

The Snowball Rally 9th - 14th February 2020



It's back – by popular demand – The Snowball Rally 2020 is **go go GO** - **and we want you to join us in your 4 x 4!**

You'll be driving through some of the most breath-taking parts of Scotland including snow-capped mountains and shimmering lochs, through the Highlands on idyllic winding roads, taking you to stunning views over moorland, mountains and sea, through pretty fishing villages and beautiful countryside. Most of the time on near empty roads.

After a very leisurely day's driving in daylight, you'll be well placed to enjoy some dramatic sunsets over a glass or two. You'll indulge in delicious gastronomic delights each evening in some of the most comfortable hotels in Scotland, including some amazing castles where we'll be touching history and fine country houses, all set in the most magnificent surroundings. And, of course, it wouldn't be a Prestige Rally without a few surprises!





Overview Map

At this early stage, here's an overview map of the main route for the Snowball Rally 2020.

This route shows the major road connections between all of the hotels. These are the routes that we know will be kept open and as you will see includes some seriously spectacular driving

When the snowfalls have been light and more minor roads have been cleared there are even more spectacular routes we can take. So the next map will show these as our preferred routes and what you are seeing now are the major routes. The possible exception if the Spittle of Glenshee is closed is that from Culloden we may take the A9 which is a road that is always open and in itself is spectacular through Aviemore, Dalwhinnie and Pitlochry re-joining the route shown just North of Scone.

If weather allows we shall take a longer route going further North from Sheildaig to Culloden. And from Cromlix going into the National Park once again and along to Loch Venechar provides both magical scenery and stimulating driving

According to routes chosen and driving conditions, driving times varied from 2.5/3 hours to 4.5 hours, allowing lots of time for lunch, walking, driving "off piste" and getting to the next cosy log fire with time to relax and enjoy it.

We will be in touch day by day with the local weather and local councils. Each evening before or over dinner we will review both the easiest route and the most spectacular route for the following days driving. This is what we did last year, it was enormous fun and there were great stories to tell.





parts of Scotland in the snow. Lakes, mountains and stunning winterscapes.





Your first night...

Crossbasket Castle

Sunday 9th February



Steeped in history, Crossbasket Castle is packed with unique period features which have been restored to their original beauty. The castle grounds include a large stretch of woodland, extensive nature walks and a beautiful stretch of river featuring majestic waterfalls. A chance for some exercise before we set off.

Our first night dinner will be contemporary fine-dining. Overseen by the legendary French chef Albert Roux and son Michel Roux Jr, dishes showcase fare from Scotland's renowned natural larder with an added touch of creative flair from the iconic Roux team.





Isle of Eriska Monday



Today's drive takes us though The Trossachs National Park along the bank of the magnificent Loch Lomond, through Glencoe which featured in the last James Bond film and out to the coast near Oban which is worth the slight detour.

There's a certain magic about staying on a private island, and tonight you shall! The historic Isle of Eriska Hotel is located on one of the most beautiful stretches of the west coast of Scotland. You'll wake up to gorgeous views overlooking Loch Linnhe and the dramatic Morvern mountains beyond. You might even spot a grey seal or an otter or two, who swim in the surrounding water.

Open fireplaces dominate the ground floor, and this is the perfect place to cosy up in the winter with a whisky or two, or whatever is your tipple of choice!





Shieldaig Lodge

Tuesday



More spectacular driving today, coastal, and through the hills and valleys. There's one of the great fish and chip restaurants on the way too.

Shieldaig Lodge is a recently refurbished Victorian hunting lodge set in a 26,000 acre estate amongst stunning scenery of the West Highlands nestled next to Shieldaig Bay. With magnificent waterside views, log-fires, snug lounges this is Scottish hospitality at its finest. With over 250 specially selected whiskies, there is at least one from every post World War Two distillery in Scotland. But don't be put off if you don't like whisky – there's plenty more besides to enjoy.





Culloden House

Wednesday



A snow-capped mountain en route today a shimmering loch and our very own Burns Supper re-enactment this evening

At the time of the Jacobite uprising in 1745, Bonnie Prince Charlie used Culloden House as his lodging and battle headquarters prior to that fateful battle on Culloden Moor. You'll be able to wander about the woodland and private gardens and enjoy the exceptional peace and tranquillity of the grounds.

Weather permitting, we plan out own Battle of Culloden after breakfast on the front lawn – a timed snowball fight, probably between us and the waiters





Cromlix House

Thursday



Today's drive is truly spectacular, over the Cairngorm Mountains past the ski lifts and through the winter wonderland of another National Park. This is where the 4x4s really come into their own.

Tonight you'll enjoy another of the best luxury hotels in Scotland when you stay in Andy Murray's elegant Victorian Perthshire mansion. The hotel, which opened in spring 2014, offers guests the chance to experience the sort of decadent lifestyle once enjoyed by the Lairds of Cromlix, in sumptuous surroundings. For Andy, it was a chance to return to his roots but also to reinvent the glorious era of grand country house living; for you it's a chance to surround yourself in lavishness.





Malmaison, Edinburgh

Friday



Rather than take the direct route we'll hope to take you through the little roads to a magical loch with spectacular views where a café right on the banks makes a great coffee or lunch stop. If I'm over using the words spectacular and magnificent, you'll soon understand why when you do these drives.

The last night! A night of presentations, over-indulgence, and a few surprises! You'll finish the rally right in the heart of Edinburgh, overlooking the water, and enjoy the beauty of the city from the chic setting of the boutique Malmaison. Our Finishing Line Party ends the afternoon, and this evening we'll dine in one of the finest fish and seafood restaurants in Scotland – don't worry if you are not a pescatarian, there's meat and vegetarian dishes too!

The Malmaison is a good base for exploring some of the city's most popular attractions, including Edinburgh Castle, Princes Street, the Royal Mile and Holyrood Palace. Sightseers rejoice as extra nights can be booked.





What is included?

- Entry fee
- A-Z Comprehensive guide for the trip ensuring you'll be well prepared
- Six nights' accommodation in some of the best Scottish hotels inc. full Scottish breakfast (based on double/twin occupancy)
- Secure parking
- Pre-dinner drinks reception each evening
- Dinner each evening inc a traditional Burns Supper with Piper (haggis not compulsory!)
- Presentation dinner on the final night
- Decals for cars
- Clear itineraries, detailed directions and routes inc. maps
- Accompanying director and staff to ensure you have a 'Drive of a Lifetime!'
- A few surprises which you'll love, but we can't tell you about then to keep the element of surprise of course

The cost for 2 people + 1 car: £4250

