

Welcome Mr Atherton To Your Big4in4 Challenge

Sunday15th - Friday 20th June 2025

Sunday 15th June - Arrival Day

Arrive at Edinburgh Airport ready to commence your Big 4in4 Challenge. Your guide Mr Kenny Carr will be waiting at arrivals ready to meet and greet you. Kenny will be your guide and accompany you over the next four days. Make your way north to Speyside. Check in to the 4* Craigellachie Lodge and spend the rest of your evening at leisure.

Overnight – Craigellachie Lodge, Double Room, single occupancy, on a bed and breakfast basis

Monday 16th June-Salmon Fishing On The Fabulous Tuchan A Beat Of The River Spey

Today, after breakfast, your guide, Kenny, will be waiting to transfer you to the magnificent Tulchan Estate. You will be fishing on the world-renowned Tulchan Beats of the River Spey from both the bank and if required, by boat.

Tulchan has been known for being one of Scotland's most prestigious fly-fishing beats for centuries. Your Tulchan A Ghillie will be waiting at the Fishing Lodge, ready to meet and greet you. Enjoy guided salmon fishing on the crystal clear waters of the majestic River Spey. After fishing, you will travel east to Royal Deeside. Check in to the Tor na coille Hotel and enjoy a dram overlooking Banchory.

Overnight – Tor na coille Hotel, Double Room, single occupancy, on a bed and breakfast basis

Fishing Transfer Time - 08:15hrs

The River Spey

The River Spey is one of the most world-renowned fly-fishing rivers and is situated in Scotland's whiskey heartland. Regarding salmon rivers and fishing for salmon, the River Spey is the one that ticks all the boxes. Every aspect of the river is perfect. From its size to its flow, this river, without any doubt, is the jewel in the crown of Scottish salmon fishing. The

River Spey is a true Highland salmon river and offers a unique challenge to the visiting angler.

The Spey is the fastest flowing river in the UK and is,, of course,, the birthplace of the world-famous "Spey cast." This river is set amidst some of the most stunning scenery in Scotland. The River Spey offers excellent spring and summer fishing and is a 'salmon anglers' paradise.

Tor na coille Hotel

Tor na coille Hotel is a privately owned Victorian Country House Hotel located in the village of Banchory on Royal Deeside. Set in acres of wooded grounds, this magnificent granite building enjoys an elevated position offering panoramic views of the surrounding hillside. The 25 individually styled en-suite bedrooms each have their own character and distinct charm enhanced by the period furniture and unique shape of the room, with the majority enjoying views of the grounds and surrounding countryside.

The lounge, with its large sofas and comfortable armchairs, is a great place to enjoy a coffee or a dram after a day on the river, and the Restaurant has a relaxed atmosphere in which to dine. The hotel is in an ideal location for your salmon fishing on the Crathes Castle Beat, which is only a short 10-minute drive.

Tuesday 17th June - Salmon Fishing On The Crathes Castle Beat Of The River Dee

After a good night's sleep, your guide will transfer you to the productive Crathes Castle Beat on the River Dee, where John, your ghillie, will be waiting, ready to meet and greet you. After fishing, your guide will take you south to the banks of the mighty River Tay. Crathes Castle is a prime beat that offers anglers the chance to catch large multi-sea winter salmon as they enter the river. The beat stretches for 2 1/2 miles of the left bank, immediately below Banchory and is situated within some of the most stunning scenery in the area. The fishing is home to one of the best luxury fishing huts on the River Dee, allowing visitors to enjoy their visit to the river in comfort and take full advantage of this beautiful riverside setting.

Overnight – Ballathie House Hotel Double Room, single occupancy, on a bed and breakfast basis

Fishing Transfer Time - 08:10hrs

The River Dee

The majestic River Dee is situated in North East Scotland, in beautiful Royal Deeside. The Dee is renowned for its good runs of hard fighting salmon throughout the season. It is most famous for its prolific runs of spring salmon, which run from the opening day of the season in early February through to June. The river has some of the best fly water in Scotland and is a must for any salmon angler to experience.

Ballathie House Hotel

The Ballathie House Hotel is set in a quiet seclusion in the gateway to the Scottish Highlands and offers one of Scotland's highest standards of luxury hotel accommodation. Initially built in 1880, Ballathie is now a privately owned hotel, which has been extensively upgraded with a comprehensive refurbishment program to befit a grand style building. The hotel offers a superb restaurant that serves excellent Scottish food made with ingredients that are all locally sourced. There is a fantastic bar in the Hotel, which is a very popular meeting place for anglers. The bar has an excellent selection of local beers and some rare Scotch whisky to sample. The Ballathie Hotel offers spectacular views over the River Tay.

Wednesday 18th June - Guided Salmon Fishing On The Fishponds Beat Of The River Tay

Today, you will be salmon fishing on the world-renowned fishponds Beat of the River Tay. The Fishponds Beat on the lower Tay is set amidst the stunning grounds of Scone Palace Estate. Resident Ghillie, Mr Simon Furniss will warmly welcome you. Simon has been a ghillie on the River Tay for over 25 years. His intimate knowledge of the beat and salmon casting ability has proved a real asset to his guests.

The beat boasts an excellent lodge with all the modern amenities you would expect, including a WC, shower, electricity and WI-FI internet access.

Historically, the name "Fishponds" was derived from two ponds built adjacent to the river in the late 19th century. These ponds were used to create a hatchery to rear salmon eggs as part of a conservation program. In 1852, the then Earl of Mansfield had the foresight to realise that salmon were a valuable resource that needed to be protected.

Fishponds is a productive lower Tay beat boasting twenty pools. It is a consistent performer throughout the season, as seen by the catch records. The pools are carried in character, with ample fly water.

Overnight - Victoria Hotel, Norham

Fishing Transfer Time – 08:15hrs

The River Tay

The world famous River Tay needs little introduction into salmon fishing circles. The River Tay runs through the heart of beautiful Perthshire and is arguably the most famous Salmon River in the British Isles. It is the longest river in Britain and is mighty not only in size but also in reputation. Annually, the Tay produces over 6000 salmon and grilse. The Tay still holds the British rod caught record for the heaviest salmon, weighing in at a colossal 64lbs.

The River Tay offers excellent salmon fishing in Scotland throughout the season. Even when the river is at its lowest levels, salmon will still run upstream due to its multiple loch fed

waters and general depth. The Tay produces fresh hard fighting salmon from opening day in January right through to October.

Victoria Hotel

The Victoria Hotel, located in Norham, is a charming establishment known for its warm hospitality and picturesque surroundings. Nestled in the scenic Northumberland village, the Hotel boasts beautifully appointed rooms that blend traditional elegance with modern amenities. Guests can enjoy a delightful dining experience featuring locally sourced dishes. The Hotel's prime location makes it an ideal base for your salmon fishing on the River Tweed. The Victoria Hotel offers a welcoming atmosphere and dedicated staff; customer service is at the heart of everything they do.

Thursday 19th June - Guided Salmon Fishing On The Tweedhill Beat Of The River Tweed

After a fun-filled few days battling the king of fish, the Atlantic salmon, on three of Scotland's big four rivers, you will be casting a line today on one of the most productive beats in Scotland, the Tweedhill Beat. An early breakfast has been arranged at your Hotel, and after Breakfast, Kenny will transfer you the short distance to the fishing venue. After your Big4in4 Challenge ends, you will travel back to Whitburn to collect your vehicle, ready to embark on your onward journey. After fishing your guide will transfer you to the Hilton Hotel Edinburgh.

The Tweedhill Beat, located along the picturesque River Tweed, is renowned for its exceptional salmon fishing. This stretch of the river offers anglers a unique experience, combining serene landscapes with the thrill of pursuing one of nature's most prized fish. The river's clear waters and diverse habitats create optimal conditions for salmon, particularly during the prime fishing season from late spring to early autumn. Anglers can enjoy traditional fishing techniques and modern practices while surrounded by the stunning beauty of the Scottish countryside. For novice and experienced fishermen, the Tweedhill Beat remains a coveted destination for salmon fishing.

Fishing Transfer Time- 08:15hrs

River Tweed

The world-famous River Tweed is the most productive salmon river in the British Isles. Anglers catch over 10,000 salmon a season from this prolific system. The River Tweed opens in February and the season extends until the end of November, making it one of the latest rivers to remain open in Scotland for salmon fishing. The Tweed is an excellent spring river that produces fish from the opening day until November. Perhaps the Tweed is most famous for its prolific runs of summer and autumn salmon, which draws people worldwide to come and fish this legendary river. The months of June through to October are all prime months

when usually there is an abundance of fresh fish caught. Salmon fishing on the River Tweed is an unforgettable experience that will make you want to return year after year.

Friday 20th June - Departure Day

This morning after fishing on all of Scotland's big 4 rivers, enjoy a relaxed breakfast before making your way via Edinburgh Airport transport to Edinburgh Airport ready to embark on your onward journey.