Take a break among beauty

Scotland offers some stunning destinations filled with character



Mains of Taymouth lies just back from the banks of Loch Tay and sprawls across 120 acres of Highland Perthshire. This family and pet-friendly hideaway offers a real slice of luxury self catering. Their cottages are truly decadent, equipped with hot tubs, saunas and designer kitchens. Then there is the onsite restaurant, bar, a well stocked deli, golf course and horse riding stables. From 1 November to 31 March, the golf is free. www.taymouth.co.uk

TOWER HIDEAWAY

Aikwood Tower, which swirls in tales of historic intrigue, offers seriously characterful self catering accommodation. It lies in the Borders heartland of the Ettrick Forest, which used to be an ancient hunting ground of Scottish royalty. The facilities today are thoroughly modern, though, with the tower accommodating up to ten guests.

www.aikwoodtower.com

BORDERS BOLTHOLE

Roulotte Retreat is a unique escape to the south of Melrose in the Borders where the accommodation consists of bespoke French *roulotte* caravans, which have been shipped over the Channel. Forget old-fashioned gypsy caravans: these are luxurious, with proper double beds, wood burning stoves and power showers. A new addition for 2014 has been hot tubs for some of the roulottes. Look out for

yoga classes too. Roulotte Retreat is also adults only.

www.roulotteretreat.com

D&G DREAMING

Dundream near Stranraer, Dumfries and Galloway, is the vision of a local woman who, as a young girl, dreamed of reinventing the old cottage that lay here. This four-bedroom oasis styles itself as a "holistic, luxury, eco-holiday let". It is founded around a large openplan living area, with enough sleeping accommodation for eight. It boasts epic views, while there is plenty of

ANCIENT CHARM
Aikwood Tower in the
Borders, restored by
former Liberal Party
leader David Steel and
now owned and run
by his son, Rory

space outside too, including a Japanese Garden. There is unassisted wheelchair accessibility on the ground floor. www.dundream.com

GET AWAY FROM IT ALL

Forget about mobile signals at remote Rahoy Estate and really let go this autumn. This scenic estate on the Morvern Peninsula features a grand shooting lodge and backhouse (sleeping 16 plus six), two cottages (each sleeping four) and the striking new Caorann house, which sleeps up to eight.

www.rahoy-estate.com

