

# Walkers & Cyclists Welcome Scheme



Visitors with an interest in the outdoors and a concern for the environment have been considered by VisitScotland in our development of three schemes which recognise the special efforts made by operators to provide for them, and to help them choose suitable accommodation.

## WALKERS AND CYCLISTS WELCOME SCHEMES

Walking is the most popular activity undertaken by overseas and British visitors to Scotland. Cycling is an important growth area, with an increasing number of cycle routes being developed in Scotland.

Some visitors walk in the hills, some walk the long distance routes, some cycle the old drove roads, others use the excellent forest networks. Increasingly, visitors are encouraged to explore our towns and cities on foot or by bike.

Visitors who enjoy walking or cycling like to be made to feel welcome. They may arrive wet, tired or frustrated by a cycle breakdown. They appreciate having wet clothes dried overnight, the option to set off early in the morning without missing breakfast, or simply a welcoming cup of tea on arrival.

VisitScotland worked with the Mountaineering Council of Scotland, Ramblers Association, Cyclists Touring Club and the Scottish Cyclists Union to produce two schemes to meet the specific needs of walkers and cyclists in their holiday accommodation.

You can choose to become a member of the Walkers Welcome, Cyclists Welcome or both.

To become a member you must provide the following and your VisitScotland Quality Advisor will verify what the required facilities exist when they visit.

## WALKERS WELCOME SCHEME FOR SERVICED ACCOMMODATION

- 1 A separate space should be available for drying outdoor clothing and footwear at an ambient temperature of approx. 30°C, so clothes can dry overnight.
- 2 You should be able to offer a packed lunch or filled flask if required
- 3 You should be able to offer a late evening meal (available until 8:00 p.m.) if there are no other meal provider within one mile. A late night snack should be offered after 8:00 p.m.
- 4 Early breakfast option from 7am, or for very early leaver a tray the night before.
- 5 You should have a supply of local walking routes information available for visitor reference. We can supply you with a list of the walking literature available from your tourist information centre.

- 6 A hot drink should be available upon arrival
- 7 You should have information on local public transport services e.g. bus, train and post bus.
- 8 The daily weather forecast should be available.

## WALKERS WELCOME SCHEME FOR SELF-CATERING/HOSTEL ACCOMMODATION

- 1 As above. The following should be provided in the unit:
- 2 Information on the location and opening times of the nearest shops and late-opening eating establishment (and directions).
- 3 A supply of local walks information available for visitor reference (see 5 above).
- 4 Local public transport information (including post bus).
- 5 Telephone numbers for local weather links (directions to nearest phone box if phone is not provided) and radio frequency and times for local weather forecast.
- 6 Details should be displayed for local resource services including stating 999 phone number, as first contact is the police.
- 7 If not located in a named town or village, the Ordnance Survey co-ordinates should be made available.
- 8 Clothes washing facilities or location of nearest laundrette facility.

## CYCLISTS WELCOME SCHEME FOR SERVICED, SELF CATERING AND HOSTEL ACCOMMODATION

As for Walkers Welcome for Serviced/Self Catering/Hostel accommodation with the following amendments and additions:

- 5 You should have a supply of local walking routes information available for visitor reference. We can supply you with a list of the walking literature available from your tourist information centre.
- Plus:
- 9 You should provide a lockable covered shed for bike storage.
  - 10 Details of nearest cycle specialist should be made available.