



LEARNING JOURNEY

Edinburgh to Aberdeen via Angus

Scotland Welcoming the World
www.globalagritourismconference.com


GLOBAL
AGRITOURISM
CONFERENCE
JUNE 2026 | SCOTLAND 



EDINBURGH TO ABERDEEN VIA ANGUS

Pre Conference Learning Journey

Mixing Farming | Luxury Accommodation | Farm Retail | Scale

A deep dive into how multi-enterprise farms are building resilient agritourism models alongside commercial agriculture in the East of Scotland's fertile land.

Host Farms & Attractions

[Guardswell Farm](#) | [Newton Farm Holidays](#) | [The Hideaway Experience](#) | [Castleton Farm Shop](#) | [Westerton Farm](#) | [Fettercairn Distillery whisky tasting at Westerton Farm](#) | [Port of Aberdeen](#)

✚ Includes an evening BBQ with farm produce, hosted by Caroline Millar, Scottish Agritourism Sector Lead at her farm, The Hideaway Experience/Balkello Farm.

Information

Start date

Sunday 21 June

Duration

2 days

Start location

Edinburgh

End location

Aberdeen

Regions covered

Perthshire, Angus & Aberdenshire



WHY BOOK?

Learning Journeys at the Global Agritourism Conference 2026

Each Learning Journey offers:

- **Tours of high quality farms, agritourism and farm retails**
- Handpicked farms, agritourism & farm retail businesses at the top of their game
- **Talks on farming enterprise as well as agritourism & farm retail operations**
- Extended time with hosts and peers
- Honest discussion of data, decisions, successes, failures & innovation pipelines
- Deep regional immersion
- Stunning Scottish landscapes
- Authentic Scottish cultural experiences
- **Exclusive behind-the-scenes business tour not available to the public as part of a regular farm tour**

What's Included:

- All quality hotel accommodation
- All transport on coaches
- All food and drink including evening meals, lunch, breakfast, coffee/tea breaks with farmhouse home baking
- One on farm evening BBQ event per tour
- A knowledgeable guide for your trip who knows about Scotland, agritourism & farming

Learning Journeys will only proceed subject to a minimum of 20 confirmed bookings per tour made by 6 March 2026

 **Book Now**



GUARDSWELL FARM

Perthshire

Guardswell is one of Scotland's **best known rural wedding and events venues**. As well as venue space for up to 200 guests, the farm hosts up to 30 overnight guests in a range of **eco-friendly accommodation**.

Hosts Anna and Digby Lamotte have been guardians of the **200-acre** Guardswell Farm since 2011. The **farmland is split 50/50 between grass and woodland** and is home to **Shetland cattle, Hebridean sheep, Shropshire sheep, Angora goats, apple trees and a market garden**.

One of the last abandoned villages of Scotland, Pitmiddle village, is located at the top of the farm, with the last person leaving in 1938.

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





NEWTON FARM HOLIDAYS

Angus

Newton Farm is home to a **thriving farm tour enterprise** with a range of experiences on offer including **Highland Cow safaris and alpaca walking**.

Seasonal lambing events compliment the **year-round tours**. The farm offers **farmhouse bed and breakfast and self-catering accommodation**.

Hosts Graeme and Louise are 8th generation farmers with 4 generations having farmed at Newton of Fotheringham as **tenant farmers** with son Scott also recently moving into the business.

The 500 acre land grow cereals, potatoes and peas and produces **Scotch Beef and Scotch Lamb**.

<https://newtonfarmholidays.co.uk>





THE HIDEAWAY EXPERIENCE

Angus

The Hideaway Experience provides **adult only luxury accommodation in 5 eco-lodges**, designed as **penthouse suites** on the edge of barley fields.

Most guests are staying to celebrate special occasions such as honeymoons and birthdays. Hosts Caroline and Ross Millar have been welcoming guests to the farm for 20 years.

The family farm **1000 acres** across three farms in the Sidlaw Hills in Angus producing **Scotch Beef**, **Scotch Lamb** and cereals including **malting barley**.

Balkello Farm is where the Scottish Agritourism office and team are based.

The Millars will host an evening BBQ for the combined pre-learning journey tour delegates on Sunday 21st June.

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





CASTLETON FARM SHOP

Aberdeenshire

Also on Angus Glens & Mearns Core Tour

Castleton Farm Shop and Café is **one of Scotland's most established farm café businesses**, opening in 2004. The farm retail offering and much of the café food is based on the farm's soft fruit harvest complimented by a great variety of locally farmed produce.

Anna Mitchell leads on the agritourism and farm retail business while husband Ross manages one of **Scotland's largest and most northerly soft fruit farms**.

Castleton Farm extends to **1200 acres** of arable and soft and stone fruit. The farm also grows arable crops, cut flowers, flax for fibre and manages woodland. **Biomass and renewable energy production** provides heated greenhouses and helps to manage electricity costs. **Over 550 employees** from all over the world work on the farm and many are housed on site.

<https://castletonfarm.co.uk>





WESTERTON FARM

Aberdeenshire

Also on Angus Glens & Mearns Core Tour

Includes a whisky tasting with Fettercairn Distillery.

Westerton Farm began farm retail in 2017 with a small, **honesty-based hut, "The Spud Hut"**. In April 2021 a larger farm shop opened selling a wider range of farm produce and local food and drink.

The agritourism offering includes **retail**, a small **farm café, events, "feast nights" showcasing Aberdeenshire produce** and an annual **pumpkin festival**. Westerton is **one of Scotland's four Agritourism Monitor Farms**.

Hosts, father and daughter David Gammie and Fiona Smith, grow a range of fresh **vegetables and cereals** on the **400-acre** farm. Visitors to the farm can **"pick your own" vegetables** all year round, including pick your own "tatties". Fiona's husband Doug farms next door producing **Scotch Beef** sold in the farm shop and enjoyed during feast nights.

<https://westertonfarmers.co.uk>



350 acres of spring barley grow each year at Westerton Farm. A proportion travels just **five miles to Fettercairn Distillery** (founded 1824), to be crafted into a **sought-after single malt whisky**.

Delegates will enjoy an engaging talk on the **whisky making process** and learn about the distillery's long-term commitment to source **barley exclusively from farmers within a 50-mile radius**, before a **guided tasting of the Fettercairn single malt**.



PORT OF ABERDEEN

Aberdeenshire

Northlink Ferries connect Aberdeen and the Scottish mainland with the islands of Orkney and Shetland.

This includes **handling many thousands of sheep, cows, horses and other livestock through Aberdeen Harbour each year.**

Alan Cumming who is in charge of the livestock lairage has years' worth of experience and many stories to share about this interesting part of Scotland's farming story.

This last stop of the tour in Aberdeen will give a **unique insight into island life and the logistics of transporting stock from the islands to mainland Scotland** and back.

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



TOUR ITINERARY & PRICING

Edinburgh to Aberdeen via Angus - Pre-conference Learning Journey

Sunday 21 June

- Collection in Edinburgh by coach
- Guardswell Farm, Perthshire
- Lunch will be provided at one of the visits or a local pub/restaurant
- Newton Farm Holidays, Angus
- The Hideaway Experience, Angus
- Evening BBQ with delegates
- Overnight stay in at Four Points by Sheraton, Dundee on B&B basis

Monday 22 June

- Collection in Dundee by coach
- Castleton Farm, Aberdeenshire
- Westerton Farm, Aberdeenshire
- Lunch will be provided at one of the visits
- Whisky tasting by Fettercairn Distillery at Westerton Farm, Aberdeenshire
- Port of Aberdeen
- Coach transit to Aberdeen & drop-off at P&J Live and airport hotels

Price of Learning Journey

- £550 per person based on 2 sharing
- £650 per person for single supplement
- Prices exclusive of VAT (20%)

Includes:

- Accommodation as stated in the itinerary
- Transport by coach (or equivalent) as part of the tour programme
- Meals and catering as outlined in the itinerary
- Knowledgeable & engaging guide experienced in Scotland's agritourism sector
- Visits, activities, and services as described
- Additional information and timings will be communicated in due course. Itinerary subject to change

Does not include:

- Travel to/from the tour start and end point.
- Your own travel insurance (which is strongly recommended)
- Personal expenses, optional activities, tips, or items not specified in the itinerary



Arrive early into Edinburgh on Friday 19 June and enjoy one or two days experiencing Scotland's largest gathering of farming life at the Royal Highland Show before starting this tour