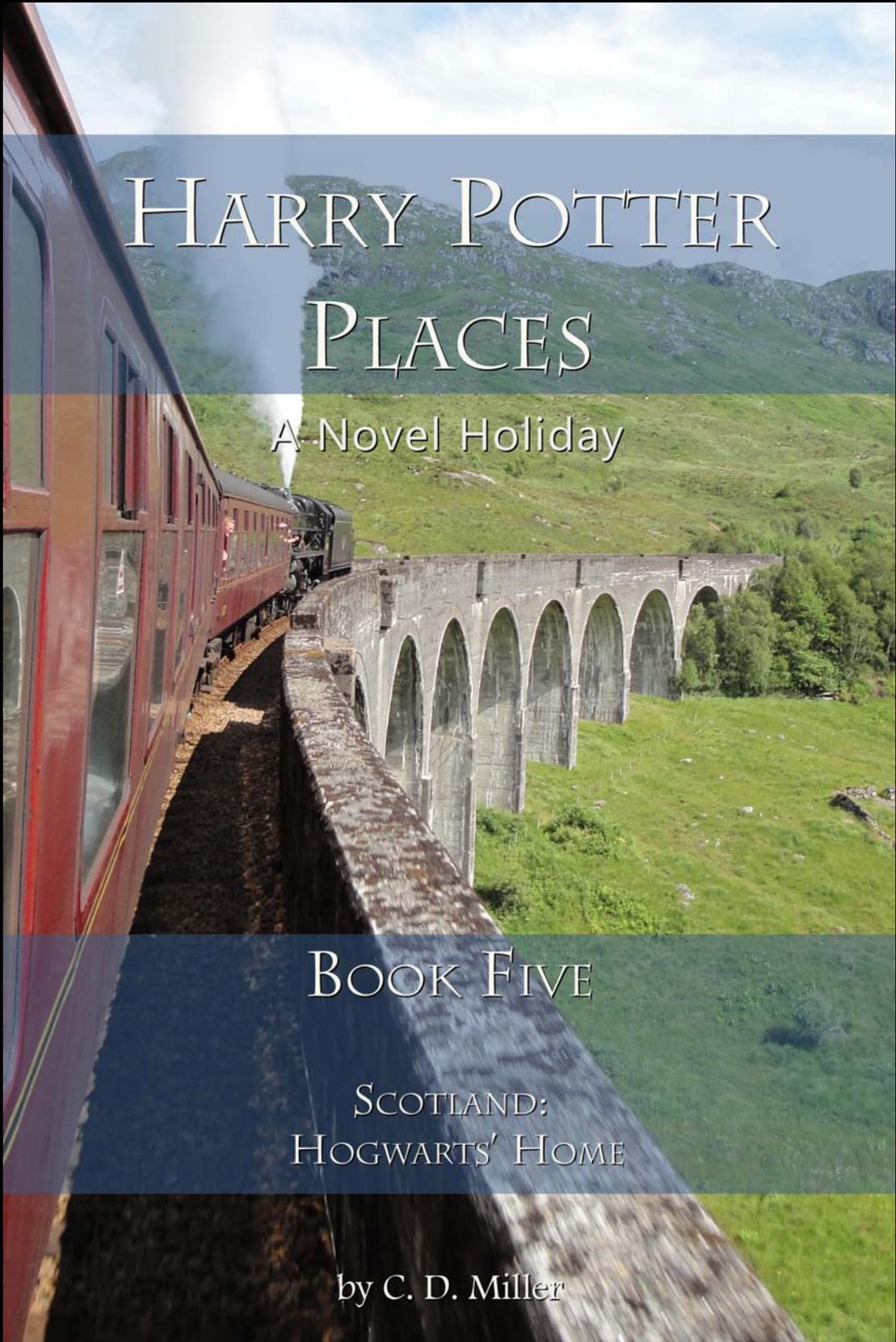


SPECIALIS REVELIO  
SAMPLE



HARRY POTTER  
PLACES

A Novel Holiday

BOOK FIVE

SCOTLAND:  
HOGWARTS' HOME

by C. D. Miller

HARRY POTTER  
PLACES  
BOOK FIVE

SCOTLAND:  
HOGWARTS' HOME

A Novel Holiday Travel Guidebook

By CD Miller

# PRIOR INCANTATO

Welcome to the **A Novel Holiday** travel guidebook, **Harry Potter Places Book Five—Scotland: Hogwarts' Home**, the last of five guidebooks designed to help *Harry Potter* Fans (**Potterites**) visit places found in the United Kingdom of Great Britain (the **UK**) associated with the *Harry Potter* Universe (the **Potterverse**). In the Potterverse, you'll find:

- Real-life places mentioned within J.K. Rowling's *Harry Potter* novels.
- Real-life locations where *Harry Potter* movie filming took place.
- Real-life sites that significantly influenced *Harry Potter* movie studio set design.

The **Prior Incantato** section is the *Harry Potter Places Travel Guidebook Introduction*. As such, it contains important explanations of the symbols and terminology found within each of the five *Harry Potter Places* (**HPP**) travel guidebooks.

## **Harry Potter Places Portkeys**

To assist Potterites using eBook-reading devices that don't have a web browser—devices from which you cannot apparate—or Potterites using a printed HPP travel guidebook, we've created **HPP Portkeys**: Internet-posted PDFs containing all the Internet resource links provided in each section of every HPP book.

Go to **HarryPotterPlaces.com**. Click on the link for **Book Five**, then click on the **Supplementums** link. There you can access the Portkeys.

## **Harry Potter Places Ratings Icon Guide**

It took more than three years of research, but we managed to find *seventy (70) Potter Places*. However, not all of these sites are places every Potterite will enjoy. Thus, we assessed each for their reasonable importance to an average Potterite's UK holiday, and created icons that provide an *at-a-glance* recognition of their rating.

 The **Great Site** icon indicates a Potter Place you don't want to miss. These are important sites mentioned in the books, or film locations readily recognized in real-life.

 The **Might Be Fun** icon identifies places some Potterites might find disinteresting, or unworthy of the inconvenience required to reach them. Each Might-Be-Fun Site's entry explains why it received that rating.

 The **Skip It** icon is assigned to places we strongly suggest you *avoid* visiting, and the Site's entry explains why. Although we provide SatNav/GPS coordinates and/or addresses for Skip-It-rated sites, we do not provide directions for finding them, nor are Skip-It sites included in *any* of the suggested *Harry Potter Places* itineraries. Potterites divinely inspired to visit any Skip-It site should investigate the location using the information provided in its Site entry, then create their own itineraries.

# LUMOS BRITANNIA

Lumos Britannia provides general tips for Potterites planning a visit to **the United Kingdom of Great Britain**—aka **Britannia**, aka **the UK**.

## UK Travel Guidebooks

Consider purchasing one or more **Non-Potter (Muggle) UK travel guidebooks related to the areas where you'll be Pottering**. If your holiday is solely Potter-centric, a UK Muggle travel guidebook is *not* necessary—*Harry Potter Places* will take care of you. However, Potterites also interested in visiting Non-Potter UK places will benefit from buying one or more Muggle travel guidebooks.

The *Harry Potter Places* Travel Store offers links to many of the Travel Guidebooks mentioned below, including several eBook versions.

### **Harry Potter Places Recommends Rick Steves' Travel Guidebooks**

<http://www.ricksteves.com>

Rick Steves has been researching and writing truly excellent travel guidebooks for over 20 years, and he publishes three frequently-updated UK guides for the places you might be traveling to. Potterites only visiting London should buy *Rick Steves' London*. If you'll be visiting London and Oxford (and/or other places in England), purchase *Rick Steves' England*. If you'll be visiting England, Wales, and Scotland, buy *Rick Steves' Great Britain*.

### **Other Popular UK Muggle Travel Guidebook Companies Include:**

Fodor's Travel Guides

<http://www.fodors.com>

Frommer's Travel Guides

<http://www.frommers.com/>

Lonely Planet Guides

<http://www.lonelyplanet.com/>

Rough Guides

<http://www.roughguides.com/>

### **Avail Yourself of the FREE UK Travel Tips Available on the Internet**

Here are our favorites.

#### **Rick Steves' Website**

Whether or not you purchase a Rick Steves travel guidebook, his website offers free access to a ton of terrific European travel tip articles: packing, safety issues, health information, communicating [phone info], money matters, and other important subjects.

[http://www.ricksteves.com/plan/tips/tips\\_menu.htm](http://www.ricksteves.com/plan/tips/tips_menu.htm)

# PART ONE:

## LUMOS EDINBURGH



[©2005, Christian Bickel]



**Edinburgh** is Scotland's capital city and one of the UK's most interesting and popular destinations. You can visit Edinburgh again and again, discovering new sights and experiences each and every time. To read a condensed account of Edinburgh's history and vital statistics visit the Wikipedia website:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Edinburgh>

### **There are No Harry Potter Film Sites in Edinburgh**

Edinburgh is where J.K. Rowling found safe harbor when struggling to finish *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* (*Sorcerer's Stone*), and the place she calls **home** even after becoming a world-wide phenomenon.

## JK Rowling Edinburgh Haunts

- 🧐 **The Balmoral Hotel (Site #50):** on January 11th, 2007, Rowling finished writing *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* while staying in room #552.
- 🧐 **The Elephant House (Site #51):** a secondary JKR writing site for *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*.
- 🧐 **Greyfriars Kirkyard (Site #51a):** a source of inspiration for at least three prominent Potter Character names.
- 🧐 **The National Museum of Scotland (Site #52):** the best place to purchase Lewis Chessmen (Wizard Chessmen) souvenirs.
- 🧐 **The Favorit Café (Site #53):** a post-Potter writing site featured in the *J.K. Rowling: A Year In The Life* documentary.
- 🧐 **Nicholson's Restaurant (Site #54):** now **the Spoon Café Bistro**, the primary JKR writing site for *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*.
- 🧐 **JKR Edinburgh Homes (Site #55):** information about places she briefly lived—places not worth visiting.
- 🧐 **Rowling's Flat in Leith (Site #56):** where JKR lived while finishing *Philosopher's Stone*, and waited for it to be published.
- 🧐 **Killiechassie House in Perthshire (Site #57):** Rowling's current country home, guarded by a gate from which little can be seen.

## Edinburgh Parseltongue Pointers

First, some special terms with explanations:

- **Edinburgh** = "ED-in-burra"  
There is no hard "g" sound when pronouncing Edinburgh. You may have to say **ED-in-burra** *aloud* several times before it feels right. Any other pronunciation proclaims, "I am a tourist!"
- **Auld Reekie** = "OLD reek-ee"  
The Scots nickname for Edinburgh, Auld Reekie means "Old Smoky" in English, and refers to the reek (nasty stink) of chimney smoke that used to blanket the city.
- **Wynd** = "WIND" as in *the blowing wind* (not as in *wind around a spool*) Wynd and Close (below) are street terms from Edinburgh's history. A lane just wide enough to allow a horse cart to pass through was called a Wynd.
- **Close** = "CLOSE" as in *near* (not as in *close the door*)  
A lane too narrow or otherwise impassible for a horse cart was called a Close.

# AMBULATUS EDINBURGH

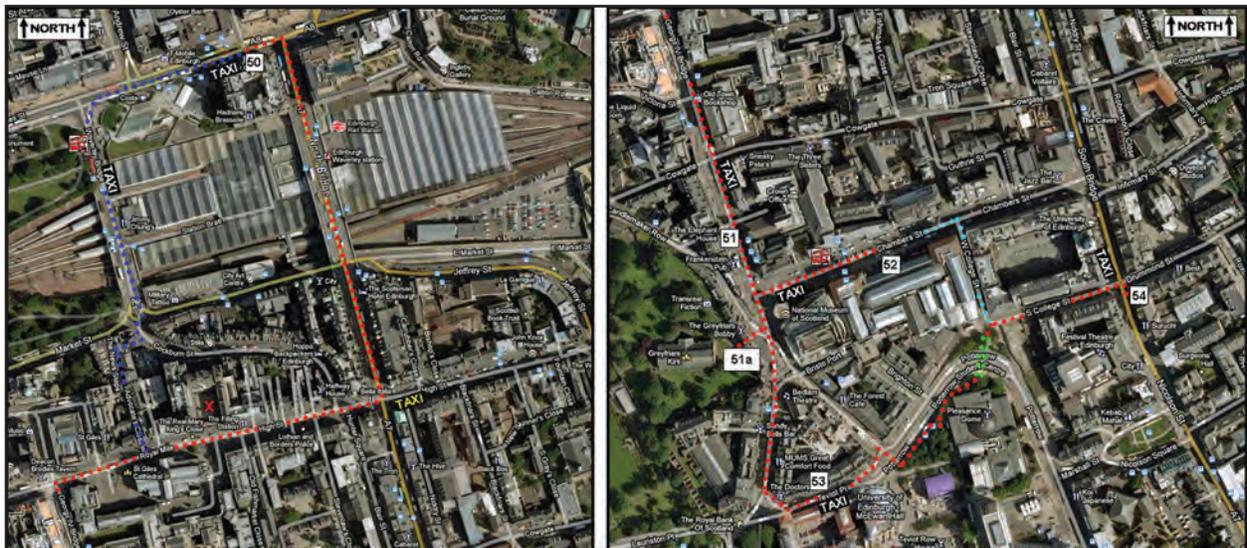
## A Potterite's Guide to Ambulating (Walking) Around Edinburgh



### The Edinburgh Potter Maps

We used enhanced sections of ©2009 **Google** map images to create a PDF containing three maps important to Pottering in Edinburgh—whether or not you follow one of our Edinburgh Potter Trek itineraries.

Maps one and two identify the location of Old Town Edinburgh Potter Places.



The final page of this PDF is the Potter Map to Greyfriars Kirkyard (Site #51a).

## Use the Edinburgh Potter Maps for Your Own Itinerary

Only have time to Potter to two or three places? If you're not following one of our itineraries, you still can use the Edinburgh Potter Maps to find your way between any of the identified Potter Places.

## The *Harry Potter* Places Edinburgh Potter Trek Itineraries

Each of our **four** Potter Trek itinerary options provides walking directions between the **Edinburgh Old Town Potter Places**, and suggestions for the amount of time to spend at each. **Six** of these Potter Places have their own numbered Site entries—**three do not**.

## Unnumbered Edinburgh Potter Places



[©2012 Tara Bellers]

Because they are easy to find and quick to enjoy, the **J.K. Rowling's Handprints** and the **Potterrow Port** locations appear only here, and in our four Potter Trek itineraries. Below is all you need to know about these two Edinburgh Old Town Potter Places.

### J.K. Rowling's Handprints

SatNav/GPS: 55.949861,-3.190176

[http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/671/civic\\_recognition-people/916/honours\\_and\\_civic\\_awards/3](http://www.edinburgh.gov.uk/info/671/civic_recognition-people/916/honours_and_civic_awards/3)

In 2008, J.K. Rowling was honored with the prestigious **Edinburgh Award**. Established in 2007 by the **City of Edinburgh Council**, the Edinburgh Award is annually bestowed upon an outstanding individual who has made a positive impact on Edinburgh, in addition to gaining national and international recognition for the city.

“The winner is presented with an engraved Loving Cup at a ceremony attended by award winners and young achievers from across the city and **the winner's hand prints are reproduced on a flagstone in the City Chambers Quadrangle.**”

# GREYFRIARS KIRKYARD



(SITE #51A)

## Gravestones that Inspired Potter Character Names

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greyfriars\\_Kirkyard](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greyfriars_Kirkyard)

<http://www.edinburgh-royalmile.com/interest/greyfriars-kirkyard.html>

**Google Maps UK:** Greyfriars Bobby Bar, Candlemaker Row, Edinburgh EH1 2QE

**Operation Hours:** The Kirkyard is open 24 hours a day, every day of the year.

**Entry Fee:** No fee is required to enjoy the Kirkyard, but donating to Greyfriars Kirk is highly encouraged.

**Visit Time:** 45 minutes to an hour

 **Please Note:** This marvelous J.K. Rowling Edinburgh haunt didn't come to our attention until after *Harry Potter Places* Books One through Four had been published—books that include references to Scotland Potter Places that would necessitate *renumbering* if Greyfriars Kirkyard were given its own number. Thus, although identified as if it were a Side-Along associated with the Elephant House (Site #51), **Greyfriars Kirkyard is an independent Potter Place**, worthy of a **Great Site** rating.



Considering its close proximity to the **Elephant House** (Site #51) and **Nicolson's Restaurant** (Site #54), it stands to reason that J.K. Rowling occasionally wandered through **Greyfriars Kirkyard** while composing *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*. During a 1999 interview (*The Connection*, WBUR Radio), Rowling reported having named **Professor McGonagall** after "a very, very bad Scottish Poet"—a poet who is **buried in Greyfriars Kirkyard**.

<http://web.archive.org/web/20080923213703/http://www.accio-quote.org/articles/1999/1099-connectiontransc.html>

(Thank you, **Stuart Young**, of the **Potter Trail**:

<http://pottertrail.com/>)

Since that interview, two other graves bearing names similar to prominent Potter characters have been discovered. Whether or not these gravestones truly inspired JKR character names, Greyfriars Kirkyard *is* a Potter Place.



[©2012 Tara Bellers] [©2011 Kate Takata]

Plenty of wand-worthy sticks are scattered about the Greyfriars Kirkyard, and many Potterites have been inspired to duel in front of the Thomas Riddell gravestone. We don't know why Kate's friend, Shannon, happened to have a *false beard* with her. But, these witches clearly enjoyed their visit.

### Non-Potter Greyfriars Kirkyard Places of Interest

All of the Potter-Character gravestones are found in the **West Yard** area of Greyfriars Kirkyard. Potterites with a special interest in graveyards and cemeteries will thoroughly enjoy other sections of Greyfriars Kirkyard.



[©2006, UWMC.uwc.edu]

# JKR EDINBURGH HOMES

(SITE #55)



According to our research, J.K. Rowling lived in a total of five locations within the city of Edinburgh prior to purchasing a mansion in a northwestern suburb (**Edinburgh Home #6**, below). Her second Scotland residence is **Killiechassie House** (Site #57), a country house secluded several miles north of Edinburgh.

**BTW:** Rowling also owns a Georgian mansion in **London**, as well as an historic house in **Tasmania**—an island south of **Australia**.

## Site Rating

 **JKR Edinburgh Homes Earn a Skip-It Rating Because:**

- All are in private neighborhoods. Indigenous Muggles may be offended by Potterites wandering about.
- There really isn't anything to see at any of these locations. Except for the Merchiston mansion, all are simply apartments or row houses.
- The Merchiston mansion is masked by an 8-foot-high privacy wall.
- The only Edinburgh home that offers a *documentary* screenshot Potter Pic opportunity has its own entry, **Rowling's Flat In Leith** (Site #56), but is also a **Skip-It**-rated location.
- Your holiday time would be much better spent enjoying other Potter or Non-Potter Edinburgh sites.

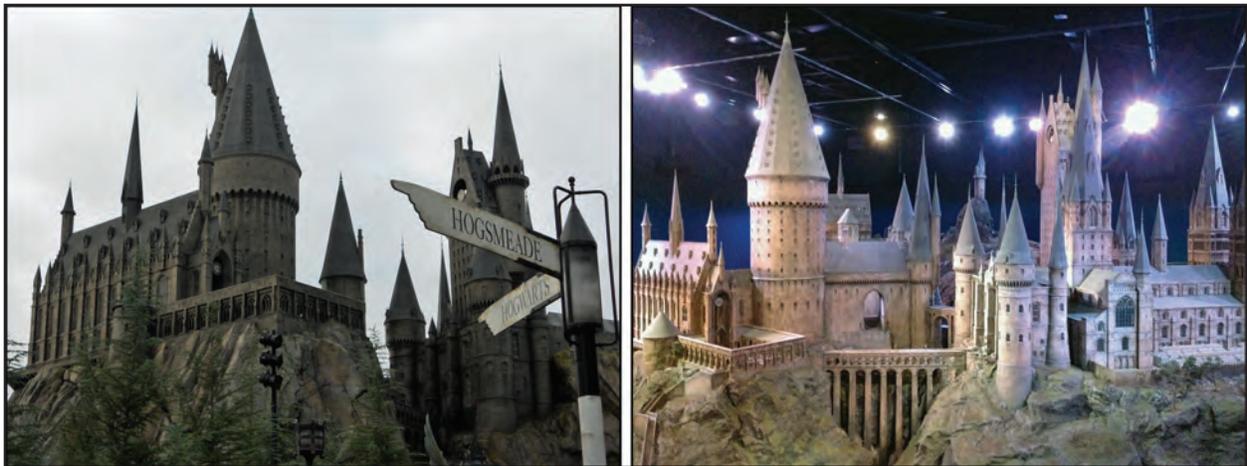
**For Die-Hard Potterites divinely inspired to see the Edinburgh homes where JKR used to live**, we created a Timeline that includes some biographical information associated with each. Although we provide their location coordinates, **Skip It** sites are not found on the *Harry Potter Places* Edinburgh Potter Trek itineraries.

# PART TWO:

## LUMOS THE SCOTTISH WEST HIGHLANDS



Potterites and Muggles from all over the world can tour the *real-life-sized* Hogwarts Castle at the **Wizarding World of Harry Potter** in Orlando, Florida (below left), where you walk through familiar corridors and rooms, then fly a broomstick with Harry on the fabulous **Forbidden Journey** ride. You can also visit the enormous, hand sculpted, Hogwarts model that fills an entire room of the **Harry Potter WB Studio Tour** (*Harry Potter Places* Book One, Site #27), only twenty miles outside of London.



[©2010 Tara Bellers ©2012]

<http://www.universalorlando.com/harrypotter/>  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harry\\_Potter\\_and\\_the\\_Forbidden\\_Journey](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harry_Potter_and_the_Forbidden_Journey)  
<http://www.wbstudiotour.co.uk/>  
<http://www.wbstudiotour.co.uk/en/tour/hogwarts-castle-model>

**But—alas and alack—the real Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry exists only in the Wizard World!** For the protection of its students, extraordinarily complex

Confundus Charms and Unplottability Spells were cast to hide the castle from Muggles, and Potterites as well. Not even the Harry Potter books or movies could reveal its true location. Happily, during a **1998 Scottish TV** interview, conducted at the **Elephant House** (Site #51), J.K. Rowling let slip a vital confirmation of Hogwarts' general whereabouts.



[©2009 Tara Bellers] [1998 STV Elephant House Café Interview screenshot (enhanced)]

"I always imagined Hogwarts Castle to be next to a loch ... this big gothic thing, set in the mountains of Scotland. That's never made clear in the books. It's just left open. But, in my imagination, Hogwarts is in Scotland. ... Hogwarts' location is identifiable anyway, if you know your geography. Harry travels due north from London for a day. So, where's he gonna end up?"

## Revelio Hogwarts!

Interior and exterior Hogwarts Castle and grounds scenes were shot at sites scattered throughout the United Kingdom. *Harry Potter Places* travel guidebooks provide directions for finding and enjoying each of them. Below is a summary of those sites.

### **Harry Potter Places Book One—London and London Side-Along Apparations**

- **St Paul's Cathedral (Site #6)**

**Location Footage:** Scenes of Harry and other students traversing a prominent Hogwarts Staircase were shot here for several of the movies.

**Set Design:** A *Deathly Hallows Part Two* Hogwarts Staircase set was based on the Saint Paul's Cathedral Geometric Staircase.

- **Harrow School (Site #25)**

**Location Footage:** *Sorcerer's Stone* scenes of Professor Flitwick's classroom (the *Wingardium Leviosa* lesson) were shot in Harrow's historic Fourth Form classroom.

## Harry Potter Places Book Five—Scotland: Hogwarts' Home

Scotland's greatest contribution to the Harry Potter movies has been the footage filmed in the **Scottish West Highlands**. Here you'll find the magical mountains and glens, rivers and lochs, seen in *all* aerial shots of the countryside surrounding Hogwarts Castle. Additionally, the most memorable Hogwarts Express journey scenes—including an iconic bridge—were shot in the Scottish West Highlands.

### Potter Places in the Scottish West Highlands

 **The Clachaig Inn Area, Glencoe (Site #58):** Of all the Scottish Harry Potter Places, this site hosted the most principle photography. Three remarkable *Prisoner of Azkaban* film sets were built here—including Hagrid's Hut. Background footage for *Order of the Phoenix*, *Half-Blood Prince*, and *Deathly Hallows Part Two* also was shot in this area.

 **Fort William and the Jacobite Steam Train (Site #59):** Personally experience a portion of Harry's journey to Hogwarts by boarding a train very similar to the Hogwarts Express and traveling between Fort William and the Scottish west coast. During the excursion, you'll cross over the famous Hogwarts Express bridge—twice!

 **Glen Etive and Loch Etive (Site #60):** A frequent Hogwarts countryside background plate film site, the only principle photography ever shot here was **deleted** from *Deathly Hallows Part One*. [Insert unsavory expletive here!] Happily, those scenes were preserved and revealed in the *DHp1* Special Features DVD.

 **Glenfinnan Viaduct and Loch Shiel (Site #61):** This location hosts the most familiar Hogwarts Lake, as well as a bridge has become forever-associated with the Hogwarts Express.

 **Loch Arkaig (Site #62):** Very brief background plates for Hogwarts Lake aerial shots were filmed here for the *Deathly Hallows* movies.

 **Loch Eilt (Site #63):** This lake sports a tiny island that is surprisingly recognizable. It has been seen frequently in Hogwarts Express journey background footage, and was a film site for some special *Prisoner of Azkaban* and *Deathly Hallows* scenes.

 **Rannoch Station (Site #64):** This remote station is the portal to a film site seen only for a few seconds in *Deathly Hallows Part One*.

 **Spean Bridge Railway Station (Site #65):** This station doubled for Hogsmeade Station when students disembarked the Hogwarts Express in *Half-Blood Prince*. Unfortunately, the few scenes shot here are very dark, and little of the station can be recognized in them.

🤩 **Steall Falls, Glen Nevis (Site #66):** Every time the Hogwarts Quidditch stadium appeared on screen, gorgeous Glen Nevis was in the background. Steall Falls was prominently featured behind the stadium in *Goblet of Fire* and *Half-Blood Prince*.

## 🏠 Lodgings in the Scottish West Highlands



[Prisoner of Azkaban screenshot (enhanced)]

*Harry Potter Places* authors and contributors highly recommend lodging in the Clachaig Inn Area—seen in the screenshot above—and basing *all* your West Highlands Pottering from Site #58. Local lodging options are suggested in a few of the other Scottish West Highlands site entries.

## Broomsticks to Portkeys: Scottish West Highland Transportation Tips

### ✈️ Flying to Scotland

<http://www.visitscotland.com/travel/around-scotland/air>

<http://www.cheapflights.co.uk/airports/Scotland/>

Scotland has four main airports—Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Glasgow and Glasgow Prestwick—as well as a few regional airports such as Inverness. Because it is home to several J.K. Rowling Potter Places, Edinburgh airport may be the most convenient to use if you'll be flying to Scotland.

### 🚆🚌 Traveling Scotland by Train and Bus

Pottering through Scotland by train and bus is a scenic way to journey. Unfortunately, some of the best Scottish West Highlands Potter Places *cannot* be reached by any form of public transportation other than **Taxis**.

To avoid driving, use the **Journey Planner** section of several UK travel websites to reach most Scottish West Highlands Potter Places via rail, bus, or both.

# THE GLENFINNAN VIADUCT & LOCH SHIEL



(SITE #61)

## The Famous Hogwarts Express Bridge and Hogwarts Lake

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glenfinnan\\_Viaduct](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glenfinnan_Viaduct)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Loch\\_Shiel](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Loch_Shiel)

<http://www.glenfinnan.org.uk/>

**Google Maps UK:** Glenfinnan Viaduct *or* Glenfinnan Monument

**Operation Hours:** The Potter Pic places are accessible from dawn to dusk, every day of the year. Glenfinnan Visitor Centre and Monument hours are discussed below.

**Visit Time:** Allow at least 3 hours—*longer* if you're also a Scottish History buff, or willing to *Potter beyond* the primary Glenfinnan Potter Places.

### Parseltongue Pointers:

- Finnan = "FIN-nan"
- Glenfinnan = "glen-FIN-nan"
- Jacobite = "JACK-oh-bite"
- Loch Shiel = "lock SHEEL"
- Slatach = "SLAH-tock"
- Torr a' Choit = "tor-ah HOYT"



The **Glenfinnan Viaduct** is a railway bridge on the **West Highland Line**. Its 21 impressive arches span a length of 416 yards (1/4 of a mile) across the southern mouth of the **River Finnan valley**. When it was built by Sir Robert McAlpine between 1897 and 1901, the Glenfinnan Viaduct was considered one of the largest engineering undertakings using concrete without reinforcing in history. Each year between May and October, the **Jacobite Steam Train** chugs over this bridge when traveling between Fort William and Mallaig (see **Site #59**).

**Point A on Glenfinnan Potter Map Two** indicates the *general* area near the base of the viaduct, on the west side of River Finnan. As you walk along the mildly-inclined, paved road from the small car park, Glenfinnan Viaduct looms larger and larger with every step. Begin snapping pix as soon as you wish, keeping alert for the sound of **an approaching steam train**.



[POA screenshot (enhanced) above, ©2006 Wolfgang Mletzko below.]



Potterites who don't mind a **brief climb**, and are able to extend their Glenfinnan Viaduct trek by another 15 to 20 minutes, can continue a short distance *beyond* the viaduct to enjoy **Point B on Glenfinnan Potter Map Two**.

**Please Note:** Glenfinnan Potter Maps Two and Three were created using **bing** aerial map images that contain confusing **bridge arch shadows** stretching north of the viaduct. Ignore the shadows and observe the path we inked-in.

As you can see in Wolfgang's W1 location pic below, the views of Loch Shiel available from this cove *also* appeared as **background footage** for scenes featuring the **three Towers** erected for the Second Task.



[©2006 Wolfgang Mletzko above, *GOF* screenshot (enhanced) below.]



### **Directions From Point W1 to Point W2**

Head **southwest** from the Glenaladale Estate pier, following the shore for a short distance. When you encounter a footpath leading away from the shore, follow it.

Your goal is to reach **an elevated point** *above* the **Loch Shiel peninsula** found southwest of the **W1 cove**. Scenes of the **Weasley Twins soliciting bets** on the Second Triwizard Task were shot on the slope leading up to the W2 vantage point from the peninsula.

### ★ Via the Jacobite Steam Train

See the **Fort William & the Jacobite Steam Train** (Site #59) chapter, and consider following directions for accomplishing our **Glenfinnan Side-Along Apparation** while journeying on a train that is a **sister of the Hogwarts Express**. Some Glenfinnan Viaduct screenshots can only be shot *from* the train.



[Chamber of Secrets screenshot segment (enhanced)] [©2009 Tara Bellers]

### 🚗 Driving to Glenfinnan

SatNav/GPS: 56.870427,-5.435668

The coordinates above will take you directly to **the Visitor Centre's driveway**. Using "Glenfinnan Monument" to program your device will lead you *near* the Visitor Centre. Happily, the centre is well sign-posted—and readily visible—whether approaching from the southeast or northwest.

# STEALL FALLS GLEN NEVIS (SITE #66)



## Quidditch Match Backgrounds

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Steall\\_Waterfall](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Steall_Waterfall)

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glen\\_Nevis](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Glen_Nevis)

<http://www.scotlandthemovie.com/movies/hp1glen.html>

**Google Maps UK:** 56.810676,-5.077529 (The Glen Nevis Visitor Centre)

**Visit Time:** Allow at least 2.5 hours *after* reaching the **End-of-the-Line** car park.

## Parseltongue Pointers:

- Lochaber = "la-KAH-ber"
- Nevis = "NEV-iss" (*not* "NEEV-iss")
- Steall = "STEEL"



**Glen Nevis** is a gorgeous east-west valley in the Lochaber area of the Scottish West Highlands. The glen cradles the **River Nevis** as it descends to **Fort William** (Site #59) from **Ben Nevis**, the highest mountain in the UK and a very popular mountain climbing destination. Each year, at least 125,000 experienced climbers accomplish the *complete* Ben Nevis ascent, while another 100,000 hikers walk the Ben's partial ascent.

<http://ben-nevis.com/index.php>

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ben\\_Nevis](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ben_Nevis)

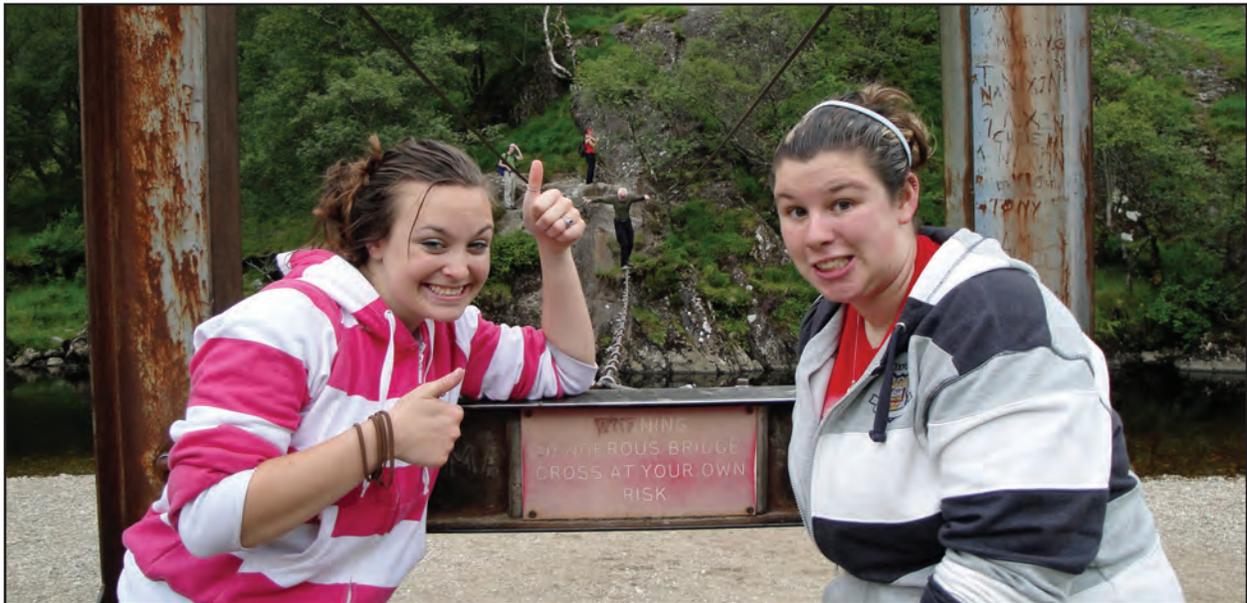
Glen Nevis also boasts the second-highest waterfall in all of the British Isles, **Steall Falls**, which can be reached by amateur hikers thanks to the **Steall Gorge footpath**.

<http://www.visit-fortwilliam.co.uk/steall-falls-walk-in-glen-nevis-gorge-ben-nevis>

**All Quidditch Matches seen on screen have featured Glen Nevis in the background.**



The *best* Quidditch pix, however, are those snapped of **Potterites** who dare to cross the **cable bridge**.



In spite of the obligatory *Cross at Your Own Risk* sign, the short distance between the bottom cable and the shallow river is *not* life threatening. You'll be fine as long as you cross the cable bridge **slowly** and **with care**.

## Going to Glen Nevis and Steall Falls

### Via Public Transportation

Begin by Traveling to Fort William

Traveline Scotland (for bus and/or train journeys)

<http://travelinescotland.com>

National Rail Enquiries

<http://www.nationalrail.co.uk/>

The 3-character code for Fort William Railway Station is FTW.

### Bus Transportation from Fort William to Steall Falls is Problematic

- Local busses to Glen Nevis and Steall Falls are only available between May and October.
- On **weekdays**, four busses leave from a stop near the Railway Station and go to the **Lower Falls car park**. Only three busses make the return journey, however, and only *one* of them allows enough time to hike to Steall Falls.
- Three bus trip options are available on **Saturdays**, but **Sundays** are right out.
- The bus schedule doesn't allow time for a stop at the Visitor Centre, because the centre is 3.5 miles from the Lower Falls car park bus stop—an additional 70 minutes of walking. **Call the Visitor Centre to check in before and after your hike. If the phone rings through to voice mail, leave a message identifying your name and the number of your party, what time you are beginning the trek, and what time you expect to be back at the Lower Falls car park. 01397 705922**
- Taking the bus on *any* day will require an **extra 40 minutes of walking**, increasing the Steall Gorge footpath hike from 1 hour to 1 hour and 40 minutes—one-way. However, because any of the local bus schedules require a **4 hour** stay in the area, the extra walking time is moot.
- **If you miss the last bus back to Fort William**, the Glen Nevis Youth Hostel and several other **Glen Nevis village** lodging options can be found 2.5 miles north of the Lower Falls car park—a 50 minute walk.

**TAXI** Taking a Taxi from Fort William affords far more scheduling flexibility, allows a stop at the Visitor Centre, and isn't *impossibly* expensive, especially if you're splitting the fare. The common fare from Fort William to the **End-of-the-Line** Steall Falls car park is £15 (\$24), plus another £15 for the return trip. When politely asked, the driver will wait while you check in with the Visitor Centre staff and use the loo, and won't increase the fare unless you make her/him sit for more than 15 or 20 minutes.

**Be sure to prebook your return taxi!** Please ignore any driver's assurance that you can call when you get back to the End-of-the-Line car park and a taxi will respond within 25 minutes. **Prebook a return taxi appointment!**

## Bus Information

The **Stagecoach Highlands bus 41** departs from the Fort William **Middle Street car park** [56.819845,-5.108991] and stops at the **Glen Nevis Lower Falls car park** [56.769754,-5.037103] between May and October.

[http://www.stagecoachbus.com/PdfUploads/Timetable\\_25489\\_41%20Lochaber.pdf](http://www.stagecoachbus.com/PdfUploads/Timetable_25489_41%20Lochaber.pdf)

Use the **Transport Direct** website to plan your journey.

<http://www.transportdirect.info>

The **pedestrian route** between Fort William Railway Station and the Middle Street car park is 3-tenths of a mile, a 6 minute walk.



[Google Maps UK segment (enhanced) ©2012 Google]

**Weekday Bus Schedule:** Be at the Middle Street car park no later than 8:30am to board the **first Bus 41**, which departs Fort William at 8:52am. Transport time to the Lower Falls car park is approximately 15 minutes. Be *back* at the Lower Falls car park no later than 12:45pm to catch the **last Bus 41** to Fort William, which departs at 1:08pm.

**Saturdays:** Because **five busses** run between Fort William and the Lower Falls car park, you have **three options** that allow 4 hours in the Steall Falls area. Potterites wishing to spend the entire day hiking could also include a Visitor Centre stop by catching the first and last Saturday busses. Use the Transport Direct website to select your schedule.

**Sundays:** One bus goes from Fort William to the Lower Falls car park. Two minutes later, that bus returns to Fort William. **No other busses stop here on Sundays.** You can go to the Lower Falls car park, *or leave from* a number of Glen Nevis locations on Sundays, **but you can't do both!**

## 🚗 Driving to Glen Nevis and Steall Falls

### The Glen Nevis Visitor Centre

**SatNav/GPS:** The Visitor Centre's post code identifies a location in *Fort William*—do not use it! Instead, use the postcode for **Kenny Ferguson Photography**, a home business located 2-tenths of a mile *south* of the Visitor Centre: **PH33 6ST**

**Actual Coordinates for the Visitor Centre:** 56.810676,-5.077529

The Glen Nevis Visitor Centre is 2 miles from Fort William Railway Station, about a 6 minute drive south on the **Glen Nevis road**. When you near the destination you've programmed into your SatNav/GPS device, watch on your **right** for the Visitor Centre sign and driveway.

When finished at the Visitor Centre, exit the car park and turn left to resume driving south on the Glen Nevis road. In 3.5 miles you'll reach the Lower Falls car park (below).



[Google Maps UK Streetview segment (enhanced) ©2009 Google]

**Please Note:** Driving coordinates to reach Steall Falls are *not* needed beyond the Visitor Centre. Just head south from the centre on Glen Nevis road and follow it to the end. The coordinates we include below are for Potterites who wish to *preview* this journey on **Google Maps UK** before leaving home.

### The Lower Falls Car Park

**SatNav/GPS:** 56.769754,-5.037103

The Lower Falls parking area is a pay-and-display car park. While there are plenty of parking places here, we suggest that you save yourself an extra 40 minute walk and continue to the End-of-the-Line car park.

As you pass the Lower Falls car park, the Glen Nevis road bends left and becomes a **single-track-road**. Because this is a very twisty single-track-road, you'll frequently encounter blind corners! Thus, this mere 1.7 mile drive will probably take **10 minutes**.

Please remember that the **passing places on the left** are for *you* to use—those on the **right** are for oncoming drivers.

### The End-of-the-Line Car Park

SatNav/GPS: 56.777631,-5.000331



[Google Maps UK Streetview segment (enhanced) ©2009 Google]

There are plenty of parking spaces at the End-of-the-Line, however the Steall Gorge footpath is a *very* popular hike. The earlier you arrive, the better!



[Google Maps UK Streetview segment (enhanced) ©2009 Google]

# PART THREE:

## LUMOS HORCRUX HUNTING



Sites in Part Three, **Northern Scotland—and Beyond**, are only of interest to Potterites with plenty of holiday time and a determination to visit *every* Potter Place on the planet.

🤔 **Black Rock Gorge, Evanton (Site #67)** is a *Goblet of Fire* background plate film site. Unfortunately, footage shot here was seen on screen so briefly, we're not entirely sure *where* it was inserted. Thus, there are no screenshot reproduction opportunities here.

🤔🤔 **Cape Wrath, Smoo Cave, and Ireland (Site #68)** are places on the Scottish north coast where Harry Potter filming *didn't* occur (another Confundus Charm), and two locations on the west coast of Ireland where *Half-Blood Prince* background plates were shot.

Because footage filmed at Ireland's two sites was morphed into **one** background plate, only a *single* screenshot reproduction op exists. To snap it, you'll have to devote at least **two days** of travel time and expense to reach the **Cliffs of Moher**.

We gave **Smoo Cave** a **Might-Be-Fun** rating because—if you have the time to go there—it's easy to access and a marvelous opportunity to *imagine* that you're inside the **Locket Horcrux Cave**.

🤔 **Bjorli, Norway (Site #70)** is where winter scene background plates were filmed for *Half-Blood Prince*. No screenshot reproduction opportunities are available.

### Why is Site #69 Unplottable?

The *Harry Potter Places* series of five travel guidebooks contains a grand total of **seventy (70) Potter Places** associated with Rowling's books and Warner Bros. filming. When working on Part One of Book Five, however, we had to dodge a **Renumberall Jinx!**

## From Greyfriars Kirkyard (Site #51a)

“This marvelous J.K. Rowling Edinburgh haunt didn’t come to our attention until after *Harry Potter Places* Books One through Four had been published—books that include references to Scotland Potter Places that would necessitate *renumbering* if Greyfriars Kirkyard were given its own number. Thus, although identified as if it were a Side-Along associated with the **Elephant House (Site #51)**, Greyfriars Kirkyard is an independent Potter Place, worthy of a **Great Site** rating.”

Because Bjorli is the last Potter Place, we numbered it Site #70!

## Horcrux Hunting Lodging and Travel

Each of the final Book Five site entries contain Google Maps UK and SatNav/GPS coordinates, with snippets of lodging information. For more in-depth travel tips and links, see the Broomsticks to Portkeys section of **Lumos the Scottish West Highlands**, at the beginning of Part Two.

*Happy Pottering to the last Potter Places!*



[*Deathly Hallows Part 2* screenshot (enhanced)]

# THE END

Thus ends the adventures of  
Harry Potter Places Book Five—the  
final *Harry Potter Places*  
travel guidebook!



[*Deathly Hallows Part 2* screenshot (enhanced)]

We dearly hope that these travel guidebooks have entertained you, and inspired you to *journey* to **Harry Potter Places**. But, most of all, we hope that the four years of research we devoted to this project help you plan the very best **Novel Holiday** possible!

<http://www.ANovelHoliday.com>