



self catering *with style*

## Information Handbook



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## Welcome to Airhouses

We are delighted to welcome you to our self catering lodges which are set in 633 acres of farmland at the north end of the Scottish Borders just half an hour south of Edinburgh in Scotland.

Airhouses is ideal for a relaxing break or as a base to walk, cycle, mountain bike, fish, play golf, explore the market towns of the Borders, spend time at the beach, visit Edinburgh or Glasgow or even venture over the Border into Northumbria.

## Around Airhouses

**Reception:** This is based at Airhouse Studios which is part of the farmhouse known as Airhouse. You can sign in and collect your key from the Reception. You will need a mobile phone number in case we need to contact you while you are at Airhouses and your car registration number.

**Car Parking:** There is car parking outside each lodge at the main door of your lodge, which is at the back of all lodges, apart from The Lodge. Access is on the level or via a ramp in the case of The Lodge.

**Farm Pets:** We have 2 pigs, 8 Shetland ponies and 3 alpacas. The pigs will eat virtually anything but we avoid anything with meat in it, particularly pork! We look on the pigs as vegetarians. The ponies are fond of apples, carrots and polo mints as are the alpacas.

### **Hot Tub:**

Each lodge has its own hot tub. Your hot tub will be sparkling clean on your arrival but may not be up to temperature immediately. There are separate Health and Safety Notes in each lodge relating to the use of the hot tub. We will show you how to make the best use of your hot tub on your arrival.

### **Heating:**

Heating is by Gas and is on all the time. Radiators and towel rails are all on thermostats and can be adjusted. The \* is the Frost Stat and 0 is off completely. It would be appreciated if you would turn everything down on retiring or leaving your lodge for any length of time.

**Appliances:** Instruction manuals for all appliances in the kitchen are in the bottom kitchen drawer and instructions for the Utility/Boot Room appliances are in the cupboard.

**Bathroom Plumbing:** Please do not put anything down lavatories as we are on a private septic tank which can get very upset if not used properly. We have provided bags for sanitary wear; baby wipes etc which can be put in the general rubbish. We would also ask that you do not use bleach or any strong cleaning agents which can upset the little micro organisms in the septic tank! Bathroom cleaning materials are in the cupboard in the Utility/Boot Room

**Wireless Internet:** Free internet access is available and there is no password required. It is an unsecured access.

**Check Out:** Check out is by **10.00 am** on the day of departure. We need this time for the cleaners to do a good job before the next guests arrive. We would ask that you leave your lodge in a clean and tidy condition - just as you found it. Towels, dressing gowns etc should be placed in the shower area or bath.

## On the Farm at Airhouse

### **Treasure Trail:**

There is a circular treasure trail which starts from the Totem Pole with the Owl. The final clue is around the base of the Pole. The route takes you down the back road from Airhouse and into the village of Oxton and along the road you came in on.

### **Children's Puzzle Trail:**

### **Ponds:**

We have recently added a number of flight ponds which are to encourage wild life and they are at three different locations on the farm.

### **Ponies:**

We have people who come two or three times a week to take our 8 little ponies for a walk. If you would like to help just let us know.

**Pigs:**

*Sophie and Jeannie just love being fed!*

**Walks:**

Lots of walks and information boards around the farm and leaflets, maps etc on walks in the surrounding area are in the lodges.

**Eating In:****Fine and Wild**

[www.fineandwild.co.uk](http://www.fineandwild.co.uk)

Tel: 07833 460 800

For picnics, meals, cupcakes or canapés

**Suzie's Suppers**

suzie@highridgehall.com - meals for the freezer or served ready to reheat

**CupCake and Cookies**

[www.cupcakeandcookie.com](http://www.cupcakeandcookie.com)

Tel: 07786 26 70 73

For an afternoon tea party or anytime really!

**Aromatic Cuisine**

[www.aromaticcuisine.co.uk](http://www.aromaticcuisine.co.uk)

Tel: 0845 388 5896

Goan cuisine - learn and dine. For 6 people or more, this entertaining chef will come and cook a spectacular meal for you and do the washing up! Learn to cook with a glass of wine and a very entertaining chef.

**Tesco Delivery**

[www.tesco.com](http://www.tesco.com)

Just book as usual but put in your lodge name followed by Airhouse, Oxton, Lauder TD2 6PX.

**Asda Delivery**

<http://www.asda.com>

## Eating Out

Just a few to get you started!

### **Restaurants and Pubs**

#### **The Tower in Oxton**

Tel: 01578 750380

Recently re-opened Pub with small restaurant - within walking distance (1 mile)  
They also do take-away food

#### **The Lodge at Carfraemill**

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

Tel: 01578 750 750 - Good food and welcomes children. There is usually no need to book except at busy times.

#### **The Black Bull in Lauder**

[www.blackbull-lauder.co.uk](http://www.blackbull-lauder.co.uk)

Tel: 01578 722 208 best to book for evening meals

#### **The Wheatsheaf Hotel at Swinton**

[www.wheatsheaf-swinton.co.uk](http://www.wheatsheaf-swinton.co.uk) – Tel: 01890 860 257. Award winning restaurant - lunches and dinners

#### **Burts in Melrose**

[www.burtshotel.co.uk](http://www.burtshotel.co.uk) – Tel: 01896 822 285

Good bar meals and excellent restaurant for a special occasion.

#### **The Town House in Melrose**

[www.thetownhousemelrose.co.uk](http://www.thetownhousemelrose.co.uk)

Tel: 01896 822645

Brasserie and Restaurant

### **Oscars Wine Bar and Restaurant in Kelso**

[www.oscars-kelso.com](http://www.oscars-kelso.com)

Tel: 01573 224 008 - excellent food and has an early evening menu

### **The Cobbles in Kelso**

[www.thecobblesinn.co.uk](http://www.thecobblesinn.co.uk)

Tel: 01573 223548

Bar and Restaurant – excellent food

### **Cafés**

#### **Flat Cat Gallery in Lauder**

[www.flatcatgallery.co.uk](http://www.flatcatgallery.co.uk)

Tel: 01578 722 808

Breakfast, light lunches, afternoon teas as well as gifts and gallery of local artists work

#### **The Terrace Café at Floors Castle**

[www.roxburghe.net/shopandeat\\_terrace.html](http://www.roxburghe.net/shopandeat_terrace.html)

Tel: 01573 225 714

Good Lunches and afternoon teas

#### **Main Street Trading Company**

[www.mainstreetbooks.co.uk](http://www.mainstreetbooks.co.uk)

Tel: 01835 824 087

Independent Book Shop with food and coffee as well as antiques and presents

#### **Baxters Restaurant and Visitors Shop in Selkirk**

[www.baxters.com/pages/ourstores.html](http://www.baxters.com/pages/ourstores.html)

Tel: 01750 724010

#### **Jammycoo**

[www.jammycoo.co.uk](http://www.jammycoo.co.uk)

Tel: 01835 870 537

Beautiful coffee shop in Lilliesleaf. As well as delightful cakes, homemade soups, you can look at local art and buy gifts to take home

## Locally

**Cash Point** - Bank of Scotland in Lauder

### **Shops in Lauder:**

Shaws Butchers for locally reared meat  
Williamsons Greengrocer  
Co-op at the garage in Lauder  
Lauder Pharmacy - Main Street  
Flat Cat Gallery and Café  
The Spotty Dog – Delicatessant

There are also lots of other little shops too.

### **Petrol**

The nearest is the Co-op Garage in Lauder. This is not always the cheapest and cheaper Petrol can be found at Little France in Edinburgh or on Seafield Road on the way to Leith in Edinburgh

### **Supermarket**

There is a small Co-op in Lauder but the larger supermarkets are in Galashiels or Dalkeith on the way to Edinburgh. Tesco, Asda and Marks and Spencer Simply Foods are in Galashiels and Tesco in Dalkeith.

### **Butchers**

Shaws in Lauder who have a great selection of locally reared meat

### **Delicatessen**

The Spotty Dog, Lauder <http://www.thespottydog.co.uk>  
Tel: 01578 722 09 Dedicated to supplying a fantastic range of local, and organic food, alongside continental specialities.

### **Doctors**

There are two medical practices in Lauder but for out of hours you need NHS24 on 0845 4242424.

## **Emergency Dentist**

Border Dental Enquiry Line - 0845 300 0930

**Visitor Information centre:** the nearest one is at Abbey House in Melrose on 01896 822283

## **Taxis**

### **D and D Private Hire**

Airports, Edinburgh, Borders

4, 6 and 8 seaters - 01875 820477 - [DD@privatehirecars.freeserve.co.uk](mailto:DD@privatehirecars.freeserve.co.uk)

**Toots Taxis** - 01896 750004

**R and D Taxis** - 01896 758808

## **Activities:**

### **Golf:**

The Scottish Borders has a great variety of golf courses and more information on each course [click here](#). The nearest course to Airhouses is Lauder Golf Course.

From March to October you can purchase a Freedom of the Fairways pass and information for this can be found at

<http://www.visitscottishborders.com/WhatToSee/Golf/FOF.aspx>

East Lothian and Edinburgh also have a host of golf courses. One of our favourites is King's Acre at [www.kings-acregolf.com](http://www.kings-acregolf.com) (Tel: 0131 663 3456. Their Fish and Chips in the Club House is good!

### **Mountain biking:**

[www.thehubintheforest.co.uk](http://www.thehubintheforest.co.uk) (Tel: 01721 721 736)

[www.7stanes.gov.uk](http://www.7stanes.gov.uk) (Tel: 01387 272 440)

**Leisure Centres and Swimming Pools:** There are leisure centres with a swimming pool at Galashiels and Kelso. There is a leisure centre in Lauder. There are numerous swimming pools in Edinburgh.

## ***Clay Pigeon Shooting:***

### **Braidwood Sporting Clays**

[www.braidwoodsc.co.uk](http://www.braidwoodsc.co.uk)

Tel: 01835 870 280

### **Dryburgh Abbey**

[www.dryburgh.co.uk/sporting\\_breaks/shooting.html](http://www.dryburgh.co.uk/sporting_breaks/shooting.html)

Tel: 01835 822 261

### **Roxburgh Estate**

[www.roxburghe-hotel.com/roxburghestate.html](http://www.roxburghe-hotel.com/roxburghestate.html)

Tel: 01573 450 331

## ***Shooting:***

### **Roxburgh Estate**

[www.roxburghe-hotel.com/roxburghestate.html](http://www.roxburghe-hotel.com/roxburghestate.html)

Tel: 01573 450 331

## ***Archery:***

### **Eastcote House Archery Centre**

[www.eastcote-archery.co.uk](http://www.eastcote-archery.co.uk)

Tel: 01450 870 008

### **Scottish Archery Centre**

[www.scottisharcherycentre.co.uk](http://www.scottisharcherycentre.co.uk)

Tel: 01620 850 401

## ***Fishing:***

### **Tweed Guide**

[www.tweedguide.com](http://www.tweedguide.com)

Fishing on the River Tweed - Wader to Rod, permit to fly, instruction to advice

## ***Bait Fishing:***

### **Markle Fisheries**

[www.marklefisheries.com](http://www.marklefisheries.com)

Tel: 01620 861 213

### **Allandale Tarn**

[www.allandaletarn.com](http://www.allandaletarn.com)

Tel: 01506 873 073

## ***Horse Riding***

### **Nenthorn Equestrian Centre, Kelso**

[www.nenthorn-equestrian.com/index.html](http://www.nenthorn-equestrian.com/index.html)

Tel: 01573 224 073

### **Borders Group of Riding for the Disabled**

<http://www.border-rda.org.uk/>

## ***Racing***

### **Kelso Race Course**

[www.kelso-races.co.uk](http://www.kelso-races.co.uk)

Tel: 01668 280 800

### **Musselburgh Race Course**

[www.musselburgh-racecourse.co.uk](http://www.musselburgh-racecourse.co.uk)

Tel: 0131 665 2859

If you haven't tried racing before, then this is a good place to start. Check out their [10 reasons to Come Racing](#)

## ***Wheels:***

### **Adventures on Wheels** in Melrose

[www.activitiesinscotland.com](http://www.activitiesinscotland.com)

Tel: 01896 822 452

They can arrange all sorts of activities for you

## **Knockhill Racing Circuit - Dunfermline**

[www.knockhill.com](http://www.knockhill.com)

Tel: 01383 723337

## **Ronnie Dale 4x4 off Road Driving**

[www.ronniedale4x4.co.uk](http://www.ronniedale4x4.co.uk)

Tel: 01361 840 244

## **Courses**

### **Photography:**

[Graham Riddell Photography](#) (Tel: 01896 830 915) – Walks and Tuition – Graham will take you a walk in the local area, or further afield. Discover the natural beauty of the area while learning to develop your photography skills. £35 per person/£10 for children for 2 hours with a 10% reduction for larger parties.

### **Machine Knitting**

[Carol Ann Designs](#) at Airhouse Studios

Tel: 01578 750642 One day course of machine knitting/Computer Aided Design using DesignaKnit. Cost is £250 per day including lunch.

### **Golf**

**Kings Acre Golf Course, Lasswade**

[www.kings-acregolf.com](http://www.kings-acregolf.com)

Tel: 0131 663 3456 and ask for Matt

Golf lessons for all levels at a reasonable cost

### **Cookery Courses**

#### **Goan Cooking in your lodge**

Learn to dine with a glass of wine! Bosco will come to your lodge and show you how to cook a genuine Goan meal over a glass of wine or two. Contact Bosco to book - <http://www.aromaticuisine.co.uk/cookery.htm> (Tel: 0845 388 5896).

#### **Edinburgh School of Cookery**

[Edinburgh School of Cookery](#)

Tel: 0131 333 5001

Day courses are run on a Saturday at Newliston which is west of Edinburgh and about a 40 minute drive from Airhouses.

**Airhouses at Airhouse | Oxton | Lauder | Scottish Borders | TD2 6PX**  
**Phone: 01578 750642 | [Email](#) | [www.airhouses.com](http://www.airhouses.com)**

## A little Pampering?

The following people/companies will come to your lodge by prior arrangement:

Lisa Rocket – [Colour me Beautiful](#) – 07956 328 993  
[Borders Body and Mind](#) 01578 722 727

## Business

### **Virtusec.com**

Georgiana at virtusec.com – virtual secretarial services  
[www.virtusec.com](http://www.virtusec.com)  
Tel: 07765 246124

**Colour Printing** with Duplex available at Airhouse Studios

**Wireless Internet** in each lodge

**Netbook or Laptop** available

## Attractions in the Scottish Borders

just a few to get you started!

[Manderston House](#) (Tel: 01361 882 636)  
<http://www.manderston.co.uk>

[Mellertain House](#) (Tel: 01573 410 225)  
<http://www.mellerstain.com>

[Thirlestane Castle](#) (Tel: 01578 722 430)  
<http://www.thirlestane castle.co.uk>

[Bowhill House and Park](#) (Tel: 01750 22204)  
<http://www.bowhill.org/>

[Floors Castle](#) (Tel: 01573 223 333)  
[http://www.roxburghe.net/floors\\_castle\\_grounds\\_and\\_gardens/index.html](http://www.roxburghe.net/floors_castle_grounds_and_gardens/index.html)

[Abbotsford House](http://www.scottsabbotsford.co.uk) (Tel: 01896 752 043)  
<http://www.scottsabbotsford.co.uk>

[Jedforest Deer Park](http://www.jedforestdeerpark.co.uk) (Tel: 01835 840 364)  
<http://www.jedforestdeerpark.co.uk>

[The Scottish Borders Donkey Sanctuary](http://www.donkeyheaven.org) (Tel: 01835 823 468)  
<http://www.donkeyheaven.org>

[Teviot Game Fare Smokery and Water Gardens](http://www.teviotgamefaresmokery.co.uk) – (Tel: 01835 850 253)  
<http://www.teviotgamefaresmokery.co.uk>

[The Scottish Borders Abbeys - Melrose, Dryburgh, Kelso and Jedburgh](http://www.discovertheborders.co.uk)  
<http://www.discovertheborders.co.uk>

[Lindisfarne – Holy Island](http://www.lindisfarne.org.uk)  
<http://www.lindisfarne.org.uk>

[Alnwick Castle and Gardens](http://www.alnwickcastle.com) (Tel: 01665 511 100)  
<http://www.alnwickcastle.com>

## Attractions in the Edinburgh area

[Edinburgh Zoo](http://www.edinburghzoo.org.uk) (Tel: 0131 334 9171)  
<http://www.edinburghzoo.org.uk>

[Royal Yacht Britannia](http://www.royalyachtbritannia.co.uk) (Tel: 0131 555 5566)  
<http://www.royalyachtbritannia.co.uk>

[Deep Sea World](http://www.deepseaworld.com) (Tel: 01383 411 880)  
<http://www.deepseaworld.com>

[Dynamic Earth](http://www.dynamicearth.co.uk) (Tel: 0131 550 7800)  
<http://www.dynamicearth.co.uk>

[Scottish Parliament](http://www.scottish.parliament.uk) (Tel: 0131 348 5000 – 0800 092 7500)  
<http://www.scottish.parliament.uk>

[The Edinburgh Dungeon](http://www.thedungeons.com/) (Tel: 0131 240 1001)  
<http://www.thedungeons.com/>

[Edinburgh Castle](#) (Tel: 0131 225 9846)

<http://www.edinburghcastle.gov.uk/index.htm>

[Camera Obscura and World of Illusions](#) (Tel: 0131 226 3709)  
<http://www.camera-obscura.co.uk>

[National Museum of Scotland](#) (Tel: 0300 123 6789)  
[http://www.nms.ac.uk/our\\_museums/national\\_museum.asp](http://www.nms.ac.uk/our_museums/national_museum.asp)

[Museum of Childhood](#) (Tel: 0131 529 4142)  
<http://www.edinburghmuseums.org.uk/Venues/Museum-of-Childhood.aspx>

[Palace of Holyroodhouse](#) (Tel: 0131 556 5100)  
<http://www.royalcollection.org.uk/default.asp?action=article&ID=36>

[Scottish Sea Bird Centre](#) (Tel: 01620 890 202)  
<http://www.seabird.org/home.asp>

## Useful Sites

[Outdoor Diary](#)  
<http://www.outdoor-diary.info>

[Border Events](#)  
<http://www.borderevents.com>

[Traffic Scotland/Weather](#)  
<http://trafficscotland.org/weather/index.aspx>

[Informed Edinburgh](#)  
<http://www.informededinburgh.co.uk/>

[Edinburgh Pass](#)  
<http://www.edinburgh.org/pass/>