



Local Information

There is so much to do in the surrounding area you will be spoilt for choice. This list is not exhaustive but there should be something for everyone! A good general website about the area and what's on to visit is www.visitangus.com. You can always pop into the estate office or give us a call/e-mail if you want advice.

Contents

Grocery shopping,.....	2
Getting Around.....	3
Eating Out	3
Beaches and Walking and Nature	4
Children's Stuff.....	6
Visitor Attractions	9
Day trip to Edinburgh	13
Entertainment and Arts	14
Broughty Ferry.....	16
Golf Courses	18
Swimming, Sports Centres, Horse Riding and Adrenalin sports	19
Distilleries	22
Fishing.....	22
Visiting in winter.....	24
Things to do in bad weather.....	24
Things to do close to home	25

Grocery shopping,

There are several supermarkets in Arbroath 10 minutes away by car – Morrisons, Tesco and Asda and Lidl. There is a Sainsbury's just off the A92 on the way out of Dundee.

Tesco-on-line (www.tesco.com) and Asda will deliver to Kinblethmont house and cottages

There are also butchers and fishmongers in Arbroath

Getting Around

By Car

Most of our guests chose to bring a car as it is really the easiest way to get around in this rural area. Do be aware of the fact that local drivers can drive very fast on the roads near the estate so please be careful. Keep in mind this is an agricultural area so you may find yourself stuck behind tractors or combines from time to time – and it may happen on the private roads on the estate too. Do be patient and only overtake when you can be quite sure that the way ahead is clear. In the spring and summer you may also come across joggers and cyclists.

By Taxi

There are several taxi firms in Arbroath that you can choose from

Cook's taxis – 01241 876266 have 6 seater and wheelchair accessible taxis.

Arbroath Taxis - 01241 430430 are based at the bus station

Central taxis – 01241 877766

Abbey Taxis – 01241 877777

Private Bus

G&N Wisharts are based nearby in Friockheim 01241 828747 and can provide 15 or 25 seater buses with driver for groups. Phone them – they are very helpful.

Blacks' of Brechin – can provide a large comfortable coach with on board WC and uniformed driver for a group outing Contact Robert P Black removals@blacksofbrechin.com. 01356 622119

Train - Arbroath station lies on the main line from London to Aberdeen so there is a good service to Dundee (15 minute journey), Edinburgh (1 1/2 hours away) and Aberdeen (1 hour away). There are some direct trains to Glasgow or you can change at Dundee

Bicycle The area is good for cycling with various cycle networks. The private roads around the estate are good for children on bicycles though you do have to take care of vehicles on the tarmac road up to the house. The Letham Grange area opposite the farm has a number of quiet safe roads and paths that children can explore. If you don't bring your own, then why not hire bikes through a local company – Angus Cycle Hub on 01241 873500. Give them plenty of notice though. They can drop off bikes here on request.

Eating Out

There are several restaurants and lots of coffee shops in Arbroath and the surrounding area as well as some good fish and chip shops around the harbour.

A few worthy on mention are

The Old Boat Yard

This restaurant specialising in fancy fish and chips and seafood has an excellent position overlooking Arbroath Harbour. It is also open from 10.00 am for tea and coffee and has an open terrace in the summer and free wifi. They do High Teas on Sunday and Monday from 4pm – 6pm but you need to book as it's very popular. They use the finest locally sourced ingredients. Check out their website as they often have high teas on a two for one offer. www.oldboatyard.co.uk Tel: 01241 879995

The But and Ben

Small award winning restaurant in tiny village of Auchmithie (on the coast between Arbroath and Lunan Bay) serving lunches, high teas and dinners. Traditional Scottish cooking with fish dishes a speciality, sourced locally where possible and a sweet trolley that you cannot resist. Very popular in peak season so book ahead.

Lunch every day from 12-2 but closed all day Monday and Tuesday

Evening meals from 6pm or High teas only on Sundays with 4pm and 5.30pm sittings

Auchmithie, By Arbroath. Tel: 01241 877223

Gordon's - Inverkeilor

Intimate restaurant offering fine cuisine from a British masterchef, using the best local ingredients. Closed Mondays.

Main Road, Inverkeilor, By Arbroath. Tel: 01241 830364 www.gordonsrestaurant.co.uk

The Old Brew House

Atmospheric pub in harbour setting serving good pub food all day every day with a wide choice to suit all tastes and appetites. You will find it at the very far left hand end of Arbroath harbour (as you look out to sea) and the end of the High St. Book to avoid disappointment on Friday and Saturday.

1-5 High Street, Arbroath Tel: 01241 879945

Beaches and Walking and Nature

Lunan Bay

Lunan Bay is a 2 mile long stretch of unspoilt dune-backed sand just 10 minutes away by car. It is well worth visiting at all times of year as it is a great place for an invigorating walk in winter as well as having all the paddling/ and castling opportunities in summer! There is a large car park and a café (check the website www.lunanfarms.co.uk for opening times). If you're feeling energetic, why not take the track up to Red Castle that overlooks the bay. It is steeped in history and sadly now crumbling away due to heavy rain and the sea. In a few year it may no longer be there.

Montrose Beach

Montrose beach is a lovely stretch of white sand. Additionally there is the "Seafront splash" which is an excellent water based adventure playground with some educational elements (pulleys, Archimedean screws etc.). It is great fun for children under about 10 but they should bring a swimming costume! There are public toilets, an ice cream kiosk and small café. There is

a golf course here also (see golfing section) and it is convenient for the “Roos Leap” diner. (See eating out section)

St Cyrus Beach

If you continue further up the A92 from Montrose towards Stonehaven, you come to St Cyrus beach and nature reserve. It is a beautiful reserve with abundant flowers, butterflies and birds leading to a stretch of natural sandy beach.

Broughty Ferry beach

Broughty Ferry is a historic and prosperous suburb to the East of Dundee. Its beach is a blue flag beach and great for families with its promenade, ice creams and swimming area next to Broughty Ferry Castle. (See separate Broughty Ferry section.)

The Angus Glens

There is some lovely hill walking in the Angus glens of varying degrees of difficulty. Kirriemuir is generally considered to be the gateway to the Angus glens. Glen Clova is a great place to head for as you can get a good meal and drink and information about walks at the Glen Clova Hotel (about 1 hour from Kinblethmont). There are also lovely walks in Glen Esk, Glen Isla and Glen Doll.

Arbroath path network and cliff walk

There are some good path walks around the Arbroath area. Particularly spectacular is the cliff top walks between Arbroath and Auchmithie. A lovely trip is to walk from Arbroath to Auchmithie along the coastal path from Victoria park and the East end of Arbroath (allow about 2 hours) and to finish with a meal at the “But and Ben” in Auchmithie (make sure you book ahead) before booking a taxi there to take you back to your car in Arbroath.

Tentsmuir beach and forest

As you head towards Dundee you will see over on the other side of the Tay estuary a bright sand spit and forested area – this is Tentsmuir forest and nature reserve.

It is a great place to go with paths through the forest, a picnic area with space for portable BBQs and toilets and the beach where you can often spot seals.

After you go over the Tay Bridge turn left to Tayport and follow directions to the beach from there – allow about 1 hour from Kinblethmont.

The Isle of May

www.isleofmayferry.com

The Isle of May is a small island situated off the coast of Fife and is reached from Anstruther (about 1 hour 20 mins drive) The Island is a National Nature Reserve (NNR) and is the home of incredible wildlife which include eiders, puffins, guillemots and razorbills but also the breeding colony of grey seals, the offshore reefs and small fishes surviving on them and the plants that grow on the cliffs. Well known for visiting migrant birds and the island is the best Puffin site in the UK. The ferry runs between April and September but wear a hat – the terns may dive –bomb you!

A 4-5 hour trip will take you by boat to the island with a couple of hours ashore (weather permitting). Phone 07957 585200 to book – pick up tickets from the kiosk at the harbour.

Open Garden Scheme

<https://scotlandsgardens.org/>

Browse the gardens or search for Pitmuies

There are various beautiful private gardens in the area that you can visit. Pitmuies is only about 10 minutes away by car (on the left on the road between Friockheim and Forfar) and is open 1st April – 31st October 10 am – 5 pm.

Children go free and dogs are welcome – on leads.

Children's Stuff

There are many things for children to do in Angus, apart from exploring the grounds of Kinblethmont Estate and the beaches of course. I have detailed just a few here, but do browse through the leaflets or the tourist information website - <https://visitangus.com/>

Arbroath

Arbroath has a surprising number of simple things for small children to do. The West Links seafront, on the left as you leave town heading towards Dundee, has a wonderful refurbished playground and there is access to Arbroath beach. With Easter comes the opening for the miniature railway (which is shortly to be extended), a mini racetrack and trampolines. Crazy golf, tennis and a paddling pool are also available in the better weather and there is a snack bar and picnic areas. Don't forget to pack a towel and costume. For the slightly older children, why not try the newly opened skate park. Also at West Links is Jumping Joey's, a large indoor play centre that would satisfy children up to about 8 on a wet day. There is a snack bar for parents to relax in while the children have fun and parties can be arranged if there's a birthday boy/girl.

The road train does a circuit of Arbroath with pick up points at the West Links and the harbour as well as other places – look out for the special bus stops. It will take you past the Abbey and in the height of the summer it does a bigger circuit taking you as far as Keptie Pond. You can get off the train at any stop and pick it up again later on. Make sure you buy the round trip ticket though, so you don't have to pay again when you get back on and don't forget to check the time of the last train back or you may have a long walk!

Keptie pond is a nice place for small children to feed ducks – the castle-like building on the hill was actually a water tower. Why not take a picnic if the weather is nice and check out the Big Red Bench.

For children that like creepy crawlies there is an exotic pet store. Find The Dragon's Den just off the pedestrian area beyond the Abbeygate.

The harbour is a fun place to walk around – if you look at the smokery across the river you can sometimes see the fish hanging up. There are various places where you can climb up to the top of the harbour wall and look around and there is a lower wall all the way along that children like to walk along.

At the far end near the bottom of the High Street you can buy ice creams (look out for unusual flavours like “smokies”) and trinkets. It is also fun to look at the boats in the marina. There is a lovely centre with arts and crafts and a café/restaurant.

Don't forget Chalmers cinema shows more children's films during school holidays if it's a rainy day.

Dundee Science Centre

www.dundeesciencecentre.org.uk

This is an excellent science-based centre that has plenty to interest very tiny and older children. The main exhibitions are to do with the senses and are very informative and fun – small children can charge around exploring the giant head or eyeball while older ones might actually learn something. There are often temporary exhibitions on things such as insects, space or dinosaurs and there is a 3-D cinema – check out the website for what's on just now. There is also a gift shop and cafe.

Tel: 01382 228800

Caledonian Railway – Brechin

www.caledonianrailway.com

This is a special service on the 4 mile stretch of railway between Brechin and the House of Dun. Check on the on-line calendar to see what is on. There is plenty to delight train loving children from 'Thomas days' at Easter to 'Santa specials' and 'Diesel Saturdays' in July and August and 'steam Sundays' from the beginning of July to Mid-September. For the adults only there are Whiskey Whistler events or take the Sloe Train events. Booking is necessary and both events include a little taster session. Concession tickets available and dogs are welcome but must remain on the floor of the train. Tel: 01356 622992

Camperdown Park and Wildlife Centre– Dundee

<http://www.camperdownwildlifecentre.com/>

Camperdown Park is the largest public park in Dundee. As well as being a lovely place to go for a walk there is an excellent award winning adventure playground with some water sports in summer and a boating pond. There is also a popular wildlife centre that is home to some 50 species of birds, animals and reptiles.

Check their website for opening times.

Monikie Country Park

https://www.angus.gov.uk/directories/public_toilets_and_radar_keys/monikie_country_park

Monikie Park lies between Arbroath and Dundee – good for nature lovers and water sports enthusiasts. There is windsurfing, canoeing etc here mainly at beginner level. There is also a large wooden children's play area and picnic and BBQ facilities are available all year round.

Crombie County Park

https://www.angus.gov.uk/directories/public_toilets_and_radar_keys/crombie_country_park
Close to Monikie Park, it has a lake, various nature trails and a ranger's lodge. A great place for wildlife spotting. Picnic and BBQ facilities are available all year round. Admission is free

Montrose Basin Wildlife Centre – Nr Montrose
www.montrosebasin.org.uk

Montrose Basin is an enclosed estuary of the South Esk and covers 750 hectares. A daily tidal cycle brings in a rich soup of nutrients that attracts over 50,000 migratory birds each year. The centre has many interactive displays relating to wading and migratory birds and lots of powerful telescopes that allow you to see the birds (and seals!) very close up. There is a questionnaire for ages approx. 7 upwards and is a wonderful place for nature-loving children and adults. At holiday time there are often seasonal activities that can be booked in advance and there are walks of varying lengths around the reserve.

Check their website for opening times.

Pantomime/ Christmas Play

The Dundee repertory theatre always put on a Christmas play or pantomime suitable for children in December and January. They are usually very good but it would be wise to book up early. Tel: 01382 223530

Blair Drummond Safari Park - Stirling
www.blairdrummond.com

Blair Drummond safari park is great for a family day out and if you are going as far as Stirling you could visit the Stirling castle as well! (See historic Scotland section). There are loads to do for animal loving children.

Check their website for opening times.

JM Barrie's birthplace and camera Obscura – Kirriemuir

If you are heading up to the glens it might be worth stopping off at Kirriemuir. It is the birth place of the creator of Peter Pan and his birth place is recreated to look like it was when it was his home and the house next door holds an exhibition that focuses on his works.

There is also a 'camera obscura' donated to Kirriemuir by JM Barrie like the one near Edinburgh castle it is one of three in Scotland.

<http://www.kirriemuircameraobscura.com/>

Visitor Attractions

Castles and Historic Buildings

Glamis Castle – Nr Forfar

www.glamis-castle.co.uk

Glamis castle was the childhood home of her Majesty Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and is the setting for Shakespeare's famous 'Macbeth'. It really is a worth a visit as it is a magnificent castle set in splendid grounds. There is also a café.

If you are visiting Glamis Castle why not visit Glamis Gallery in the village which has a lovely mixture of artwork and jewellery. Plenty of places to park and places to eat in the village too. Check their FB page or phone 07739 463594 for their opening hours.

Why not visit the Gin Bothy Experience in Glamis too where you can hear the history of the Bothy as well as getting to taste some of their products. Check their opening times as they vary throughout the year via their FB page or phone 01307 840979.

Arbroath Abbey

Arbroath Abbey is famous in Scottish history for its association with the Declaration of Arbroath. As well as impressive ruins, there is a good visitor centre with a viewing gallery, café, film, display explain the declaration of Arbroath and model of the original. It has historically had close links with Kinblethmont and it has been rumoured that there is a tunnel linking Kinblethmont to the Abbey – we have never found it but who knows!

Tel: 01241 878756

Check the website for opening times.

Bell Rock Lighthouse & caves sightseeing

One of the major engineering feats of the early 19th Century the Bell Rock Lighthouse was designed by noted lighthouse engineer Robert Stevenson (1772 – 1850) and came into service in 1811. The signal tower museum tells of the history of the light house – you can also go up to the light house (but not land) on one of the boats that takes sea angling and sightseeing trips from Arbroath harbour.

Group bookings and all day charters only. Try the MV Ardent www.arbroathangling.co.uk

Hospitalfield House – Arbroath

www.hospitalfield.org.uk

This hidden away gem is amongst the trees opposite the McDonalds/ Asda complex as you come into Arbroath. In the 19th century it was lived in by Patrick and Elizabeth Frazer. After

their deaths it was left in trust to provide training in the arts to young people. Check their website for opening and tours.

House of Dun – Near Montrose

The Dun estate was home to the Erskine family from 1375 to 1980 – the Georgian house overlooking Montrose Basin was completed in 1730 by William Adam. Inside there are grand public rooms and collections of 18th and 19th century furniture, porcelain and portraits. The gardens with walled garden and wooded den are also open to the public and entrance is free. Check their website for opening and tours.

Scone Palace – Nr Perth

www.scone-palace.co.uk

Scone Palace attracts visitors from all over the world. Fifteen hundred years ago, it was the capital of the Pictish kingdom and the centre of the ancient Celtic church. In the intervening centuries, it has been the seat of parliaments and the crowning place of Kings.

Visitors are able to tour the rooms at their own speed with guides in each room to answer questions. The splendid grounds are also open to the public and there is a restaurant serving home baking and savoury snacks.

Tel: 01738 552300

Check their website for opening and tours.

Stirling Castle (about 1 ½ hours by car)

www.stirlingcastle.scot_

Without doubt one of the grandest of all Scottish castles and the views from it are spectacular. Displays on the castle's history and medieval kitchen are featured and there is an attractive café.

Check their website for opening and tours.

Dunnottar Castle – Near Stonehaven

www.dunnottarcastle.co.uk

Dunnottar Castle is a dramatic and evocative ruin perched on the cliff top just south of Stonehaven. If the outline is a little familiar, this may be because Dunnottar Castle was the location for the film version of Hamlet starring Mel Gibson. It has also recently been used as the inspiration for the castle in Disney's 'Brave'.

Check their website for opening times.

Stonehaven is a charming little town with picturesque harbour and pubs/restaurants and is a great place to visit in connection with the castle. There is a good walk from the town to the castle – about 1 ½ miles.

Dunninald Castle – Nr Montrose

www.dunninald.com

Dunninald castle is set in wonderfully planned landscape gardens. As well as enjoying an informative tour, there are the idyllic grounds and a walled garden to wander in and delicious home baking in the tea room to enjoy.

The gardens are open at various times during the year with hours tours available in July – check their website to see what is on.

Historic Ships

RRS Discovery – Dundee

www.rrsdiscovery.com

A very interesting exhibition centre about the Antarctic in general and Captain Scott's voyage on Discovery in particular. There are lots of interactive exhibits and you can have a good look around the boat itself.

Check their website for opening times

Frigate Unicorn – Dundee

www.frigateunicorn.org

There is a lot to see over three floors on the frigate unicorn from the impressive gun deck to the sailors sleeping quarters.

Tel: 01382 200900

Check their website for opening and tours.

Museums

Signal Tower Museum – Arbroath

<https://visitangus.com/arbroath-signal-tower-museum/> Situated on the waterfront just along from the harbour, the signal tower museum is an interesting museum about the history of Arbroath and during school holidays, they often hold children's art and crafts workshops. It was built to signal to Stevenson's famous Bell Rock lighthouse which you can see a few miles out to sea.

Admission is free Tel: 01241 435329

Check their website for opening and tours.

Verdant Works – Dundee

<https://www.verdantworks.com/plan-your-visit/>

Verdant works transports you back to the 19th Century when the jute industry was at its prime. Through a variety of exhibits and interactive displays this museum brings alive the jute industry and miserable lives of its workforce.

Check their website for opening and tours.

Dundee Museum of Transport

www.dmoft.co.uk/ Learn about Dundee's tram network, railway and marine history. Look around the constantly changing selection of cars, commercial vehicles and buses. Get up close and personal with Chitty Chitty Bang Bang and have a look at our recreation of Dundee's first flying machine.

Transport related events are held throughout the year, so keep an eye on the website for details of these, and new additions to the collection. Group and concession tickets available.

Café and gift shop onsite.

Check their website for opening times

McManus Gallery – Dundee

www.mcmanus.co.uk

The McManus Gallery is housed in a splendid Gothic revival style building in the centre of Dundee (at the top of Commercial St). It has 8 galleries which house Victorian and modern paintings, the natural world and the making of modern Dundee and it also has temporary exhibitions. It is a great place to spend a little time out while in Dundee and has a café and gift shop. Entrance is free but donations are welcome.

Tel: 01382 307200

Check their website for opening times

V&A Dundee

<https://www.vam.ac.uk/dundee/>

It was with huge excitement that Dundee awaited the opening of the New V&A in September 2018.

The extraordinary building designed by Japanese Architects Kengo, Kuma & Associates and neighbouring Slessor Gardens and train station have transformed the Dundee waterfront. There is a free permanent exhibition featuring the history of Scottish design, and a larger exhibition space with the special exhibitions changing several times a year. There is a café and restaurant – it would be worth booking early if you want to go to the restaurant.

Visit their website to see what exhibitions are on – booking may be necessary.

Pictish Angus

2000 years ago a number of Iron Age tribes lived in northern Scotland. These tribes gradually amalgamated and by AD 297 they were known as the Picts. Today most of what we know about them comes from the mysterious stones, which, carved with pictures, and symbols, have been found dotted around the county. We do of course have our own stone in Kinblethmont House. Provided there is no one renting Kinblethmont House we will be glad to show it to you (Tel 01241 890204). Other places of interest are:

St Vigean's Museum – Arbroath

<https://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/arbroath/stvigeans/index.html>

A lot of stones on display in this tiny museum in the pretty village of St Vigeans. Some are incised with Pictish symbols and they include the famous inscribed Drosten stone. You can arrange to see the museum through Arbroath Abbey by phoning 01241 878756

Miegle Museum - Miegle

<https://www.undiscoveredscotland.co.uk/meigle/meiglestones/index.html>

There is a large collection of Pictish stones here, most of which have been found close to Miegle's old church.

Tel: 01828 640612 for opening times

McManus Gallery (as above)

There is some information about pictis in the history section of the museum and a Pictish stone very like the one we have at Kinblethmont!

Day trip to Edinburgh

Edinburgh is a wonderful city to visit for the day (though that might not be long enough) and the trip can easily managed from Kinblethmont. During Edinburgh festival time there is a carnival atmosphere about the city and it really is well worth the journey. It would be wise to book train tickets in advance at festival time if you want to be sure of getting a seat.

I would most definitely recommend travelling by train from Arbroath as not only is the stress of driving to and parking in Edinburgh taken away but the journey itself (about 1 ½ hours) is well worth it.

- You will need to buy a ticket (day return approx. £40 – but there are some good deals available with railcards, can book in advance or if you avoid peak times) before you get on the train so either leave plenty of time before you get on the train or buy the ticket in

advance either from the station or online on www.thetrainline.com and pick up the tickets at the machine at Arbroath station. (you could also reserve a seat if you did this)

- The train stops at Edinburgh Haymarket and then at Edinburgh Waverley about 5 minutes later. You will want to get off at Edinburgh Waverley as it is very convenient for most of Edinburgh's sights
- If you are travelling on a week day you may wish to avoid travelling back during the rush hour if you haven't booked a seat (about 4.30 pm to 6.00 pm)

Driving to Edinburgh –

The drive into central Edinburgh takes 1/1/2 to 2 hours depending on traffic. There is a central car park near the castle at Castle Terrace EH1 2EN. There is also a park and ride at Ingliston see <https://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/ingliston>.

If you aren't here when the Fringe Festival is on, it's still well worth a visit to see some of the sites – you can have a fine day out without spending a penny as a walk through the old town, the old buildings, the steps and wynds is fascinating –and easily accessible from the station – many of the galleries and museums are also free.

- Edinburgh Castle
- Princess Street Gardens
- Edinburgh Zoo
- National Museum of Scotland
- Scottish National Gallery
- Scottish National portrait Gallery.
- Museum of Childhood - known as the noisiest museum in the world!
- Roselyn Chapel (made more famous in the Dan Brown book - The Da Vinci Code)
- You may prefer just have a look round some of the more unique shops

Or you could take a ride on the of the many tour buses and see most of them at once. The brave hearted might prefer to take one of the Witchery Tours. Don't forget the trams are running again.

So much to see and do, one day may not be enough! A quick cheeky plug here- we do have probably one of the best three bedroom holiday flats in Edinburgh in Ramsay Garden right next to the castle.

You can see it on. <https://www.holidaylettings.co.uk/rentals/edinburgh/7129965> - you would be best off booking it though our agent My- Apartment however on +44 (0)131 202 5599 and mentioning us. The minimum stay is 2 nights.

Entertainment and Arts

Theatre/ Concerts

Dundee Repertory Theatre www.dundeereptheatre.co.uk Tel: 01382 223 530

An excellent award winning theatre producing a wide selection of plays with its own repertory company and hosting many more theatrical, dance and comedy performances. It has its own restaurant, the Het theatre Café 01382 206699 and the Jute café bar at the DCA is also very convenient (see eating out section). The prices are very reasonable and the performances excellent, making this theatre a great favourite of ours.

The Caird Hall, Dundee www.cairdhall.co.uk 01382 434940.

The Caird Hall is an impressive building forming one side of The City Square in the centre of the pedestrian zone of Dundee. In its sumptuous main hall seating 2,000 it hosts many prestigious productions from popular music to classical ballet to stand-up comedians.

The Webster Memorial Theatre, 64 High Street St, Arbroath 01241 435 800
www.webstertheatre.co.uk

This is a performance venue for drama, dance, comedy, concerts and music events. See website for more details.

The Abbey Theatre,

<https://theabbeytheatre.org/> Abbot Street, Arbroath DD11 1HH

This local theatre is run and managed purely by volunteers. They run several productions over the year. Located at the back of the High Street, beside a car park, tickets can be bought at the local jeweller or picked up from the door.

Cinema

Chalmers Film house, Queens Drive, Arbroath

Located on the dual carriageway as part of the night club complex at the edge of the West Links. This quirky cinema shows new release films as well as a variety of children's films during the day during school holidays. They are open from 11am to 11pm and have sofas and coffee tables rather than rows of seats making your visit a comfortable and more homely one. You can purchase food and drink onsite at a reasonable price and if you are hungry, there is a joining door to the Milimia Pizza House next door. Phone 07565 032020 for further information or book online at www.chalmersfilmhouse.co.uk.

Odeon, Dundee Douglasfield shows all the usual blockbusters and is about half an hour from here. All the screens have been recently upgraded to recliner seats with individual tables. Take the main road (A92) into Dundee turn right past Sainsbury's on the outskirts; follow the road past housing estates; go straight over the roundabout and it is on your right.

DCA (Dundee Contemporary Arts) www.dca.org.uk Tel: 01382 909252. An excellent arts cinema showing British and foreign films. As well as arts films it does show select popular films often at a slightly later date. There is a lively bar and restaurant here as well.

The thing here is that cinema going can be accompanied by a nice meal, some drinks and coffee rather than fizzy drinks and popcorn!

Kinblethmont Gallery

Occasionally, Kinblethmont holds exhibitions of contemporary and local art with paintings for sale on the lower ground floor of Kinblethmont House. If there is an exhibition on during your stay do feel free to come and look around and have some tea or coffee. The gallery opening hours are usually 11am to 5pm when there is an exhibition. See the website www.kinblethmontgallery.co.uk for exhibition dates. Tel: 01241 890204 for details on our next exhibition

Glamis Gallery – if you're visiting Glamis Castle why not pop into Glamis Gallery in the village which has a lovely mixture of artwork and jewellery. There is plenty of parking. Check out their FB page or phone 07739 463594 for their opening times which vary during the year.

Broughty Ferry

Broughty Ferry was once a small village and ferry port 4 miles to the East of Dundee. During the 19th Century, it developed into a wealthy residential area containing the homes of the wealthy Jute barons of Dundee.

Today it is a lovely destination approx. 30 minutes' drive from Kinblethmont. It has interesting little boutiques, art galleries, old fisherman's pubs as well as a blue flag beach, an esplanade and Broughty Castle. You may have seen it showcased in 'Bob Servant Independent' starring Dundee's Brian Cox and shown on BBC2.

There is lots of information on the Broughty Ferry website www.cometobroughty.co.uk but here are some ideas.

Pubs

There are several nice pubs in Broughty Ferry. The most atmospheric are

The Ship Inn and Waterfront restaurant

With bar meals on offer downstairs and a restaurant upstairs there is plenty of choice on offer for all tastes.

The Fisherman's Tavern Hotel

Main meals served daily from noon til 9pm from a menu to suit all tastes

It has award for the best selection of different beers in the UK and appears in a good beer guide.

There is an informal fiddler's music night on Thursday evenings.

10-16 Fort Street, DD5 2AD. Tel: 01382 775941

Restaurants

There are various restaurants in Broughty Ferry and in the better weather you will also find pavement cafes.

Sol Y Sombra Tapas Bar

Award winning restaurant – very popular so please ensure you book.

27 Gray Street, Broughty Ferry Tel: 01382 776941

Broughty Ferry Hotel

This is well known by the locals and the chef is known for his curries. They also offer a full a la carte menu in the dining room, bar lunch and supper menu served in the bar or conservatory, and a take away and high tea menu.

West Queen Street, DD5 1AR. Tel: 01382 480027

Vissochis

40 Gray St, DD5 2BJ Tel: 01382 779297

Authentic Italian café famous for its pizzas but which offers a full menu from baguettes or pasta to steaks. A children's menu is also available. There is also pizzas or ice cream to take away.

Beach

Nestled beneath Broughty Castle is an extensive sandy beach. The promenade provides direct pedestrian and disabled access at several locations. The beach is backed by dunes and provides views across the Tay estuary to the North Fife coast. There is a nature conservation site and a host of wildlife, including birds, seals and the occasional porpoise can be seen. On the beach you can find windbreaks for hire in the summer and volleyball nets are erected. There is a nice walk along the beach to the botanic gardens – approximately 1.5 km.

There is also a safe area marked out for swimming. Close by are an extensive range of leisure facilities including a museum, an excellent children's play area, a rock garden, cafes, bars, shops and restaurants.

Broughty Castle

Broughty Castle sits imposingly at the mouth of the River Tay. Built in 1496 on a rocky promontory, it has faced many sieges and battles. Today, it houses fascinating displays on the life and times of Broughty Ferry, its people, the environment and the wildlife that live close by. The Castle has magnificent views over the river, and is only a few minutes away from Broughty Ferry Beach and Esplanade. There is a gift shop and refreshments are available.

Admission is free

Boat Trips

You can take boat trips from Broughty Ferry in the summer months, either just to cruise or go for a trip that specialises in dolphin watching. Adult price of £15, children and concessions available

Check out their website for dates and times <http://www.taymara.org/tay-river-trips/>

or phone Tel: 01382 542516

Or take a Pirate Boat that also do regular trips from Broughty Ferry for Dolphin trips and sightseeing. See the V & A from the water <http://www.pirateboatsltd.com> or phone : 07931 231054. Also on Facebook

Golf Courses

Carnoustie

www.carnoustiegolflinks.co.uk

Choice of 3 courses and booking is advisable

Combination and concession tickets available

Caddy and Trolley hire available

Simulator bays available for practice and warm up in their indoor state-of-the-art performance centre

St Andrews

www.standrews.com

Choice of several courses, you will need to book well in advance for the Old Course.

Junior Fees available on all courses other than the old course

Panmure Golf Club

www.panmuregolfclub.co.uk

Buggy and Club hire available

Tel: 01241 852460 or 855120

Monifieth Golf Links

www.monifiethgolf.co.uk

A choice of 2 courses available

Phone for latest prices –discounts available for quiet times

Juniors and concessions available as is buggy hire

Tel: 01382 532767

Arbroath Links Golf and Artisan Golf Club Courses

www.arbroathgolfcourse.co.uk

See website for special offers

Discounts available for juniors and seniors.

Tel: 01241 875837

Montrose Golf Courses
www.montroselinks.co.uk

Choice of 2 courses
Trail Drive Montrose Tel: 01674 672932

Forfar Golf Club
www.forfargolfclub.com

Discount available for juniors and seniors
Buggy hire available
Tel: 01307 463773

Piperdam Golf and Leisure Resort – Near Dundee

www.piperdam.com

18 and 9 hole courses available
Dynamic pricing available if you can be flexible
Tel: 01382 585000

Blairgowrie Golf Club

www.theblairgowriegolfclub.co.uk

18 and 9 hole courses
Discounts available for online booking and day tickets available
Tel: 01250 872622

Swimming, Sports Centres, Horse Riding and Adrenalin sports

Arbroath Sports Centre

This centre has a nice swimming pool, squash courts, badminton and a gym. Call in advance to book squash/ badminton courts (you can also hire racquets and balls) and to check pool times as these vary throughout the year – they may also be able to tell you when the pool is least busy. Tel: 01241 872999. Check <https://www.angusalive.scot/sport-leisure/timetables/> for other keep fit classes you can join in on but booking is essential.

Red Lion Caravan Site

<https://redlion-holidaypark.com/seafront-leisure-centre/>

Although based on a site - on the main A92 Dundee to Arbroath dual carriageway, this small pool is also available to non-residents. As well as a pool there is also a Jacuzzi, steam room and fitness room and soft play area for little ones, an outdoor play area and an arcade area. The swimming pool runs learn to swim classes so check first for availability.

Tel: 01241 872038

Olympia Leisure Centre – Dundee

<http://www.leisureandculturedundee.com/leisure/olympia>

3 East Whale Lane DD1 3JU

Tel: 01382 432300

This is an excellent relatively new leisure pool with flumes, waves, rapid river, a dive pool and seated bubble beds. Great for letting off steam in wet weather.

Longer opening hours during the weekend and school holidays

It is not very well signposted yet but if you follow directions to the city centre as you go into Dundee, you will see the Gallagher retail park on your right - turn right at the roundabout just after that and you should see it there. It is attached to a multi-storey car park.

Tennis

There are 2 tarmac tennis courts are at the West Links complex which is on the A92 on the way out of Arbroath from the town centre towards Dundee.

To book or check availability call 01241 877748

The Leys Riding School

Find it on Facebook or Tel: 07813 989088

Leys of Boysack Farm, Leysmill DD11 4RP. Very close to here – from the bottom of the Kinblethmont road, turn right (away from Arbroath) when you reach the crossroads turn left towards Leysmill. It is at the first farm on your left.

Group and private lessons available for ½ hour or 1hr. You can also have a half hour/ hour hack. If you have a longer hack you can ride up to Kinblethmont and around if you say you are staying here. You may be able to persuade them to take you for a ride on the beach.

Pathhead equestrian – Kirriemuir

www.pathhead.com

01575 572173

Lessons and hacks can be arranged including hacks to suit family groups. Smaller groups and longer treks also available.

Rowanlea Riding School

www.rowanlearidingschool.co.uk

Group lessons lasting 45 minutes cost £20 (age 5+). Private lessons or smaller groups prices are available on request.

West Cotside, Barry, Carnoustie, DD7 7SA Tel: 01382 532536

Avertical World Dundee – Climbing Wall

www.averticalworld.co.uk

For the more adventurous, why not try out Avertical World in Dundee. Taster sessions, one to one coaching and concessions available. Children's parties also catered for. Check out their website for full details

Tel: 01382 201901

Blown Away – mobile outdoor experiences

<http://www.blownaway.co.uk/>

Although based in St Andrews, this mobile company can visit Lunan Bay if there are enough numbers. They undertake beach based activities such as land yachting, beach kayaking, stand up paddling, beach Olympics and zap cats for groups or families. Discounts available for groups.

Tel: 07784 121125

Foxlake Dundee – Aquapark

<https://www.foxlakedundee.co.uk/>

For Wakeboarding, paddleboarding and Ringo this park just opened in 2018.

See their Facebook page for special offers or phone 01382 214484 or email info@foxlakedundee.co.uk or book a session online

Highland Fling Bungee Jumps

www.bungeejumpscotland.co.uk

Located in Perthshire, this is Scotland's only permanent bungee jump from a bridge. Combine your day with other activities such as rafting, clay pigeon shooting, quad or bike hire (all these activities are also available on their own). Tel: 0845 3665844

Go Ape

www.goape.co.uk

The nearest located near Aberfoyle, Stirlingshire this tree top adventure site has Britain's 2 longest zip wires at 400m long each. You are 150 feet above ground and 90 feet above a waterfall. Closed from mid December for several of the colder weeks – phone them to check. Tel: 0333 331 7820

Sup2Summit

<https://www.sup2summit.com/>

Outdoor activity specialising in Paddle stand up boarding and rock climbing. Covers Aberdeen to Dundee and are happy to organise for groups in our area. Age 8 to 18, they are full insured and have appropriate disclosure,

Contact: 07841916345 or email Sup2summit@outlook.com for more information

Distilleries

Scotland is world famous for its Scotch whiskey. There are several distilleries that you can visit, some are a little further away but they can be reached via scenic drives that pass other places of interest on the way.

Fettercairn Tel: 0141 248 5771 (White and Mackay headquarters)

<https://www.fettercairnwhisky.com/visit-us/>

Established 1824. Tours of the distillery and warehouse. Audio-visual presentation. Whisky tasting - Fettercairn 12 year old single malt whisky.

Check their website for opening times.

Glenturret – Crieff

<https://theglenturret.com/>

Scotland's oldest distillery and home to the famous Scottish Grouse whisky is in Crieff, and its main attraction by far. Scenically set by the Glenturret Burn, with fine views of the surrounding Perthshire countryside, the Glenturret distillery has a long history dating back to 1775.

The large on-site shop stocks a superb choice of Grouse goodies including the famous malt. The personalised bottles are especially popular.

Tel. 01764 656565.

Contact them direct for details of tours

A visit to Glenturret would work well with a visit to Scone Palace.

Edradour – Pitlochry

www.edradour.com

Lying in the hills overlooking Pitlochry from the East, is Edradour Distillery, the smallest distillery in Scotland. Edradour is the last survivor of the long tradition of farmhouse distilleries, and its annual output of 240,000 bottles per year would emerge from the stills of a large Speyside distillery in less than a week. [Blair Athol Distillery – Pitlochry](#)

<https://www.malts.com/en-gb/visit-our-distilleries/Blair-Athol>

The Gin Bothy Experience in Glamis is well worth the visit if you are visiting the Castle. You can hear the history of the Bothy as well as getting to taste some of their products. Check their opening times as they vary throughout the year via their FB page or phone 01307 840979.

Fishing

Angus Country Sports at the Abbey end of Arbroath High Street sells rods flies etc and would be a good place to go for advice about fishing. They also sell permits for fishing locally on the river Lunan. Open Tuesday to Saturday 9-5 and Sunday 8.30 to noon.

You may also wish to try:

River Fishing

Bervie River

Salmon and Sea Trout

Permits from:

Mearns Hardware, High Street, Laurencekirk Tel: 01561 377471

South Esk River Montrose

Finnock, Sea Trout, Salmon and Grilse

Permits phone: Tel: 01575 574597

Loch and Reservoir fishing

Rescobie Loch, near Forfar

Brown Trout, Rainbow Trout (March – October)

Permits from:

Rescobie boathouse open 8.30am -10.30am, 4.30pm-6.0pm

Telephone bookings 8.30am – 10.30am Tel: 01307 830367 (boatman)

Lintrathen Reservoir, Kirriemuir

Brown Trout (April to October)

Permits from:

Lintrathen Angling Club

(22 boats and 2 “disabled” boats, Sunday fishing) Tel: Loch 01575 560327

Loch Saugh, Fettercairn – Drumtochty Glen

Brown trout

Permits from:

Fettery Shoppe

Laurencekirk Tel: 01561 340206

Monikie Reservoir

Brown trout

Permits from:

Monikie Angling Club

Tel: 01382 370300

Open from 4th March til 6 October

(Session times will vary so please check website <http://www.monikie-angling-club.org.uk/>)

Mill of Criggie Trout Fishery

Brown Trout, Rainbow Trout

Permits from:

The Mill of Criggie Trout Fishery, St Cyrus

Montrose

Tel: 01674 850868

(Tuition available by appointment, disabled access, rod hire for fly fishing)

See Angling

From May – September /October there are opportunities for booking sea angling at Arbroath Harbour; you will see the adverts as you wander around. If you call one of the numbers below you they will be able to add you to a trip – you can also organise a private hire if there are a few of you. It is great for adults and children of all ages to go mackerel fishing in the summer months – there is nothing quite the excitement of like dangling your rod over the side and pulling it up with several writhing fish on the end! There is deeper sea fishing for more experienced fishermen.

You may like to try

Inchcape Marine Services- Alex Smith

Mob: 07752470621

E-mail alex_arbroath@hotmail.com

Arbroath Angling – MV Ardent

www.arbroathangling.co.uk

David: 07543 005908

John 07919 400191

Arbroath Harbour

Tel: 01241 872166

Visiting in winter

Most visitor attractions are open until the end of December but some visitor attractions have a break between New Year and Easter. Don't worry there is still plenty to do! Here are some ideas

- Get blown about on an exhilarating walk at Lunan Bay
- Head to Dundee - RSS Discovery, Frigate Unicorn, Verdant Works, and McManus Galleries are all usually open all year (except Christmas and New Year public holidays).
- For a wild ruined castle, Dunnottar castle is open Jan- October – wrap up warm
- Stirling castle is a bit of a drive but is usually open all year.
- Visit a distillery, most are open all year and you will have a lovely drive with the snow topped hills all around.
- Eat out at The Old Boat Yard in Arbroath while watching the storm tossed waves and have a wander around the signal tower museum.
- Have lunch in one of the cosy pubs in Broughty Ferry while looking out over the river Tay.
- Visit the Montrose basin Wildlife centre and watch the overwintering birds.
- Arbroath Abbey is open all year.

Things to do in bad weather

Rainy Days

Angus is usually one of the driest parts of Scotland but it does still rain sometimes. Here are some ideas of what to do in wet weather.

- Head in to Dundee – the newly opened V&A, historic ships, Verdant Works and McManus Galleries are all good to visit in wet weather. For children, Dundee science centre is good as well as the Olympia leisure centre with its wave pool and flumes.
- If you don't want to go as far as Dundee, visit one of the pools in Arbroath or take the kids to Jumping Joeys or Wild Thyme café and paint some pottery.
- Glamis Castle and Scone Palace have plenty to see indoors
- Head out to one of the cinemas to see an art house film or a current blockbuster
- Cuddle up and watch one of our selection of DVDs or play one of the games

Misty days

As we are near the coast we are sometimes affected by the 'Haar' - this is a sea mist that comes in on some still, hot days in the summer. The best thing to do to escape it is to head inland as it will often be warm and sunny there if there is a haar here. Some ideas are

- Go to Glamis Castle - have a tour and a picnic in the Gardens.
- Head to Kirriemuir and go for a hike in the Angus Glens
- Drive off through the wonderful scenery to one of Scotland's famous distilleries

Windy days

The walled garden at Kinblethmont is very sheltered even on some of the windiest days

Things to do close to home

Sometimes you feel that you really don't want to have to drive very far. Here are some ideas of things to do all within a 10 minute drive

- Wander around Kinblethmont estate. There are lots of walks and a good view from the top of the track labelled 'Mast'. We have a new walk around the solar park with splendid views to the Angus hills– go up the track labelled 'mast' and follow the signs. You may see some sheep there as well. The walled garden is a lovely place to go – there are swings, garden games and table tennis there and lots of space to run around. Do forget to admire our lovely new gates!
- Get on your bike and have a cycle around the estate and on to Letham Grange and further if you like. Hire bikes through Angus Cycle Hub – 01241 873500 but make sure you give them plenty of notice. They can drop off bikes for you at Kinblethmont on request.
- If you are interested in renewable energy have a chat with Robert Ramsay – he will be delighted to show you our bio boilers for the cottages and grain drying – call me on 07928 601757 to arrange it.
- Go for a walk at Lunan bay – it is only 10 minutes drive away.
- Have a wander around Arbroath harbour and have some fish and chips
- Take a boat trip from Arbroath Harbour
- Visit the West Links play area where there is something for all ages – don't forget a towel if you venture onto the beach or take a paddle in the paddling pool

- Visit Arbroath Abbey – where the famous declaration of Arbroath was signed.
- Visit the Signal Tower Museum in Arbroath and learn about the famous Bell Rock lighthouse.
- Visit Pitmuies garden – on the left between Friockheim and Forfar
- Visit Dunninald Castle and gardens - open afternoons in July or earlier in the season for snowdrops and bluebells.
- Visit Kinblethmont Gallery if there is an exhibition on.
- Do visit Hospitalfield House if you are lucky enough to visit during an open weekend or for a tour.