

## DESTINATION **Callander**

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### Antiques, Doune Castle, Birds of Prey, Whisky and Film Locations

This “Great Day Out” involves only a short drive to the great attractions near Callander leaving you lots of time to enjoy the sights. You can visit these in any order, The Antique Centre and Deanston Distillery are both indoor activities so we recommend you plan your day according to the weather. Please note the viewing times at Argaty Red Kites are at 2.30 pm between the 21<sup>st</sup> February and the last Saturday in October and 1.30 pm throughout the winter. Please make your reservation in advance as visitor numbers are limited: 01786 841373. Set-jettlers may recognise 2 film locations!

### Scottish Antique & Art Centre

Head south east on the A84 from Callander following signs for Stirling. After approximately 6 miles you will find the Scottish Antique and Art Centre on your left. Antique lovers will find a huge selection of antiques and collectables – you can literally get lost in here! There is also a very nice café and gift shop. (Bargain hunters may also enjoy a full day at nearby Kinbuck Auctions where antique auctions are held on alternate Wednesdays throughout the year.)



Leave the antique centre now and turn left at the exit and on to the A84 again, after just a couple of miles you will arrive in the pretty village of Doune. Take the first road on your left. If you are ready for some fresh air there is a parking area and a lovely short woodland walk “Doune Ponds” on your left. Continue on through Doune centre where you’ll find a lovely café and a few nice shops. Continue on the narrow road and follow the sign for Doune Castle on your right.



### Doune Castle

Doune Castle is a magnificent late 14<sup>th</sup> century courtyard castle with its striking 100ft high gatehouse. This impressive architecture has found Doune Castle a leading role in several films. It starred as “Swamp Castle”, “Castle Anthrax” and “Camelot” in “Monty Python and The Holy Grail” - fans of Monty Python will especially enjoy the audio guide narrated by Monty Python’s Terry Jones. More recently Doune Castle was used as a film location for the pilot of Game of Thrones and very recently Doune Castle has been the prominent setting, “Castle Leoch”, in the TV series based on Diana Gabaldon’s “Outlander” novels. Discover the nature trail in the castle grounds and enjoy a stroll along the banks of the River Teith with splendid views as you return towards the castle.

### Argaty Red Kites

Argaty Red Kites is Central Scotland’s only Red Kite feeding station, visitors can watch these magnificent birds feeding and their spectacular flying. Pre-booking is recommended especially at weekends. There is a short walk to the hide suitable for

all abilities, dogs on leads are also welcome. Ranger led walks are at feeding times (2.30 pm 21st February until end of October and 1.30 pm throughout the winter) but visitors are welcome anytime, the nature hide and visitor centre will be unstaffed however visitors are welcome and an honesty box will be in operation.

To find Argaty Red Kites take the A84 from Callander to Doune, as soon as you pass the 30mph zone in Doune take the first road on the left A820, continue into the centre of Doune bearing left at the Cross, just after the church take a left turn on to King Street. Bear left driving alongside the park on your left hand side, then under an old railway bridge. Continue for just under 1 mile passing Argaty House, the former walled garden and negotiate a bad bend. You will come uphill through some trees and then you will see Lerrocks Farm in front of you. The road takes a left turn along the foot of the farm – (do not take the private drive up into the farm) the car park is on the right just beyond the buildings.

### Deanston Distillery

Visit Deanston Distillery on the banks of the River Teith. The building was originally a cotton mill and first opened in 1785 and manufactured cotton and lace for 180 years. The Deanston Cotton Mill closed in 1965 however the perfect location and abundant supply of pure, fresh water from the River Teith were perfect for distilling whisky. Deanston Distillery opened in 1967, and has been distilling whisky using traditional methods ever since. The pure, clear waters of the River Teith give the whisky its subtle spicy characteristics. Deanston Single Malt Whisky is described as sweet and fruity with a malty honeyed spiciness. Enjoy a tour and a wee dram, choose from a Deanston Classic Tour, Tasting Room Tour Deanston Heritage Tour or the Gourmet Deanston Whisky and Chocolate Tour. The distillery and some of its workers also appeared in the film "The Angel's Share".

To find Deanston Distillery follow the A84 from Callander to Doune, cross the bridge over the River Teith in Doune and take a right turn immediately after the bridge. Follow the course of the River Teith for approximately ½ mile to the distillery.

We hope you enjoyed this Great Day Out. Return back to Callander following the A84 and enjoy your evening in Callander.

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