



### FLYING WITH YOUR GUN Some useful tips for your journey

- All airlines have different rules with regards to travelling with your gun – some airlines impose additional restrictions and charges, check this directly with the airline before making your booking.
- When making your booking you must confirm in all cases that you are travelling with a gun.
- Prior to travelling check the airlines website and read carefully the rules for accepting and handling checked firearms – where possible print out these rules and keep them with you when travelling in case you incur a problem when checking in for your flight.
- Checked firearms must be packed separately from everything else in a locked hard case, and be partially disassembled – only you may have the key.
- All airlines have a CAA imposed 5kg limit for the transport of cartridges per passenger.
- New guidelines seem to suggest that wooden or metal locked containers are necessary for ammunition.

## DEER

SPECIES	SEX	SEASON
Red	Stags	July 1st - October 20th
	Hinds	October 21st - February 15th
Fallow	Bucks	August 1st - April 30th
	Does	October 21st - February 15th
Sika	Stags	July 1st - October 20th
	Hinds	October 21st - February 15th
Roe	Bucks	April 1st - October 20th
	Does	October 21st - March 31st
Red/Sika Hybrids	Stags	July 1st - October 20th
	Hinds	October 21st - February 15th

## BIRDS

SPECIES	SEASON
Pheasant	October 1st - February 1st
Partridge	September 1st - February 1st
Grouse	August 12th - December 10th
Ptarmigan	August 12th - December 10th
Blackgame	August 20th - December 10th
Common Snipe	August 12th - January 31st
Woodcock	September 1st - January 31st
Duck & Goose (Inland)	September 1st - January 31st
Duck & Goose (Below the high water mark of ordinary spring tides)	September 1st - February 20th
Golden Plover	September 1st - January 31st
Hare	Moorland and unenclosed land subject to closed season.

Duck and geese species that may be shot in Scotland are: Gadwall, Golden Eye, Pintail, Pochard, Shoveler, Wigeon, Tufted, Mallard, Teal, Greylag, Pinkfoot.

Control of pest birds such as the woodpigeon, magpies and crows must comply with the general license issued in Scotland. It is extremely important that you read the licenses and abide by their terms and conditions.



Realising the potential of Scotland's country sports tourism

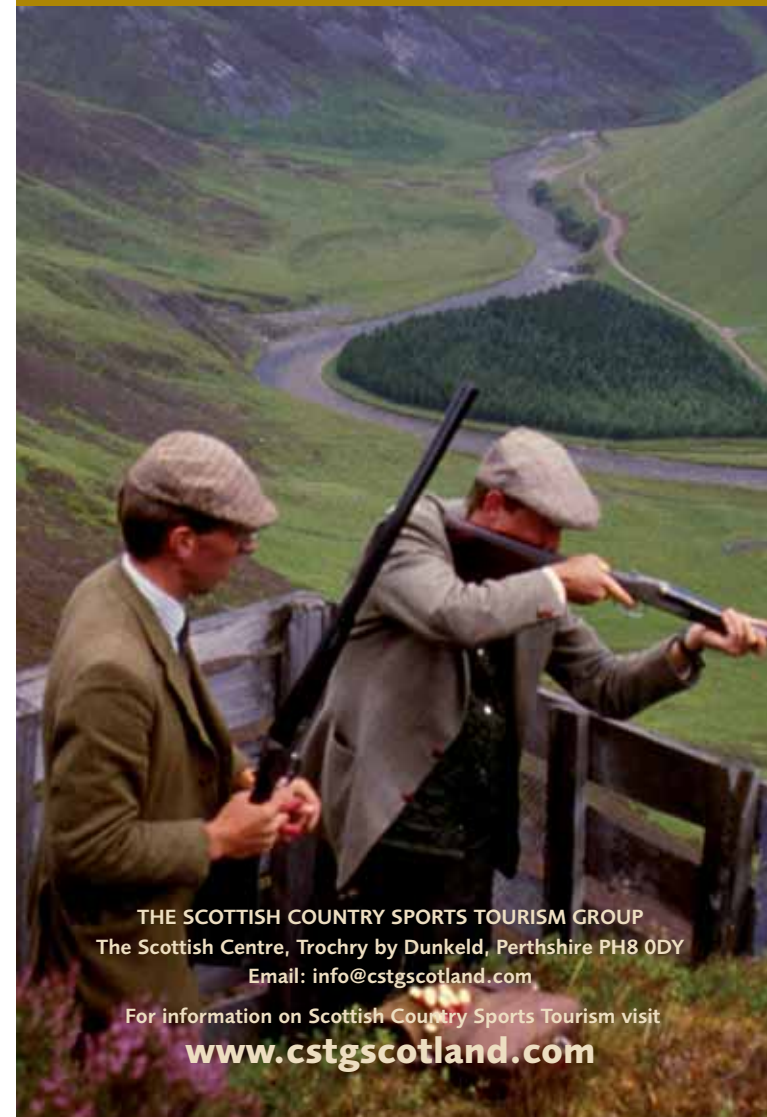
#### AIRLINE WEBSITES

Bmi – [www.flybmi.com](http://www.flybmi.com)  
 British Airways – [www.britishairways.com](http://www.britishairways.com)  
 (check carefully as some routes do not carry guns)  
 Easyjet – [www.easyjet.com](http://www.easyjet.com)  
 Flybe – [www.flybe.com](http://www.flybe.com)  
 Virgin Atlantic – [www.virgin-atlantic.com](http://www.virgin-atlantic.com)  
 South African Airways – [www.flysaa.com](http://www.flysaa.com)  
 Globespan – [www.flyglobespan.com](http://www.flyglobespan.com)  
 Emirates – [www.emirates.com](http://www.emirates.com)



# SCOTLAND

A UNIQUE COUNTRY SPORTS DESTINATION



THE SCOTTISH COUNTRY SPORTS TOURISM GROUP  
 The Scottish Centre, Trochry by Dunkeld, Perthshire PH8 0DY  
 Email: [info@cstgscotland.com](mailto:info@cstgscotland.com)

For information on Scottish Country Sports Tourism visit

[www.cstgscotland.com](http://www.cstgscotland.com)

**GUIDANCE ON BRINGING  
YOUR FIREARM OR SHOTGUN  
TO SCOTLAND**

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# SCOTLAND

A UNIQUE COUNTRY SPORTS DESTINATION

## INTRODUCTION

We hope you will find the following information useful when arranging your shooting or stalking holiday to Scotland. For further advice please contact the relevant Scottish Police Firearms Licensing Department.

Tel : +44 (0)1786 456000  
[www.centralscotland.police.uk/contact/form.php](http://www.centralscotland.police.uk/contact/form.php)



Visitors to Scotland (and the rest of the UK) may only bring their firearm (rifle) or shotgun with them if they have in their possession a Firearm or Shotgun Permit. Such permits can be valid for up to 12 months but it is more common that these permits are limited to the length of the visit. The general rules and conditions which apply to the grant of a Firearm or Shotgun Permit are:

- An application for a UK Visitor Permit must be made to the police by a person resident in that area on behalf of you, the visitor. This is normally done by your host, sporting agent or a friend in Scotland. (Group applications are cheaper and may be made on behalf of up to 20 visitors provided they are all hunting on the same premises during the same period.)
- Applications must be made at least 28 days before the planned visit.
- Residents of EU Member States must be in possession of a European Firearms Pass. The original EFP has to be forwarded with the application for a UK permit.
- An applicant for any visitor's permit must show good reason for possessing, purchasing or acquiring each firearm or shotgun.
- For those not resident in an EU Member State applications should be accompanied by the original, or a copy of, any hunting or firearms licences held in his or her own country as well as evidence of an invitation to shoot in Scotland.
- Entry into Scotland, or any other part of the UK, will not be allowed unless the hunter has a valid UK Permit. A European Firearms Pass on its own will not suffice.
- Each Permit costs £12.00, though a group permit will cost no more than £60.00.

## UK FIREARMS PERMIT

This is the permit for the possession (but not purchase) of a firearm such as a hunting rifle, as well as allowing the acquisition or purchase of ammunition. The firearm(s) must be listed on the Permit and the quantities of ammunition to be purchased, acquired and held must also be listed. The conditions of use of the rifle will also be listed and must be complied with. If the visitor needs to use expanding ammunition (a legal requirement for all deer stalking) this must be included on the permit.

## UK SHOTGUN PERMIT

This is the permit that allows the possession, purchase and acquisition of shotguns and ammunition. In the UK, this permit would authorise most shotguns, including side-by-side and over-and-under shotguns as well as semi-automatic shotguns with a magazine capacity of two or less. (Semi-automatic shotguns with a larger magazine capacity are rarely used for hunting in Scotland and would only be authorised by a UK Firearms permit.) No territorial restrictions are placed on a Shotgun Permit, meaning that the shotgun can be used on any hunting ground in Scotland as long as the visitor has permission to hunt there.



## SHOOTING IN SCOTLAND – Borrowing a shotgun or a firearm

It is possible for a hunter to come to Scotland and to hunt with a borrowed shotgun or a borrowed rifle. This avoids the need to apply for a UK Visitors Permit.

It is only permitted to borrow a shotgun from the owner or occupier of private land and to use that shotgun 'in the presence of' the owner or occupier. This is rather restrictive and most hunters wishing to hunt with a shotgun would apply for a permit and bring their own shotgun. However, some sporting agents and estates may be able to arrange for visitors to borrow a shotgun.

For deer stalking with a rifle most estates will be able to arrange for visiting hunters to borrow what is known as the 'estate rifle' and to use that rifle while in the presence of the owner or in the presence of his employee, such as the gamekeeper or professional stalker. This is a common occurrence but it is important to check with your sporting agent or your host that a suitable rifle is available. It is also important to note that this is not available to those aged under 17.

