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The Heart 200 Book

Fact Pack

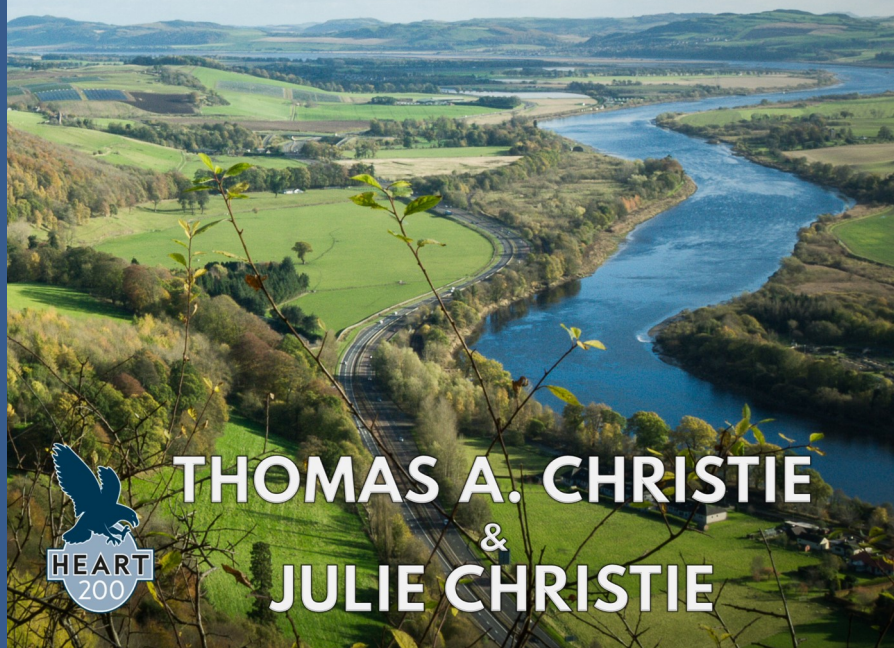
The Heart 200 route is a unique road trip around some of the most beautiful locations in Central Scotland. Two hundred miles running through Stirlingshire and Perthshire, Heart 200 takes its visitors on an epic adventure to suit every taste - whether you are an outdoors enthusiast, an aficionado of history, or simply looking to enjoy yourself in some of the most stunning natural surroundings in the world.

Written with the full approval and co-operation of the Heart 200 team, *The Heart 200 Book* is a guide to the very best that the route has to offer. You will discover the history and culture of this remarkable region, from antiquity to the modern day, with more than a few unexpected insights along the way. Over the millennia, this amazing land has made its mark on world history thanks to famous figures ranging from the ancient Celts and the Roman Empire to King Robert the Bruce and Mary Queen of Scots, by way of Bonnie Prince Charlie, Rob Roy MacGregor, Robert Burns, Sir Walter Scott, Queen Victoria and even The Beatles!

So whether you're travelling by foot, car, motorhome or bike, get ready for a journey like no other as the Heart 200 invites you to encounter standing stones and steamships, castles and chocolatiers, watersports and whisky distilleries... and surprising secrets aplenty! Illustrated with full-colour photography and complete with Internet hyperlinks to accompany the attractions, *The Heart 200 Book* will introduce you to some of the most remarkable places in all of Scotland and encourage you to experience each and every one for yourself. It really will be a tour that you'll never forget.

THE HEART 200 BOOK

A Companion Guide to Scotland's Most Exciting Road Trip



THOMAS A. CHRISTIE
&
JULIE CHRISTIE



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Julie Christie

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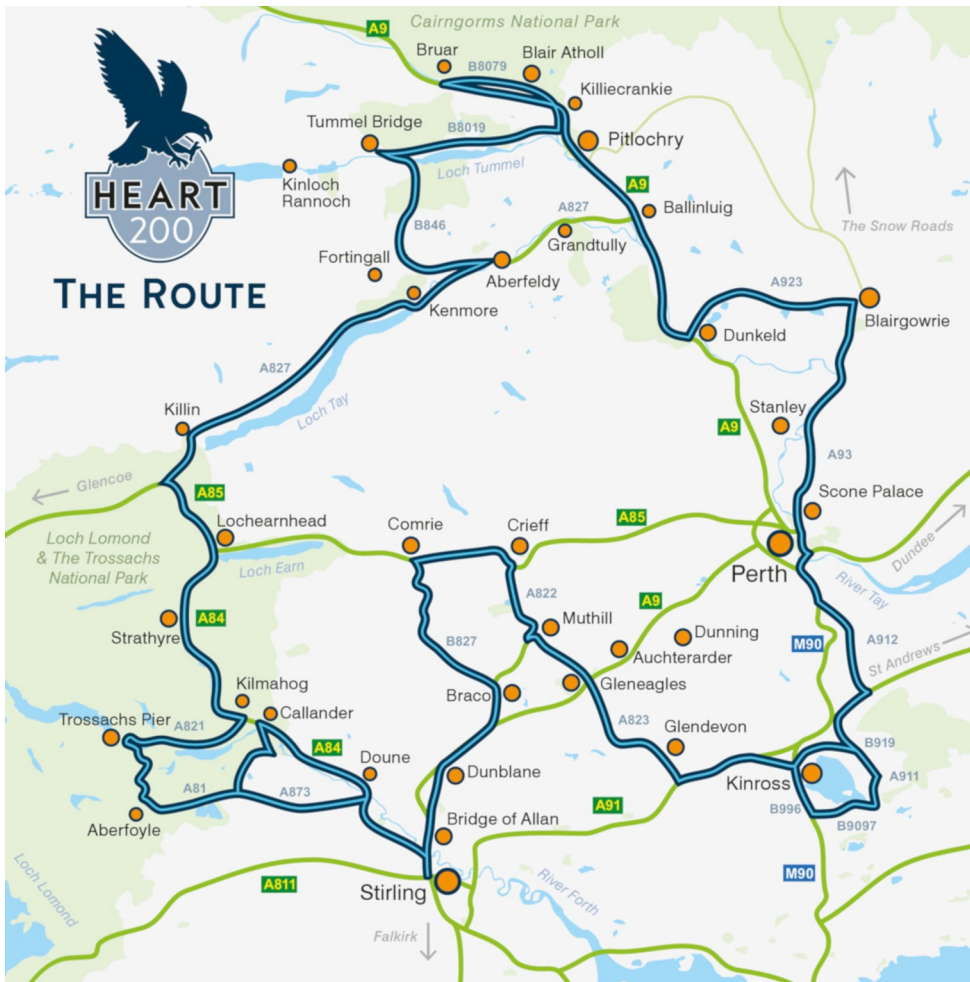
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Map of the Heart 200 Route

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www.heart200.scot

Featuring sections about every destination along the Heart 200 route:

The City of Stirling

The Wooded Western Edge

- Doune & Deanston
- Callander & Kilmahog
- Aberfoyle
- Trossachs Pier
- Strathyre & Lochearnhead

The Highland North

- Killin
- Kenmore
- Aberfeldy
- Fortingall
- Kinloch Rannoch & Tummel Bridge
- Bruar & Blair Atholl
- Killiecrankie

The Riverside East

- Pitlochry
- Ballinluig & Grandtully
- Dunkeld & Birnam
- Blairgowrie
- Stanley
- Scone Palace

The City of Perth

The Historical Southern Boundary

- Kinross
- Glendevon & Gleneagles
- Auchterarder & Dunning
- Muthill
- Crieff
- Comrie
- Braco
- Dunblane
- Bridge of Allan

Hidden History and Folklore on the Heart 200

- Among the star attractions at Stirling's venerable Smith Art Gallery and Museum is a football which is thought to be the oldest in the world. Dating back to c.1540, it was discovered in the rafters of one of the royal residences at Stirling Castle during renovation work and has since been shown at various venues around the world.
- Offering guided tours of a reconstructed Iron Age loch-dwelling, the Scottish Crannog Centre in Kenmore is a highly accurate, full-size reconstruction of an artificial island as it would have looked in its day, with numerous artefacts from excavations throughout the area on display at the visitor centre.



- Based in the village of Innerpeffray (approximately four miles south-east of Crieff), the historic Library of Innerpeffray is considered to be the oldest lending library in Scotland. Founded in 1680, the extensive collection of books was moved to a new custom-designed structure in 1762 which is now a Category A listed building. Though the lending of the library's books to the public was a practice which ended in 1968, the building is still open to visitors between spring and autumn, and it remains a book-lover's paradise with some of its books dating back as far as the 16th century.
- Located one mile south of Comrie, Cultybraggan Camp was once a World War II prisoner of war camp which has been preserved in astonishing condition. Information boards and display panels explain what life in the camp was like during the 1940s, including the Cultybraggan cartoon collection – a gallery of authentic pen and ink drawings created by prisoners during the war.

Amazing Heart 200 Facts

- One of Dunblane's best-hidden secrets is the eccentric historical sight of Queen Victoria's Horseshoe: a piece of the preserved past located at the corner of Bridgend and Stirling Road near the railway station. This horseshoe was thrown from one of Queen Victoria's royal horses when her carriage passed through the city on 13th September 1842, and was attached to the wall for posterity after local blacksmith Mr McKenzie reshod the horse in question. A dedicatory plaque marks the spot. According to local legend, anyone who rubs the horseshoe will be blessed with good luck.



- Not only is it possible to eat a scone at Scone Palace, but around 70,000 home-made scones are sold on the premises every year.
- The many memorable jumps that have been held at the Highland Fling Bungee Centre at Killiecrankie have included three weddings and participants playing the bagpipes, on a kayak and riding a BMX bike. The oldest bungee jumper to date was 90 years old at the time of his visit.
- Glenturret Distillery near Crieff holds an unexpected Guinness World Record—its resident cat Towser, who lived from 1963 to 1987, managed to catch some 28,899 mice in her lifetime. At the time of her death, she was officially recognised by the Guinness Book of Records as the World's Greatest Mouser.
- When it opened in 1968, Bell's Sports Centre in Perth was the site of the largest dome in the United Kingdom, measuring 17m high and 60m in diameter. It held this record until the Millennium Dome in Greenwich was opened in December 1999.

About the Authors

Dr Thomas A. Christie is a Scottish author with research interests in popular culture, literary analysis, interactive fiction and modern cinema. He has many years of experience as a literary professional, having worked in collaboration with several publishing companies. His full-length works to date have focused upon subjects such as cinema history and literary criticism, as well as the production of original prose fiction. A passionate advocate of the written word and literary arts, Tom is a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and a member of the Royal Society of Literature, the Society of Authors, and the Federation of Writers Scotland. For more details about Tom and his work, please visit his website at:
www.tomchristiebooks.co.uk.

Julie Christie has been working in different roles within business and the third sector for more than three decades. Over the years she has worked with a number of charitable organisations such as the Princess Royal Trust for Carers, the Aberlour Childcare Trust, the Alzheimer's Society, the Royal Voluntary Service, Town Break Dementia Care and the Church of Scotland. She was also an associate with the Uni-

versity of Stirling, where she was involved in the development of Dementia Friendly Communities. Julie is currently the Communities and Fundraising Manager for Start Up Stirling, the city's food bank. She brings considerable experience from the commercial retail industry, having held posts with national organisations including AstraZeneca, the NHS, Marks and Spencer, Thorntons and Laura Ashley. *The Heart 200 Book* is her first published work.



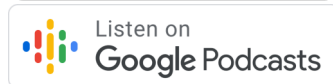
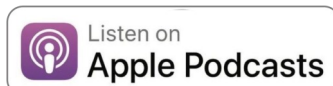
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