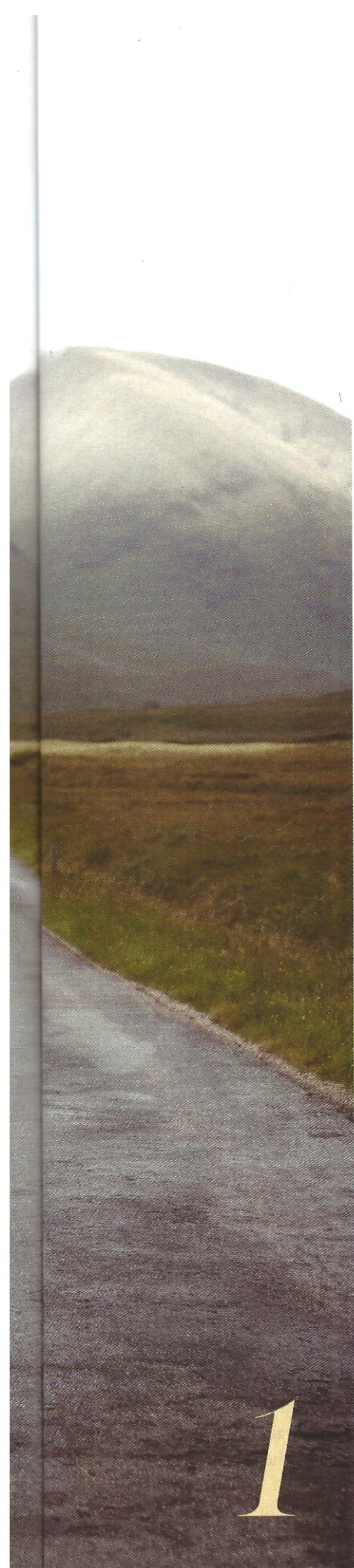


# TRIP OF A LIFETIME

*Morag Bootland and Rosie Morton uncover ten of the most exclusive and luxurious travel experiences available in Scotland*





1



### *1. James Bond Scotland Adventure*

If you've ever dreamed of racing through Glen Coe in an Aston Martin then Sandgrouse Travel's 'Dossier for M' experience is likely to be one for your bucket list. This very special 007 adventure in the Highlands includes private jets to take you to London's Langham Hotel from anywhere in the world, a seaplane flight to the Highlands, where you will stay for three nights in a private off-market castle with a private chef at your disposal. While on your mission you will work with ex-forces operators who will train you in the arts of demolition, safe cracking, sniper skills and the use of a variety of firearms. Expect helicopter lifts, RIB boat transfers, Land Rover Defender convoys and, of course, that Aston Martin drive through Glen Coe and Glen Etive. And if that's not enough excitement, you'll be fitted for a tux and given an OMEGA Seamaster watch and a bottle of Macallan 'Bond Edition' whisky.

From £75,000 per person.

[www.sandgrousetravel.com/itinerary/james-bond-scotland-adventure](http://www.sandgrousetravel.com/itinerary/james-bond-scotland-adventure)



## 2. Culinary Experience hosted by Raymond Blanc at Alladale

Raymond Blanc is undeniably one of the most influential chefs in the world. This exclusive experience gives foodies the opportunity to spend four days and three nights at Alladale Wilderness Reserve in the heart of the Highlands learning from the master. This unique break includes masterclasses and cookery demonstrations with Blanc, dinner conceived and cooked by Blanc, foraging, guided hikes around the 23,000 acres of Alladale Estate, a 4x4 tour, clay pigeon shooting, whisky tasting and more. And all of this while staying in the elegantly restored Victorian surroundings of Alladale Lodge.

Prices are bespoke to your break. [www.satopiatravel.com/experience/hosted-experience-](http://www.satopiatravel.com/experience/hosted-experience-)

## 3. A Golfer's Paradise

These are the sorts of memories that will stay with you until the day you die.

Ardfin boasts one of the most, if not *the* most, exclusive golf course in Scotland. In fact, it is already acclaimed as one of the best in the world. The 12,000-acre Ardfin Estate, based on the Hebridean island of Jura, was purchased by the multi-millionaire hedge fund manager, Greg Coffey in 2010. He wanted to build an 18-hole golf course to play with his friends and family in retirement, with the resulting course completed in 2015, but only being opened to the paying public in early 2020.

Only a handful of people have ever had the chance to experience it but if you can afford to hire the house you can play the course and join that VIP list. And if golf's not your thing, fear not – you can still go and experience the beauty of Jura, impeccable Scottish hospitality and lavish 5-star accommodation.

Renting Jura House is reported to cost a cool £20,000 a night, with a minimum of three nights for up to 20 guests, but individuals, couples or smaller groups can also opt to stay in one of 13 bedrooms in The Quads.

To rent Jura House costs £20,000 a night, for a minimum of three nights (up to 20 guests).



*4. A Fine Art Holiday*

If taking life in the slow lane is more up your street, this one's for you. Crinan Hotel, which is also a celebrated art gallery venue, has launched painting holidays for individual guests and small groups. The hotel is owned by Frances Macdonald, a renowned Scottish contemporary painter, while her son, Ross Ryan, is the hotel's resident artist. Under the guidance of Ross, who is a Gray's School of Art graduate, guests are able to tap into not only an abundance of materials and work stations, but also incredible views that surround the Argyll-based hotel. What's more, you'll be treated to boat trips on the MV Sgarbh, which was built in 1947 and is moored off the hotel, to see the Corryvreckan whirlpool and the Isle of Jura, where Orwell's most famous novel, *1984*, was completed.

Retreats can be customised to suit numbers, age groups and budgets, so your best option is to touch base with the hotel to explore the best option for you.

Tel: 01546 830261  
[www.crinanhotel.com/painting-holidays](http://www.crinanhotel.com/painting-holidays)

ABOVE: IAN RUTHERFURD / ALAMY STOCK PHOTO