



THINGS TO DO

www.clovenstonelodges.co.uk



THINGS TO DO

Tucked away in peaceful woodland yet perfectly placed for exploring **Aberdeenshire**, Clovenstone Lodges offer the best of both worlds.

Whether your idea of a perfect break is slow mornings in nature, coastal adventures, or discovering local culture and history, you'll find plenty to enjoy just beyond your lodge door.

From scenic countryside walks and dramatic coastal landscapes to charming villages and historic castles, the surrounding area is rich with experiences to suit every pace and interest.

And when the day winds down, Clovenstone will be waiting - a calm, cosy retreat where you can relax, recharge and soak up the tranquillity, perhaps from the warmth of your private hot tub beneath the stars.

However you choose to spend your time, Clovenstone Lodges is the perfect base for discovering the very best of Aberdeenshire, at your own pace, in your own way.

www.visitabdn.com is a great place to start exploring, but here are some of "oor favourites."

C O N T E N T S

- History & Heritage
- Arts & Culture
- Distilleries
- Family Friendly
- Outdoors & Adventure
- Nature & Wildlife
- Golf

HISTORY & HERITAGE

Aberdeenshire is one of Scotland's most historic regions, home to an incredible **263 castles** - more than anywhere else in the UK.

From dramatic ruins to grand estates, the landscape is rich with stories waiting to be explored.

Huntly Castle

- A dramatic riverside ruin, once a refuge for King Robert the Bruce. Ideal for a historic picnic.
- Approx. 35 minutes' drive

Dunnottar Castle

- Spectacular clifftop ruins near Stonehaven, said to have inspired Shakespeare's Hamlet.
- Approx. 40 minutes' drive

Castle Fraser

- A fairytale fortress filled with hidden trapdoors, secret staircases and the intriguing Laird's Lug.
- Approx. 20 minutes' drive

Slains Castle

- Atmospheric coastal ruins believed to have inspired Bram Stoker's Count Dracula.
- Approx. 50 minutes' drive

HISTORY & HERITAGE

Tolquhon Castle

- A beautifully preserved Renaissance mansion near Tarves, celebrated for its elegance and grandeur.
- Approx. 35 minutes' drive

Crathes Castle

- A classic Scottish castle with formal gardens and home to the legendary Green Lady.
- Approx. 35 minutes' drive

Balmoral Castle

- The jewel in the crown: the Royal Family's Scottish summer residence in the heart of Royal Deeside.
- Approx. 1 hour 20 minutes' drive



ARTS & CULTURE

Aberdeenshire has a rich and varied cultural scene, blending traditional Highland heritage with vibrant contemporary arts, music and performance - all easily explored during your stay.

Highland Games

- From June to September, experience traditional Highland Games across the region including Aberdeen, Ballater, Drumtochty Castle and Stonehaven - with the world-famous Braemar Gathering attended by the Royal Family.
- Approx. 40 mins – 1 hr 30 mins' drive (location dependent)

Aberdeen Art Gallery

- A beautifully refurbished gallery showcasing an impressive collection of fine art, design and exhibitions.
- Approx. 40 minutes' drive

Aberdeen Maritime Museum

- Bringing the story of the North Sea to life, from historic shipbuilding to modern offshore energy.
- Approx. 40 minutes' drive

Grampian Transport Museum

- A fascinating collection of vehicles and transport history, celebrating innovation through the ages.
- Approx. 25 minutes' drive

ARTS & CULTURE

Music Hall

- A striking city-centre venue hosting live music, comedy and touring performances year-round.
- Approx. 40 minutes' drive

The Lemon Tree

- An intimate arts venue known for its diverse programme of music, theatre and comedy.
- Approx. 40 minutes' drive

His Majesty's Theatre

- One of Scotland's most beautiful theatres, presenting West End productions, opera and ballet.
- Approx. 40 minutes' drive

DISTILLERIES

Producing Scotland's famous *Water of Life*, Aberdeenshire and Speyside are home to world-class distilleries, each offering its own distinctive character, flavour and heritage - from historic Highland malts to iconic modern whisky experiences.

Glen Garioch Distillery

- One of Scotland's oldest operating distilleries, producing richly flavoured Highland single malts in Oldmeldrum.
- Approx. 20 minutes' drive

Royal Lochnagar Distillery

- Nestled beside Balmoral Castle, this royal distillery produces elegant whiskies with a long royal connection.
- Approx. 1 hour 15 minutes' drive

Glen Dronach Distillery

- Renowned for its sherry-cask maturation, offering bold, richly layered Highland single malts.
- Approx. 35 minutes' drive

The Macallan Distillery

- A must-visit for whisky lovers, combining exceptional single malts with a striking, world-class distillery experience.
- Approx. 1 hour 10 minutes' drive

The Whisky Shop

- Enroute home, explore over 400 whiskies at this specialist shop in Inverurie, perfect for gifts or souvenirs.
- Approx. 10 minutes' drive

FAMILY FRIENDLY

Aberdeenshire offers a fantastic range of family-friendly days out, from outdoor adventures and animal encounters to exciting indoor play centres and hands-on attractions - there's something for all ages, whatever the weather.

Hayfield Equestrian Centre

- Gentle woodland pony walks for young children, led by experienced helpers in a calm, rural setting.
- Approx. 30 minutes' drive

Lochter Activity Centre

- A popular activity hub offering everything from adventure play to fishing and family-friendly outdoor fun.
- Approx. 20 minutes' drive

Hoodles Play Barn

- A bright and welcoming indoor play barn with café facilities - ideal for younger children.
- Approx. 15 minutes' drive

Wynford Farm Park

- A fun-filled farm park with animals, indoor and outdoor play areas and seasonal activities.
- Approx. 20 minutes' drive

Macduff Marine Aquarium

- Discover fascinating Scottish sea life in this family-friendly coastal aquarium.
- Approx. 1 hour drive

FAMILY FRIENDLY

Dolphin Adventure Cruise

- Take to the water from Aberdeen Harbour for an unforgettable chance to spot dolphins in the wild.
- Approx. 40 minutes' drive

The Den & The Glen

- A brilliant mix of indoor soft play and outdoor adventure areas, designed especially for younger children.
- Approx. 30 minutes' drive

Codona's Amusement Park

- A classic seaside amusement park with rides, bowling and family entertainment.
- Approx. 40 minutes' drive

Skyline Trampoline Park

- High-energy fun with trampolines, foam pits and activities for children and teens.
- Approx. 10 minutes' drive

Breakout Games Aberdeen

- Interactive escape room challenges - ideal for families with teenagers.
- Approx. 40 minutes' drive

FAMILY FRIENDLY

Museum of Scottish Lighthouses

- A unique coastal experience combining a historic lighthouse with hands-on museum exhibits.
- Approx. 1 hour 10 minutes' drive

Peterhead Prison Museum

- Step inside a former Victorian prison and explore its fascinating and atmospheric history.
- Approx. 1 hour drive

OUTDOORS & ADVENTURE

From tranquil gardens and coastal walks to exhilarating mountain sports and guided adventures, Aberdeenshire offers outstanding outdoor experiences for every pace - whether you're seeking gentle fresh-air escapes or full-throttle adventure.

Duthie Park

- One of Aberdeen's most loved green spaces, perfect for relaxed walks, picnics and riverside strolls.
- Approx. 40 minutes' drive

David Welch Winter Gardens @ Duthie Park

- A stunning collection of indoor and outdoor gardens showcasing exotic plants year-round.
- Approx. 40 minutes' drive

Hazelhead Park

- Expansive parkland with plenty of swings and roundabouts and open green space for all ages. There's even a wee zoo!
- Approx. 40 minutes' drive

Johnston Gardens

- A peaceful hidden gem featuring ponds, bridges and beautifully landscaped gardens.
- Approx. 35 minutes' drive

Aden Country Park

- A large country park with woodland walks, wildlife, heritage features and family-friendly trails.
- Approx. 1 hour drive

OUTDOORS & ADVENTURE

Stonehaven Open Air Pool

- A unique heated saltwater lido by the sea, offering a memorable outdoor swimming experience.
- Approx. 40 minutes' drive

Balmedie Beach

- Miles of golden sand dunes and coastal paths — ideal for walks, wildlife spotting and fresh sea air.
- Approx. 45 minutes' drive

Balmoral Estate Land Rover Safaris

- A truly special experience exploring the Balmoral Estate by Land Rover - advance booking essential due to limited availability.
- Approx. 1 hour 20 minutes' drive

Hayfield Equestrian Centre

- Enjoy scenic forest hacks suitable for a range of abilities, led by experienced riders.
- Approx. 30 minutes' drive

Glenshee Ski Centre

- Offering mountain biking in summer and skiing and snowboarding in winter, with trails for all levels.
- Approx. 1 hour 30 minutes' drive

The Lecht Ski Centre

- A popular mountain destination for skiing and snow sports.
- Approx. 1 hour 30 minutes' drive

OUTDOORS & ADVENTURE

Cairngorms National Park

- Join guided walks with local Hillgoers, exploring landscapes from mountain to sea across Aberdeenshire and the Cairngorms.
- Approx. 1 – 1 hour 30 minutes' drive (route dependent)

Transition Extreme

- An indoor climbing centre offering wall climbing and adventure activities for beginners and experienced climbers alike.
- Approx. 40 minutes' drive

NATURE & WILDLIFE

Aberdeenshire's landscapes are rich in natural beauty and wildlife, from forested hills and dramatic coastline to wide sandy beaches and thriving habitats - offering unforgettable encounters with nature at every turn.

Bennachie Visitor Centre

- A gateway to Bennachie's network of trails, with routes leading to the iconic summit of Mither Tap and panoramic views.
- Approx. 20 minutes' drive

Newburgh Seal Beach

- Home to a large resident seal colony, offering exceptional wildlife spotting along the Ythan Estuary.
- Approx. 45 minutes' drive

North East Falconry Centre

- A unique opportunity to see birds of prey up close and learn about falconry from experienced handlers.
- Approx. 40 minutes' drive

Bullers of Buchan

- A dramatic collapsed sea cave and clifftop walk, easily combined with a visit to nearby Slains Castle.
- Approx. 50 minutes' drive (6 mins from Slains Castle)

Aberdeenshire Coast & Beaches

- Discover over 165 miles of unspoilt coastline, where dramatic cliffs, sandy beaches and rich marine wildlife create unforgettable coastal walks and nature encounters.

G O L F

Aberdeenshire is a golfer's paradise, offering an exceptional mix of parkland and links courses set against some of Scotland's most beautiful landscapes.

With 55 golf courses across the region - including **five championship courses**, Aberdeenshire caters to every level, from relaxed local rounds to world-class golfing experiences.

Championship Golf Courses:

Royal Aberdeen Golf Club

- One of the world's oldest golf clubs, renowned for its traditional links layout and championship pedigree.
- Approx. 40 minutes' drive

Trump International Golf Links Scotland

- A modern championship links course set among dramatic coastal dunes north of Aberdeen.
- Approx. 45 hour's drive

Cruden Bay Golf Club

- A spectacular links course offering a challenging round with stunning North Sea views.
- Approx. 50 minutes' drive

Murcar Links Golf Club

- A classic championship links course delivering a true test of traditional Scottish golf.
- Approx. 40 minutes' drive

G O L F

Newmachar Golf Club

- Home to the Hawkshill Championship Course, combining parkland play with links-style challenges.
- Approx. 30 minutes' drive

Local Courses Close to Your Lodge:

Kintore Golf Club

- A friendly and accessible parkland course, ideal for a relaxed round.
- Approx. 15 minutes' drive

Inverurie Golf Club

- A scenic course beside the River Don, popular with both visitors and locals.
- Approx. 10 minutes' drive

Kemnay Golf Club

- A well-regarded course with rolling fairways and countryside views.
- Approx. 10 minutes' drive



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