



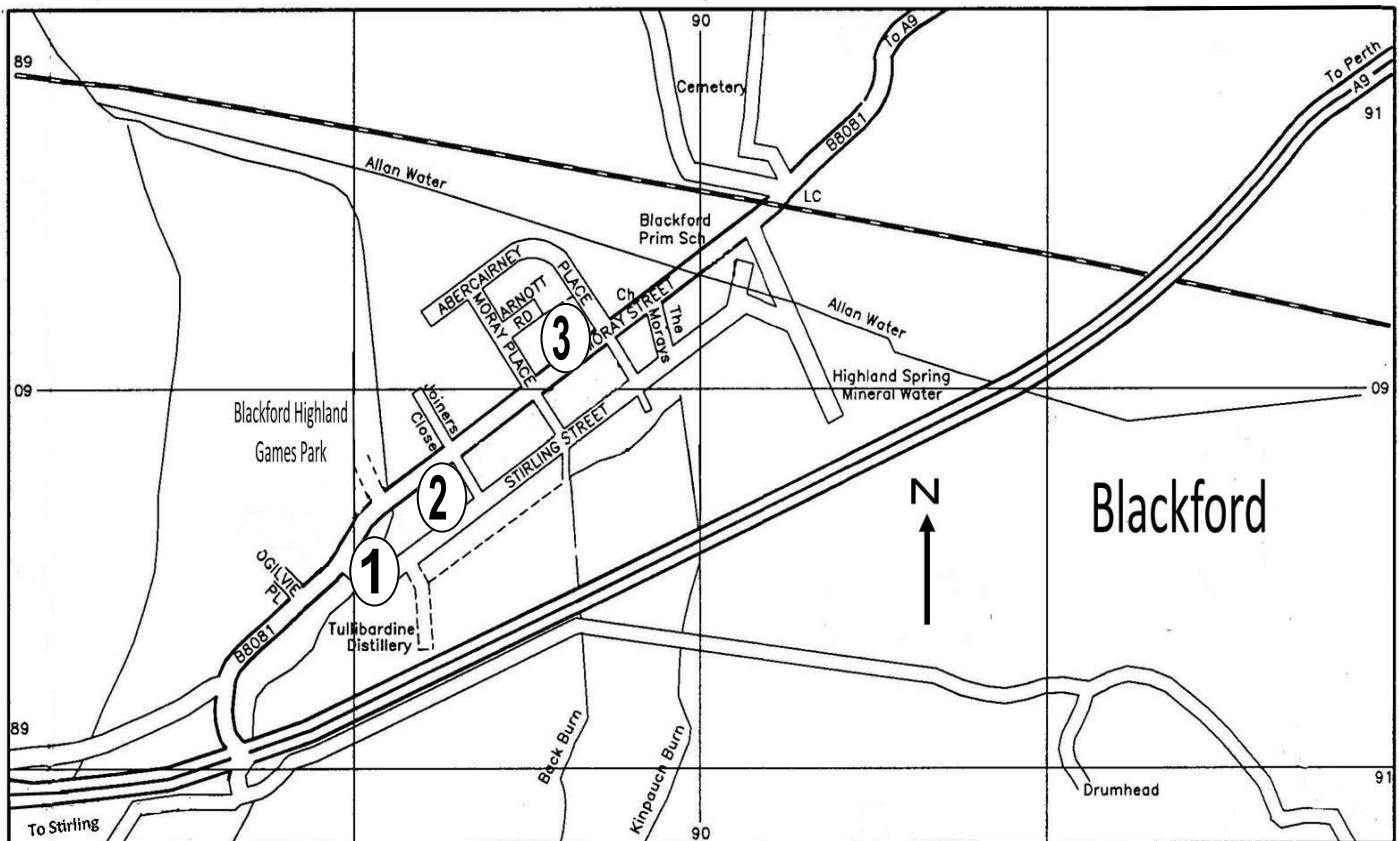
Welcome to Blackford Highland Games

Saturday 25th May 2024

The famous Blackford Highland Games have been held since 1870. The current games are held on an area of land loaned to the community by the landowner. A condition of the loan is that the Highland Games are held there annually in May. We welcome visitors to our Games with a full list of events including throwing the hammer, tossing the caber, putting the shot, athletics, track and field events, Highland dancing, junior solo piping, trade and refreshment stands. **This year we introduce a female Heavyweight event.**



www.facebook.com/BlackfordHighlandGames
www.blackfordhighlandgames.co.uk/



1	Tullibardine Distillery Visitors Centre
2	Blackford Inn (Traditional Scottish Pub)
3	Blackford Village Store (ATM machine)

E-mail: info@blackfordhighlandgames.co.uk

Blackford Highland Games 2024



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No where in Blackford is more than 10 minutes walk from anywhere else in the village and police and stewards are on hand to guide visitors. The games park opens to the public at 10am with highland dancing competitions and local heavy-weight events beginning a little later. The official opening is at 12:30pm when the pipe bands lead the games chieftain into the park. The games official ending is around 4:30pm when the pipe bands salute the chieftain.



Aerial view of the Blackford



Family Friendly



There are many trade stalls in the park with food and drink available in the park or in the village.

Please note that alcohol must not be brought into the park.

The official beer tent sells alcohol and it must be consumed within the designated area.

Tullibardine Distillery is open to the public and the historic Blackford Inn, a few minutes walk from the park, is open all day with a BBQ in the afternoon. In addition the village has a well stocked village store in the main street along from the park which has an ATM machine.

Our games programmes are free and there is no need to book tickets, simply turn up. Dogs are welcome but you must keep them under control at all times and clean up after them. Parking is easy in our village with on and off street parking widely available. Overnight camping is by prior arrangement only, please e-mail for availability.

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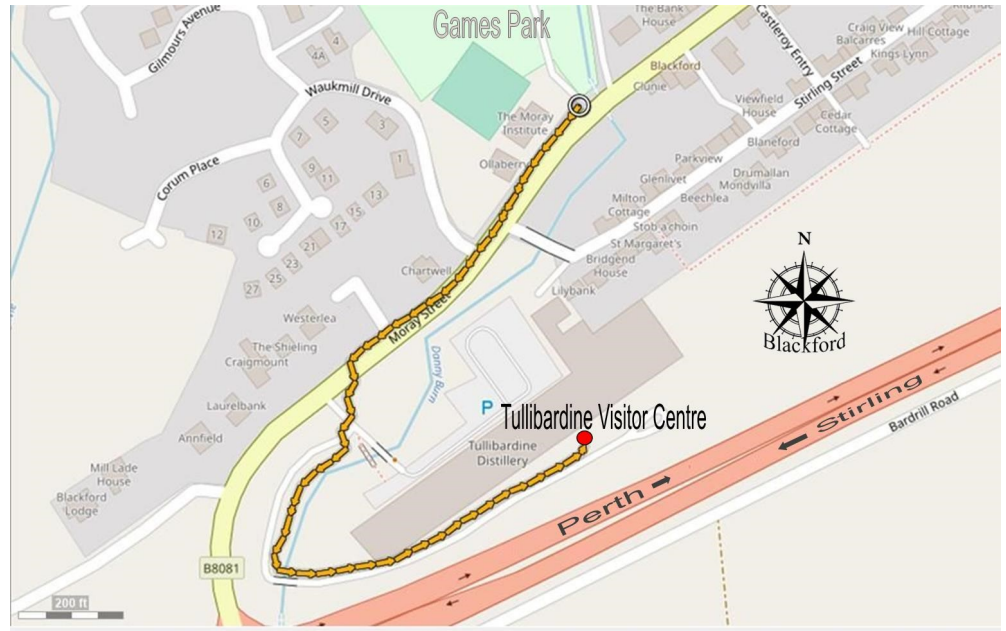
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Our local distillery has a visitor centre where you can enjoy a guided tour and a well stocked shop. It's approx. 1/3 of a mile (530 metres) from the Games Park and is a flat and level walk with one crossing point over the main road. If you would like the tour please phone first.

TEL: +44(0)1764 661809

[https://
www.tullibardine.com/](https://www.tullibardine.com/)



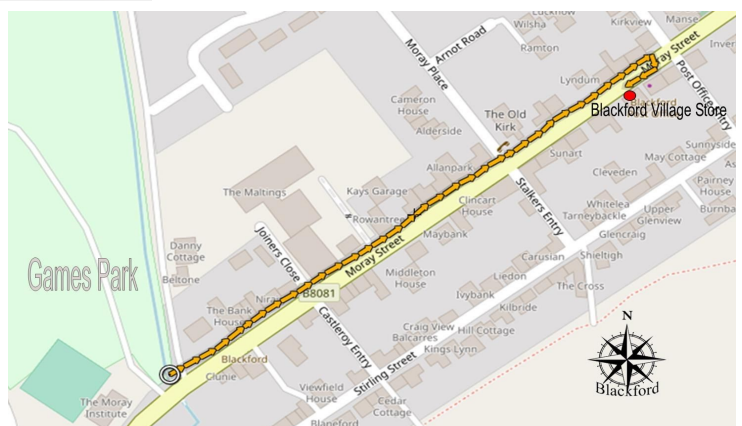
There is a beer tent in the park, but a short walk away (Approx. 390 ft. or 119 metres) is the historic Blackford Inn. The Inn hosts a Games day BBQ and a well stocked bar. The Inn has a childrens' licence so the kids are welcome. Party's of 8 and over should telephone ahead.

Tel: +44(0)1764 682336

Please note that alcohol must not be brought into the park.

Blackford has an excellent village store. Once again a short flat walk (Approx. 1/3 of a mile) along our main street, crossing at the pedestrian controlled lights opposite the store. The shop also has an ATM and a variety of goods both fresh and packaged.

Blackford's Moray Street is flat and wheel chair friendly.



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The ticket prices for 2024 are- Adults £10, Concessions £5, Children £5, under 5's are free. A family ticket is £25 (two adults and two children incld. Parking). We have a card machine facility at our box office.

We are approximately sixteen miles on the bus route from Perth or Stirling on the A9 North near Auchterarder. Within one hour of the city centres of Dundee, Glasgow, Edinburgh and St. Andrews.

The Trossachs lie ten miles to the north and the Ochil Hills a couple of miles to the south

The closest station is historic Gleneagles named after the famous 5 star hotel it serves. There is a regular bus service to and from the station to the village of Blackford. In addition, local taxi companies serve the village and station.



Local bus services are provided by Dochertys Midland Scottish and rail services by Scotrail

www.scotrail.co.uk/

www.dochertysmidlandcoaches.co.uk/

**The Highland Games Park, Blackford, Perthshire,
PH4 1QF**

Grid Ref, NN 89532 08833

Lat 56.259106 Lon -3.7848356

We are easy to find, scan the QR code or enter the postcode (above) above into your Sat Nav. Alternatively you can use our grid reference (above); OS Landranger 58, Perth & Alloa. Our GPS coordinates are above also, now you have no excuse!



Blackford is a very flat village (on Moray St.) and the pavements are wide. Disabled parking is available in the park on a first come first served basis. The stewards will help you park. Please bear in mind though, the games park is mainly grass with un-tarmacked roads. Conditions underfoot depend on the weather. Disabled toilets are available. E-mail us if you have any other questions.

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Events

The Kings of the Highland games are, without doubt, the heavy athletes and Blackford can boast a good turn-out over the years. Some famous names have graced our arena and Geoff Capes still holds the ground record for the 16lb and 22lb shot put set in 1982.

The Heavy Events

16lb & 22lb shot put

16lb & 22lb hammer

28lb weight for distance

56lb weight over the bar

Caber

(Right– the hammer throw)



The Heavy Athlete

Intense training and dedication is the characteristic of the heavy athlete. This commitment to the sport is admirably demonstrated by Vlad Tulacek, one of our most successful heavies of recent years. The big man from the Czech Republic (Left– receiving trophies from Highland games legend Bill Ross) holds the ground record for the 56lb weight over the bar. Every year our spectators hold their collective breath in anticipation as he attempts to break his own record. No one, to date, has bettered him at Blackford.

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Primary School Races

Started in 2015, the primary school races are just about as competitive as it gets. Some of the loudest cheers of the day accompany the races. The children compete for the Highland Games Silver Salver and this award has spent much of its life in the trophy cabinet of the Community School of Auchterarder. Blackford did win the inaugural competition though.

The Races

The stewards on the day decide the actual events based on the age range and the number of competitors. They can follow the pattern below-

100m

200m

4 x 100m relay

etc,

(Right- 2015 100m event)



The races are hosted by the local primary schools parent teachers associations. No matter who wins it's a fun day out for all with the PTA organising other events at their tent and stall. The pictures are from 2015 and the competitors were largely clad in normal attire. The last few years have seen a more structured turn-out with the schools wearing team colours.

(Left- 2015 races for primary 3,4 &5)

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Highland Dancing

Highland dancing didn't feature in the first games of 1870 but appeared shortly after. By 1873 Blackford was an established and lucrative part of the circuit. The prize money per dance was 20 shillings. Modern Blackford is a busy competition with dancers from all over Scotland in attendance. The once virtually male-only event is now dominated by the girls.

The Dancing Competition

Highland Fling

Sword Dance

Reel

Seann Triubhas

Irish Jig

Hornpipe

Lilt

(Right– Dancing winners at Blackford)



In recent years Blackford has welcomed large numbers of dancers. Aged from 5 to adult, the dancing is every bit as competitive as our field and track events.

The dancers in their bright costume provide excitement and colour to Blackford Highland Games.

(Left– Two of our youngest dancers proudly show off their medals.)

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Events (Contd.)

2019 saw the introduction of a Junior heavyweight Competition for under 19 year olds. Blackford were the first to take part and William & David McLaren introduced The McLaren Perpetual Trophy in memory of their grandfather William McLaren, Games Chairman of 1920. This year we continue the fiercely contended primary schools competitions. We have re-introduced solo piping after an absence of 83 years. We started, modestly, with a Junior piping competition judged by Roddy MacLeod MBE and Stuart Brown of TCSOA.

Order of Events

Events take place between 11am to 5pm. Junior Heavies commence 11am. Heavy events & Highland Dancing commence 12:30pm. Tug o' War and Primary Schools Events start at 2:30pm



Roddy MacLeod MBE

Athletic Events

1. 800m Youth Cycling Handicap	11. 800m Handicap Final	21. Youth De'il Tak' the Hindmost
2. 1600m Youth Cycling Handicap	12. 90m Handicap Final	22. De'il Tak' the Hindmost
3. 800m Cycling Handicap (Heats)	13. 1600m Cycling Handicap	23. Long Jump
4. 90m Open Handicap (Heats)	14. 400m Open Handicap (Heats)	24. High Jump
5. 90m Youth Handicap	15. 1600m Open Handicap	25. Triple Jump
6. 800m Open Handicap (Heats)	16. 200m Open Handicap (Heats)	
7. 800m Youth Handicap	17. 3200m Open Cycling Handicap	
8. 800m Cycling Handicap	18. 400m Open Final	
9. 90m Open Semi-Finals	19. 200m Youth Handicap	
10. 90m Youth Handicap Final	20. 200m Open Handicap Final	

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Blackford– 154 years of tradition

We at Blackford Highland Games pride ourselves in our historic roots and our respect for the traditions of the Highland games. Our heavyweight and athletic competitions are regulated by the Royal Scottish Highland Games Association of which Blackford is a founder member. Our gathering attracts some of the best heavy athletes in Europe and our track and cycling is equally well attended. Cycling at Blackford continues to go from strength to strength with a record number of competitors at the 2019 meeting.



Junior Heavyweight competition at Blackford



Cycling at Blackford



Under 17 track at Blackford



Please note– Blackford Highland Games is a public event and photography and video recording take place. Our athletes and dancers are aware of this and expect to have their achievements recorded for posterity. Pictures will appear in local newspapers and will be used in our publicity. Please be aware of this when you enter the park. Blackford Highland Games does not accept responsibility for images, videos and any other media recorded during the games.

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Blackford Highland Games

	BOX OFFICE		GAMES ADMIN.		TRADE STANDS
	DANCING STAGE		DANCING VILLAGE		GUESTS & OFFICIALS
	SOLO PIPING		FIRST AID		JUMPS AREA
	CHILDRENS CORNER		HEAVY WEIGHTS		SPRINT TRACK
	RUNNING & CYCLING START		TRAIL RACE		LIVESTOCK PEN
	R.S.H.G.A & TRACK OFFICIALS		RECEPTION		AIR CADETS

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