

# Alvie House Weddings



Alvie Estate Office  
Kincaig, Kingussie  
Inverness-shire PH21 1NE

Tel: 01540 651255 [www.alvie-estate.co.uk](http://www.alvie-estate.co.uk)

## Welcome to Alvie House

*An Edwardian Style Shooting Lodge dating back to the mid nineteenth century Alvie House has a long tradition of being a family home and a place for gracious entertainment. Its warm welcome and traditional charm allow guests to enjoy the style of years gone by when there was time for field sports, leisurely conversations, reading books in comfortable armchairs and strolls around the gardens and Estate. The house provides accommodation and well appointed reception rooms providing an ideal venue for fully catered group bookings such as:-*

- *Weddings*
- *Shooting & Fishing Parties*
- *Family Groups*
- *Functions & Entertaining*
- *Business Meetings*
- *Training Courses & Seminars*
- *Product Launches*
- *Corporate Entertainment & Filming*
- *Quiet Relaxation*



*The house faces south with views across a small loch and native pine woodland to the Cairngorm Mountains beyond Alvie House is the hub of the 13,000 acre Alvie and Dalraddy Estates, home to five generations of the Williamson family. The light spacious rooms are filled with period furniture and family portraits, Reception rooms include a drawing room, library, dining-room and billiard room with a full sized billiard table. The excellent cuisine uses seasonal local produce, whenever possible, including salmon, trout, venison, lamb and grouse from the Estate.*

*As all weddings are unique we are happy to meet & discuss your individual requirements for your special day. Alvie House can hold wedding ceremonies as well as receptions with either a religious minister or humanist minister. This can be either inside the House or outside by the loch in the warmer months. Alvie House is always let exclusively; weddings can be catered for using the House as well as having a marquee in the grounds of the Estate.*

# Alvie House Buffet Menu

## Cold Dishes - (choice of 4)

Whole Poached Salmon in Aspic  
Prawns with a Chilli Mayo Dressing  
Sugar Baked York Ham  
Roast Rib of Alvie Beef  
Roast free range Chicken  
Cold Roast Loin of Alvie Venison  
Crown Roast of Norfolk Turkey  
Rosemary & Garlic Roast Gigot of Lamb



## Hot Dishes - (choice of 2)

Alan's Alvie Venison or Beef Casserole  
Mushroom Stroganoff  
Seafood Risotto with Parmesan shavings  
Fillet of Pork in a Creamy Paprika Sauce  
Shepherds Pie with braised Red Cabbage  
Chicken Fricassee  
Irish Stew  
Noodles with Chicken & Prawns  
Caribbean Fruit Curry



## Salad Dishes - (choice of 6)

Mixed Leaf Salad & Honey Dressing  
Plum Tomatoes, Mozzarella & Basil Salad  
Eggs with Tomato Mayo  
Fusilli Pasta & Pesto Tomato Dressing  
Braised Rice with a Curry Mayo  
Creamy Coleslaw with Apple  
New Potato, Red Onion & Coriander Salad  
Cous Cous, Red Bean & Peppers  
Beetroot with Mint Jelly Dressing  
Niçoise Salad  
Lemon Polenta & Mung Bean Salad



## Sweet Dishes - (choice of 4)

Fresh Alvie Strawberries or  
Raspberries (in season)  
Fresh Fruit Salad  
Chocolate & Toffee Profiteroles  
Orange Crème Caramel  
Lemon Syllabub  
Chocolate Pear Flan  
Kiwi Fruit Cheesecake  
Chestnut Meringues  
Strawberry Romanoff (in season)  
Chocolate & Almond Mousse

Fresh Coffee / Tea



# The History of Alvie



The Estate has had a colourful and eventful history. In the 1860's when **Sir John Ramsden** bought it from **MacPherson-Grant**, he proceeded to plant large areas of Scots Pine from seed selected from the best growing trees of the Caledonian Pine Forest, the results of which can still be seen today in the woods surrounding the Lodge.

In 1905 the Estate was sold to **Robert (Bertie) Bovill Whitehead** whose father John, and grandfather, Robert Snr, designed and built the famous torpedo of the same name. **The family married into some of the most influential in Europe with Bertie's cousin Marguerite Hoyos marrying the son of the German Chancellor Herbert von Bismark whilst another cousin Frances, fell in love with and married a certain Captain Von Trapp whose story is told in the Sound of Music.** Frances was the mother of the 7 Von Trapp children.

The Whiteheads also became well known for their **knowledge in deer management** and were consequently responsible for initiating a pioneering management policy that was to prove highly successful and from which the estate still benefits today. Probably the most influential of these was **G Kenneth Whitehead** who has written many books on the subject.

In 1923 **Lady Carnarvon** bought Alvie from the Whiteheads shortly after the untimely death of her husband, **Lord Carnarvon, 5th Earl of Carnarvon.** Although she only remained here for 5 years she designed and built a model dairy farm which remained active into the 1950's despite the inclement climate.

With the reputation as a headstrong businesswoman and always looking to maximise investments, she sold Alvie in 1927 to **Alexander Williamson**, who was involved in banking in America and forestry and timber in Canada. It has remained within the family ever since.





# Sample Menus



## MENU 1

Smoked Salmon Avocado & Walnut Salad

☪

Roast Haunch of Alvie Venison

*Served with a rich game sauce, apples and blackcurrants*

☪

Strawberry Romanoff

*Fresh Alvie strawberries served on a raspberry coulis with vanilla ice cream & toasted almonds*

☪

Coffee & Petit Fours

## MENU 2

Sea Food Platter

*served on mixed leaves with a spicy tomato dressing*

☪

Fillet of Beef Stroganoff

*served with saffron rice and a dressed salad*

☪

Fresh Fruit Vacherin

*served on a butterscotch sauce*

☪

Coffee & Petit Fours

## MENU 3

Spicy Parsnip & Apple Soup

*with parsnip crisps*

☪

Crusted Fillet of Local Salmon

*with a black bean salsa*

☪

Cherry & Kiwi Fruit Cheesecake

*served on a strawberry coulis*

☪

Coffee & Petit Fours

## MENU 4

Parma Ham & Melon  
or Green Figs

☪

Alvie Venison Casserole

*With candied fruits and wild mushrooms*

☪

Choux Pastry Ring

*filled with a praline cream & toffee sauce*

☪

Coffee & Petit Fours



# Testimonials

*'I am writing to express my gratitude for arranging a most memorable day. I have had numerous letters from guests who attended complimenting the **excellent standards of service & hospitality** from all of the staff involved. I must also corroborate these praises for the standards and the easy atmosphere that you provided, **it was just like attending someone's home.**'*

Kenneth J Ireland

*'Just a quick note to thank you for making our wedding day so special. We've had lots of comments from guests to say that they loved the location and house; they enjoyed the delicious food and appreciated your **friendly and efficient service**. I think these compliments speak for themselves!*

Karen & Matt

*'Our heartfelt thanks to you and all the staff for making Roger & Shonagh's wedding so special in every way. **It even exceeded our hopes & dreams!** Alvie House is beautiful! The food, gardens, accommodation and everything was superb! We felt you couldn't have done more even if you had been our lifelong friends. Thank you so much.'*

Pam & Brian North

*'Robert & Marie Bristow would like to thank Jamie & Cathryn, and all the staff involved, for all their very hard work on our wedding day. We can't thank you enough for all your efforts in making this **the best day in our lives.**'*

Robert & Marie

*We want to thank you for making Sonia & Martin's wedding such a success. **It was everything they hoped for and more.** It was lovely to stay in your beautiful home. All our guests have commented how relaxed and welcome you made us feel. **Your willingness to accommodate our many and various requests was much appreciated.** It was great that so many of our guests could stay on the estate and the flexibility to extend our stay using the North Wing and Top Flat made the whole event very special. We were very grateful to Sarah in making all the arrangement and Daniel's kind help on the big day made everything run very smoothly. Many compliments to the chef; the food was truly excellent.*

Jackie & Richard Grant

*A quick note to thank you all for hosting us all over Anna & Martin's wedding weekend so wonderfully. We had a **truly fabulous time**. The food & **hospitality was excellent.***

Caroline Hutton

*Thank you so much for all your help in making our wedding such **an amazing day**. We got lucky with the weather, but everything else worked because of **good planning**. We are both extremely grateful.*

James & Charlie

*'Thank you for making our wedding such a special day. The service was tremendous; **we were so well looked after from the minute we arrived until we left.**'*

Alan, Jane & Amber

*'The magnificent setting, of course, speaks for itself but **your attention to details and helpful approach to getting things 'just right' made for the perfection of the happy day** we all enjoyed on Saturday. Nothing that was asked for was too much trouble and this was greatly appreciated and please do thank everybody involved. To have such a friendly and effective team working with you created a really friendly family ambience for the whole occasion which will be remembered by all the guests as the very best.'*

Rachel & Hamish

*'Alvie is a superb setting for a wedding; **the atmosphere relaxed, personal, exclusive and family orientated.** However, that would be nothing without the hard work, and commitment of all the members of staff. We enjoyed and thoroughly appreciated the delicious food and also the friendly, smiling, efficient service which anticipated every request and need.'*

Annie & David Allan

*'Duncan & I were delighted with all the wedding preparations and details. Alvie House is a fantastic location, the staff were brilliant and the food was great. The accommodation was excellent and everyone who stayed in the house, top flat & north wing were very impressed. **We can't thank you enough for all your help and advice which contributed to making our day a brilliant success.**'*

Lorna & Duncan

*Just to say thank you for all your hard work in making Charlotte & James' **wedding such a wonderful occasion**. There had obviously been a lot of hard work behind the scenes to enable everything to run so smoothly. Thank you again for making it such a memorable time.*

Geoff & Barbara Brown

*A **great big thank you** for making Carrie-Ann & Tim's wedding **so special**.*

Ann Simpson

*I wanted to write to thank you all for creating the **wonderful atmosphere** at Alvie. It made such **an amazing setting** & was the perfect base for Anna & Martin's wedding celebrations.*

Trish Staniforth

*I would like to thank everyone at Alvie House for helping to make our son's wedding such a memorable and joyful time for us all. **The setting could not have been more perfect** & we were indeed fortunate that the weather too was perfect.*

Mary Dauman



# Useful Telephone Numbers

<i>Minister</i>	Rev Ron Whyte	Kincaig/Aviemore	01479 810280
	Rev Helen Cook	Kingussie	01540 661311
<i>Humanist Minister</i>	Lesley Simpson	Granttown on Spey	01479 872016
<i>Registrar</i>	Lorna MacGregor	Kingussie	01540 664529
<i>Photographers</i>	Paul Satny	<a href="http://www.aviemorephotographic.com">www.aviemorephotographic.com</a>	01540 651322
	Stewart Grant	<a href="http://www.studiointhesquare.co.uk">www.studiointhesquare.co.uk</a>	01479 872570
	Lynn Robinson	<a href="http://www.blackislephotography.com">www.blackislephotography.com</a>	07717 481647
	Randi Stodle	<a href="http://www.randistodlephotography.com">www.randistodlephotography.com</a>	0790 6640012
<i>Film Maker</i>	Helen Graham	Kingussie	01540 662300
<i>Flowers</i>	Country Harvest	<a href="http://www.highlandflowersltd.co.uk">www.highlandflowersltd.co.uk</a>	01540 662494
<i>Wedding Cake</i>	Coylum Cakes	<a href="http://www.coylumcakes.co.uk">www.coylumcakes.co.uk</a>	01479 810309
<i>Piper</i>	"Spud" Fraser	<a href="http://www.spudthepiper.co.uk/">www.spudthepiper.co.uk/</a>	01479 872337
	Sandy MacDonnell	<a href="http://www.pipeforyou.com">www.pipeforyou.com</a>	07974 814625
	John Mackintosh	Newtonmore	01540 673477
<i>Piper/Pianist</i>	Ashley Newman	<a href="http://www.ashleythepiper.co.uk">www.ashleythepiper.co.uk</a>	01540 651396
<i>Printers</i>	Groverprint	<a href="http://www.groverprint.co.uk">www.groverprint.co.uk</a>	01540 673848
	Speedprint	<a href="http://www.quick2print.co.uk">www.quick2print.co.uk</a>	01463 710928
<i>Hairdressers</i>	Wright Style	Kingussie	01540 661375
	Snippitz	Aviemore	01479 811855
<i>Hair/Beauty</i>	The Retreat	<a href="http://www.the-retreat-aviemore.com">www.the-retreat-aviemore.com</a>	01479 812210
<i>Beautician</i>	Aviemore Beauty	<a href="http://www.aviemorebeauty.com">www.aviemorebeauty.com</a>	01479 812166
<i>Bands</i>	Ann Dickson	<a href="http://www.adicksonconsultancy.co.uk">www.adicksonconsultancy.co.uk</a>	01479 841312
	Kilter	<a href="http://www.kilter.co.uk">www.kilter.co.uk</a>	0845 3017430
<i>String Quartet</i>	Robin Calvert		01408 641451
<i>Disco</i>	Andy MacDonald	Inverness	01463 870651



## Wedding Terms & Conditions

- Provisional bookings will be held for 28 days to allow you to check availability of other services, i.e. Minister, Registrar, Entertainers, Photographer etc
- A non-refundable deposit of £1000 is payable within the 28 days of making the provisional booking in order to secure the date.
- For marquee weddings a further deposit of £2000 will be required for the marquee company.
- A pro-forma invoice will be issued 6 weeks prior to the wedding requesting a deposit equivalent to 50% of the estimated cost to be paid no later than 28 days prior to the event.
- Final guest numbers are required 14 days prior to the wedding date, at which time the pro-forma invoice will be adjusted and the balance will be due 7 days later. Any other amendments will be made following the wedding.
- In the unfortunate circumstances of a cancellation more than 28 days prior to the wedding date only the initial deposit will be forfeited. If the cancellation date is between 28-5 days of the wedding 50% payment will be required, less than 5 days the invoice is due in full. We strongly recommend that insurance is taken out for this purpose.
- You will be held responsible for the orderly conduct of your guests attending the event and any damages that occur to the property or grounds as a result of unacceptable behaviour.
- Prices quoted are inclusive of VAT where appropriate unless otherwise notified. Unfortunately payments made by credit card of £500 and over will be subject to a 2% commission charge.
- Bed & Breakfast charges will depend on the number of rooms taken.
- The facility fee covers exclusive use of Alvie House and grounds, planning & co-ordination.