



WELCOME:

As winter comes to the Cairngorms, the natural beauty of the Atholl Estates landscape can be seen in all its glory. Discover a wilderness that stretches over 145,000 acres with glistening, frost-covered trees, roaring stags and the echo of the changing season.

At the heart of the estate sits Blair Castle, where you can retreat indoors to the warmth of a complimentary dram, as you explore seven centuries of history. This is the ancestral home of the Dukes of Atholl and the famous Atholl Highlanders.

A well developed network of paths wind through the gardens created by the 2nd Duke in the 18th century. Come into the castle's ballroom where Sunday lunch can be enjoyed in front of the ballroom fires.



OPENING TIMES:

WINTER WEEKEND OPENING

5 November 2011 to 25 March 2012*

Saturday & Sunday – 10am to 4pm

(Last admission to castle 3pm)

Sunday lunch in the ballroom 12 noon – 3pm

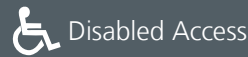
Festive Opening

28 December to 31 December 2011

10am to 4pm

(Last admission to castle 3pm)

* Closed from 21 December to 20 January 2012
(except for Festive Opening days)



CONTACT US

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WHERE TO FIND US

Blair Castle and the village of Blair Atholl are just off the main Perth/Inverness road (A9), 35 miles north of Perth. Blair Atholl is approximately 90 minutes drive from Edinburgh or Glasgow



Atholl
Estates
Blair Castle
& Gardens



Blair Castle & Gardens

Winter weekend opening



FREE admission to gardens, grounds, restaurant and shop.



TRANSFORM

As autumn approaches, an enchanting transformation unfolds as trees turn and leaves fall. Enjoy the castle and gardens which now open at weekends.

During Halloween venture out on a vintage tractor and trailer ride around the castle grounds, to journey through mysterious woods. Listen and watch for the creatures that live there. Inside the castle, be thrilled by ghostly tales from our storyteller on Thursday 13, 20 & 27 October.

In celebration of the Highland Perthshire Autumn Festival, the castle comes alive with music. Home to the long-standing Glenfiddich Piping and Fiddling Championships, see dates below. It gathers some of the world's finest pipers and fiddlers. Dougie Maclean the acclaimed Perthshire singer, songwriter and composer, takes centre stage appearing in concert alongside traditional Scottish music legend Archie Fisher.



- Glenfiddich Piping Championships
Saturday 29 October
- Glenfiddich Fiddling Championships
Sunday 30 October



INDULGE

Enjoy Christmas by stepping back in time. Visit the castle during the festive season (5 November to 31 December) and see how the 7th Duke of Atholl's family prepared for their Christmas celebrations. Hunt for the elves and let them introduce you to the family and tell the story.

Wrap up and take a tractor ride to join Father Christmas in the Apple House within the Hercules Garden, each weekend in December.

Take a table in the ballroom for our traditional Sunday lunches and enjoy the warmth of the roaring fires.

Another treat is the evening Christmas Carol and Choral Concert on Sunday 11 December in the ballroom.



- Dougie MacLean Concert
Monday 31 October
- Christmas Carol and Choral Concert
Sunday 11 December



REVIVE

As winter advances and spring slowly arrives, the castle is open every weekend from 21st January to 25th March. The snowdrop walks at Blair Castle take you through Hercules Garden, recently restored to its original Georgian design, Diana's Grove, a tranquil wooded area affording some of the country's finest and tallest trees, and St Bride's Kirk, the burial site of Bonnie Dundee.

The wider estate offers 40 miles of walking trails and cycling routes from gentle rolling plains to rugged highland tracks.

Enjoy a Land Rover Safari, off the beaten track, taking in the scenery, without any of the hard work. Enjoy some of the most remote, tranquil and often dramatic areas that Scotland has to offer. Your driver's knowledge, from many years of experience living and working on the estate, will make for a fascinating adventure.



- Snowdrop Festival – Mid February – Mid March