

Welcome to Balmoral Estate

In the Cairngorms National Park



Described by Queen Victoria as “*my dear paradise in the Highlands*”, Balmoral Estate covers some 18,650 hectares of beautiful landscape in the heart of the Cairngorms National Park, the UK’s largest National Park.

Scottish Home of the Royal Family

- Scottish home of the Royal Family since 1852.
- Employment for 45 full-time staff and 150 seasonal staff.
- Managed mainly for deer, grouse, forestry and farming.

Land Management in the Cairngorms National Park

- The vastness of the National Park means different priorities for land managers across its 4,528 sq km...
- ...but like Balmoral Estate, most are trying to meet a variety of needs from farming to forestry, shooting to conservation and recreation.



Supporting a thriving economy and vibrant local communities

- Balmoral makes a significant contribution to the economic health and wellbeing of Deeside providing jobs and encouraging visitors to the area, as well as the rest of the Cairngorms National Park.



A special place that needs special care

- Balmoral is a very special place for the Royal Family but is also home to an abundance of rare and special wildlife, vital habitats and a place for everyone to enjoy.
- Balmoral is just one part of the special mosaic that makes up the Cairngorms National Park.

Special Wildlife of Balmoral Estate

- Capercaillie and black grouse, both rare species, can be found here.
- Also, golden eagles, scottish wildcat, red squirrels, osprey, mountain hares and ptarmigan.



Magical Moorlands

- Moorland dominates Balmoral and is managed entirely for grouse and deer but many other wildlife benefit from this special care.
- Moorlands are alive with life and at their most beautiful in August when the heather blooms purple.



Lochs, Rivers & Burns

- On Balmoral and across the Cairngorms National Park the water is pure, little has changed here since the Ice Age.



Cairngorms National Park

Scotland's Arctic

- A fierce but fragile place.
- No other place like it in Britain – a massive dome with bits scooped out a broad rolling plateau more like the arctic than the UK.
- Poor soils mean a harsh but vital habitat for unique plants, insects and animals.



A place to enjoy and get involved

- Balmoral Estate is closely integrated with the local community, helping and welcoming a variety of local groups as well as being popular with visitors.



Enjoying Balmoral Estate

- The Ranger Service looks after the Glen Muick Visitor Centre and provides information to 180,000 visitors such as safe routes, wildlife and enjoying the estate responsibly.
- Balmoral Castle & Gardens attracts around 60,000 visitors.

Enjoy the Cairngorms National Park

Enjoying the outdoors is good for you and in the National Park there is so much to do but this is a special place that needs looking after. Please be responsible, respect others, help land managers to work safely, care for the environment and keep dogs under proper control.