

Visitors with an interest in biking have been considered by VisitScotland in our development of the Bikers Welcome Scheme which recognises the special efforts made by visitor attractions to provide for bikers, and to cater for their specific needs.



## BIKERS WELCOME SCHEME

Touring Scotland by bike is an increasingly popular activity. Many bikers enjoy the freedom of touring Scotland on a motorbike enjoying access to Scotland's dramatic scenery. Clubs organise tours and rallies and seek out suitable accommodation and Visitor Attractions, en-route.

Many bikers only use their cherished machines for holidays escaping the rat-race of daily life when they use other forms of transport. The image of a biker has changed in recent years and many bikes are now seen as revolutionary in concept and design with many prestige and individual models for sale. Biking is worth over £707 million in the UK (Mintel 2004) and has grown 48% in the last 6 years.

These bikes can be the "Pride and Joy" of the owner and they need safe secure parking and facilities for safe storage of gear whilst visiting attractions.

There are some additional facilities and services required to meet the needs of the bikers combined with a flexible approach and a welcoming attitude.

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 will arrange to come along and verify.

## BIKERS WELCOME SCHEME CRITERIA

1. Those wishing to apply for the Bikers Welcome Scheme should display a positive attitude towards bikers and a genuine desire to meet and anticipate their needs.
2. Designated parking areas preferably with facilities for securing bikes.
3. An area should be available for hanging wet weather gear. Drying area preferable. Dehumidifier can be used.
4. Safe storage area for helmets, rucksacks and panniers.
5. Visor cleaning facilities.
6. Packaging and postal services for goods purchased
7. Degrease handwash should be available to visitors on request.
8. Information on location and opening times of local garages specialising in bikes.
9. Information on location and opening times of local petrol stations and opening hours.
10. Display Safe Biking information where appropriate.
11. Free unrestricted Wi-Fi.
12. Having an awareness of local accommodation that is Biker friendly/Being able to signpost to the nearest tourist information point.