



Client: VisitScotland Website Monitoring
Source: Shropshire Star
Date: 03/01/2015

Keyword: www.visitscotland.com
Page: 53
Reach: 36756
Size: 179
Value: 588.91

Much more to discover in the Highlands

The Glasgow Commonwealth Games, the 40th Ryder Cup in Perthshire and the Edinburgh Festival and Fringe all helped make Scotland one of the must-visit destinations of last year.

Visit Scotland's advertising campaign promises that 'One moment you'll be watching the stars, the next you'll be looking up at them'.

Indeed, 2014 will go down in history as a landmark one for Scots, as the eyes of the world turned to the country and prompted visitor numbers to surge.

And yet Scotland has so much more to offer than golf, comedy and athletics – particularly in Perthshire.

There is plenty of adventure to be had in Big Tree Country, with its tranquil glens, dramatic waterfalls and lush forests providing a perfect setting for outdoor activities such as hiking and pony trekking.

The area is also home to an abundance of wildlife including red deer, red squirrels and, of course, rare golden eagles – making it a haven for nature lovers all year round.

After a long day watching or playing golf, or enjoying the great Scottish outdoors, Perthshire's superb restaurants, bars and pubs are ideal places to kick back and relax.

Dine at the 16th-century Ardeonaig Hotel & Restaurant (www.ardeonaighotel.co.uk), which makes the most of the area's extraordinary natural larder on the southern shore of Loch Tay.

The same can be said of Fonab Castle (www.fonabcastlehotel.com). Nestled on the banks of Loch Faskally amid breathtaking highland scenery, the castle's glass-fronted restaurant offers stunning loch views, along with delicious, locally and internationally inspired dishes.

Stay the night – or stay for a week – at the five-star Mains of Taymouth in Kenmore (www.taymouth.co.uk).

Set in more than 160 private acres of forests, river

walks and scenic views over Loch Tay, this stunning self-catering estate, which is home to the Menzies family, is the perfect base from which to explore Perthshire.

Mains of Taymouth also has its own golf course, which is widely considered one of central Scotland's finest nine-hole courses. A destinations not to be missed.

● For more information go to www.visitscotland.com

