

Visitors travelling in classic cars and other forms of historic transport have been considered by VisitScotland in the development of the Classic Cars Welcome Scheme which recognises the special efforts made by businesses to provide for them, and to help them choose suitable accommodation.



CLASSIC CARS WELCOME SCHEME

Scotland is often seen as an ideal destination for visitors with a passion for touring Scotland in classic vehicle.

Various clubs and groups, which include veteran, vintage, classic and thoroughbred, choose Scotland as the ideal location. Let's not forget the classic motorbike and scooter clubs too, who are also included. Dramatic scenery, attractive and open roads, a wide variety of visitor attractions and accommodation with genuine hospitality really make Scotland a must visit destination.

These vehicles are the pride and joy of the visitors who invest time and money lovingly restoring and caring for them. Sometimes the annual holiday is the only major outing of the year. It is important to them when touring Scotland that they feel confident their vehicle is safe and secure.

Providing a number of extra services and facilities will add to visitor comfort, enhance the experience and make touring Scotland by car or other forms of historic transport, even more special. Classic car tourists may travel individually, or with a group on an arranged tour, enjoying the scenery and open roads.

Visitors choose different types of accommodation from serviced to self-catering to meet the needs of their group or themselves. Visitor attractions, cafes, restaurants, pubs and garages are all important elements of a classic tour of Scotland.

Those wishing to apply for the Classic Cars Welcome Scheme should display a positive attitude towards classic car enthusiasts and a genuine desire to meet and anticipate their needs.

To become a member you must provide the following and your VisitScotland Quality and Tourism Advisor will verify what the required facilities exist when they visit or for non-Quality Assured customers a representative from VisitScotland may well arrange to come along and verify.

CLASSIC CARS WELCOME SCHEME FOR SERVICED AND SELF CATERING ACCOMMODATION

1. Suitable car parking (offering a degree of security – preferably off road and private).
2. Information on location and opening times of nearest garage workshop and repair facilities, particularly those who can assist with older vehicles
3. You should be able to offer a packed lunch or filled flask if required. Recyclable packaging to be encouraged.
4. Car wash facilities (on site or nearby). Water supply and hose to be available.
5. Use of car cleaning equipment (rags, soft cloths, old towels, sponge, and bucket) should be available, including use of car vacuum.
6. Access to electrical supply (consider having battery chargers available for use).
7. Some basic car maintenance tools available for guests use. (to include spanners, pliers, screwdrivers, insulating tape, etc)
8. Degrease hand wash should be available to guests on request.
9. You should have a supply of personal recommended tours including viewpoints, visitor attractions etc. available for reference. This can also include suggested Apps for Smartphones or GPS.
10. Ordnance Survey maps marked with scenic or interesting day tours, books and magazines should be available.
11. Information on location and opening times of local petrol stations.
12. Information on location and opening times of local car accessory shops (distance, if not nearby).
13. Free unrestricted Wi-Fi available.

FOR VISITOR ATTRACTIONS

Visitor attractions are a key element of a classic tour, most owners of vehicles want a leisurely sightseeing trip interspersed with activities and visits to various attractions, particular interests often being historic houses, castles and of course, motor museums.

In addition to a warm welcome Visitor Attractions should also consider the following.

1. With advance information and where parking is provided, visitor attractions should be able to offer reserved group parking for car clubs and groups of travelers. Group photo opportunities should also be catered for.
2. Some classic vehicle owners are restricted on luggage space and a postal service should be offered for any purchases made in the retail outlet.
3. With advance information, group ticketing and fast track entry should be available.
4. With advance information group catering facilities should also be offered
5. Where a group is coming from an overseas country, consideration should be given to providing guiding in their specific language
6. Information should be available on touring routes and other destinations, attractions which may be of interest.
7. Information on location and opening times of local garage facilities, both for fuel and repairs, particularly those that can assist with older vehicles.
8. Free unrestricted Wi-Fi available

FOR GARAGES

Garages are another key element of touring. all modes of transport will require fuel, some older vehicles are less efficient than their modern equivalent and will require more regular stops at garages to refuel, it is therefore essential that they are aware of garages en-route and also their opening times.

Whilst most owners of classic vehicles carry some spare parts there are times when they require the assistance of a knowledgeable mechanic to keep them on the road. Older vehicles of course used imperial and Whitworth measurements for their engineered parts and having a mechanic used to dealing with these vehicles would be invaluable.

Over and above the provision of fuel, this is more of an emergency provision, we are looking for garages to highlight that they would be keen to help out this specialist vehicle sector.

In addition to a warm welcome and genuine interest in their vehicle, garages and workshop facilities will provide the following.

1. Prioritise assistance to enable the owner to be back on the road as soon as possible
2. Refer to other specialists within the area, where particular expertise is required
3. In more severe cases where the vehicle cannot be fixed, assist owner in seeking local accommodation and liaising with their respective breakdown organisation.
4. Consider out of hours support