockburn* was undoubtedly one of the most spectacular battles of the Scottish Wars of Independence. The Scottish victory was of enormous importance as it secured the future of the throne for, King of Scots. Robert Bruce, shown as a traitor in the film *Braveheart*, was no such thing. Never on any occasion did Bruce betray Wallace. http://www.nts.org.uk/Property/95/

Branklyn, Perth – 30 miles, 35 mins - This attractive garden, a haven of peace within walking distance of Perth, was developed by John and Dorothy Renton with the help of seed collections from plant hunters such as Forest, Ludlow and Sherriff. Gardeners and botanists from all over the world come to Branklyn to see the outstanding collection of plants, particularly rhododendrons, alpines, herbaceous and peat-garden plants. One of the most striking and unusual plants here is the vivid blue Himalayan poppy, Meconopsis. (Also at Kirklands!) http://www.branklyngarden.org.uk/

C Castle Campbell, Dollar – 7.5 miles, 15 mins - With the Burn of Care on one side and the Burn of Sorrow on the other, Castle Campbell, originally called Castle Gloom, sounds like something out of a horror movie. Yet this is a beautiful place and the castle is an awe-inspiring sight as it first comes into view along the approach road from the lower car park. Views from the top are wonderful. It is located at the head of Dollar Glen (See below). A walk in Dollar Glen is well worth the effort. http://www.historic-

scotland.gov.uk/index/places/propertyresults/propertyoverview.htm?PropID=P L_058

Ceres – 39 miles, 50 mins - an attractive village where the Fife Folk museum can be found (see Fife Folk Museum below)

http://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/ceres/ceres/index.html

Crail – 47 miles, 60 mins - one of the Fife Fishing Villages (and the most attractive). Crail has one of the best small harbours in the area and is well know for the shellfish that is caught and sold there, you won't get any fresher. Dating back to 16th century, the curved breakwater was built giving it protection against the Forth and in 1826 Robert Stevenson contributed the straight west pier, which was built of rubble. Includes Crail museum and Heritage Centre. Pubs, restaurants, gift shops and art galleries. http://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/crail/index.html

Crieff – 26 miles, 35 mins - has been a holiday resort since Victorian times. http://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/crieff/crieff/index.html

The Famous Grouse Experience in Crieff - is based at The Glenturret Distillery in Crieff. Using a new style of audio-visual presentation (never before used in the UK) you will be taken on an airborne journey with The Famous Grouse. Setting off over the Highlands, you'll swoop over numerous Scottish landmarks - from Loch Ness to Edinburgh Castle. There are also displays showing how whisky is made, a restaurant and a shop. http://www.scotlandwhisky.com/distilleries/highlands/Grouse

Culross -7.5 miles, 15 mins - 16/17th Century Royal Burgh, restored by the National Trust for Scotland. *Culross Palace and 17th century garden, Culross Abbey*. the *Town House* and the study. Small cobbled streets and attractive houses with crow stepped gables and pantile roofs. Definitely worth a visit. Several pubs/restaurants.

http://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/culross/culross/index.html

Dalmeny House, Dalmeny (over the Forth Bridge) – 23 miles, 32 mins - family home of the Earls of Rosebery, is set in parkland overlooking the Firth of Forth. It is open to the public from 2pm to 5:30pm Sunday, Monday and Tuesday afternoons in July and August. There are guided tours and a tearoom serving light refreshments. When Dalmeny House was completed in 1817, it marked a great departure in Scottish architecture; its Tudor Gothic style, with its highly-decorated chimneys and crenellations, looked back toward fanciful 16th-century English mansions, such as Hampton Court. The house was designed by a University friend of the 4th Earl of Rosebery, William Wilkins, who would go on to design the National Gallery in London and much of King's College, Cambridge - parts of which closely resemble Dalmeny. http://www.dalmeny.co.uk/

Dunfermline the nearest town – 6 miles, 15 mins - *Dunfermline Abbey* 12th century nave with later additions. Robert the Bruce body is buried in the

abbey. Dunfermline Palace ruins where the Kings and Queens of Scotland were crowned. Abbot House heritage centre (and cafe). Andrew Carnegie birthplace museum. The first Carnegie Library, Carnegie theatre and St Margaret's Cave. Dunfermline museum Tel: 01383 313838 and Pittencrieff museum Tel: 01383 722935 http://www.visitdunfermline.com/

Deep Sea World, North Queensferry. – 17 miles, 22 mins - Tel: 0930 100300. Walk along the bottom of the ocean in the world's longest underwater viewing tunnel as sharks glide overhead or discover what lurks in the murky waters of the Amazon river. http://www.deepseaworld.com/

Deer Centre – 30 miles, 40 mins - Scottish Deer Centre near Cupar. There are nine different species of deer on view, each with their own individual field or paddock. Also a bird centre, woodland trails, treetop walkways, inside shelter areas for the family picnic and children's play areas with climbing frames to amuse the youngsters, a café, audio visual display and gift shop. http://www.tsdc.co.uk/

Dollar Glen – 6.5 miles, 10 mins - wooded glen provides spectacular walks to Castle Campbell. It has been designated a Site of Special Scientific Interest because of its range of wildlife habitats and important geological features. Take care during or after rain as the paths can be dangerous. http://walking.visitscotland.com/walks/centralscotland/213039

Drummond Gardens – 24 miles 'One of the finest formal gardens in Europe'. http://www.drummondcastlegardens.co.uk/

Edinburgh – 25 miles, 45 mins to 60 mins (over the bridge) - Scotland's Capital City. So much to see – it's difficult to know where to start. http://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/edinburgh/edinburgh/index.html

Edinburgh is divided into the New Town and the Old Town. Princes Street Gardens (formerly a loch which was drained) separates the two. The New Town is elegant Georgian buildings. The Old Town surrounds the Royal Mile (and as the name suggest, is much older) – the road between Edinburgh Castle and the Palace of Holyroodhouse (the Queen's Edinburgh residence).

First two National Trust for Scotland's properties showing the difference between the old and new town:

Gladstone's Land, (on the Royal Mile just down from the castle). Completed in 1620 is a typical example of an Edinburgh Old Town tenement. From the windows, successive occupants have witnessed the procession of Scottish history: Charles I en route to his coronation at Holyrood Palace in 1633; the arrival of Bonnie Prince Charlie and his troops in 1745; and the visit of George IV in 1822. http://www.nts.org.uk/Property/25/

The Georgian House - a magnificent Robert Adam town house. which dates from 1796 when Edinburgh's well-to-do left the cramped, squalid conditions of the Old Town to settle in the fashionable New Town. The house's collections

of china, silver, paintings and furniture all reflect the domestic and social life of the times. You can experience the contrast between life 'above and below stairs'. http://www.nts.org.uk/Property/56/

Edinburgh Castle - occupies the summit of an ancient plug of volcanic rock towering 260ft or 80m above city it dominates, and is visible for tens of miles in every direction. This is fairytale castle, it is the real thing, an uncompromisingly defensive structure. Over the centuries Edinburgh Castle has been continuously adapted to meet the military needs of the day. The famous Military Tattoo is held here every August during the Edinburgh Festival. http://www.edinburghcastle.gov.uk/

St Giles' Cathedral lies on the Royal Mile about two thirds of the way up from the Palace of Holyroodhouse to the castle. Founded in about 1130, St Giles' has changed many times. As a result, most of the exterior dates back to a remodelling in the years to 1833. And the interior you see today comes from a restoration completed in 1883. http://www.stgilescathedral.org.uk/

Greyfriars Bobby's lies at the south end of Candlemaker Row, where it joins George IV Bridge and opposite the National Museum of Scotland. To one side is the entrance to Greyfriar's kirkyard. John Gray was an Edinburgh policeman who died of tuberculosis on 15 February 1858 and was buried in Greyfriars Kirkyard. He had a dog, a Skye Terrier called Bobby, and for the following 14 years, until the dog's own death in 1872, Bobby kept watch over John Gray's grave. http://www.greyfriarsbobby.co.uk/

The Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh, known locally as the "Botanics", is a must-see element of any visit to Edinburgh whatever the time of year. Located about a mile north of the heart of Edinburgh, its 31 hectare site forms a remarkable haven of tranquility within the city, as well as being home to a world-renowned centre of botanical science. http://www.rbge.org.uk/

Leith, Edinburgh's port was, until recently, an industrial and very run down area. Now, like many other cities, it is very 'trendy' with lots of apartments (both newly built and converted warehouses) and fashionable hotels and restaurants. The Queen's Royal Yacht Britannia by moored at Ocean Terminal, a shopping mall with a cinema complex.

http://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/edinburgh/leith/

Scottish Parliament Building —at the foot of the Royal Mile on a site previously occupied by a brewery. The design and construction of the new building was - and remains - the subject of huge controversy in Scotland. Initially thought likely to cost around £50m, it ended up costing £431m. Opened in the Autumn of 2004, it is a very modern piece of architecture.

http://www.scottish.parliament.uk/vli/holyrood/index.htm

Dynamic Earth – Just near the new Parliament building at the bottom of the Royal Mile (Palace of Holyroodhouse end). Scotland's answer to the Dome (but ours has been successful!). Take a thrilling journey back in time and

learn about our planet Earth. Perfect for all the family – allow at least 90 mins. http://www.dynamicearth.co.uk/

Arthur's Seat – To the east of the Castle, the large hill which resembles a crouching lion is Arthur's Seat, situated within Holyrood Park. Arthur's Seat is an extinct volcano - the largest of a number which gave this region its shape. If you feel like an energetic climb this is for you.

http://walking.visitscotland.com/walks/centralscotland/holyrood_park_arthurs_seat

Carlton Hill - rises beyond the east end of Princes Street and carries a rather eccentric collection of buildings and monuments. Its principal attraction is the superb panoramic view. If you climb the 143 spiral stairs to the top of the Nelson Monument, built in 1807 as a stone imitation of Nelson's telescope the views are even better. There is also the Observatory and the National Monument.

http://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/edinburgh/caltonhill/index.html

Scottish Whisky Heritage Centre - Located beside Edinburgh Castle, this unique interactive visitor attraction allows the whole family to experience the sights, sounds and smells that are part of the fascinating process of malt whisky making. Learn about Scotland's whisky producing regions, tour our model distillery and meet the ghostly 'Master Blender' who'll let you into the secrets of his trade. Take the 'Whisky Barrel Ride' through 300 years of whisky making and come face to face with the colourful characters who have shaped the industry's history. http://www.scotchwhiskyexperience.co.uk/

Elie and Earlsferry – 39 miles, 50 mins - the village with the double name. The stretches of clean golden sands particularly attract families with children. Several pubs, restaurants and tea rooms.

http://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/elie/elie/index.html

Falkirk Wheel, Falkirk – 25 miles, 30 mins - The Falkirk Wheel is a rotating boat lift that lifts boats 35m from the Forth and Clyde Canal to the Union Canal. Previously this had been achieved by 11 locks. It was opened in May 2002 by the Queen – the largest piece of functional sculpture you will ever see. A truly awe inspiring piece of modern engineering with a visitors centre and café. http://www.thefalkirkwheel.co.uk/

Falkland – 25 miles, 30 mins - A picturesque village with tea rooms and pubs. The village is dominated by Falkland Palace (owned by the National Trust for Scotland) where Mary, Queen of Scots spent some of the happiest days of her life here, 'playing the country girl in the woods and parks'. The Royal Palace was built by James IV and James V between 1450 and 1541 as their country residence. The gardens were designed by Percy Cane between 1947 & 52. The Royal Tennis Court, built in 1539, is Britain's oldest tennis court. http://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/falkland/falkland/index.html

Fife Coastal Path, Stretches from North Queensferry in the south to the Tay Bridge in the north – 150km – round the Fife coast. Each corner holds another secret for you to discover, historic castles and caves, quaint fishing villages and award winning beaches. With rugged cliffs, long sandy beaches, internationally important estuaries and wildlife reserves, walking the Fife Coastal Path is an experience not to be missed. Map available. http://www.fifecoastalpath.co.uk/

Fife Folk Museum, Ceres – 39 miles, 50 mins - An extensive collection illustrating the domestic, social, agricultural and industrial way of life of country people prior to the industrial revolution. http://www.fifefolkmuseum.org

Forth Bridge North Queensferry – 16 miles, 19 mins - The rail bridge was built in 1883 and remains one of the world's most distinctive structures. It was opened by Edward, Prince of Wales on 4 March 1890. It was designed by civil engineers Sir John Fowler and Benjamin Baker. In the aftermath of the Tay Bridge disaster the bridge was a testament to robust and conservative overengineering. http://www.forthbridges.org.uk/

Forth River Cruises – 25 miles, 30 mins - The Maid of the Forth" offers a unique range of cruises on the Firth of Forth. operated from Hawes Pier, South Queensferry in the shadow of the famous Forth Rail Bridge. Cruise to Inchcolm Island (see below) or around the Forth. http://www.maidoftheforth.co.uk/

Hill of Tarvit Mansion House and Garden, Cupar – 36 miles, 40 mins - An early 20th-century family home and garden remodelled in 1906 by the Scottish architect Sir Robert Lorimer. Includes a collection of French and Chippendale-style furniture, porcelain and paintings. http://www.nts.org.uk/Property/1/

Hopetoun House, South Queensferry -22 miles, 30 mins (over the bridge) - is one of the most splendid examples of Georgian architecture in Britain being the work of Scottish architects Sir William Bruce and William Adam. Situated just outside Edinburgh, the House is set in 150 acres of rolling parkland with extensive woodland walks, breathtaking visits on the River Forth and a deer park. The magnificent interiors boast fine paintings, original furnishings and décor, tapestries and objects d'art with Aubusson tapestries and fabulous chandeliers in the Ballroom. The Stables Tearoom offers wonderful lunches and tempting snacks with champagne afternoon teas a speciality. http://www.hopetounhouse.com/

House of the Binns, Nr Linlithgow -27 miles, 32 mins, (over the bridge) - The House of the Binns stands as a living monument to one of Scotland's oldest families, the Dalyells, who have lived here since 1612. It contains a fascinating collection of 17th- to 20th-century furniture, porcelain and portraits

revealing the family's lives and interests through the centuries. http://www.nts.org.uk/Property/33/

House of Bruar – 71 miles (10 miles north of Pitlochry). An amazing shopping experience. The place to go for cashmere and much more. Take all credit cards! http://www.houseofbruar.com/

Inchcolm Island and Abbey – 20 miles, 30 mins to ferry - an historic island and abbey (Iona of the East) in the Firth of Forth. Despite its small size, it has been a significant place in Scottish history and lore, and continues to engage the imagination today Phone 01383 823332 for ferry times http://www.historic-

scotland.gov.uk/index/places/propertyresults/propertyabout.htm?PropID=PL_ 155&PropName=Inchcolm%20Abbey

Kellie Castle, Pittenween – 40 miles, 50 mins - Owned by the National Trust for Scotland. Completed around 1606 and once home to the Earls of Kellie, it was restored by the Lorimer family in 1878. The Arts & Crafts garden includes a collection of old roses and beautiful herbaceous borders. http://www.nts.org.uk/Property/38/

Kinross and Loch Leven – Kinross 11 miles, 20 mins - just off junction 6 of the M90. Loch Leven where Mary Queen of Scots was imprisoned in 1567 on Castle Island. There are boat trips out to the island in the Summer. For the bird reserve details see Vane Farm below. The whole area around the Loch forms a nature reserve managed by Scottish Natural Heritage. http://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/kinross/kinross/index.html

Loch Leven Heritage Trail – 11 miles, 20 mins. A lovely walk round the loch with plenty of places to sit and enjoy the view. Also several hides to watch the birds on the Loch (see Vane Farm below). Well worth a visit. http://www.kinross.cc/community/heritage trail.pdf

Knockhill, Near Saline – 5 miles, 8 mins - Knockhill Racing Circuit is Scotland's National Motorsport Centre. With a host of Motorsport activity days. You can learn how to drive a racing car at the Motor Racing School, take part in a Go Karting Grand Prix, drive an awesome Ferrari or enjoy a thrill of a Rally driving experience – alternatively try bike track days, car track days or experience the premier events of Superbikes and Touring Cars. A schedule of all the events is available if required and it's only 5 miles away. http://www.knockhill.com/

Lower Largo – 33 miles, 40 mins - Where Alexander Selkirk lived, better known as Daniel Defoes' Robinson Crusoe. In the main street there is a statue of him looking out to sea searching for boats.

http://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/largo/lowerlargo/index.html

Millennium cycle way - Fife has one of the UK's most comprehensive cycle networks. Explore 300 miles (500km) of cycle route along quiet country lanes, disused railway lines and forest tracks as well as commuter routes in towns. Map available. http://www.fifedirect.org.uk/fife-cycleways

The Ochils – 12 miles, 20 mins - extends from Stirling in the west to the M90 south of Perth in the east. The highest peak is Ben Cleuch at 2364ft (721m). It can be climbed from the village of Alva. It begins in the car park at Ochil Hills Woodland Park, which is reached from the A91 immediately to the east of Alva. http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ochil Hills

Perth – 25 miles, 30 mins - The County Town of Perthshire, the city is a bustling market town with much to offer the tourist. Shops, galleries and theatre in the town centre. Scenery, castles, history, walks and attractions in the country around. Nearby is historic Scone Palace (see below) and Perth Racecourse. http://www.perthcity.co.uk http://www.perth-races.co.uk

Pittenween –42 miles, 55 mins - one of the Fife Fishing Villages with its daily fish market auctioning the fleet's white fish and shellfish for home and abroad. A thriving fish economy. An annual summer Arts Festival brings noted artists and art lovers to show and view the various exhibitions shown throughout the village. Also St Fillans Cave - Giving its name to Pittenweem, Pit meaning place and weem meaning a cave, Entrance to the Cave is reached from Cove Wynd, the top of which is lead from the East end of the High Street and comes out at the East end of the harbour.

http://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/pittenweem/pittenweem/index.html

Rosslyn Chapel – 35 miles, 50 mins. If you've read the book or seen the film (Da Vinci Code) you must visit the chapel. Rosslyn Chapel, or the Collegiate Chapel of St Matthew as it was to have been, was founded in 1446 by Sir William St Clair, third and last St Clair Prince of Orkney. It is in fact only part of the choir of what was intended to be a larger cruciform building with a tower at its centre. http://www.rosslynchapel.org.uk/

S st Andrews – 42 miles, 60 mins - home of golf. There is so much to see in St Andrews from the town itself, to the castle, university (where Prince William studied), the cathedral, the museum and, of course the 7 golf courses and not forgetting the golf museum. Not only that - there are miles of sandy beaches.

http://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/standrews/standrews/index.html

Scone Palace and Gardens – 32 miles, 40 mins - the home of the Earls of Mansfield. Fifteen hundred years ago, it was the capital of the Pictish kingdom and the centre of the ancient Celtic church. In the intervening

centuries, it has been the seat of parliaments and the crowning place of Kings. It has housed the Stone of Destiny and been immortalised in Shakespeare's Macbeth. The gardens include a maze, children's play area and peacocks roaming free. http://www.scone-palace.co.uk/

Scotland's Secret Bunker, Troywood nr St Andrews – 40 miles, 55 mins - A cold war nuclear bunker. Scotland's best kept secret for over 40 years, Hidden beneath a Scotlish Farmhouse, a tunnel leads to Scotland's Secret Bunker. 24,000 square feet of secret accommodation on two levels, 100 feet underground. http://www.secretbunker.co.uk/

Scottish Vintage Bus Museum, Lathalmond by Dunfermline – 6 miles, 10 mins - Tel: 01383 623380 160 vintage buses. http://www.busweb.co.uk/svbm/

Scottish Fisheries Museum, Anstruther – 43 miles, 60 mins - tells the story of fishing in Scotland and its people from earliest times to the present (includes gift shop and tea room). There are 18 boats and a vast photographic collection. Well worth a visit. Also Anstruther has the best fish and chips in Scotland. http://www.scotfishmuseum.org

Stirling City – 18 miles, 30 mins - stands in a strategically important position, at the lowest ancient crossing point of the River Forth. There is evidence of a fortress at Stirling as far back as prehistoric times, guarding the passage between the lowlands and highlands.

http://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/stirling/stirling/index.html

Stirling castle dominates the skyline of the city and is an impressive place to visit. It sits upon a great crag with Stirling laid out below it. Views from the castle esplanade are excellent, most notably of the Wallace Monument and the Ochils beyond.

http://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/stirling/stirlingcastle/index.html

Tentsmuir Forest and Beach – 47 miles, 75 mins - Miles of sand backed by dunes and accessed through the forest. Visitors car park and picnic places. Lots of walks and cycle paths. You may even see Tornado aircraft coming into land at RAF Leuchars.

http://www.tentsmuir.org/content.php?content id=23

Vane Farm bird reserve, nr Kinross – 12 miles, 18 mins - On Loch Leven, Scotland's largest lowland freshwater loch supports a huge waterfowl population. This includes the largest concentration of breeding freshwater duck in Britain and up to 20,000 pink-footed geese, greylag geese, whooper swans and thousands of ducks in winter. The wet grassland is managed for nesting redshanks, snipe, lapwings and ducks. One trail leads visitors to hides overlooking the loch. The second, longer nature trail guides visitors through woodland to the view from the top of Vane Hill. A summer walk often gives views of willow warblers, tree pipits and perhaps great spotted woodpeckers. Vane Farm Centre (coffee shop/shop, leaflets, interpretation, bird hides, nature trails and staff, public toilets/disabled toilets, wheelchair

access to Centre and picnic area) provide excellent facilities for viewing. The reserve managed by RSPB is open all year.

http://www.rspb.org.uk/reserves/guide/v/vanefarm/index.asp

Wallace Monument near Stirling -16 miles, 24 mins - Completed in 1869 after eight years' construction, the 220 feet high Wallace Monument sits prominently on the Abbey Craig two miles north of the city of Stirling itself. It was from this prominent hilltop in 1297 that William Wallace watched the English army approach across Stirling Bridge. The monument has 4 floors of exhibition space and a magnificent view from the top. It's possible to see the monument from Kirklands – about 18 miles.

http://www.nationalwallacemonument.com/index.htm

Places to visit – further away

Blair Castle – 58 miles, 80 mins - the ancient seat of the Dukes and Earls of Atholl. The castle enjoys one of Scotland's finest settings in the heart of Highland Perthshire. Blair welcomes more visitors than any other. http://www.blair-castle.co.uk/

Crathes Castle, Crathes – 107 miles, 2 hours - A 16th century tower house with a wonderful walled garden divided into eight gardens, ranging from the formal to the modern. The massive yew hedges were planted as early as 1702, while the Golden Garden was introduced by the Trust in 1973. Most famous of all are the June Borders, two lavish beds of herbaceous colour with the castle itself as a backdrop.

http://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/crathes/crathescastle/index.html

Dunkeld – 40 miles, 60 mins - the 9th century capital of Scotland. An impressive cathderal and houses, many of which have been restored by the National Trust for Scotland.

http://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/dunkeld/dunkeld/index.html

Pitlochry – 51 miles, 70 mins - Famous for it's scenery and hydro-electric dam with salmon ladder. http://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/pitlochry/pitlochry/

Killiecrankie, by Pitlochry – 55 miles, 75 mins - (NTS) A magnificent wooded gorge, a Site of Special Scientific Interest. Although tranquil now, on 27 July 1689 Killiecrankie echoed with the sound of gunfire when a Jacobite army led by 'Bonnie Dundee' defeated Government forces. One soldier escaped by making a spectacular jump across the River Garry at the spot now known as Soldier's Leap. The Visitor Centre exhibition features seasonally changing interactive wildlife displays, and tells the story of the battle, showing examples of the weapons used. http://www.nts.org.uk/Property/39/

Linn of Tummel – 56 miles 75 mins - (NTS) A peaceful wooded walk to the place where the Rivers Garry and Tummel meet. The Linn of Tummel – from the Gaelic linne, meaning pool – is home to a rich variety of wildlife. The area

was favoured by Queen Victoria and an obelisk commemorates her visit here in 1844. Look out for the early example of a fish-pass (1910) beside the Linn which allowed salmon to bypass the Falls of Tummel on their way upstream. http://www.nts.org.uk/Property/43/

The Hermitage Nr Dunkeld –45 miles, 60 mins - (NTS) A woodland walk leads along the banks of the River Braan, through mixed woodland and past a single-arched bridge to the picturesque folly of Ossian's Hall. Overlooking the Black Linn Falls (impressive waterfalls) and beyond to Ossian's Cave, the mid- 18th-century Hall was a focal point in an extensive designed landscape. There are also spectacularly tall Douglas fir trees, including one of Britain's tallest at over 210ft. http://www.nts.org.uk/Property/57/

Ben Lawers, nr Killin – 60 miles, 80 mins - From the summit of Ben Lawers, the central Highlands' highest mountain at 1,214m (3,984ft), you can get fantastic views over to Ben Lomond and Glencoe in the west and the high Cairngorms to the north. There are gentler routes too – like the Nature Trail, which is ideal for families. You can pick up details of these routes at the Mountain Visitor Centre. http://www.nts.org.uk/Property/94/

Killin – 51 miles, 65 mins - is situated near the head of Loch Tay by Perthshire's highest mountain, Ben Lawers. The village runs from the Falls of Dochart down towards the Loch. The Falls are crossed by a narrow multi-arched stone bridge which carries the main road. http://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/killin/killin/

Glamis Castle, Forfar Angus – 56 miles, 70 mins - The home of the Queen Mother http://www.glamis-castle.co.uk/

Loch Lomond – 50 miles, 60 mins - Measuring twenty-seven and a half square miles, Loch Lomond is the largest single inland waterway in Britain and surrounded by spectacular countryside. It is a haven for tourists. Boat trips from Balloch. The pretty village of Luss. Loch Lomond Shores for shopaholics and interactive displays. The West Highland Way (a 70 mile pathway through the most beautiful country side).

http://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/lomond/lochlomond/index.html

Gardens

Several private gardens are open for one or two days (usually a Sunday) a year under Scotland's Garden Scheme. The entrance money raised goes to charity. There is a list of gardens in the yellow book in the drawing room. http://www.gardensofscotland.org/index.aspx

Other Gardens worth of a visit:

Arnot Tower, Leslie, Fife –16 miles, 20 mins - restored gardens around a 15th century tower. http://www.arnottower.co.uk/

Branklyn (see above)

Cambo, Kingsbarns, Fife - 47 miles, 60 mins – A plantsman's paradise, known primarily for its outstanding collection of snowdrops. Now it has swathes of naturalistic planting in the walled garden too. (open all year).

http://www.camboestate.com/

Crathes (see above)

Culross Palace (see above). Falkland Palace (see above)

Glendoick between Perth and Dundee – 34 miles, 35 mins - the home of a unique collection of rhododendrons and azaleas, collected by three generations of plant collectors. The garden is open in May. The garden centre is a must if you want the unusual. They are THE world experts.

http://www.glendoick.com/

Hill of Tarvit (see above) Kellie Castle (see above)

Kinross House Garden, Kinross – 11 miles, 20 mins - formal garden laid out in 1679 and restored in 20th century. http://www.kinrosshouse.com/

Kirklands - of course -

Scone Palace (see above)

Wester Dalqueich, Carnbo, Kinross (open by appointment only). 10 miles, 15 mins.

Wormistoune, Crail, Fife (open by appointment) – 50 miles, 60 mins - walled garden, double herbaceous borders, wild flower meadow and a pond. http://www.wolmerstoune.com/

These are the ones within an hour's drive of Kirklands – just ask if you would like some more recommendations, especially if you are going towards the west coat.

If you would like to visit specialist nurseries we might be able to point you in the right direction. Some of our favourites are: Glendoick (see above), Binny Plants, http://www.binnyplants.co.uk/ Christie Alpines, http://www.christiealpines.co.uk/

Places up to about half an hour from Kirklands.

Aberdour Falkirk Vane Farm

Airth Falkland Wallace Monument

Alloa Forth Bridges
Bannockburn Hopetoun House
Branklyn House of the Binns

Castle Campbell Kinross
Crieff Knockhill
Culross Ochils
Dalmeny Perth

Dunfermline Bus Museum

Dollar Stirling

Places about one hour from Kirklands.

Ceres Kellie

Crail Lower Largo
Deer Centre Pittenweem
Edinburgh St Andrews
Elie Scone

Folk Museum Secret bunker
Hill of Tarvit Fisheries museum

Places over one hour from Kirklands.

Blair Castle Linn of Tummel
Crathes Hermitage
Dunkeld Ben Lawers

Pitlochry Killin

Tentsmuir forest Glamis Castle Killiecrankie Loch Lomond