



# THE NATIONAL WALLACE MONUMENT

## Group Visits to The Monument Your Questions Answered

### The National Wallace Monument – SOME FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT GROUP VISITS:

1. What is the significance of The National Wallace Monument?
2. For what type of group is The National Wallace Monument a suitable visit?
3. How long should a group spend at The National Wallace Monument?
4. When is the best time to visit The National Wallace Monument?
5. What is the normal procedure for a group visit to The National Wallace Monument?
6. Are advance reservations necessary for group visits?

#### 1. What is the significance of The National Wallace Monument?

Since 1869, The National Wallace Monument has been one of Scotland's best-known and most distinctive landmarks. It commemorates the life of Sir William Wallace, who led the struggle for Scottish independence at the end of the 13th Century, and whose place in history was secured after his conquest of the English at The Battle of Stirling Bridge in 1297.

#### 2. For what type of group is The National Wallace Monument a suitable visit?

Obviously, for groups with an interest in Scottish history The Monument is a 'must-see'.

However the unique features of The Monument, and its outstanding setting on The Abbey Craig, mean that it has a wide appeal to groups of all types.

The themed exhibition areas within The Monument, and The Crown, with its outstanding views, are accessed by a spiral staircase, with a total of 246 steps.

### **3. How long should a group spend at The National Wallace Monument?**

For groups of up to 25 - 30 visitors, it is recommended that between 1½ and 2 hours should be allowed to fully enjoy a visit to The Monument. For larger groups (up to 50 visitors), a visit time of at least 2 hours is recommended.

### **4. When is the best time to visit The National Wallace Monument?**

The Monument is open all year round, and can be visited at any time. During Summer time the early morning period is very often when visibility from The Monument is at its best, and a group can enjoy the outstanding views to the full.

### **5. What is the normal procedure for a group visit to The National Wallace Monument?**

The arrival point for groups is the Visitor Reception Building, at Car Park level. (There are dedicated coach parking bays in the main car park). Admission tickets can be pre-purchased in advance, or obtained at the Reception Desk in the Reception Building, which also contains Legends Coffee House (50 seats), toilet facilities and a retail area.

Visitors can walk to The Monument (10 to 15 mins.) through the wooded slopes of Abbey Craig, or use the complimentary minibus shuttle.

A self-guided audio tour (in 5 languages) is available, and personal handsets are available at the Reception Desk at the main entrance.

There are four upper levels within The Monument (each accessed by a spiral staircase), with three exhibition halls, and The Crown, from which visitors can enjoy panoramic 360° views.

Toilet facilities and a souvenir/gift shop are available at the entrance level in The Monument.

### **6. Are advance reservations necessary for group visits?**

Advance reservations are recommended, but are not essential. Discounted admission rates are available for groups of 10 or more visitors, and account facilities can be established for tour operators.