The Tour of Britain’s arrival heralds a spectacular September of festivals and events in Dumfries and Galloway.

The first Stage of the 2019 Tour of Britain finishes in the beautiful coastal town of Kirkcudbright.

Kirkcudbright is a vibrant artists town with many attractions for visitors. These include the new Kirkcudbright Galleries, Broughton House and many tourist favourites, such as Cream of Galloway located just a few miles away. The 7stanes trails at Mabie Forest, Dalbeattie Forest and Kirroughtree are within an easy 25 minute drive.

It’s the perfect place for a Tour of Britain themed long weekend (you can also catch Stage 2 which is a two hour drive across the south of Scotland in Kelso - Sunday 8 September).

Dumfries and Galloway has previously hosted the Tour of Britain 9 times.

This will be the first time the Tour has had a stage finish in Kirkcudbright.

Whenever you visit a warm welcome awaits you!
Dumfries and Galloway has

Something for Everyone

Dumfries and Galloway is a stunning combination of unspoilt coastline, rich farmland, clean beaches and towering forests. We are a temperate rural region in Scotland's south west. Dumfries and Galloway is characterised by attractive market towns, picturesque villages, rolling countryside and an enviable quality of life for our 150,000 residents.

Our area is a haven for cyclists, with hundreds of miles of quiet roads to enjoy and savour. The Stanes mountain-bike trails are world renowned, and cater for all tastes, from green routes for beginners to the most challenging black routes possible. You’ll find five of the Stanes here at Ae, Mabie, Kirroughtree, Dalbeattie and Glen Trool forests. Whatever your skills level, you’ll be refreshed and energised by a trip cycling in our forests, where adventure, peace and solitude exist in harmony.

Kirkcudbright is a thriving small port and an artists’ town. Artists have flocked to the town since the late 19th century to take inspiration from the Solway light, and to make a living by painting. There are many art galleries in the town, including the new public Kirkcudbright Galleries, which tells the story of the leading lights of the late 19th century artists, many of whom formed part of the Scottish Colourists movement. There are often temporary exhibitions on show too, in this attractive building in the middle of the town.

Wigtown, some twenty file miles or so away, has become famous as Scotland's book town. You’ll discover, if you haven’t visited before, that a multitude of charming bookshops line the village square. It’s a place where most people have time to stop and chat, for the pace of life is slower, and all the better for that. This is the part of Scotland closest to Ireland, in geography, architecture and temperament.

Dumfries, the regional capital, has an incredible literary history to seek out and enjoy, and Castle Douglas is a hub for artisan food in the region and Scotland. During the Tour of Britain weekend, it has its annual Harvest Food Festival taking place. Dumfries and Galloway has something for everyone!

Councillor Adam Wilson, Events Champion for Dumfries and Galloway Council

Further Information
If you are planning a trip to Dumfries and Galloway to take in the Tour, the following websites may prove helpful:

- Dgculture.co.uk
- Visitscotland.com/destinations-maps/dumfries-galloway/
- Kirkcudbright.com
- Forestryandland.gov.scot/visit/activities/mountain-biking/7stanes

In Dumfries and Galloway

We are serious about cycling

Our bike shop is the oldest and largest in the region. Our shop and coffee shop (Italian coffee) is open 6 days a week.
10-12 Academy St, Dumfries DG1 1BY
www.cycle-centre.co.uk

Studio VELO is a bicycle shop combining the best of bicycles, clothing and accessories, with good coffee, service and advice.
26-30 St Andrew Street, Castle Douglas.
www.studiovelo.co.uk

THE
FROTHY BIKE CO.

Cafe, bike shop & workshop as well as live TV coverage, we are the only place to offer in-store bike parking in south west Scotland. Open daily from 8am - 6pm.
Group ride out to watch the finish line in Kirkcudbright & back to Frothy.
77-79 Whitecands, Dumfries DG1 2RT
www.thefrothybikeco.com

Gorsebank

MTB Cabins & Bike Hire

Camping Cabins & Pods
Cyclist friendly, secure lock up, bike wash
Open all year
Located next to Dalbottie 7 Stanes
www.gorsebank.com

Galloway Cycling Holidays

Simply the best bike holidays in Galloway for road and gravel adventures. (Hybrid and E-Bike hire also available for daily rental)
www.gallowaycycling.com

Solway Cycles

South of Scotland’s premier Tiger Cycles and Fite helmets stockist. Parts and accessories, workshop services.
86-88 Annan Road, Dumfries, DG1 3EQ
www.solwaycycles.co.uk

Discover with us! - Guided and self-guided cycling holidays in stunning Dumfries & Galloway
Visit Dumfries and Galloway Council’s museums and galleries in south west Scotland. We are an area rich in history and with a vibrant artistic heritage. Visit our museums and galleries and discover why this part of Scotland is so special. Archaeology, natural history, costume, local history, rocks and fossils, historical photographs, traditional and contemporary art and much more.

THE ARMSTRONG GALLOWAY HILLS RALLY

Saturday 14 September
Castle Douglas and the Galloway Forest Park

The Galloway Hills Rally is a one-day motorsport event in the Galloway forests. It is the final round of the 2019 Scottish and British Rally Championships.

Wigtown Book Festival

Friday 27 September to Sunday 6 October

In 2019 - among much else - we will be looking north, to the epics of the Atlantic seaboard and Nordic regions. We’ll also be celebrating the power of conversation, exploring “This Farming Life” and marking the UN’s Year of Indigenous Languages. This year’s line-up includes Matthew Parris, Kirsty Wark, Alan Johnson, Kerry Hudson and Nadine Aisha Jassat. The full programme is released at the start of August.

Kirkcudbright Festival of Light

“Illuminaire”

Thursday 10 to Sunday 13 October

Following the hugely successful Festival of Light in 2018, Kirkcudbright will once again be tripping the light fantastic with Illuminaire – Festival of Light, a celebration of all things luminous. From lantern making workshops, light installations, a pop-up planetarium and light projections there’s something for everyone. Culminating in a lantern parade and spectacular firework display on the Saturday evening, the beautiful Artists’ town of Kirkcudbright will shine.
Essential spectator information

There are many opportunities to view the Tour of Britain in picturesque towns and villages in Dumfries and Galloway. Kirkcudbright, the stage finish is expected to host a crowd of 9,000 spectators to enjoy the race finale.

Parking in Kirkcudbright town centre will be extremely limited on Saturday 7 September due to the requirements of the Tour. An extensive car park will be in operation at the entrance of the town on the A713. Car parking will be free and shuttle buses will take spectators the one mile into town.

Please do use public transport or the car park on the A713 or ideally, bring your bike and get into Tour mode! Kirkcudbright Tennis Club will be transformed into a secure bike park from 10am to 5pm on the day.

Castle Douglas has a proud recent heritage of hosting Tour of Britain Scottish Stage finishes. The race goes through the town before heading for the scenic Solway Coast, and is a great place to view the event if you cannot make it down to Kirkcudbright for the finish. Castle Douglas will be a vibrant destination in its own right over the Tour of Britain weekend, as it celebrates its annual Food Festival.

Other places to enjoy a glimpse of the Tour include the pretty villages of Dalry, Auchencairn and Dundrennan and the race will pass close to New Galloway by Loch Ken.

dumgal.gov.uk   tourofbritain.co.uk   DGCulture.co.uk
eventscotland.org   visitscotland.com

The Tour of Britain Stage One finish in Dumfries and Galloway is managed and funded in partnership between Sweetspot Ltd, EventScotland, Scottish Cycling, Glasgow City Council and Dumfries and Galloway Council. The Council would like to thank the people of Kirkcudbright for all of their support and enthusiasm for hosting this event in their town and the Kirkcudbright Development Trust, Summer Festivities and James Smith Fencing for their work to make the event a success.