

SCOTO Scottish Community Tourism Gathering

The Cairndale Hotel, Dumfries, DG1 2DF

Thurs 29 Feb 2024

TRAIN TIMES

Glasgow Central

Depart 07.07 Arrives 08.57

Depart 09.13 Arrives 10.58

8.30 - 11.15 Registration desk open

9.15 - 10.45

PRE-CONFERENCE WAKE UP WORKSHOPS

Taking place in The Dorchester, The Ante Room and the Empire Suite at The Cairndale
Up to 15 places per workshop

Empowering Community-Led Tourism:

▪ **Green Tourism and Collaborating with Your Local Climate Hub**

Join Russell Fraser, Loch Ness Hub & Travel and Steven Clark from the D&G Climate Hub to explore how you can work with your local climate hub to help address the climate emergency at a community level. Hands on re-use activity by EcoArt included!

▪ **Discovering Dark Skies in Your Community**

Join the team behind the month-long Wester Ross Dark Skies Festival and Elizabeth Tindal freelance dark sky ranger to explore what you could be doing within your own community to celebrate and enjoy the dark skies above you with locals and visitors.

▪ **Unlocking Scotland's UNESCO Designations for Community Tourism Success**

Scotland has two Biospheres. Natasha Hutchison from Wester Ross Biosphere and Esther Tacke and Marie McNulty from Galloway and South Ayrshire Biosphere will share their experiences of unlocking the UNESCO designations potential for community tourism, including a deep dive into the sustainable event charter and hearing more about Scotland's UNESCO Trail which profiles all our designations.

11.00 - 11.10

FINAL REGISTRATION

11.15 - 17.30

MAIN CONFERENCE

PRESS PAUSE – Recalibrating Scottish tourism to deliver for Scotland's communities and environment first

11.15 - 12.00

SETTING THE SCENE

Welcome from Mel Allen, SCOTO Vicechair and Chair of Galloway and South Ayrshire UNESCO Biosphere

Introducing the South of Scotland - Prof Russel Griggs,
Chair of South of Scotland Enterprise and Sponsor of
today's event

Our host for the day, Marc Crothall MBE, with a brief
update on Scotland Outlook 2030 and Scotland's
Tourism and Hospitality Industry Leadership Group.

SCOTO – TAKING TIME TO PRESS PAUSE

An overview of SCOTO's Press Pause and other activity
since Kingussie with Carron Tobin, SCOTO Exec Director

12.00 -13.20

A SOUTH OF SCOTLAND SHOWCASE

- Wigton Book Festival – Anne Barclay
- Spring Fling – Joanna Jones and Amy Marletta
- The Whithorn Way – Julia Muir-Watt
- The Stove Network – Kat Wheeler

PANEL DISCUSSION

13 .20 - 14.10

LUNCH

14.10 - 15.30

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Valuing The Third Sector's Role In Tourism
Iagan MacNeill, The Royal Society of Edinburgh

My Perspective On Community Tourism

- Kat Brogan, Mercat Tours, Edinburgh
- Russell Fraser, Loch Ness Hub & Travel
- Susanne Arbuckle, Go Girvan

15.30 - 15.45

COMFORT BREAK

15.45 - 16.45

COFFEE AND CAKE CONVERSATIONS

16.45 - 17.00

COMFORT BREAK

17.00 - 17.30

RECALIBRATING AND REFLECTING

- Recalibration in Action
- Reflections on the day
- What next for SCOTO, what next for tonight

17.30 - 18.00

NETWORKING

17.30 -18.30 **BIOSPHERE MEET UP**

18.00 Freshen up/Depart

TRAIN TIMES

Departs 18.38 Arrives 20.37

18.30 **Meet in the Empire Bar**

19.30 **THE GATHERING SUPPER**

21.00 Mostly Ghostly ghost storytelling with Kathleen

1 March 2024

Learning Exchanges

8.30 - 9.00 Meet and break into themed groups*

9.00 - 14.30 Visits

14.30 - 14.40 RENDEZVOUS
Meet up for carshares and onward travel

14.53 Train departs for Glasgow

***LEARNING EXCHANGE OPTIONS**

REF	LOCATION	THEME	VISITS
1	DUMFRIES	Creative Places and Community Cafes	The Stove and The Usual Place
2	THORNHILL	Community Hubs and Active Travel	The Old School Thornhill and KPT
3	MOFFAT	Outdoor Festivals and Dark Skies	Moffat Walking Weekend, Moffat Golden Eagle Festival and Moffat Dark Skies Observatory
4	UPPER NITHSDALE	Cultural Heritage and the Arts	A' the Airts, Crawick Multiverse and Museum of Leadmining
5	NEW ABBEY	Creativity and Food	Shambellie House and Loch Arthur Farm Shop and Cafe
6	ANNAN	Industrial Heritage and Regeneration	Annan Harbour and The Devils Porridge Museum