



MEETINGS & CONFERENCES  
WEDDINGS | PARTIES  
CORPORATE EVENTS

hospitality & heritage  
**in the**  
heart of the highlands



**LONACH**HALL  
STRATHDON  
[www.lonach-hall.com](http://www.lonach-hall.com)



# Hospitality and Heritage in the Heart of the Highlands

The Lonach Hall is a historic building recently restored and refurbished to award-winning standards. It is a unique, flexible facility, situated within the Cairngorms National Park in the friendly community of Strathdon, just 45 miles west of Aberdeen. Its hillside location gives stunning views across the river and strath to the surrounding countryside.

The Hall complex offers superb facilities and is a focal point for the local community. It is also ideal for a wide range of events.

## History and restoration

The Lonach Highland and Friendly Society was founded in 1823 to preserve the Highland dress and the Gaelic tongue, and in 1836 the Society agreed to hold a Highland Gathering. The original Hall was built in 1845 to provide “the opportunities and locality for a building wherein both business and recreation may be pursued” and the Main Hall was added in 1896. Today, the Society continues to flourish, drawing its members from the Strathdon community, and the annual Lonach Gathering, on the 4th Saturday in August, has become one of the friendliest and most spectacular of all Highland Games.

A two-phase project to restore the Hall recently added a new community hall (the Upper Hall), a multi-purpose room (Committee Room), kitchens and lift, and artistic decorated banisters created by local sculptors Helen Denerley and Louise Gardiner. Restoration of the magnificent barrel-vaulted Main Hall was completed in 2006, with additional work undertaken in 2007 to landscape the immediate surroundings. The high standard of restoration has won awards from Aberdeenshire Council and the UK Federation of Master Builders. Funds to achieve the high quality restoration were raised from the local community, through the Society, from the European Regional Development Fund, Aberdeenshire Council, the Heritage Lottery Fund and Landfill Tax Credit Scheme.



## Meetings and Conferences

The Lonach Hall is an ideal location for meetings, small conferences and training courses, and the outlook from the Hall can also be truly inspirational, particularly for events concerning the environment, conservation, wildlife, agriculture and forestry, and also arts, culture and heritage.

It is a refreshing country location for corporate meetings and courses, where getting away from it all can help to concentrate minds, and invigorate delegates.

The Fact File overleaf gives more detailed information.

## Weddings and Events

The Lonach Hall lends a very special atmosphere to weddings, parties and events, with exclusive use allowing maximum flexibility. The whole complex is licensed for civil weddings, so the ceremony can take place in any part of the Hall. The Upper Hall is ideal for the wedding or civil partnership ceremony itself, with the Committee Room offering a private area for the bridal party, and the Main Hall a stunning venue for the reception and party. Tartan, available to drape within the Hall, adds to its unique character. Outside, there is a choice of photo backdrops: the Hall itself, open countryside, the ruins of 16th Century Colquhonnies Castle, or the new garden.

For parties and corporate events, the Upper Hall can be a “quiet area” or feature a different programme of music or entertainment.



## Fact File

### MAIN HALL

- 21.5m x 11.8m (including main stage)
- Floor area: 214.4 sq m (excluding both stages)
- Minimum height: 4.47m (to steel ceiling ties)
- Adjacent kitchen with fridges etc
- 2 stages
- Sockets for amplifiers for discos, etc
- Basic PA system
- Full audio visual equipment can be hired in
- Maximum capacity: Theatre-style 250  
Banquet-style 200

### UPPER HALL

- 9.05m x 10.06m
- Floor area: 95.6 sq m (excluding entrance area)
- Ceiling height: Max 2.7m, min 1.97m
- Small serving kitchen within the room
- Maximum capacity: Theatre-style 80  
Open square 50  
Banquet-style 70

### COMMITTEE ROOM

- 7.6m x 4.4m
- Floor area: 33.4 sq m
- Ceiling height: 2.7m
- Small kitchen area within the room
- Maximum capacity: Theatre-style 25  
Board room 20

### BREAKOUT ROOMS

The Foyer and Office may be used in addition to the rooms detailed above.

### CATERING

This can be arranged in either the Main Hall or Upper Hall.

### EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE

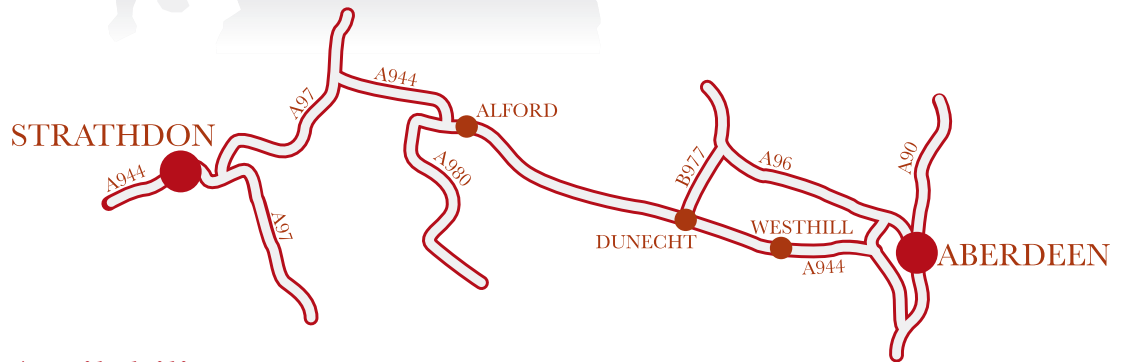
- Data projector & screen
- Laptop with PowerPoint
- DVD/video player

The total capacity of the Hall complex is 250, although this may be increased by using a marquee (by agreement) adjacent to the Hall.



The Lonach Hall is in the heart of the Highlands in the Cairngorms National Park. It is directly accessed from the A944 (Donside Road, the Highland Tourist Route) from which it is well signposted.

<b>Aberdeen</b>	45 miles
<b>Inverness</b>	64 miles
<b>Ballater</b>	18 miles
<b>Braemar</b>	24 miles
<b>Elgin</b>	50 miles
<b>Grantown-on-Spey</b>	31 miles
<b>Huntly</b>	26 miles
<b>Inverurie</b>	37 miles
<b>A90 (via Fettercairn)</b>	45 miles



## Availability

The Lonach Hall is well-used by the local community, and so exclusive use of the complex is not always available. However, meetings and other events can easily run alongside community use, and indeed the locals offer real Highland hospitality and welcome visitors to their Hall.

## Enquiries and Bookings

Please contact [lonach.hall@hotmail.com](mailto:lonach.hall@hotmail.com) to check availability, arrange to arrange an appointment to visit this unique venue, and to book.



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