



INSCAPE RETREAT
DUMFRIES HOUSE
Ayrshire Scotland

Monday 2 - Thursday 5 July

Over time the fortunes of great families may fall as well as rise. Any fluctuation, however subtle, may put the material evidence of each generation's pleasure and prosperity at risk. Beloved family heirlooms may be lost: exquisitely-carved chairs, a bureau bookcase for the lord's attire, even the well-used dumb waiter sold, or the lesser pieces moved up to the nurseries. Very few great country houses survive with their original suite of furniture intact, let alone one with dozens of original pieces designed by Thomas Chippendale, the greatest Georgian cabinet-maker. Yet thanks to His Royal Highness Prince Charles, Dumfries House was miraculously preserved with its Georgian contents intact! Lift off the roof and within you will find bookcases whose exuberant crestings wind their way to the ceiling, card-tables so elegant they seem about to skip lightly across the floor, and chairs whose scrolled and time-worn mahogany arms wait beneath generations of distinguished portraits. Mirrors creep up the wall like climbing roses.

A veritable Aladdin's Cave of English and Scottish 18c craftsmanship, Dumfries House warrants one of Inscape's in-depth, four-day private country house study visits. Curator Emeritus Charlotte Rostek will inform us of the conservation techniques used at the House and the many challenges faced daily in its upkeep. Head of Communications Stephen Kay will provide an introductory tour of the key rooms of the house, Head Guide Alan Macdonald will introduce us to the Chippendale treasures, the biographer of Dumfries House Simon Green will tell its architectural story, and Head of Gardens Brian Corr will personally guide our garden visits. Each specialist will address us and escort us behind doors normally closed to the public. We will be shown the Adam brothers' original drawings for the house, and Chippendale's original bills for the furniture, as well as a carpet that was the first ever produced at Axminster. We stay in an exquisite annexe of the house itself, Dumfries House Lodge.

Monday 2 July

- 09.30 Suggested train from London Euston. Independent lunch on train
- 2.30 Train arrives New Cumnock for taxis to Dumfries House Lodge
- 3.00 Arrive Dumfries House Lodge and check in
- 4.00 Welcome tea served in Dumfries House. Introductory tour of House with Stephen Kay, Head of Communications
- 5.30 Return to Lodge for rest
- 7.00 Group Dinner in Dumfries House Lodge

Tuesday 3 July

- 10.30 Coffee
- 11.00 Lecture: 'The Restoration and Conservation of Dumfries House' by Emeritus Curator Charlotte Rostek
- 12.30 Group lunch served in Dumfries House
- 2.00 Dumfries House furniture tour with Alex MacDonald, Head Guide
- 3.30 Tea served in Dumfries House
- 4.00 End of day and return to Lodge
- 7.00 Group Dinner in Dumfries House Lodge

Wednesday 4 July

- 10.30 Coffee
- 11.00 Simon Green, Dumfries House historian lecture: 'Dumfries House: An Architectural Story'
- 12.30 Group Lunch in Dumfries House
- 2.00 Art in Dumfries House tour by Gail Gilchrist and Carol Drummond, Senior Guides
- 3.30 Tea served in Dumfries House
- 4.00 End of day and return to the Lodge
- 7.00 Group Dinner in Dumfries House Lodge

Thursday 5 July

- 10.30 Dumfries House gardens and estate tour with Head of Gardens Brian Corr
- 12.00 Group Lunch in Dumfries House
- 1.30 Leave for New Cumnock station
- 2.15 Train leaves New Cumnock station
- 7.09 Train arrives London Euston



INSCAPE RETREAT
DUMFRIES HOUSE LODGE
Dumfries House Estate
Cumnock KA18 2NJ 01290 429920

Built in 1750 and in use a few years prior to the completion of Dumfries House itself, the 'Garden Cottage', as it was known in the 18th century, became the Factor's house and remained so for over 200 years. Now called Dumfries House Lodge, it was officially opened by HRH The Duke of Rothesay, Prince Charles on 4th April 2012. Sitting on the edge of 2,000 acres of the Dumfries House estate a few hundred metres from Dumfries House itself, Dumfries House Lodge is an exclusive 5 star country Guest House offering luxury accommodation. Manned by a small unique team during the day, guests are left to enjoy the Lodge at their own leisure once the last guest has arrived and been settled in by the Lodge staff. Each of the 22 en suite Guest Rooms has been individually styled with complete comfort in mind and feature carefully selected antique pieces and artwork.

£1395 members, £1445 non-members, Single Room Supplement £95, Deposit £300, including three nights accommodation all breakfasts, all lunches and dinners, all lectures, all private visits, entries and tours, all coffees and teas, all minibuses and taxi travel during the tour, VAT and gratuities. Excludes travel to and from New Cumnock.