

Question 9

What additional tourist attractions and/or facilities would enhance Nairn as a destination?

answered question 159

skipped question 57

Seasonal well located and sign posted tourist information office! Less shops - Nairn maybe has too many shopping outlets now. Shops which reflect Nairn - golf, former spa town, beach destination. Character of Nairn should be reflected. Shops which specialise and provide a service - sweet making, organic fruit and veg outlet.....

Nairn has a number of key resources that make it a destination, the secret is how you connect all of these in a coherent and manageable way for the visitor and residents alike.

fitness trail

Better signposted paths/walks with path to Cawdor kept clear with tourist bus for return

Use of bandstand in summer for events

Indoor play for wet weather in community centre

Beach activities organised

Good sports facilities, Walking and cycling areas. A better skate park. Events & Shows.

Clear signage from the A96 to the High Street and attractions,

A kite festival on the beach.

A dedicated place for visitors to be made welcome if they need information. A centre for local crafts and upmarket Scottish items.

More use made of the lovely Little Theatre for local drama groups and concerts (lunchtime?).

A good list of places to buy food and where to eat (on recommendation) - this could serve to create local competition and raise standards in presentation.

Visitor information centre & shop. Digital display bus times & an up-to-date timetable at the bus station.

More shops, a restaurant & perhaps a fishing related museum at the harbour.

Beach huts & more picnic sites/benches along the Links area.

A properly maintained path along both sides of the river Nairn with wildlife/environmental info panels.

A new indoor facility. A "Charlie Chaplin" week of films & other activities.

More annual events & regular street markets.

Clear signage for facilities & parking in Nairn.

Improved & increased floral displays .

An electric bus to service local attractions around Nairn eg Station, golf clubs, harbour & caravan park

Improved facilities for families with children.

The beach/links is a considerable attraction but the quality of the play park equipment and activities is poor.

Other councils spend a lot more on these things - just look at the play parks in Broughty Ferry or Crieff for example.

There's nothing to do with kids in inclement weather either, the swimming pool has very limited opening hours and there's no soft play or indoor play at all.

Keep the beach tidy - too much litter and broken bottles lying around

Play ball area for children possible outdoor climbing structure for all ages.

Visitor centre

Central Fountain and Floral display next to Old Social Works Building to catch eye of passing traffic, lit-up at night and a Dolphin or Golfing theme.

Better advertised Dolphin tours, bagpipes on the street, "haggis" hunting on the estates, the nairn show actually being in Nairn again,

More 'event days' such as the market day etc

Regular markets, food markets, return of harbourfest and similar. Also such days that are planned throughout the year, not just the typical tourist season.

More places to eat ie the old arcade at the Harbour perhaps?

More interesting shops with Scottish products

Like they had when I was young the gala queen parade the pipe band at the town clock more music events and more markets in the summer local produce

There are plenty of exorbitantly expensive shops in the surrounding towns so we don't need any here.

Tourists are only here for a few months of the year, after golf or day trips the problem is to get them out of their very expensive hotels that provide all their needs and spend more money on the High Street, on what I don't know.

A safe, clean, friendly, interesting environment is needed before deciding on how to take the money from them.

Nairn needs something that defines it as a destination. It could be retail; heritage and culture; walking / cycling / outdoors / sailing. While quirky, even the Chaplin trail could deliver the desired focus and outcome.

More one-off events in the summer, classic vehicles rally, theme days, farmers markets, HarbourFest days , Jazz festival weekend, at least 2 or 3 event days each month

Ongoing events similar to those we have seen in the last year - markets, craft fairs...

Tourism office back please

Better signage

Look at the events/attractions/activities Carrbridge has developed.

Events like the old Harbourfest which attracted significant numbers. Anything which attracts visitors and locals to 'something'different'

A timetable at the bus station. The current electronic one seldom works. Visitors ask the way to Aberdeen, the airport and Inverness.

A raised bus boarding platform-like the one at the airport.

Improve the footways from the car to the the High St. A nervous visitor might wish to avoid the existing links. Better lighting and sub-surface heating of the paths would make more welcoming as would good quality, non-slip paving.

Long stay parking for coaches say, in Cumming St.

Development of Nairn as a tourist centre.

Needs to be something unique in order to get the tourist buses to stop, if they will plan a stop then others will follow. Suggested experience - Edwardianise the town centre, shops-signs-shop staff with the additional benefit of being able to use old style Pounds, Shillings and pence. Benefit if set up correctly is that it would be an all year round attraction taking in nostalgia + education + enjoyment.

Lit promenade at seafront, more eateries along sea front, beach huts, bbq pits, swimming pool with slides, modern play area at seafront, redeveloped athletics track with public lap track, community trim trail

More choice for evening eating.

An art gallery to house all those pictures sitting unseen in Inverness belonging to the Scottish Academy.

Another theatre/cinema/concert venue - the Community Centre gets booked up already and the seats and cinema facilities are not good.

What we need is for the High Street to become a mecca for "destination shopping". The Highland Region could encourage this with rating and other incentives. We already have too many coffee houses/tea rooms.

More antique shops for instance (if the Newton can host antique fairs, there must be a demand?).

An information centre/shop where you can buy holiday items eg. tents, swimming gear, buckets and spades etc

Tidy up existing eyesores and continue lobbying for by-pass. Improve access to tourist info' via signage.

Capitalising on the 'Charlie Chaplin' holiday destination image of a beautiful old Victorian spa town; permanent exhibition of town history in town centre, including information on magnificent facades and architecture of high street, and fishertown; accentuating the health benefits of the air and sea; fostering and investing in the quietly dignified image of the town that already naturally belongs to it with the aim of attracting people who would return every year, rather than 'quick fix' cheap solutions without a clear 'target audience'.

Evolving this kind of cohesive theme to tourist 'marketing', with a single logo that is instantly recognisable and may be adopted in multiple approaches to 'selling' the town.

A 'health spa' type information centre selling health products and providing daily weather, tide and water cleanliness information etc.

Soft Play

Family orientated restaurants

High quality eateries

Good quality, professional arts programming in the arts centre.

Better directions to and parking for both beaches.

Better utilisation of the huge beach area - Sand Yatching perhaps and beach pedalos (see Le Touquet website)

Motor Home service Point or well advertised facilities and directions if local sights provide the service.

Elimination of seagulls in the town centre. They are aggressive and disease ridden. Worst, they (understandably) scare pets, children and mothers with children.

Please make a bylaw to make feeding of seagulls illegal. Just have a look at Dumfries & Galloway initiatives - they had a really serious problem a few years ago, possibly worse than Nairn. Now, there's no problem down there.

Elimination of these huge flying pests will make the town far less unattractive to visitors. Which is an essential 1st step towards making it more attractive.

Yearly music festival on the beach.

Coffee shops to open later in the evening during the summer

Picture House :

I think it is picturesque in parts so enhancing what we have would be good.

The Harbour frontage needs a major overhaul of its buildings. Perhaps give grants to have the buildings painted to make the area more like a seaside town.. Encourage more bars and restaurants to the area.

Making the main car park area in the centre feel like somewhere worth going - using the empty building to make visitors feel welcome and valued, while also pointing them towards the links and harbour.

it is more a need for an annual plan of activities which would attract visitors and townsfolk eg dry skating rink.

Buildings in drive through town in much better condition at present.

Much better signage on way into Nairn from both sides, with info re the beaches and links.

Coffee / refreshments available near harbour 7 days and much longer hours.

Old amusement building re-utilised. Boat trips etc.

clean beach! more coffee shops, restaurants, toy shops around beach area/ beach entertainment

Harbour development to provide more amenities including a water sports hub, more accessible harbour with water and power on the pontoons.

Cafés and gardens, easy walks including from town centre to beach and harbour, making it all a coherent experience.

A better located Tourist Information Office would be better eg an empty shop in town, not the community centre.

Regular farmers' market/community market.

Our beach is our best asset and it is currently being destroyed by heavy usage. The East beach dunes are suffering tremendous degradation and the proliferation of rubbish and filled dog poo bags that are abandoned all over the place is going to impact seriously on tourist perceptions.

We need raised BOARD WALKS built in dune areas.

More BINS for dog poo bags on the EAST BEACH particularly and a campaign for KEEP NAIRN CLEAN.

A well advertised CLEAN UP day and community group participation encouraged. I would try and get schools involved too.

The LINKS needs sprucing up.

Nairn is also ideal for linking up with the Australian Sculpture By the Sea event...I will speak to NICE about this.

A SCIENCE CENTRE LIKE DUNDEE

INDOOR PLAY FACILITY FOR 0-18

Better signage and access to Links and Maggot car parks.

Seasonal touring caravan site of adequate capacity established closer to the town.

Boating pond at the harbour area.

Floral gardens and baskets make a town much more pleasurable to walk through Market stalls are a great attraction and people will come from far and near as they do in Inverness for the Farmers Market and at Xmas

More signs to deter people from walking their dogs on the main beach during the summer season. also dogs should be kept on a lead so their owners would have to clean up the mess they make.

Resurrection of Jazz Festival.

Links Cafe open all year, or another cafe at Links / Swimming Pool area for all the walkers along the promenade.

More local markets.

putting green operated properly

A small cinema - somewhere to go in the evening if wet instead of pubs.

More monuments/statues of local icons

Nairn needs a focus to build an identity which creates a unique selling point to differentiate it from other tourist attractions. The proposed Charlie Chaplin trail was a possible example. There has to be a reason to come to Nairn. This will be even more important IF the bypass is ever built.

Make more of the links and provide healthy activities for teens

Water sports. Theater. Lectures .

Improved signage.

Improvement to area around town centre parking - e.g. tidy up surrounding walls or replace with drystone type walls as has been done in Aviemore.

Better transport links to Inverness, later trains and buses and more frequent.

Floral displays be invested in again, we need people to get the impression that this looks a nice place to stop.

Fishertown and harbour parking.

Return to local galas and events .

Beach front arcade. Campsite for camping, in tents. Weekly market stalls selling crafts, baking fresh food etc.

More use of the farmers field.

Understand the tourist models

families with young kids

Target caravan park visitors

Tourers

Encourage the campervanners

More facilities and activities along the seafront

Facilities, the toilet facilities need to be modernized, they are a scary and contained in an uninviting building. They need to be secure, safe buildings that you'd be happy as a visitor to use. At current I'd refer a visitor to

a cafe to use the bathroom.

Regular, advertised performances by Pipe Bands. Other musicians performing in Bandstand.

Regular, advertised reenactments on Links

Another cafe at the beach, and possibly more toilets, and a larger play area.

Improved riverside paths; steps to Flrhall Bridge replaced by well-designed ramps. Ideally replace the bridge

Increased bays at the caravan site to allow for more camping and motor homes, at present the company that runs it appears to be keeping it a minimum for their own profit.

Better signposting for things like toilets; changing facilities for families with young children; initiatives to deal with the litter issue (I know, that's a UK wide society issue....!). some kind of social enterprise which involves the school (coffee place etc) in business development skills?

combined weekend passes for golf courses!

For attraction, curtail further pebble-dashed properties, the buildings by the harbour and opposite the Seaforth are just horrendous to look and of dire and drab. Then again, each to their own.

An Art Gallery where local artists could display. Better use made of local walks and cycle tracks.

Beach and Harbour to be upgraded. More quality Hotels. More joined up thinking by all in the tourist industry.

Some more fairs/festivals to draw people to the town off season.

Visitors hub

Better use of the Veivfield area.

An enhanced water-front development perhaps?

A bypass.

Seaplane charters from the harbour.

Traditional arts and crafts village in the town centre - not more high street chains.

More facilities along the front, shelters to sit in when it rains, communal BBQ that people can just take charcoal to use.

Some lighting for when it starts getting darker.

The need is not for new "additional attractions" but for the town to present and use its existing features and assets in the best possible. Nairn would be enhanced as a destination by the sympathetic restoration and re-use (not demolition) of historic buildings; a dedicated visitor info centre adjacent to the main road with adequate parking; a re-vamped harbour area and marina which prioritises visitor amenity over housing; clean-up and facelift of all High Street frontages; conversion of Courthouse and listed School behind it for public use as gallery, display space etc (as for example in Peebles); improved and integrated pedestrian and cycle access across town, along the coast and into surrounding countryside; a proper Coastal Path all the way to Inverness; continuous, well maintained Riverside paths up both sides of the Nairn from harbour to Cawdor; user-friendly and well-designed signage around town to all amenities and to hotels and B&Bs; good guides - whether paper maps or mobile apps - to what's on, what-to-find and where; joined-up public transport (ie airport buses coordinated with local flight times, local bus services to link Nairn with Cawdor); a proper transport hub/bus station with modern information displays; public floral displays and beds around town and in Viewfield (if Forres can do it, so could Nairn....); programmed musical and other performances at the Bandstand in peak season; develop other strands of cultural activity to link with the Book & Arts Fest (revived Jazz Festival? street theatre? etc); rigorous attention to beach cleanliness; beach huts (like Hopeman and elsewhere...); a cull on urban seagulls; and the list could go on.....

Information centre together with internet cafe

taxi tour centre, boat trips for visitors

walking and wildlife tours

Anything you can do when it's raining.

Better children's facilities at the links

As detailed above Nairn needs a clear message--one is for pop up shops. A second thrust is as a festival town, but with the emphasis on encouraging an arts legacy of ongoing business, and the third key point is to have a major tourist attraction in the town centre (i.e. not Viewfield or the Harbour but on the High Street. My suggestion is to push for a Highland Art Gallery (there isn't one), incorporating a Moray Firth Interpretation Centre.

Cycling routes e.g. Coastal

More festivals

A passenger ferry service to and from Cromarty during the summer months

Regular Public pipe band performances (weather permitting) in or near the bandstand. In high summer these performances should be as often as possible .

Harbour restaurant on current "Taylor made fun" site.

Incentives for renting retail outlets in town centre.

1. Bid to make Nairn the Scottish venue for an IronMan event: IM in Wales attracts very large numbers of competitors and tourists to Tenby where accommodation is sold out; and we have similar sort of town and could supply what's needed: beach and sea for swimming event, spectacular countryside and hills for cycling and marathon, hotels and guest houses
2. High quality Art Centre/Gallery - cultural tourism very big business now
3. Rehoused and more centrally-located museum
4. More good High St restaurant (e.g Italian) and pub choices

Boat trips, sea kayaking, nature walks/trails

Indoor play area for children for bad weather

Improvement of the harbour and its surrounds to give a visitor focal point and encouraging visiting yachts enroute to and from the canal.

Better Quality Childrens play area at the beach

IKEA

Nairn already has great amenities - the main focus should be to make the most of what we have -ensure empty shops are affordable and in a fit state for local producers/businesses/community organisations to trade from and showcase to visitors all that Nairn and the surrounding area can offer..

dedicated gallery showing local artists work all year round

Provision of Band music at the Bandstand at weekends to entertain people on the Links. I thought that was what it was built for

Promotion of activities like Kite flying weekends/competitions on the Links.

Hot air balloon racing venue. Its done near Bristol with airports nearby.

Wind/Sand carting competition at low tide on East Beach.

Get rid of the eyesore Sand dancer arcade at the harbour.

Allow private interest to come into the harbour area to build up market American style Crazy Golf and other family attractions. It can be done tastefully without giving the area a "Blackpool image"

Some items below relate partially to tourist use.

Decent bus station and public toilets

More information hot spots, path routes that are well signposted, a display map of all businesses which includes the nature of the business for those not familiar to the town to make the most of their visit,

More could be made of Viewfield for concerts given by, for instance, the pipe band. Thought should be given to resurrecting the Jazz Festival (or any other music genre for that matter) which could precede or follow the Nairn Book and Arts Festival. Maybe even look at restarting the Nairn Golf Week which could operate between both clubs.

Tourist office, cycle hire shop, improved walking routes at river

Improved play park facilities.

Many of the leisure and community centres in the highlands have children hours with bouncy castles and ball games, this could easily be done in Nairn but isn't. As a family holiday destination there is little to do when the weather is poor that needs to be addressed.

All shops staff should be well versed about facility's in town eg beach bowling tennis courts etc this would help tourists.

Last Summer whilst waiting to be served, a tourist asked the assistant what can we do in Nairn answer nothing.

Proper/ Clear signage to direct people to what is already there. Tourist info.

Make use of Harbour area and beautiful beaches, and have water sports facility.

More good quality eating/drinking establishments around Harbour area with ability to sit outside.

Beach Huts.

Offer of water sports in summer.

Improved play park facilities for children. Beach huts. Arts center. Move the tourist office to the High Street.

Better signage all round town and approaches.

Central easily accessible tourist office.

Short stay motorhome park for self sufficient vans ? at Viewfield and managed by Sports Club

Nice hostel for backpackers and low budget families, especially if coastal path is extended from Forres.

Extend coastal path from Forres through Culbin.

Proper access information for Kingsteps for birdwatchers once court case determined.

Much better maintenance of upper river and Delnies circular paths. This year was completely neglected until the race in late September.

Encourage cycling holidays.

Permanent orienteering courses in Delnies wood and East Beach.

Make much more noise about awards Nairn has had. Not getting a fraction of the publicity or money that we should have share of.

entertainment on links like outdoor music or puppet shows

Soft play facilities similar to the Playbarn at Fochabers

Tours, Bands playing; showfield turned into a park.

Clean streets and offering good class merchandise for visitors leaning towards art and history perhaps.

The Nairn Lido - a seaside water park for 21st cent.

Clean streets, no drunks spilling out of pubs, no youngsters needlessly hanging about.

cafe that STAY open past 5pm.

areas for children/TEENAGERS to hang out/play

A decent swimming pool and gym / leisure facility with more user friendly opening hours.

Indoor/soft play area for young children monthly markets nice coffee shops eateries

Fully upgrade of the Harbour Area and seafront. Better beach signposting. The seafront has been and will continue to be Nairn's major attraction.

Indoor facilities

Jazz Festival, Antiques, Sand Yachting on East Beach, Concerts in the Community Centre.

A proper restaurant, and a better harbor area

Pedestrianised Victorian High Street image

TIC plus any connected themed trail/event/display/building/museum e.g. charlie chaplin/dolphins/golf/fishermen.

Certainly better toilet facilities are an absolute must. The museum needs to be nearer the High St. The old community centre would seem a good choice combined with an art gallery.

Dedicated tourist information centre not part of community centre.

More frequent rail service from Inverness.

Direct rail link to Inverness airport.

Cleaner and more attractive high street where seagull poop is removed regularly and seagulls discouraged from nesting in town centre.

A gallery where people can view some art with a nice coffee shop included, all in one.

The community centre as nice as it is, doesn't encourage people to go and spend time other than planned activities.

A nice restaurant down by the harbour side perhaps where the old amusement park is, with an outside area facing the beach.

More general amenities by the beach.

A dedicated tourist information centre

Free wifi access (at least in specified areas)

Probably covered above but good public toilets with (separate?) facilities for mums/families with babies.

Adequate seating to allow people to just sit and watch the world go by, rest, etc.

local music festival, fireworks night, theme nights town centre and harbour fest, ceilidh dances on the links, or maggit, beach fest,

Most people who come to Nairn like to walk along the sea path to the harbour, make this area more visitor friendly demolish the old gaming building near the boat yard, its and eyesore!

Good and extensive children's play park

Art gallery, organic café, more workshops on variety of areas to pull in visitors who currently go to Forres and Findhorn.

Beach huts.

Make more of river walk - its beginning is not attractive, upgrade skate park, upgrade play parks, more family friendly cafes and attractions.

Do up the High Street.

Prominent Notice Board in front of Town House

more frequent transport in to nairn – bus/train

A dedicated whisky shop with whisky tastings and food tastings/demo's etc...maybe linked to Brakla Distillery and Baxters and other local farms and growers

Improvements in beach facilities -- food, renovation of derelict gaming operation, perhaps as a restaurant.

Evening cafe culture in town centre

Summer Street Market

Return of the Home Holiday System - Vehicle Parade; Pipe Band; Children Fancy Dress competition - like it used to be.

Have the the River Ranger organise events (with volunteers) in / on the River - guided walks for example - from the Harbour to Firhall and back; longer walks to Cawdor.

regular town tours. entertainment such as "Nairnia" or similar during the summer months

Tourist information centre

Street markets/activities

The removal of the flats at the bus station would be top. We could have had a lovely entrance to the park, coffee shop etc etc. Improvement of any green areas with flower beds etc Forres is the same size as us but much more attractive.

Christmas Market? more facilities adjacent to the beach area

Farmers/Craft market

Nairn has to look more 'quaint' and attractive instead of looking drab.

Seaside beach facilities nearby to the Links Car Park eg. Beachfront Cafe Promenade and integrated toilet facilities.

More attractive frontage as you drive along the a96. Better signs to our beautiful beaches.

A craft and art centre with exhibition area in old courthouse? That would attract tourists - what about a lovely fountain and a bronze statue of someone/something special?

Maybe an old Nairn fishing boat to show we were once a fishing town?

Nairn needs to better promote itself to the 'day trip' market and become site of excellence for watersports.

Tidy and clean shop fronts

Later opening cafés

Cinema

More needs to be made of Nairn's history.

Regular performance of the pipe band (people would travel to see that)

A dedicated visitor centre

Improvement to harbour area

Art gallery for local artists