

Agritourism in Scotland



Selling farm food & drink direct



Days out & Experiences
Meals in a farm cafe
Sports/Activities
Farm Tours/Other Tours
Events & Event Hire



Short Breaks and Holidays

Scottish Definition

"Tourism or leisure on a working farm, croft or estate which produces food."

Sector also includes Farm Retail – Direct sale of food and drink





Real farmers
Real farms
Rearing livestock
Growing crops

Are the core of Scottish Agritourism

No fakes!

Go Rural brand is guarantee

Agritourism Sector Growth Strategy Launched Nov 2021

New Growth Strategy for Agritourism in Scotland https://www.visitscotland.org/news/2021/agritourism-strategy



Currently

Agritourism £60 Million

Farm Retail £110 Million (up by £50 Million during year 1 of covid)

Total £170 Million

2030 Target £250 Million

KPI's Wider Scotland's Agritourism Action Plan

The following are some of the key growth targets in the strategy

- 1. Increase sector value to £250 million by 2030 from £170 million (agritourism is currently estimated at £60 million and farm retail at £110 million). Potential to set a target for each
- 2. 1000 farms or crofts actively in agritourism (including farm retail) by 2030 including specifically 50 crofts in agritourism (currently 531 officially in total)
- 3. Visitor numbers to farms and crofts from estimated 1,598,948 to increase to 2 million by 2030
- 4. 50% of the 1000 farms and crofts will offer their own food or drink to visitors as part of an experience or a stay

KPI's Wider Scotland's Agritourism Action Plan

The following are some of the key growth targets in the strategy

- 5. Increased employment from 4000 FTE to 9,447 by 2030 (both family employment to sustain the family farm/croft and external employment)
- 6. Increase participation in Visit Scotland QA scheme from 34% to 70% by 2030
- 7. Increase participation in Green Tourism Business Scheme to 60% by 2030
- 8. Increase participation in being Travel Trade ready from 15 to 40 by 2030

Council Area		Count of Local Authority Individual businesses as at 31 October 2022
<mark>Aberdeenshire</mark>	<mark>22</mark>	<mark>24</mark>
Angus	17	18
Argyll and Bute	50	52
City of Edinburgh	4	2
Clackmannanshire	4	. 4
Dumfries and Galloway	60	60
East Ayrshire	7	7
East Dunbartonshire	1	1
East Lothian	18	16
Falkirk	5	5
Fife	32	35
Highland	83	84
Inverclyde	1	1

Midlothian	5	6
Moray	7	8
Na h-Eileanan Siar	15	15
North Ayrshire	11	11
North Lanarkshire	2	2
Orkney Islands	17	17
Perth and Kinross	47	49
Renfrewshire	1	1
Scottish Borders	45	46
Shetland Islands	8	8
South Ayrshire	10	10
South Lanarkshire	10	9
Stirling	27	28
West Dunbartonshire	8	8
West Lothian	3	4
Grand Total	<mark>520</mark>	<mark>531</mark>

Agritourism Sector Growth Strategy Launched Nov 2021

50% of Scottish farms and crofts to offer their own food or drink

Significant increase in

- Farm cafes/restaurants
- Restaurants with rooms
- Pop up food events on farm
- Farm tours/experiences + lunch/afternoon tea/dinner
- Visit numbers, green tourism/sustainability accreditation, profit/turnover, investment

Who is doing what to grow Agritourism in Scotland?

Implementation Board Agencies

Scottish Government
Visit Scotland
Scotland Food and Drink
Local Authorities via SLAED
HIE
Scottish Enterprise
SOSE
Crofting Commission
NFU Scotland
Scottish Agritourism (private sector)

PLUS other agencies named in strategy delivery

International Global Agritourism Network

Caroline Millar
Sector Lead Strategy
Implementation Co-ordination
Role – Working with others



Regional Level Agencies

Local Authorities
Tourism DMOS
Local Food Groups
Scottish Agritourism Destination Leaders
Crofting Commission
Others?? – vary by region?



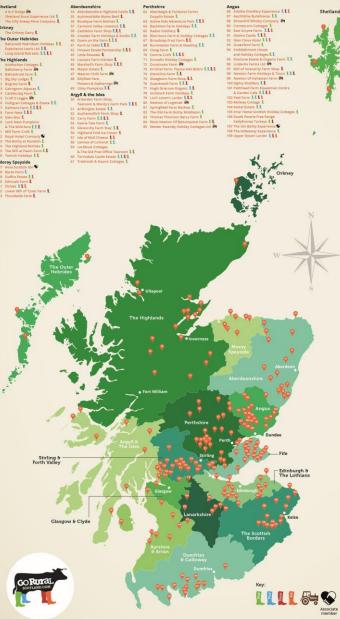
Destination Leaders





Go Rural Map





Some of the Aberdeenshire Businesses we are working with

- Aberdeenshire Highland Cattle
- Auchmaliddie Mains Beef
- Boutique Farm Bothies
- Carmont Valley Livestock
- Castleton Farm Shop
- Cowden Farm Holidays
- Down on the Farm
- Farm To Table/Westerton Farmers

Aberdeenshire Agritourism Businesses cont.

- Finzean Estate
- Little Rowater
- Louise's Farm Kitchen
- Marshall's Farm Shop
- Mayen Estate
- Mearns Chilli Farm
- Sillyflat Fare, Flowers and Gatherings
- Udny Pumpkins
- Forest Farm Dairy
- Aberdeenshire Sheepdogs



A key consumer focus to drive sales Christmas Campaign 2023 – Work has started now. Get involved.





Scotland's Agritourism Monitor Farms Programme 2023-2026

Scotland's Agritourism Monitor Farms Programme & Scottish Agritourism – what's the difference?

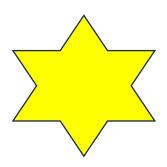




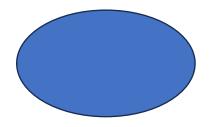
2014/15 18-month Agritourism Monitor Farms Programme



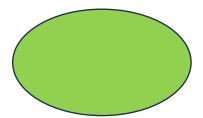
2019-2022 3 Year Agritourism Monitor Farms Programme



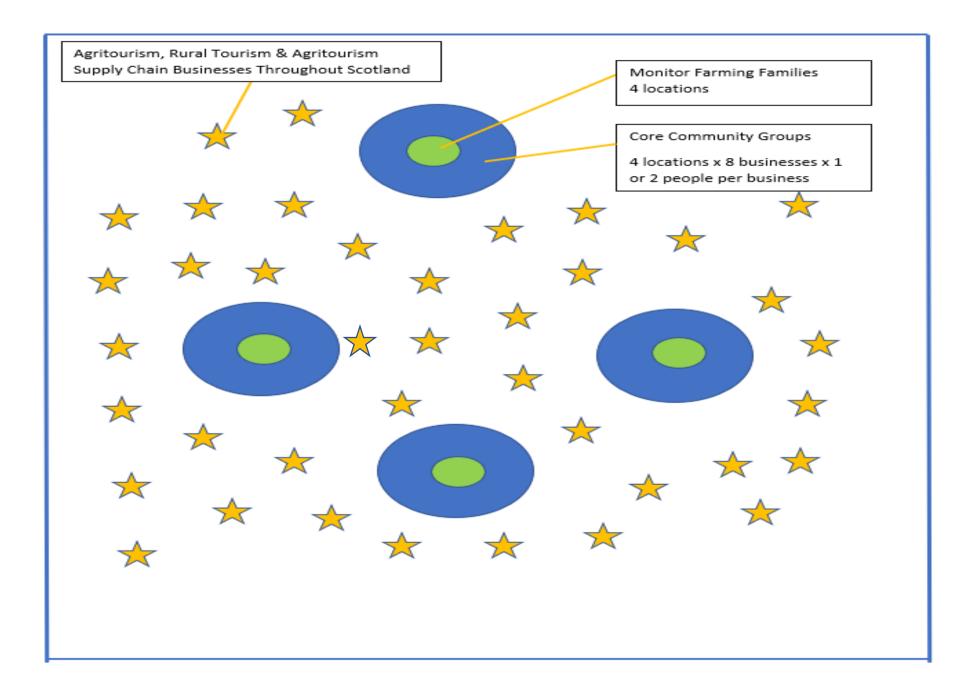
400 Businesses throughout Scotland

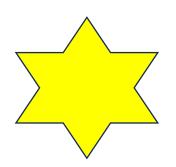


32 Core Community Group Businesses, 8 per monitor farm



4 Monitor Farm Businesses



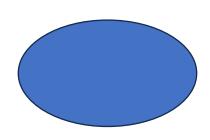


Pre agritourism
Current
agritourism/farm retail
Other Rural businesses

400 Businesses throughout Scotland

- 16 in person monitor farm meetings per year, 4 per monitor farm (you can attend as many as you wish)
- Regular online programme for oneto many webinars on key topics
- New entrant business start-up programme online over 12 months for farmers and crofters starting out
- International knowledge exchange with Tasmanian agritourism businesses online



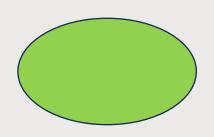


32 Agritourism or Farm Retail Businesses, 8 per monitor farm

- Increased one to one and group support from facilitator and experts
- Up to 3 people per business can take part e.g. multiple generations, key employee
- Visit to your business by the group to your business,
 with focus on improving your business performance
- Two-day community group away days per annum where all 36 businesses come together and work through benchmarking in "types" as well as on wider shared issues/opportunities







One in the HIE area
One in SOSE area
Two in SE area

4 Monitor Farming Businesses

- "On call" support/advice from Facilitator and team for 3 years
- One to one support from relevant programme expert/s
- Focused support from peers, particularly core community group
- Succession Plan in first 6 months
- Regular business reviews
- Increased profile for your business in the media, media training











CORE PROGRAMME METHODOLOGY – INNOVATION CORE EXPERTS

Mentoring & Supporting throughout the programme Restaurant, Farm Retail, Tours, Accommodation & Communication

CORE PROGRAMME METHODOLOGY – INTERNATIONAL LEARNING, TASMANIA



- More regular engagement with international group of agritourism businesses to share learnings, exchange ideas and bring outward focus
- Two open online sessions with Tasmanian agritourism/rural businesses per annum
- Two closed CCG & MF sessions with small group on more confidential basis
- Tim Parsons (pictured) is coming to Scotland in November 2023. Millie and Tim will lead on the Tasmanian knowledge exchange programme.

What types of businesses will be supported?



- All businesses must wish to improve their performance in some way e.g. profit levels, customer service, work/life balance, employee retention
- Not everyone wants to grow, but a commitment to improving performance, sharing knowledge with others, adopting fair work practices, adopting green tourism practices is essential and fits the ethos of the programme
- Staff CPD opportunity for businesses e.g. supervisor, manager

Monitor Farm and Core Community Group

- Taking business to next level
- Capital and other investment
- Growing turnover and profits
- Securing family employment, growing the pie
- Taking on more employees
- Committed to fair work principles or learning what they are and adopting
- Committed to net zero, sustainable businesses and green tourism
- Contributing to Scotland's Agritourism Strategy



PROGRAMME COMMUNICATIONS

Innovation -Delivery of outcomes. Training & Opinion pieces from MF's empowering Monitor and CCG. Case studies. Farmers & CCG to be proactive communicators and Registered to ambassadors for the receive sector and information. programme **Confidential**

Shared to all

To registered participants. Fact sheets, reports, expert notes.

Shared within CCG for example, or one to one with MF family.

Level	SUPPORTING BUSINESSES AT DIFFERENT STAGES OF DEVELOPMENT
1	Farmers considering agritourism. Other potential rural entrepreneurs interested in starting own business.
2	Start-up phase. In planning/build but not yet open.
3	Start-ups opened in past 2 years.
4	2 years old + A) Ready to scale up/add a different venture B) Operational but will stay micro
5	Mature businesses. Succession. Exit strategy.







Application Process

- Opens Friday 25th August
- Closes Monday 11th September
- Interview dates 3rd and 4th weeks
 October
- Monitor Farmers announced at the Agritourism conference 21st/22nd November
- Community group applications end of March 2024







Thank you

Caroline Millar, Sector Lead

caroline@scottishagritourism.co.uk