WELCOME
You'll find Blair Castle in the traditional Scottish village of Blair Atholl at the entrance to the Cairngorms National Park. Surrounded by hills and peaceful countryside, the castle has some of Scotland's finest views.

The castle has been transformed through the ages, from its cold medieval beginnings to become a fine Georgian mansion and finally a Victorian castle in the Baronial style. All of these influences can be seen today on a castle tour.

THE ROOMS AND COLLECTIONS
Thirty rooms are open to view, each alive with characters from the past. Settings such as the State Dining Room bring history to life and exhibitions reveal more about subjects including the Atholl Highlanders regiment.

HIGHLIGHTS
• Baronial Entrance Hall and armoury featuring weapons used at the Battle of Culloden.
• The classic Georgian styling of the Picture Staircase.
• Spectacular settings for entertaining, from the grandeur of the Drawing Room to the magnificent Ballroom bedecked in hundreds of antlers.
• Fascinating pieces of antique furniture, art and tapestry and extensive displays of Jacobite relics, china, embroidery and family treasures.

Follow the tour with a visit to the castle's gift shop and restaurant for the complete Blair Castle experience.

NEW FOR 2017
This year VisitScotland celebrates History, Heritage and Archaeology. At Blair Castle visitors have the opportunity to explore and discover our key role in the 1745 Jacobite Rising – including the besieging of the castle. We will also have a special display on the Atholl Highlanders (our private regiment), the Forth Rail Bridge and the history of the 18th-century statuary in our Hercules Garden.

In addition, we mark the centenary of the castle’s requisition as a Red Cross hospital.

BLAIR CASTLE SHOP AND THE TULLIBARDINE RESTAURANT
Be tempted by a fine range of gifts, food and drink, tartan and items based on the castle's collection. Complete your visit by sampling the fare on offer in the castle's award-winning Tullibardine Restaurant. Whether it's simple home baking or a three-course lunch you're after, we offer menu choices which reflect Scottish provenance.

GARDENS AND GROUNDS
Hercules Garden, restored in 1996 to its original Georgian design, is a peaceful walled garden of fruit trees, vegetables and herbaceous borders. Unusually, this almost-secret garden features a large landscaped pond complete with Chinese bridge, as well as a trail of contemporary and 18th century sculpture. It has been selected for the Royal Horticultural Society’s Partner Gardens scheme, allowing free access to its members on Wednesdays.

Diana's Grove boasts some of the country's finest and tallest trees. Cross an 18th century bridge to find the ruins of St Bride's Kirk, the final resting place of Jacobite leader, Bonnie Dundee. His breastplate and helmet are in the castle.

Children will enjoy the deer park and adventure playground.

For a traditional adventure, view the grounds from the back of a sure-footed, Atholl-bred, Highland Pony on a gentle trek or a faster ride.
700 YEARS OF SCOTTISH HISTORY

Discover Blair Castle, nestling in the dramatic landscape of Highland Perthshire and be taken on a journey into the fascinating past of the Dukes and Earls of Atholl.

Nineteen generations of Stewarts and Murrays of Atholl and the people who have lived and worked alongside them, have created a rich tapestry of stories, interwoven with tales from Scotland’s own turbulent past. They have all left their mark on Blair Castle, its collections and historic grounds.

Unique amongst Scottish castles, the story told here will take you from a visit by Mary Queen of Scots to the Civil War and from the Jacobite cause to the disaster of Culloden following Bonnie Prince Charlie’s own stay in the castle.

You’ll hear how the lucky inheritance of a smuggler-infested island helped turn the castle into a comfortable home and learn how a stay by Queen Victoria led to the creation of Europe’s only surviving private army.

CASTLE AND GARDENS

Blair Castle and Gardens
Historic treasures of Atholl Estates

2017 OPENING TIMES AND PRICES

Summer
1 April - 31 October (except 28 October) every day 9.30am - 5.30pm*

Winter
Exclusively Highlands Craft Fair 3-5 November 10am - 4pm
Christmas Events 10 and 17 December 10am - 4pm*
* Last admission to castle tour one hour prior to closing

CASTLE AND GARDENS

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ANNUAL EVENTS

27 and 28 May Atholl Highlanders Parade and Highland Games at June Charity Day (Scottish Gardens and Guide Dogs for the Blind).
24-27 August Blair Castle International Horse Trials, incorporating the Bruadar Country Fair.

THE TREASURE TICKET

Visit Blair Castle, Glamis Castle and Scone Palace Treasure tickets are on sale at Blair Castle and valid from April to October. Ticket allows one visit per attraction. Each member offers varying entrance dates/time. Please check venue website for opening.

HOW TO FIND US –

35 miles north of Perth, just off the A9.
90 minutes from Edinburgh and Glasgow.
Connecting train services from major cities and Caledonian Sleeper from London arrive at Blair Atholl station.
National and local bus links.
Tel: 01796 481207.
Email: bookings@blair-castle.co.uk
Blair Castle, Blair Atholl, Pitlochry, Perthshire PH18 5TL.

www.blair-castle.co.uk