



Not Going to Go There

An Outlandish Extra PDF

OutlandishScotland.com

A Novel Holiday Travel Guidebook

Outlandish Scotland Journey Not Going to Go There

Film Sites Not Included in our Travel Guidebook:

- Scottish landscape locations that cannot be found (with any certainty).
- Places you cannot visit (without a great deal of luck or special arrangement).
- Film sites that don't look anything like what was seen on screen.
- English locations too far off the Outlandish Scotland path.



Scottish Landscape Film Sites Left Out

Diana Gabaldon's first three novels are primarily set in Scotland. Thus, Scotland itself is a major character. In fact, the decision to film the *Outlander* Starz TV series in Scotland is widely considered a key contributor to the show's success.

According to Ron Moore, Executive Producer:

"I was pretty sure from the very beginning that to do the show right you would want to shoot it in Scotland, take advantage of the landscape and locations that were available to us here.

"In the very early days there were some conversations with the studio about 'do you want to look at New Zealand or look around the world and different places for tax reasons or financial breaks?' But we kind of quickly just settled on Scotland."

<http://www.scotlandnow.dailyrecord.co.uk/lifestyle/outlander-executive-producer-ron-d-6760110>

Diana Gabaldon also has spoken about her love of the Scottish scenery and how it plays a major part in the show.

"The photography is amazing, not that Scotland by itself isn't amazing, but the way they've photographed it. Ron (Moore) said from the beginning when he realized that we could film in Scotland—which is what he and I both wanted—that it must be as much a character in the show as any of the actual cast members, and it certainly is. It's just spectacular."

<http://www.scotlandnow.dailyrecord.co.uk/lifestyle/outlander-find-out-scotland-real-6424469>

Outlandish Scotland Journey, Not Going to Go There

All of the show's traveling scenes required settings that featured Scotland's diverse landscapes, such as majestic mountains, glistening lochs, misty moors, and ancient forests. Although the locations used to shoot such scenes are generally known—thanks to determined reporters and avid fans—no GPS coordinates are available to indicate the exact woodland clearing or hilltop (or the like) where filming took place. If you visited these locales, you could search for hours and hours, yet never be certain of having discovered the exact spot where an exterior scene was shot.

Tulloch Ghru is a perfect example of why there is no reason for you to visit such film sites.

All sources that cite Tulloch Ghru as an *Outlander* filming location agree that it was where scenes were shot of Claire being taken to Castle Leoch by Jamie and his clansmen in season one's first episode, *Sassenach*. Sources that provide a screenshot from footage allegedly filmed in Tulloch Ghru, however, often use one of the following images.



Look at the members of the party. Willie and Ned Gowan were not with them when Claire was captured (saved from Black Jack by Murtagh). Look at Claire's costume. For her trek to Castle Leoch with Jamie and his clansmen, she was wearing a tattered, filthy, cotton frock—made in 1945, by the by. Furthermore, she was riding with an injured Jamie, on *his* horse. The woodland travel scenes above are from episode 105, *Rent*, and were shot in a different Scottish forest. Below is a screenshot actually filmed in Tulloch Ghru.



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Basically, the Tulloch Ghru film site is a **wooded area in Scotland**, as is the *Rent* travel scenes film site. As long as you visit other wooded areas in Scotland—which you *will*—you’ll enjoy plenty of similar scenery. Thus, there is absolutely no reason for you to travel to Tulloch Ghru, or to any other woodland film sites.

Examples of Other Landscape Film Sites We’ve Left Out:

- Ardverikie Estate, Kinlochlaggan—riding with the redcoats to meet with the Commander.
- Cumbernault Glen and Loch Lannoch—miscellaneous outdoor film sites near the Cumbernault Studios.
- Flotterstone, Penicuik (outside Edinburgh)—scenes of the Cocknammon Rock ambush. [BTW: Cocknammon Rock is fictional. It was created with CGI. See our **You Can’t Get There From Here** Outlandish Scotland Extra PDF: <http://www.outlandishscotland.com/YouCantGetThere.pdf>]
- Gleneagles, Auchterarder—a field near the famous Gleneagles golf course was used to film battlefield scenes for Prestonpans.
- Loch Rannoch and Rannoch Moor, Perthshire—the Craig Na Dun set film site is here; it’s also where several traveling scenes for *Rent* were shot.
- Muiravonside Country Park—battlefield scenes for Falkirk and Prestonpans.
- Newtonmore, Highlands—the forest where Claire defies Jamie’s orders to stay put.
- Rothiemurchus Estate (Highlands)—where Claire sat on a log and contemplated her life while gazing out over a loch (another exterior *Rent* scene).
- Troon, South Ayrshire—beach scenes for the finale of season one.



One caveat about the Rannoch Moor, Perthshire, Craig Na Dun set film site:

As it happens, you *can* visit this site. And, according to those who have seen it, you’ll immediately recognize this lonely hill—even though the stone set pieces are no longer there. However! This site is next to impossible to find on your own. Thus, we do not include it in *Outlandish Scotland Journey*. To visit the Craigh na Dun film site, book one of the guided tours that include it.

Inverness Tours and Hugh Allison: <http://www.invernesstours.com/outlander-front-page.html>

Celtic Time: <http://www.celtictime.com/>

Other Film Sites Left Out

Barskimming, Ayrshire is a beautiful estate where scenes were shot of Black Jack Randall attacking Claire soon after she awoke in 1743. It also is where the ambush scene in season one's episode 13 (*The Watch*) was filmed, as well as many exterior scenes for episode 114 (*The Search*). Thanks to the several 17th century outbuildings peppering the property, parts of Barskimming also played the "villages" where The Sassenach and her highland-ting-dancing companion promoted their performances.

Sadly, Barskimming is a private estate. You cannot traipse around here, looking for familiar places.

Hunterston House, also in Ayrshire, is where 1943 interior scenes of Claire and Frank's room at Mrs. Baird's Bed & Breakfast were shot for season one, as well as the interiors of Reverend Wakefield's Priory for seasons one and two—likely parts of season three.

Hunterston House is a private residence frequently used for filming due to its age, size, and state of preservation. Even if you were able to arrange a special tour, however, the rooms used to shoot *Outlander* scenes look nothing like what was seen on screen. Each was stripped of everything normally found there, set dressings and story-appropriate period furniture were then added, all of which was removed after filming. Apart from the wallpaper and fireplace, Mrs. Baird's B&B room doesn't exist. Similarly, only structural elements of the Reverend's home remain.

Bamburgh Castle is located on the coast of Northumberland, England. It was used in shots of Claire and company approaching Wentworth Prison (prior to planning Jamie's rescue). Those shots, however, were significantly CGI-altered. Bamburgh Castle looks nothing like *Outlander's* Wentworth Prison. Additionally, it's much too far off the Outlandish Scotland path to visit conveniently.

Wilton House is a gorgeous English country house situated near Salisbury in southern England. As such, it is way off the Outlandish Scotland path. In *Outlander* season two, Wilton House was used to film interior—as well as a few exterior—scenes that took place at the Palace of Versailles. If you'll be touring southern England before or after your Outlandish Scotland Journey, however, this is a marvelous place to visit.

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

Sadly, we'll probably be adding to this list as subsequent seasons of *Outlander* are filmed. But, better to know what places *not* to bother investigating, so that you have more time for researching sites that can be visited.