

Venture North Update DFG

Talking Tourism

Talking Tourism webinars are back! We are continuing to offer a range of new business support webinars throughout January and February, helping businesses prepare for the 2023 season. Especially in the current economic climate where businesses are looking to save money where they can. These webinars are free and open to all across Caithness and Sutherland thanks to our DMO Tourism Recovery funding via HIE & DSRL.

Feel free to share these with your networks and on social media.

Event Programme:

- Thursday 26th January: 11:00 - 12:00 – [Building Your Business: Becoming Green Tourism Accredited](#)
- Wednesday 1st February: 11:00 - 12:00 – [Talking Tourism: 2023 Catch-Up with Visit Scotland](#)
- Tuesday 14th February: 11:00 - 12:30 – [Building Your Business: Get to know Zero Waste Scotland & Business Energy Scotland](#)

If there are any more topics you have in mind, get in touch with us: ailsa@venture-north.co.uk

You can view recordings of past Talking Tourism webinars [on our YouTube](#).

Career Toolkit Videos -

We have teamed up with businesses across the region to share stories about the fantastic opportunities careers in hospitality and tourism offer. Sitting down with **Kevin Barber, Head Chef of Links House at Royal Dornoch**, we are delighted to [share our first video](#) as part of this work. **Please feel free to share and use this video as an example.**

We are also working with **Developing Young Workforce** looking at ways to encourage young people to see tourism and hospitality as more of a career of choice.

If you would like to get involved in the career toolkits then please reach out to us: ailsa@venture-north.co.uk

The Ultimate Getaway Competition in Sutherland –

As part of our current campaign promoting low season stays we are **running two competitions** to raise the profile of Caithness and Sutherland as amazing areas to have a winter/spring getaway. The first competition, Sutherland, is already live, with the Caithness competition set to go live at the end of January next week. More info and sign up: [website competition page](#).

Links for sharing (closing date 26th Jan)

- [Facebook](#)
- [Instagram](#)

This competition includes some amazing experiences in Dornoch and Brora:

- A two-night stay at the Royal Marine with breakfast and dinner on the first night, including a tour at Clynelish Distillery.
- A night in the incredible Mallart Suite at Links house including dinner at their on-site Restaurant, Mara.
- An exclusive activity package with Connell outdoors and Carnegie Whisky Cellars including a private archery lesson and tutored tasting.

Venture North Destination Update – Save the Date

We are planning to host our 2023 destination update on March 7th (TBC) at a Dornoch location. Once we finalise the details, we will circulate this and hope to see a few of you there! We are also planning some regional roadshows in March as well as opportunities to network and consult.

Focus North Conference

Likely already aware of this, however we will be attending the conference with Cathy giving a presentation on Tourism:

[Focus North](#) Conference 2023 – driving opportunities that shape our future.

8th February – Weigh Inn Thurso: 09:30 – 16:30.

A new interactive event exploring the exciting economic opportunities in the North of Mainland Scotland. There is a packed agenda, including speakers covering many different areas of future opportunity and challenge, and the chance to get involved in the conversation! More info and how to sign up here: <http://ow.ly/qa8b50Mv0qN>