

Incorporating a trip on a scenic heritage railway, our visit to the ‘Whisky Capital’ of Dufftown begins at Aberdeen’s recently refurbished station, which handles over three million passengers a year. On leaving the station, diesel trains for Keith head northwest, following the Don and Urie valleys for some 25 miles. For the first 32 miles of our journey the mainly single-track line climbs more-or-less continuously as it winds through fertile Aberdeenshire farmland. En route, trains call at the reopened Dyce station, which serves nearby Aberdeen Airport, and continue up the Don Valley to Inverurie, where the original Great North of Scotland Railway station building has been tastefully restored. Departing northwards, trains then pass the site of the GNoSR’s locomotive works and continue to climb through an increasingly hilly and forested landscape to reach the small town of Insch. Beyond here, the line is double track to its summit at Kennethmont, 590 ft above sea level.

After passing down Strathbogie, trains call at Huntly before following the heavily forested route down the Deveron and Isla valleys to Keith. Here, passengers for Dufftown disembark for the 20-minute walk to Keith Town station. Diesel trains to Dufftown are operated by the Keith & Dufftown Railway, Britain’s most northerly heritage line. Following complete closure in 1991, the 10-mile line was reopened by volunteers in 2001 and now offers visitors a scenic journey up the forested Isla Valley before taking a tour around the Glenfiddich Distillery. Trains depart from the rebuilt Keith Town station and head in a southwesterly direction up the valley through the closed Auchindachy station before calling at Drummuir (for forest walks). On the last part of the journey, the railway drops down a gradient of 1-in-60 to cross Fiddich Viaduct and pass Glenfiddich Distillery before terminating at Dufftown’s original Great North of Scotland Railway station.



- ABERDEEN
- DYCE
- INVERURIE
- INSCH
- HUNTLY
- KEITH
- KEITH TOWN
- DRUMMUIR
- DUFFTOWN



### DESTINATION HIGHLIGHTS

trip on Keith & Dufftown Railway; ruined Balvenie Castle; tours round Glenfiddich Distillery and Visitor Centre; railway path to Craigellachie

### FREQUENCY OF TRAINS

*Aberdeen to Keith:*  
 1 every 90 mins (Mon-Sat)  
 5 per day (Sun)  
*Keith to Dufftown:*  
 3 per day (Sat-Sun+BHs,  
 Mar-Sept; Fri, June-Aug)

**64 MILES**  
**1 HOUR 10 MINUTES +**  
**38 MINUTES**

*A steam train leaves Dufftown on the scenic Keith & Dufftown Railway.*