Explore Aberdeenshire's inspiring natural landscapes from the epic north-east coastline, including the Banffshire coast, to beautiful Royal Deeside and the stunning Cairngorms National Park.

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Head into Aberdeen city to find award-winning restaurants, fantastic shopping and a vibrant nightlife. Aberdeen offers a wealth of history and culture including fantastic galleries, museums and historical buildings, as well as a superb beach just a short walk from the city centre.

This map has been created to show the locations in Aberdeenshire which were used in the making of the Sunset Song movie as well as the importance of Lewis Grassic Gibbon’s classic novel and his place in Scotland’s rich literary history.

ABERDEENSHIRE

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LEWIS GRASSIC GIBBON

James Leslie Mitchell, the novelist of the Mearns, is better known by his pen name Lewis Grassic Gibbon. Lewis Grassic Gibbon was born in 1901 in the Aberdeenshire croft of Hillhead of Seggat and moved to Arbuthnott in the Howe of the Mearns where he spent his formative years. Life in this small rural community shaped his thoughts and beliefs and was to be a profound influence on his writings later in life. The people and places, sights, smells and sounds of that time etched in his memory, were later recreated with vivid imaginative power in his novel 'Sunset Song' the first book in his trilogy about life in the early part of the twentieth century, 'A Scots Quair'. Sunset Song was published in 1932, Gibbon died in 1935.

Renowned British filmmaker Terence Davies' most ambitious film to date, SUNSET SONG, adapted from the classic novel by Lewis Grassic Gibbon, has its Scottish voice. A special Scottish Premiere and preview screenings were held in November before general release in December. SUNSET SONG stars Agyness Deyn (PUSHER and the Coen Brothers' forthcoming HAIL, CAESAR), Peter Mullan (TYRANNOSAUR, WAR HORSE) and Kevin Guthrie (SUNSHINE ON LEITH).

Told with gritty poetic realism by Britain's greatest living auteur, Terence Davies, SUNSET SONG laments the impact of the First World War on the ancient land in looking to the future. SUNSET SONG is driven by the young heroine Chris (Agyness Deyn) and her intense passion for life, the unsettled Ewan (Kevin Guthrie) and for the unforgiving land. The impact of the First World War is felt from afar, bringing the rapidly changing world in, the pace of the old farming way and the realisation that the unpromising soil is ripe with potential. The eventful years are portrayed vividly in the film, and the character of Chris aged 16 to 26 is shown through her different relationships and the changes that take place in her life.

SUNSET SONG is an epic in emotional scale and deeply romantic at its core. This map has been created by VisitScotland in association with Metrodome. Here are some website links which provide more details about the film and the locations:

- Film, Tourism & Regional Information: www.filminginscotland.com
- Location Information: www.ballogie-estate.co.uk
- www.grassicgibbon.com
- www.glentanar.co.uk
- www.glenmuick.com
- www.stirlingshire.gov.uk
- www.arbuthnotbarvisaldininen.org.uk/arbuthnot-history
- www.visitscotland.com/aberdeenshire
- www.visitscotland.com/films

SEE THE FILM AND THEN VISIT THE ABERDEENSHIRE LOCATIONS

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LEWIS GRASSIC GIBBON AND ABERDEENSHIRE

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FILMING ‘SUNSET SONG’

Renowned British filmmaker Terence Davies’ most ambitious film to date, SUNSET SONG, adapted from the classic novel by Scottish writer Lewis Grassic Gibbon, is set for release in the UK and Ireland on 4 December 2015 through Metrodome Distribution. The film received its World Premiere at the 2015 Toronto International Film Festival followed by a UK Premiere at the BFI London Film Festival where it screened in Offical Competition. A special Scottish Premiere and preview screenings were held in November before general release in December.

SUNSET SONG stars Agyness Deyn (PUSHER and the Coen Brothers’ forthcoming HAIL, CAESAR), Peter Mullan (TYRANNOSAUR, WAR HORSE) and Kevin Guthrie (SUNSHINE ON LEITH).

Told with gritty poetic realism by Britain’s greatest living director Terence Davies, SUNSET SONG laments the devastation of war and pays fine tribute to the endurance of the land. Set in a rural Scottish community, SUNSET SONG is driven by the young heroine Chris (Agyness Deyn) and her intense passion for life, the unsettled Ewan (Kevin Guthrie) and for the unforgiving land. The impact of the First World War is felt from afar, bringing the rapidly changing modern world to bear on this community in the harshest possible way. Yet, in a final moment of grace, Chris endures the great hardships. Now a woman of remarkable strength, she is able to draw from the ancient land in looking to the future. SUNSET SONG is an epic in emotional scale and deeply romantic at its core.
**INVERCAULD ESTATE, NEAR BRAEMAR**

Invercauld Estate, owned by the Farquharson family for many centuries, is in the heart of the Cairngorms National Park, in Royal Deeside. Native Caledonian Scots Pine merge into rolling heather covered mountains leading up to a number of Munros. Walkers can enjoy being amongst some of the country’s finest scenery whilst having the chance to view some of our more elusive wildlife including eagles, red squirrels, ptarmigan, red and roe deer. The estate offers holiday accommodation overlooking the River Dee, including cottages, caravan and camping facilities - plus Invercauld is world renowned for grouse shoots, deer stalking and salmon fishing.

**GLENMUCK ESTATE, NEAR BALLYTAR**

The standing stones were created on the Glenmuick estate. Glenmuick estate is situated in the heart of Royal Deeside and the Cairngorms National Park. The 14,000 acre estate is filled with all the wildlife and epic landscapes that make Scotland such a truly special place. It is home to red squirrels, game, red and roe deer, grouse, salmon and sea trout and visitors might even spot golden eagle, capercaillie and wild cat. Glenmuick welcomes responsible access, with the House of Glenmuick and holiday cottages also available to rent while enjoying many of the sporting pursuits across the estate.

**FETTERCAIRN VILLAGE**

Chris and Ewan meet amidst a flock of sheep running through the village. Fettercairn is a glorious little village with origins dating back over a thousand years. By the mid 1600s Fettercairn was a thriving place, though this came to a sudden - if temporary - halt when the village was sacked and burned by the army of the Marquis of Montrose in 1645. Rebuilt, largely from a reddish sandstone, many of the village’s buildings are listed, including a number of those gathered around The Square, the home of the traditional markets held here. Fettercairn is also home to Fettercairn Distillery, one of the oldest licensed distilleries in Scotland and which is open to visitors.

**GLASGIBBON CENTRE, ARBUTHNOTT**

Visitor Centre dedicated to Lewis Grassic Gibbon situated in the heart of the countryside epitomised as Kinraddie in Sunset Song.

**GRASSIC GIBBON CENTRE, ARBUTHNOTT**

Based on the classic novel by Lewis Grassic Gibbon, filmed on location in Aberdeenshire.