



Bertram Aitchison Art History Breaks

January 2026



‘Essence of Scottish Art’

The programme explores aspects of art in Scotland which have become embedded as a signifier of repute. Some Scottish artists responded in the early days to the momentum of the Enlightenment but inevitably new ideas and styles were instigated by succeeding generations; all of which has left a trail of creative activity.

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The Green Park Art History Breaks

This year's set of Art History break dates and their subjects are

Essence of Scottish Art

From Thursday the 8th of January until the morning of Monday the 12th of January 2026

Painters in Normandy

From Sunday the 18th of January until the morning of Thursday the 22nd of January 2026

The art of the Netherlands

From Sunday the 25th of January until the morning of Thursday the 29th of January 2026

Bertram Aitchison

Bertram Aitchison is a graduate in Art History from Birkbeck College in the University of London. He has since worked as Senior Lecturer and Academic Advisor to the American Institute for Foreign Study in London, specialising in Western European Art History. Following his move to Moffat, he has held the position of Secretary to the Dumfries and Galloway Fine Art Society, and resident speaker for the South West of Scotland Art History Society for the last ten years. He is currently the visiting speaker on Art History at Higham Hall in Cumbria.



Non-art lovers, along to provide moral support to those attending the course, are also welcome to stay at this time!

Essence of Scottish Art from Thursday the 8th of January until the morning of Monday the 12th of January 2026

Thursday the 8th of January

So as to make the most of your day, please feel free to arrive at any time from mid-morning onwards. Complimentary tea, coffee, cakes, and biscuits will be available in our lounges every day from early each morning.

At 6.00pm.

The first organised activity will be a sherry reception in **room 9 on the first floor of the main building**. This will give you the opportunity to meet your hosts from the Green Park and Bertram Aitchison, as well as your fellow guests. Bertram will go on to outline his plans for the following days.

From 6.30pm - 8.00pm.

A four course dinner will be served in the dining-room, followed by coffee and shortbread in the main lounges.

Friday the 9th of January

8.00am - 9.45am.

A full Scottish breakfast will be served in the dining-room.

10.00am - 12.00 noon. *Scottish genre painting*

The Kailyard School of Painting is a phrase used to describe the painting which featured prominently in the presentation of rural scenes; the scope of such genre painting was adopted by several artists, like John Robertson Reid and the Faed Brothers to depict everyday life in the wider sense.

Each day a buffet lunch will be served in the dining room. This lunch will be available between 12.30 and 1.30pm.

Those not on the art course are welcome to join you for lunch as well, and the cost of any lunches they take with you will just be added to their final account.

2.00pm - 4.00pm. *A legacy of Sir Walter Scott*

Walter Scott was the most famous novelist in the early 19th century and his written word became an inspiration for artists in Europe. His fictional characters were the subject of many paintings which are still vivid in art and literature.

From 5.30pm.

A pre-dinner sherry reception in the main lounge.

From 6.00pm - 8.00pm.

A four course dinner will be served in the dining room, followed by coffee and shortbread in the main lounge.

Saturday the 10th of January

8.00am - 9.45am.

A full Scottish breakfast will be served in the dining-room.

10.00am - 12.00 noon. *The royal patronage of William Dyce*

It was a long and productive career that saw Dyce rise in estimation as he worked his way through the British institutions to become a favoured artist by Prince Albert. This brought him recognition and prestige but also many professional problems.

A buffet lunch will be served in the dining room between 12.30 and 1.30pm.

2.00pm - 4.00pm. *William McTaggart reigns*

In the 19th Century Scottish rural paintings and seascapes became increasingly popular as the century wore on and this artist's work exemplifies the style changes. Being strongly influenced in the early part of his career by the Pre-Raphaelites he developed into the premier exponent of the sea in expressionist terms.

From 5.30pm.

A pre-dinner Sherry reception in the main lounge.

From 6.00pm - 8.00pm.

A four course dinner will be served in the dining room, followed by coffee and shortbread in the main lounge.

Sunday the 11th of January

8.00am - 9.45am.

A full Scottish breakfast will be served in the dining-room.

10.00am - 12.00 noon. *F.D. Fergusson par excellence*

Fergusson spent his artistic life between France and Scotland which was interrupted by the war on two occasions. Though associated with the colourists he is very individualistic and developed a forceful imagery which has become his recognisable signature style.

A buffet lunch will be served in the dining room between 12.30 and 1.30pm.

2.00pm - 4.00pm. *On the trail of Charles Rennie Mackintosh*

Mackintosh is a name that resonates down the decades and he is best known for his modern designs which have left their mark in Glasgow and Europe. Nevertheless, his paintings deserve more accord than they sometimes receive ; but through them he demonstrates his versatility.

Sunday the 11th of January (continued)

6.00pm.

Bert will host an informal bucks-fizz reception **in the main lounge**. Everyone will have downed tools by now, and this is an excellent opportunity to unwind and enjoy the company of your compatriots.

From 6.00pm - 8.00pm.

A four course dinner will then be served in the dining room, followed by coffee and shortbread in the main lounge.

Monday the 12th of January

8.00am - 10.00am.

A full Scottish breakfast will be served in the dining room.

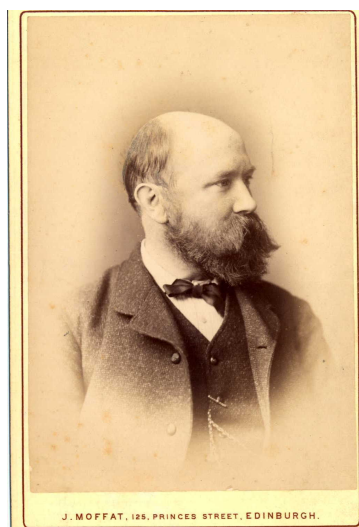
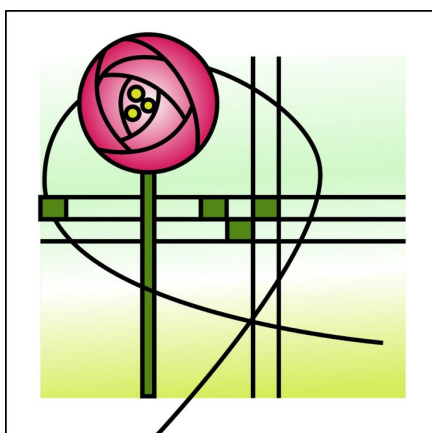
**The McMenemie Family and everyone at the Green Park
hope that you will have enjoyed your stay with us,
and that you have a safe journey home.**

The cost of the 2026 Four Night Art History Breaks
is £619.00 per person.

This amount includes the entire package as described in this programme, and there is no supplementary charge for single accommodation.

If you wish to travel to Pitlochry by coach or rail, we will arrange for transport between Pitlochry Station and the Green Park, for both your day of arrival and your day of departure. This transport will be complimentary.

Guests wanting to stay before or after the break would be charged at our early season rate of £142.00 per person per night, for dinner bed and breakfast.



Please tick which of the 2026 break/s you are interested in attending.

☐ **The Essence of Scottish Art**

Thursday the 8th of January until the morning of Monday the 12th of January

☐ **Painters in Normandy**

Sunday the 18th of January until the morning of Thursday the 22nd of January

☐ **The art of the Netherlands**

Sunday the 25th of January until the morning of Thursday the 29th January



NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

POSTCODE _____ TEL. NUMBER _____

TYPE OF ROOM / ROOMS REQUIRED:

TWIN _____ DOUBLE _____ SINGLE _____

Please reserve the above accommodation in my name.

Signed _____ date _____

The cost of the four night Art History break is £619.00 per person.

This amount includes the entire package as described in this programme, and there is no supplementary charge for single accommodation.

If you wish to travel to Pitlochry by coach or rail, we will arrange for complimentary transport between Pitlochry Station and the Green Park, for both your day of arrival and your day of departure.

Guests wanting to stay any extra nights before or after the art break would be charged at our low season rate of £142.00 per person per night, for dinner bed and breakfast.

