## **Locally Based, Specialist Guides and Activity Tour Operators**

We advise booking well in advance for all the locally based experiences mentioned below.

<u>www.tomintours.com</u>: Our local wildlife photographer, Mark Ranner, specialises in bespoke, 1/2-person only, guided wildlife and photography walks. He has in-depth knowledge of the Tomintoul area and where to find the best wildlife experiences for you.

<u>www.wildalbatours.com</u>: Based in Ballindalloch, Wild Alba have several knowledgeable, experienced rangers and offer day and half-day options, specialising in the nature, wildlife and photography of the Glenlivet and Upper Spey area.

<u>www.speysidewildlife.co.uk</u>: Green Tourism Gold Award. This team is based in Grantown and offer guided days out in various locations across the cairngorms and further afield, plus wildlife hide watching in an ancient Caledonian pine forest.

<u>www.glenlivethilltrek.com</u>: Green Tourism Gold Award. Glenlivet Hill Trek gives you the opportunity to explore and experience the wild hills of Glenlivet and its wildlife from the comfort of an off-road argonaut, all in the company of extremely knowledgeable guides. Pick from a 1hr 30min experience up to a full day tour.

<u>www.speysideescapes.com</u>: Enriched with local knowledge Speyside Escapes offers you heritage (including whiskey), landscape and wildlife day tours throughout Speyside, from Aviemore to Spey Bay on the north coast, a dolphin hot spot.

www.trekscotland.co.uk : If you prefer to trek on foot into the hills with the knowledge of the experienced then Trek Scotland is the one for you, whether it be to bag a Munro or two, improve your navigational skills, or to experience the amazing wildlife the Cairngorms is home to. Based in Tomintoul they know the area well and offer half day, full day and overnight experiences throughout the Cairngorms.

www.scottishfarmtours.com: From May-September, Wild Farm and Ruthven Farm, two local farms on the opposite side of the valley, hold daily tours around their farms allowing you to experience what life on the farm is really like. Wild Farm specialises in rearing red and fallow deer, plus ancient breeds including iron age pigs. Ruthven Farm is an upland hill farm with various breeds of sheep where the farmer has set aside certain areas for nature: Winner of the Cairngorms Nature Farm Award 2016; and RSPB Nature of Farming Award 2017.

www.lynbreckcroft.co.uk: Situated on the hillside half-way to Grantown, Lynbreck crofters, Lynn and Sandra, work by their motto "farming with nature for healthy land and living". This is the place to experience highland cows up close, free range organically fed chickens, native breed pigs and homemade honey from the crofts' own hives. A truly unforgettable experience : Farm tours March – November, first weekend of each month.

<u>www.cragganoutdoors.co.uk</u>: Our closest outdoor activity centre based just outside Grantown. The centre offers every experience imaginable, from white water rafting and gorge walking through to paintballing, fishing, golf and bush-craft.