

**WESTFIELD
FARMS**
MORAY · SCOTLAND

SURRADALE FARMHOUSE





WELCOME . . .

...to Surradale House and Westfield Farms. We very much hope you enjoy your stay with us.



If you would like to find out more about what we get up to here at Westfield Farms, please follow us on Instagram @westfield_farms and feel free to tag us in your holiday snaps – we'd love to see what you've enjoyed most about your stay!

During your stay, please report any issues to us as soon as possible, and we'll do our best to get them resolved quickly for you.

After your stay, we'd love to hear your feedback. Please leave us a comment in the visitor book, send us a review on AirBnB or drop us an email on hcmaclean@hotmail.com

We hope you enjoy your stay

Hugh and Charlotte



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DISTANCES

- Duffus 3 Miles
- Hopeman 5 Miles
- Burghead 5 Miles
- Elgin 6 Miles
- Lossiemouth 7.5 Miles
- Findhorn 11 Miles
- Forres 11 Miles
- Inverness 39 Miles
- Aviemore 48 Miles
- Aberdeen 70 Miles



EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Westfield Farmhouse	01343 547308
Hugh	07786583123
Charlotte	07928686787
Email	hcmaclean@hotmail.com

Fire, Police & Ambulance	999
Police (Non-Emergency)	08456 005700
A&E (Dr Grays Hospital, Elgin)	01343 567322
NHS24 (Non Emergency)	111

GP

- Moray Coast Medical Centre, Lossiemouth 03453 371190
- Maryhill Health Centre, Elgin 08453 370610

VET

- Miller & Swan, Elgin 01343542255
- Moray Coast Vets, Forres 01309 672243

PHARMACY

- Bishopmill, Elgin 01343 547374
- Duthie, Hopeman 01343 830249

TAXIS:

- AM Taxis 07729253751
- Guvnors Taxis 01343 542828
- Tornado Taxis 01343 542224



USEFUL INFORMATION

WiFi

Network Name: WiFiScotland-513B

Password: 67743683

Co-working spaces are available at Greenbrae Steading in Cummington (10 min drive), should you wish. Booking essential. £20/day includes fast broadband, tea & coffee, desk hire with stunning sea views and outdoor space. www.greenbraesteadings.co.uk

Parking

Please park nearest the front door to Surradale Farmhouse. Guests of the Loft will be asked to park nearest the back door.

Bins and Recycling

Rubbish and Recycling is collected from the road end. Please sort your rubbish into the correct bins as follows:

- Green: General waste
- Blue: Paper and Cardboard
- Purple: Tins and Plastic
- Brown: Bagged food waste and garden
- Glass (please take to recycling point – nearest is Tesco, Elgin)

No Smoking

The property has a strict no smoking policy. Should you wish to smoke outside during your stay, please remove and safely dispose of your cigarette butts before you head home.



SURRADALE FARMHOUSE

Fire safety

In a fire, please evacuate to the muster point on the driveway and call 999.

Heating and hot water

The heating is controlled remotely. If you wish to make changes to it, that's absolutely fine, please drop us a text and we can adjust it for you.

Logs

We love cosying up by a roaring fire of homegrown logs after a day exploring the beautiful countryside. Please help yourself to logs from the store in the garage. If you need more, just drop us a text.

Children and Infants

If you need a high chair, travel cot, or other items for young children, please let us know. We have small children ourselves so we have most of the essentials.

There are waterproof sheets in the big mirrored cupboard in one of the bedrooms upstairs – please use these if you have any concerns.

Accidents and breakages

We completely understand these things happen. Please just let us know so that we can organise replacements.

Dogs

Please bear in mind this is a working farm with large vehicles and ground-nesting birds. If you have neighbours in the Loft, they may also have their own dogs, or may wish to keep away from dogs, so please be respectful. Please pick up after your dogs in the garden or on any mown grass, but anywhere in long grass and not on a path, we prefer the stick and flick approach – no need to bag up dog poo in single-use plastic if it won't be trodden in.



CHECKOUT

- Please checkout by 10am on the last day of your stay.
- If you have dogs, please have a good clean up of the garden.
- If you have time, please strip beds and leave all laundry in the bath.
- Please leave the kitchen clean and tidy, but no problem if the dishwasher is full – please just make sure it's switched on (not too long a setting please) and we'll get it unloaded during cleaning.
- Please leave the hot tub empty of water (after the fire box has cooled), ready for us to clean.
- Rubbish should be left in the big wheely bins at the bottom of the track – glass will need to be taken by you to the recycling points at Tesco in Elgin or various other locations around the area.
- Please leave the house and garden generally tidy and report any breakages to us ASAP on your departure – we understand these things happen!
- We'd love to hear your feedback. Please fill in the visitors book before you go, and leave us a review on AirBnB.



PICTURES AND ARTWORK

Have you spotted our silly place names map in the hallway? For your next challenge, see if you can find our old house (which is also the namesake for our wee honesty shop – Honeyhole*)?

The ordnance survey map is centred on Westfield Farms – hopefully helpful to let you explore the local area. Feel free to take pictures on your phone so you have it with you when you're out and about.

When Hugh's dad Johnnie sold Surradale House in the 1980s, it was bought by a couple in the Air Force. Some of their pictures and books were left in the house when we bought it back in 2022 and have remained in the house today for your enjoyment and interest in local history.

The coffee table in the sitting room was made by Charlotte out of an old pallet we had leftover here on the farm. We rather like the industrial style of it!

The kitchen island was built by Great Uncle Pete. He was so pleased with the quality of the hand carved joints he'd made that he left them slightly proud of the wood "so people can see and appreciate them". We hope you enjoy his craftsmanship!

*Clue: it's in Perthshire



FAMILY AND FARMING AT WESTFIELD

The Maclean family have been living and farming here at Westfield since around 1890. The current custodians of Westfield are Hugh and Charlotte and our children Eliza, Fergus and Jock. Purple Granny (named for her purple glasses!) lives across the field in the Fort, so the children can often be found running across to Granny's house to raid the biscuit tin (they've got her well trained to always keep a good supply of their favourites!).

The farm is currently mainly arable, growing predominantly spring barley, which is sold to the maltings in Roseisle for making whisky, and potatoes which are sold mainly to Aldi. We also have quite a few areas of land dotted around the farm which are dedicated to environmental enhancement. These include habitat for wader birds, miles of hedges, fields of "green manure" which are ploughed back into the land to help boost the soil structure organically, and areas of wild bird seed, providing excellent habitat for the numerous wild species we have here in North East Scotland. This year we have bought some lambs which are helping to eat down the grass and enhance the wader bird habitat through natural grazing, as well as producing some lovely home produced lamb for the freezer!

In the past, Hugh remembers various other crops and livestock being grown on the farm, including pick-your-own strawberries, pigs, sheep, turnips and carrots. We love looking through Grandpa Johnnie's old photo albums which he meticulously kept to show what was going on at the farm through the years – the height of modern farming at the time, but it now all looks quite dated in comparison to modern agricultural equipment!

The family have also diversified the farm over the years. Grandpa Johnnie installed renewable energy – a Biomass boiler which heats the farmhouse and cottages at Westfield, and Solar which powers the farmhouse and steading. We have a small campsite for touring caravans, which welcomes guests to enjoy the tranquillity of the farm over the summer. We have a small equestrian livery – look out for the horses in the paddocks at Westfield or riding around the farm. And you may have spotted our wee honesty shop – the Honeyhole shop, where we sell our own produce from right here at Westfield as well as other local suppliers.





THINGS TO DO

Dogs & Walking

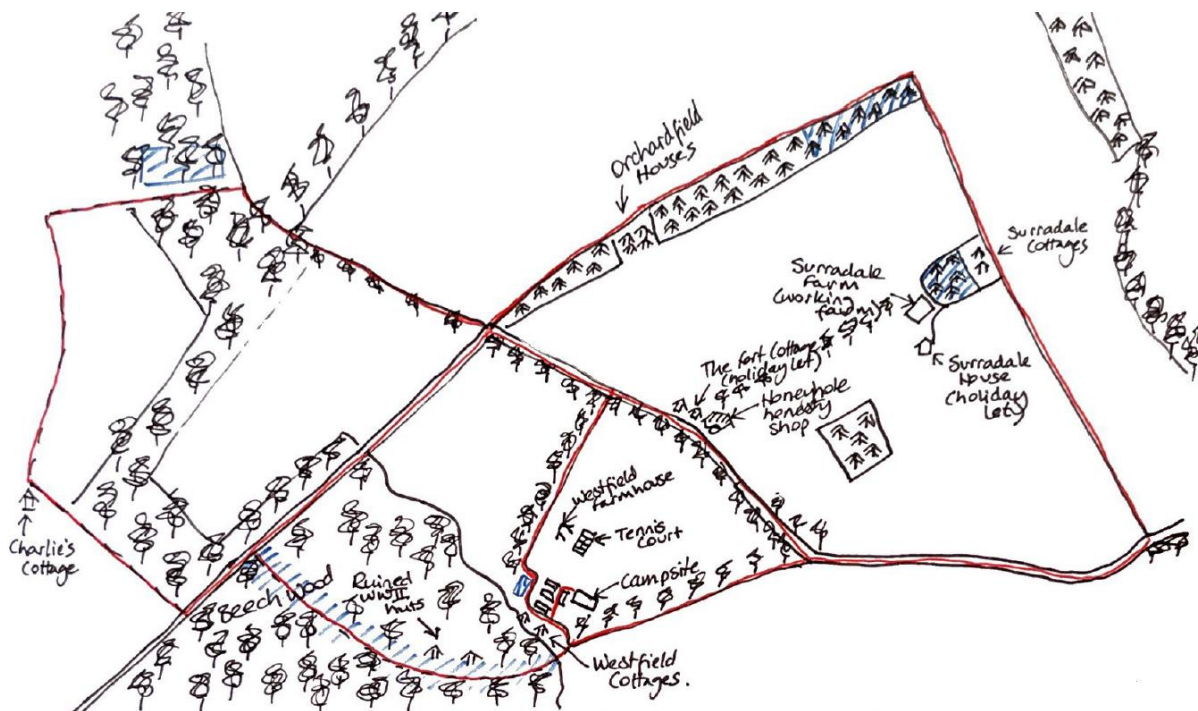
We love holidays with our dogs here at Westfield and we've included a wee map of some of our favourite walks around the farm. Please clear up the garden before you leave, but we prefer the stick and flick approach wherever they poo in long grass/woods! There are various livestock and wildlife around the farm so please keep dogs under control.

We prefer that dogs are not allowed on the furniture or upstairs. If they've enjoyed a particularly adventurous walk, please could they be towelled off and/or kept on hard flooring until they're clean and dry.

-  Pheasant pens
-  walking routes

Walking at Westfield

Below are some of our favourite walking routes around the farm.



We respectfully ask that dogs are kept on leads near the pheasant pens to protect the young ground nesting birds in Summer, Autumn and Winter. The farm can be busy at certain times of year with large vehicles around the steading so please do be careful especially with dogs and children.



Beaches & Walking further afield

We are spoiled for choice here for beaches. Some of our favourites listed below are:

- Hopeman – 4 small sandy beaches all within a short walk of the village centre. Rock pools, sandy beach, surfing, skate park, children's park, good parking immediately adjacent.
- Lossiemouth – two long sandy beaches either side of town.
- Burghead/Findhorn - Long sandy/pebble beach with Forestry commission woodland behind. The beach stretches between Burghead and Findhorn with lovely pub/eatery at either end (The Bothy Bistro, Burghead, The Kimberly Inn or The Crown & Anchor, Findhorn). Beach can be narrow/stoney if the tide's in so check tide times before you go, or consider walking in the woodland if you're struggling on the pebbles.
- Roseisle Beach – lovely woodland car park with children's play area, loos and food van. This is an ideal beach to visit for those with little legs as it's a short hop over the dunes from car to sandy beach. There are also some WWII defences on the beach which are fun to climb.
- Culbin Woods – beyond Forres, this woodland is well worth a visit, particularly if you have dogs. There is ample woodland parking on site and you can explore down to the beach or up the tower, where you'll be greeted with views across the Moray Firth to the Black Isle.
- Quarry Wood – Just at the top of the Brae, you'll see Quarry Wood. There is good parking and ample walking through the lovely woodland, less than five minute drive or if you fancy a longer stroll, you could walk or bike up the quiet road to get there.
- Randolph's leap – Near Logie Steading, just beyond Forres, it's a lovely short walk to the river with an incredible tale of Randolph's great escape! And a wonderful café, play park and retail therapy at Logie Steading too.



Agri-environment

We are pleased to have been accepted on a five year agri-environment scheme here at Westfield, which aims to encourage breeding wader birds and other protected species. Look out for our new hedgerows, wader-grazed grassland, species rich grassland and green manure cover on your adventures around the farm, and see how many wild bird species you can spot.

Wildlife & Farm animals

We have many wild and domestic animals to look out for around the farm. For the keen wildlife spotters, please search on the NBN Atlas, to show you what flora and fauna has been spotted around the farm in the past.

For our younger visitors, we have developed a wee tick list to see how many of them you can spot. Beware, some are harder to see than others! As a bit of fun, we've given them a score, depending how difficult they are to spot – see what score you can get during your stay! (Maximum 55 points)

- Horse (1 point)
- Pheasant (2 points)
- Chicken (3 points)
- Duck (4 points)
- Rabbit (5 points)
- Partridge (6 points)
- Bumblebee (7 points)
- Hare (8 points)
- Honey bee (9 points)
- Barn Owl (10 points)

We would highly recommend a trip to Spynie Loch Bird Sanctuary if you like bird watching – a peaceful spot blessed with a wealth of bird species all within a short walk.

Books

If you get stuck into a juicy novel during your stay, feel free to swap it with one you brought – there's nothing worse than reading half a book! But we ask that the historic books are left behind please.



SURRADALE FARMHOUSE

Child-friendly activities

- Roseisle beach – woodland playground, cycle trails, beach & food van
- Culbin Wood, Forres – woodland walks and tower
- Morayvia, Kinloss – aircraft museum and activities
- Skate parks – Hopeman or Elgin
- Brodie Castle – NTS property and gardens with playpark
- Gordon Castle Walled Garden – gardens, café playpark and gardens
- Byers Farm – open farm and play area
- Christies garden centre and soft play
- Cinema – Moray playhouse, Elgin or Eden Court, Inverness
- Bowling & Soft play, Elgin – Pinz
- Landmark, Carrbridge – Outdoor adventure theme park
- Ace Adventures – Canyoning, Tubing, River Rafting on the Findhorn

Board Games and Puzzles

A selection of board games and toys are in the basket in the playroom – enjoy!

Castles and history

- Duffus Castle – medieval ruin with information boards and coffee van. Free entry and parking
- Elgin Cathedral – ruined cathedral in Elgin town centre
- Pluscarden Abbey – Beautiful woodland walks around the working abbey – look out for the monks in their white habits in and around the Abbey. You can usually go inside the main abbey buildings if there's no service on or see Pluscarden Abbey website calendar for services and events
- Brodie Castle & Estate – National Trust property with extensive gardens, grounds, play area and café.
- Ballindalloch Castle – One of the finest examples of a Scottish Baronial Castle with extensive gardens and grounds to explore
- Gordon Castle – one of the oldest and largest walled kitchen gardens in Britain, café, children's play area and shop.
- Spynie Palace – Historic Environment Scotland ruined castle and walks and bird hide overlooking loch



Tennis

We have a tarmac tennis court at Westfield House. If you would like a game, drop us a text on 07786583123 (24hr notice please) and we'll confirm when the court is available and lend you some rackets and balls.

Bikes

You can hire bikes from Outfit Moray in Lossiemouth (01343 549571 | info@outfitmoray.com), including a selection of additional needs bikes available to try or hire. They also have a repair shop and second hand bikes for sale. Alternatively Halfords in Elgin are pretty helpful too.

Surfing

New Wave Surf School offer equipment hire and surf lessons from many of the local beaches. Check out their website for further information.

Sea life

The Moray Coast is famed for its dolphins and sea-life spotting opportunities – if you're lucky, you might even see them from the beaches and coastal walks. Alternatively, there are lots of local companies offering wildlife boat trips, including:

- North 58 Sea Adventures – boat trips
- Moray Dolphins – boat trips
- WDC Scottish Dolphin Centre, Spey Bay – visitor centre

Sailing and water sports

The Findhorn water sports centre is probably the best local place for enjoying the delights of the Moray Coast. They run various training courses for young and old alike, and have all equipment, paddleboards and boats for hire.



Golf

Various local golf courses offer rounds on a pay and play basis, including the following (Moray Golf Pass offers a discount on the below courses for a fee):

- Ballindalloch Golf Club
- Buckpool Golf Club
- Cullen Links Golf Club
- Dufftown Golf Club
- Elgin Golf Club
- Forres Golf Club
- Hopeman Golf Club
- Maverston Golf Club
- Moray Golf Club
- Rothes Golf Club
- Spey Bay Golf Club
- Strathlene Golf Club

Whisky

Moray and Speyside is famed for it's whisky distilleries and, for the budding connoisseur, there are ample options for distillery tours, including:

- Glen Moray Distillery, Elgin
- Simply Speyside Whisky Tours, Lhanbryde
- Benriach Distillery, Longmorn Elgin
- Glenrothes Distillery, Rothes
- Benromach Distillery, Forres
- Dunphail Distillery, Dunphail
- Aberlour Distillery, Aberlour
- The Lost Caperdonich Distillery, Glen Grant, Glenrothes
- Knockando Distillery, Knockando
- Glenfarclas Distillery, Aberlour
- Ballindalloch Single Malt Distillery, Ballindalloch
- Glenfiddich Distillery & Visitor Centre, Dufftown



FOOD & DRINK

We love enjoying the wonderful food and drink Moray has to offer. Whenever possible, it's great to support local, but occasionally we all need to do "the big shop". All options are available here and the main supermarkets will all deliver to the cottage (Tesco, Asda, Sainsburys) or are within a 10-15 minute drive. Alternatively The Duffus Post Office is our closest shop, is well stocked with the essentials, and has pretty good opening hours for a wee shop.

Groceries

Duffus store & Post office (Duffus village, 5 min drive), open Monday – Saturday 8.30am – 5pm, Sunday 9am – 3pm

Tesco (Elgin, 10 min drive) – 24hr

Aldi/Lidl (Elgin, 10 min drive)

Asda (Elgin, 15 min drive) – 24hr

Sainsburys (Nairn, 30 min drive)

The Re-fill Store (Lossiemouth, 10 minute drive) – check facebook for opening hours – excellent local produce and re-fillary

Old Market Refillary (Forres, 20 minute drive) – check facebook for opening hours – excellent local produce and re-fillary

Our Farm & local produce

We are very proud of our delicious seasonal farm produce here at Westfield, and would be delighted to provide you with more of it, to enjoy either during your stay, or to take home with you and prolong your holiday enjoyment.

Please come and visit "The Honehole shop" at Westfield, next to the cottage, where we sell seasonal farm produce on an honesty box basis.



Local eateries

We are lucky to be spoiled for choice when it comes to delicious local eateries, and particularly making the most of being near our famous Moray coastline. These are some of our favourites, but there are too many for us to list here, so please do explore further afield too:

- Duffus Pizza (Fri – Sat) – excellent pizza van, Duffus village hall (5 min drive)
- Bootleggers, Hopeman (seasonal opening) – seafood & Scottish bistro
- Stew & Drews, Hopeman - Ice cream (our favourite after school treat!)
- The Chippy by Siaway, Hopeman – fish & chips
- The Bothy Bistro, Burghead - local cuisine & seafood
- Orrin, Elgin – fine dining (discount on Wednesdays)
- Golf View, Lossiemouth - pub & food, great views
- Harbour Lights Café, Lossiemouth - Cafe
- Mieles, Lossiemouth - Ice cream
- Catch 79, Lossiemouth – Seafood, Local
- The 1629, Lossiemouth – Continental and Seafood Restaurant
- The Food Truck, Roseisle Beach (seasonal opening) – takeaway
- The Kimberly Inn, Findhorn – pub, local cuisine & seafood
- The Humble Burger, Elgin – burgers and loaded fries
- Café at Johnstones of Elgin – Café and woollens shop
- Logie Steading, nr Forres – Farm shop, café, gallery & shops
- The Old Mill, Brodie – Country Pub & Food
- Connage Highland Dairy, Ardersier – Cheese shop and takeaway coffee
- Cawder Tavern, Cawdor – Country Pub & Food



HOW TO USE . . .

Heating

The heating is controlled remotely – please text Hugh on 07786583123 if you would like it adjusted.

Log burning Fire

1. Ensure the ash is cleared from the grate to allow air flow
2. Please use ash bucket provided and remember it may remain hot for at least 24hrs after the last fire so must be kept on the hearth to prevent damage to floor, rug or grass
3. Place one or two firelighters on the grate
4. Place two or three logs on top of the fire lighters, cut end down, so flames can travel up the grain of the wood (**only wood/paper to be used, no coal**)
5. Close door securely and check every ten minutes or so, until fire is well established
6. If fire is struggling to start, blow on it to help get the air flow going
7. Once fire is well established, check every hour or so, and add logs accordingly
8. Fire can be dampened down by closing air vents (logs will last longer) or made bigger/hotter by opening them (open bottom drawer a couple of inches on hot tub to increase air flow)



Hot tub

- **The hot tub should be emptied and cleaned between each use** – because it has no nasty chemicals in it, it's much better for your skin, but it does need the water changing more frequently. We'll leave this to your discretion. We tend to just treat it like running a giant bath.
- Cleaning spray and cloths are kept under the kitchen sink – please use only soft cloth, spray provided, and water to clean to avoid damaging the inner surface of the hot tub.
- Inlet pipes to stove can be wiped clean when cool
- **DO NOT EMPTY WATER WHEN FIRE IS STILL HOT**
- Allow fire to burn out naturally once finished with hot tub
- Ash box should be emptied between uses – Please use Ash bucket provided, which should be kept on stone surface to avoid burning grass
- Water is emptied by pushing the handle below the fire box to open.

“Quick start” instructions (approximately 3-4hrs total)

- Once the hot tub is cleaned, empty of water and the ash box has been emptied, you're ready to start.
- Fill hot tub using hose beside kitchen door (approx. 1-1 ½ hrs). Ensure handle below fire box is set to “closed” before you start filling.
- **ONLY LIGHT FIRE ONCE WATER LEVEL IS ABOVE BOTH OUTLET PIPES**
- Once water is above both outlet pipes, place one or two firelighters on grate and one or two logs on top and light the firelighters
- Close door securely and check every ten minutes or so until fire is well established. Keep insulated lid on hot tub to speed up heating.
- Open bottom drawer a couple of inches to increase air flow and encourage fire to get going – this is how to adjust the fire whilst lit.
- Once established, check at least every couple of hours to keep fire roaring and water heating up
- It will take approximately 2-3 hours to heat – go for a walk, enjoy a glass of something fizzy, enjoy the view and the company!
- Once hot tub is near desired temperature, close bottom drawer to dampen down the fire
- **If it gets too hot**, top it up with cold water from the hose and stir