

# Inveraray Castle and Gardens Group Visits 2012



Inveraray Castle

[www.inveraray-castle.com](http://www.inveraray-castle.com)





## Welcome

*Welcome to Inveraray Castle, home of the Dukes of Argyll and the seat of the Clan Campbell. Inveraray Castle is first and foremost a family home in which I have had the great privilege of growing up in, just as my children are now. However, its very existence reflects the part played by the Campbells in the rich tapestry of Scottish and British History. The contents of the Castle span many generations of the family and I hope will give you a glimpse of our heritage and the way our ancestors lived. We look forward to your visit to Inveraray Castle.*

## The History of Inveraray Castle

Inveraray Castle has been standing on the shores of Loch Fyne since the 1400s, although the impressive castle we know today was inspired by a sketch by Vanburgh, the architect of Blenheim Palace and Castle Howard in the 1700s. Vanburgh died soon afterwards, but the great architect's germ of an idea became the base of the house which the 2nd Duke was eventually to build. The foundation stone was laid in 1746 and what followed was the construction – to a

design by the architects Roger Morris and William Adam – of a truly modern, baroque, Palladian and Gothic-style castle, architecturally before its time. Both Morris and Adam died before the castle was finished and Adam's sons, John and Robert, brought the castle to completion 43 years after the first stone was laid.

The castle we know today was the result of a fire in 1877, which resulted in the addition of the third floor and conical roofs on the corner towers.





## The Gardens

The garden is well worth a visit, regardless of the time year. The daffodils around Easter cover the policies with various shades of yellow, replaced by the vibrant reds, pinks and whites of the rhododendrons and azaleas that the West Highlands are famous for. Other highlights are the heathers, roses and varied trees that are spectacular later in the summer and autumn.

The garden covers sixteen acres, of which, around two acres are formal lawns and flowerbeds, the remainder being park and woodland.

The climate in Argyll, with its yearly average rainfall of 230cms (90 inches), is ideally suited to Rhododendrons and Azaleas, which flower in the gardens from April until June. Conifers also grow well in the poor acidic soil of a high rainfall area, as can be seen by the fine specimens such as Cedrus Deodars, Sequoiadendron Wellingtonia, Cryptomeria Japonica and Taxus Baccata.

The borders on each side of the central path, beyond the lawns, are known as the 'Flag-Borders' - the paths having been laid out in the shape of Scotland's National flag, the St. Andrew's Cross. These borders, outstanding in the spring with beautiful Prunus 'Ukon' and Prunus subhirtella, are underplanted with an interesting mixture of Rhododendrons, Eucrypias, various shrubs and herbaceous plants, giving interest all year round.





## Eating & Drinking

With prior notice, we would be delighted to arrange a light lunch or tea for your group.

The Old Kitchen, last used by Duchess Louise and family, can easily be transformed into an atmospheric dining room while The Castle Tearoom, adjacent to the Old Kitchen, is also available. Our menu specializes in fresh, locally sourced produce including a variety of homemade foods and smoked salmon from the local Inverawe Smokehouse. Our home baked cakes and scones are second to none and there is a wide selection of teas, coffees and beverages. We are licensed. Our menu can be planned to suit your requirements.

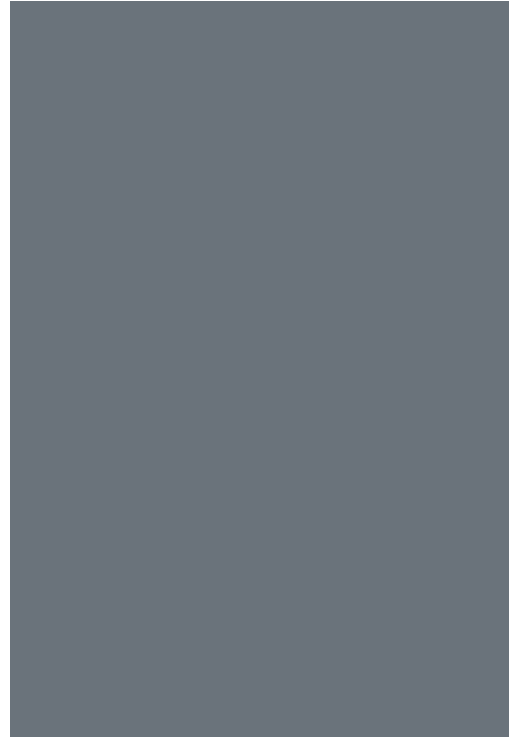
**For further information please contact  
01499 302112. Pre-Booking is essential**

## Shopping

The Castle gift shop has a wide range of items for the visitor including perfect souvenirs from your visit or unique gifts to take home. The merchandise includes Scottish and Campbell items, ranging from food to children's toys as well as clothes. There are exquisite baby clothes and accessories, Scottish produced blankets and scarves as well as greeting cards, cushions, humorous presents, tapestries, books and much, much more..

We appreciate that group visitors often prefer to visit the shop early to avoid busy periods. Our staff would be delighted to hold purchases for collection at the end of the tour.





## Sample Menus

### Lunch Menu

**2 Course Lunch**  
**£7.50 per person**

**Including 125ml Glass of Wine (red/white)**  
**£9.50 per person**

Baked potato with a choice of filling

Tuna & Cheddar Mayonnaise  
 Baked Ham & Cheddar Cheese  
 Traditional Scottish Haggis

or

Honey Baked Ham Salad served with New Potatoes

*All of the above served with a Crusty Roll, Jugs of Water on Table*

Tea/Coffee and our own Fruit Slice

**3 Course Lunch**  
**£9.50 per person**

**Including 125ml Glass of wine (red/white)**  
**£11.50 per person**

Soup of the Day

or

Inverawe Smoked Salmon Pate served with Scottish Oatcakes

Baked potato with a choice of filling

Tuna Mayonnaise with red onion  
 Tuna & Cheddar Mayonnaise  
 Baked Ham & Cheddar Cheese

or

Honey Baked Ham Salad served with New Potatoes

*All of the above served with a Crusty Roll, Jugs of Water on Table*

Tea/Coffee and our own Fruit Slice

### Full Afternoon Tea

**£10.00 per person**

**£18.00 per person with glass of champagne**

Choice of Traditional, Earl Grey or Mint Tea

Selection of sandwiches

Smoke Salmon & Cream Cheese  
 Egg Mayonnaise  
 Our Own Honey Baked Ham

Plain or Fruit Scone with Jam & Fresh Cream

Strawberry Meringue

Chocolate Cake

Our Own Fruit Slice

### Cream Tea

**£3.25 per person**

Traditional Breakfast Tea

with

Plain or Fruit Scone, Jam & Fresh Double Cream

Or

Home Baked Scottish Shortbread

**£4.75 per person**

Glass of Argyll Malt Whisky

with our own

Homebaked Shortbread





## Tours of the castle

Pre-booked guided tours are available lasting approximately 1 hour 15 minutes and should be booked via:

Email [enquiries@inveraray-castle.com](mailto:enquiries@inveraray-castle.com)

Tel 0044 (0)1499 302203

Fax 0044 (0)1499 302421

Whilst it is advisable to pre-book, chance coaches are also very welcome.

## Tours of the Garden

Specialist garden tours can be arranged separately, where your group will be led through the history and splendour of the Inveraray Gardens. Our highly knowledgeable guides can tailor the tour to suit the plant lover or the historian. Newly opened to the public in 2010 the gardens are spectacular throughout the year.

## Educational Visits

Special arrangements for school parties can be made – details on application to above contact details.





## Admission Charges

Admission Charge	Adult	Senior/Student on production of student card	Children* Under 16
Full Price	£10.00	£8.00	£6.50
Group Discount	£8.00	£6.80	£5.20

\* PLEASE NOTE THAT CHILDREN UNDER 5 ENTRANCE FREE OF CHARGE

## Group Booking Form

Name of group/company

Organiser's Name

Organiser's address

Postcode

Telephone

Email

Date of visit

Planned time of arrival

Number in group

Guide required YES/NO

Nationality

Special requirements

Please return form to Argyll Estates Office, Cherry Park, Inveraray PA32 8XE or telephone/email for further information tel: 0044 (0) 1499 302203/302178 Email enquiries@inveraray-castle.com

Please book any catering requirements directly with the Tearoom tel 0044 (0) 1499 302112



## Group Booking Informa-

### Payment

A 20% discount is allowed on groups of 20 or more persons. Payments for group bookings can be made through the website prior to arrival or by credit card/cash on arrival. For those companies making regular visits credit arrangements can be arranged.

### Coach Driver

Coach Drivers / guides with groups visiting the Castle & Garden are admitted free of charge and receive a complimentary meal voucher, redeemable in the Castle Tearoom.

### Parking

Free coach parking for coach parties visiting the Castle & Garden. The coach park is a few minutes walk from the front entrance to Castle.

### Disabled Access

Every effort is made to ensure that wheelchair users and mobility impaired visitors have an enjoyable experience whilst visiting Inveraray Castle & Garden. There is limited disabled access but every effort will be made to accommodate those who require assistance. A limited number of wheelchairs (2) are available for use within the ground floor of the Castle. There is free entry for all wheelchair users.

For further information please contact 01499 302 203/302178

Email [enquiries@inveraray-castle.com](mailto:enquiries@inveraray-castle.com)

### How to get here

Ideally situated for exploring Argyll, the west coast and the Islands, Inveraray nestles on the banks of Loch Fyne approximately 60 miles North of Glasgow and is well serviced by road links North and South.

### By Car

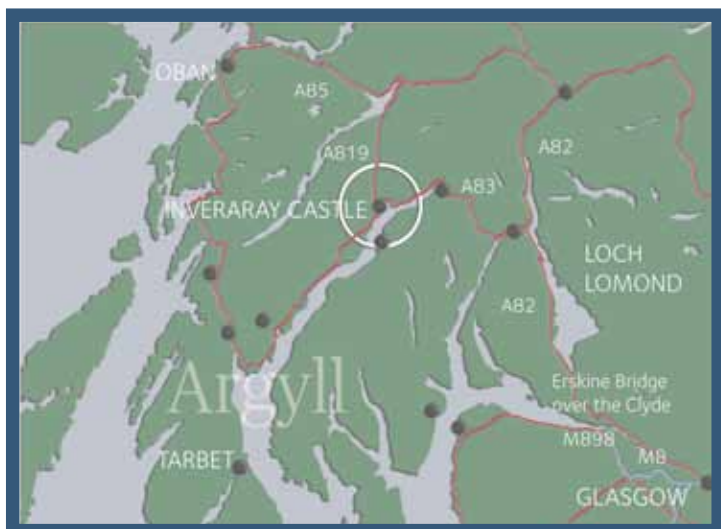
From the South, exit the M74 at junction 4 and follow signs for Glasgow City centre (M8) then head for the Erskine Toll Bridge and join the A82 to Dumbarton and Loch Lomond. At Tarbet, near the head of picturesque Loch Lomond, bear left onto the A83 signposted for Inveraray.

### By Bus

Scottish Citylink provide a regular bus service to Inveraray from Glasgow:  
Travel time 1hr 40 minutes.

### Travel Distances

Dalmally Railway Station: Approx 15 miles  
Oban: 38 miles  
Glasgow Airport: Approx 55 miles  
Prestwick Airport: Approx 86 miles  
Edinburgh: Approx 110 miles



## Inveraray Castle

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Inveraray, Argyll PA32 8XE

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