



MEDIA INFORMATION - FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SCOTLAND'S HERITAGE PARTNERS PRESENT 2018 TOUR OPERATOR OF THE YEAR AWARDS

Scotland's Heritage, the partnership of 24 key Scottish tourism businesses representing over 800 of Scotland's finest visitor attractions were delighted to announce the 2018 tour operator winners at Explore GB in Newcastle.

Norman Allen Group Tours is awarded with Scotland's Heritage UK Tour Operator of the Year and **Abbey UK** is awarded with Scotland's Heritage International Tour Operator of the Year

We are delighted to make these awards extra special with a collaboration with Glencairn Crystal.

These prestigious awards were first launched by **Scotland's Heritage** at VisitScotland Expo 2013 to recognise the considerable importance the travel trade plays in Scotland's Heritage partner businesses including worldwide promotion and providing the vital forward bookings that are vital to this sector.

Group spokesperson Liz Young, National Trust for Scotland, said

We want to recognize innovation in tour programmes and show appreciation to tour operators for their considerable dedication and hard work promoting the Scottish heritage sector to clients throughout the UK and globally in relevant languages. We are delighted to award Abbey UK and Norman Allen Group Travel this year. They are worthy winners.

Ginny Hill, Norman Allen Group Travel said:

We value our relationships with members of Scotland's Heritage highly, and are delighted to have won the award.

Scotland's Heritage partnership stretches from Dumfries to Orkney and they work together to

showcase the very best of Scotland's Heritage attractions to the travel trade. All partners will be exhibiting together in a 30 stand aisle at VisitScotland Expo in Glasgow, SECC 11 & 12 April.

ENDS / March2018

Notes to Editors:

Pictured in the photo 1/(Lto R) Liz Young(NTS), Lindsay Robertson (HES), Kat Brogan (Mercat Tours), Elaine Green(Edinburgh Bus Tours), **Claire Thompson (winner -Norman Allen Group Travel)**,Iain Terry (Royal Collection), **Karin Gidlund (winner -Abbey UK)** Yvonne Wagoum (Big Houses of Scottish Borders), Gillian Beaton (The Scotch Whisky Experience), Pete Chambers (Royal Yacht Britannia), Jonathan Bagby (Real Mary King's Close).

Scotland's Heritage comprises 24 key tourism partners and collectively represents over 800 of Scotland's top visitor attractions. For all partner details go to www.scotlandsheritage.org.uk .

Armadale Castle and Gardens
Big Houses in the Scottish Borders
Cawdor Castle
Discovering Distilleries Diageo
Discovery Point and RRS Discovery, Dundee
Dunrobin Castle
Dunvegan Castle
Glamis Castle (Strathmore Estates)
Historic Scotland
Historic Houses Association for Scotland
Highland Folk Museum
Inveraray Castle
Mercat Tours
New Lanark
National Museums Scotland
National Trust for Scotland
New Lanark World Heritage Site
Royal Collection Trust
Rosslyn Chapel
The Castle and Gardens of Mey
The Royal Edinburgh Ticket
The Real Mary King's Close
The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo
The Royal Yacht Britannia
The Scotch Whisky Experience

The awards are supported by **Glencairn Crystal**, a longstanding partner with the Scotland's Heritage group and suppliers of Premium crystal glassware across the world - www.glencairn.co.uk



For further information and other images:

Contact: Liz Young, Mobile: 07967 341703 lizyoung.dunbar@googlemail.com

www.scotlandsheritage.org.uk

Follow Scotland's Heritage Partnership on Twitter @ScHeritage

VisitScotland Expo is VisitScotland's major annual business to business travel trade workshop held in 2018 – 11 & 12 April, Glasgow. More information www.visitscotlandexpo.com

Explore GB is VisitBritain's International travel trade workshop, held annually in March

