



EventScotland™

The Tour
of Britain¹²

Cycling is one of the most diverse and exciting sports in Scotland's sporting calendar, and EventScotland is proud to support a number of high-profile events every year. From major road events and festivals, to high-octane downhill mountain biking and a future on the track, Scotland is the perfect stage for cycling events.

Scotland's stunning landscapes offer the perfect backdrop for the action, from the picturesque roads in the south to the breathtaking Nevis Range near Fort William. The new Sir Chris Hoy Velodrome in Glasgow will be a showpiece venue for the 2014 Commonwealth Games, and will look to attract major European and World events.



Tour of Britain

The Tour of Britain is the UK's biggest professional bicycle race and a centrepiece of the British sporting calendar as the country's largest free-to-watch live sporting event, with many hundreds of thousands more following via television and online. The 2012 Tour in September will once again visit the Scottish Borders and Dumfries and Galloway, featuring some of the world's best road cyclists.



Halfords Tour Series

The Halfords Tour Series will visit Kirkcaldy in May, with teams of professional cyclists competing against one another in fast paced, attacking racing. The event, which is one of ten on the series tour, will give spectators the chance to get close to the action, as the riders speed through the town centre, and along the esplanade.



Tweedlove

Returning for 2012, the popular Tweedlove Bike Festival will kick off in May. The festival is a true celebration of cycling in the Tweed Valley with a number of competitive races, taster sessions and unique events planned. Following the popularity of the 2011 race, the Glentress Seven will be contested again in 2012. The seven hour mountain bike race is for individuals and teams of two or three, with the emphasis on great trails and a ton of fun.



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Highland Perthshire Cycling Festival

Also taking place in May, the Highland Perthshire Cycling Festival sports a programme of events leading up to the Etape Caledonia Event weekend. The Marie Curie Etape Caledonia is an 81 mile cycle challenge taking place on traffic-free roads in the stunning scenery of Highland Perthshire. The day before the Etape Caledonia is the festival's BIG Day, offering activities for the whole family. Entry is free, though donations are requested for the event that attracted 3000 visitors last year.

UCI Mountain Bike World Cup

The Nevis Range near Fort William plays host to the UCI Mountain Bike World Cup, featuring over 250 riders from 25 countries. Attracting the best riders from around the world, the event is a highlight on the sporting calendar. For spectators the event is second to none in terms of action and excitement, while the party-atmosphere in the World Cup Village provides the perfect accompaniment to the racing.



iXS Downhill Cup

Taking place in Innerleithen is the high-octane iXS Downhill Cup mountain bike race, which will storm through a specially constructed course in Traquair Forest. The event last took place in Innerleithen in 2010, when thousands of spectators watched over 300 riders compete. Entry for spectators is free over the three days, which gives access to all of the action as well as on-site catering, kids skills area, timber tester track and trade stands.

UCI Junior Track World Championships

Taking place in 2013, the UCI Junior Track World Championships was the first event secured for the new Sir Chris Hoy Velodrome, which has been built ahead of the 2014 Commonwealth Games.

Tour de France

EventScotland is leading a bid to host the Grand Depart of the 2017 Tour de France. The bid will engage various partners throughout the country including British Cycling and, if successful will see the first few days of the 2017 event in the UK. The world-famous event has visited Ireland and London in previous years, and discussions are well underway regarding a formal bid for the event.

For more information:

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SCOTTISH CYCLING | TOUR OF BRITAIN



Alan Denman, Regional Development Officer

Alan Denman, Scottish Cycling Regional Development Officer – is very excited about the 2012 Scottish Stage of the Tour of Britain. “The race is coming into the region via the Talla and Devils Beef tub climbs which will provide the spectators with excellent vantage points...the finishing circuit in Dumfries is brilliant and promises to deliver an exciting and fast finish”

Craig Burn, Chief Executive – Scottish Cycling

Craig Burn, Chief Executive – Scottish Cycling echoed Alan's comments and added his best wishes and thanks to the organisers, for making this happen. He added that “Scottish Cycling are proud of the fact that many of our officials are working on this years Tour of Britain yet again” He urged the membership of Scottish Cycling and the growing community of cyclists in Scotland to come out and see the spectacle of bike racing at its best.

Scottish Borders Scotland's leading cycling destination

Think of the Scottish Borders and think of big spaces: heather-clad hills, hundreds of square miles of forests and woodland, lochs and rivers. Wherever trees and hills abound, cyclists and mountain bikers won't be far away; some of the best cycling routes in Scotland can be found here.



There's a whole variety of routes to choose from for all types and abilities, with its quiet roads and little traffic the Scottish Borders has many developed waymarked long distance cycle routes and shorter routes from towns that can be explored. The forests of the Scottish Borders provide some of the best mountain biking in the country. Come and explore Scotland's leading cycling destination.

Here's a brief introductory guide to where to stay and what to see and do in our Border towns around stage 3 of the Tour of Britain 2012. Our diverse and beautiful landscape makes the Borders Scotland's leading cycling destination, whether you are visiting or you live here.





Jedburgh

The pretty market town of Jedburgh forms the historic gateway to Scotland. For cyclists, there are miles of dedicated routes around the town or on the longer 4 abbeys cycle route. There are bike shops and services in close proximity, and for mountain bikers the world class Glentworth trail centre is less than an hour away. Amenities in Jedburgh include free car and coach parking with adjacent comfort stops and free WiFi access. There are restaurants and cafés where you can enjoy morning coffee, lunch, and afternoon tea, and relax in the picturesque market place.



Denholm

The village of Denholm is situated in a beautiful part of Teviotdale in the Scottish Borders, about halfway between the towns of Hawick and Jedburgh. It lies in gentle rolling countryside between Ruberslaw and the Minto Hills, volcanic outcrops which thrust up through the underlying Old Red Sandstone. For cyclists there are quiet rolling roads over to Bonchester bridge and Hawick with plenty of pubs and coffee stops along the way.



Hawick

Cyclists are spoilt for choice with seven dedicated routes through Hawick including the long distance Southern Borders loop to Newcastleton, home of one of the 7stanes mountain bike centres and both Newcastleton and Hawick have an events calendar packed with cycling festivals including the Ken Laidlaw sportif.



St Mary's Loch

The Gordon Arms, like the nearby Tibbie Shiels Inn beside St Mary's Loch, has for 200 years been a meeting place for writers and poets, such as Sir Walter Scott, James Hogg, Robert Burns and William Wordsworth. Tibbie Shiels Inn and Glen Cafe remain good stopping places for cyclists keen to rest and re-fuel.



The Scottish Borders is the most cycle friendly destination in Scotland

The Scottish Borders is the most cycle friendly destination in Scotland with over 140 cycle welcome scheme members ranging from accommodation, cafes and visitor attractions to Bike hire/transfer businesses and repair shops.

Why not treat yourself and your family to a lovely local meal in the stunning Scottish Borders, made from sensational borders produce? Explore our seasonal food and drink from excellent local pubs, cafes, hotels and producers at the Scottish Borders Food Network website

“I used to ride a lot with the Edinburgh RC, who always came out this way, south of the city and into the Borders. Now I always ride in this area, even though it means extra miles to get here from where I live. I enjoy the peace of it. You won't see a car for a lot of this ride.”

Evan Oliphant, Team Raleigh





Dumfries & Galloway

in rural south west Scotland, is the home of the bicycle and renowned world wide for the quality of its mountain bike trails and quiet peaceful roads.

The region is a cycling heaven, for residents, visitors and the Tour of Britain, which has visited Dumfries and Galloway six times since 2005, and will be warmly welcomed back for the much anticipated Scottish Stage of the 2012 Tour.

Kirkpatrick Macmillan, who invented the first pedal powered bicycle in 1839, came from Keir Mill, very close to Drumlanrig Castle

Kirkpatrick Macmillan

Photograph used by permission,
©Dumfries Museum.



The region also boasts 5 of the international, top in their class, 7stanes mountain bike trails. All have their own distinctive character; all provide the perfect blend of respite from everyday pressures and access to exhilarating landscapes.

From the flowing single track of Kirroughtree and Mabie, to the gritty, granite features of Dalbeattie, to the wide open spaces of Glentworth and Ae, the 7stanes trails offer the best mountain biking possible.



Drumlanrig Castle is set on the 120,000 acre Queensberry Estate, complete with Country Park and Victorian Gardens. The Castle is one of the most rewarding and romantic of Scotland's great houses with magnificent rooms and spectacular collections of silver, porcelain, French furniture and art. It is a perfect place to visit for cyclists. There is cycling along the quiet lanes that criss-cross the Estate around the Castle, and challenging mountain-biking trails that offer something for everyone!!



Dumfries is the attractive market town and regional capital for south west Scotland. Famous for Robert Burns, J.M. Barrie and Robert the Bruce; these famous Scots all lived in the town and left strong legacies.



Castle Douglas and Kirkcudbright are attractive market towns, with traditional town centres. Castle Douglas as Food Town has around 50 local businesses that are involved in either producing or selling food and drink. Kirkcudbright as an artists' town, is full of colourful public and private galleries, which brings a contemporary feel to the town's heritage as an artists' colony.



The towns and villages in the region are full of charm, and are the perfect places to relax, unwind and be charmed.



Tour of Britain visitors can enjoy walks along the picturesque River Nith; visit the historic Globe Inn where Robert Burns held court on many a sociable evening and take in the Camera Obscura, to get panoramic views of the town.

