

GRETNA GREEN

SINCE 1754

LATEST DEVELOPMENTS AT GRETNA GREEN

2018-19 had been a busy year for family run, 5-star rated business Gretna Green Ltd. With the launch of new services and products and a host of award nominations and wins, Gretna Green is delighted to add to its existing suite of assets and maintain its reputation as one of the best visitor attractions in the UK.

Over the last twelve months, Gretna Green Ltd has been nominated for a varied selection of awards including the **China Britain Business Council, China Welcome Award 2018** in recognition of the work carried out to make Gretna Green a welcoming destination to the visiting Chinese market.

Awards won include:

- **Tourism Champion of the year 2018 – Dumfries & Galloway Life Awards**
- **Contemporary Hotel Bar of the year 2019, Smiths Hotel (South West) – Scottish Hotel Awards**
- **Informal Fine Dining Restaurant of the Year 2019, Smiths Hotel (South West) – Scottish Hotel Awards**
- **Intimate Wedding Hotel of the Year, Smiths Hotel (South West) – Scottish Hotel Awards**
- **Small Conference Hotel of the Year, Smiths Hotel (South West) – Scottish Hotel Awards**

Gretna Green Welcomes Groups

As a 5-star visitor attraction, Gretna Green offers visitors and groups an experience like no other. With seamless payments methods including **Alipay, China Union and the addition of Tax-Free Shopping** across its five onsite shops (stocking a range of goods including, famous brand fashion and accessories, Cashmere, tartan and traditional Scottish products, gifting and a mouth-watering range of Scottish food and drink); Gretna Green has something for everyone.

Their Foodcourt, bar and café offer freshly prepared hot and cold food and a place to relax. The Famous Blacksmiths Shop Museum tells the story of Gretna Green, a place to discover the history, intrigue and romance of this legendary destination.

A dedicated Group Travel Team located on site at the Famous Blacksmiths Shop are available to assist all group tours and offer a range of packages to appeal to a variety of clients

GROUP DINING IN THE BLACKSMITHS FOODCOURT

The Foodcourt and restaurant offers a range of dishes from light snacks to homemade Scottish meals, prepared using locally-sourced ingredients.

For groups on a tight schedule, speedy service is guaranteed by friendly helpful staff and all menus can be tailored, when booked in advance, to suit the clients' individual tastes and budgets.

Offering both pre-booked self-service and table service menus to all group travel customers, both of which can be ordered in advance to ensure a seamless experience for guests.

HISTORIC EXPERIENCES

WEDDING RE-ENACTMENT

At the home of romance, groups can experience the history of Anvil Weddings and become an interactive part of the story! At the home of romance, what better way to experience the history of Anvil Weddings than to become an interactive part of the story! After an introduction to the history and scandals of eloping to Gretna Green, guests can take a starring role in re-enacting a traditional Gretna Green wedding, with some 'interesting' vows (which are always a crowd pleaser) and that famous 'clink' of the hammer to the anvil. Made even more immersive, with fun props and character backstories, to help set the scene.

GRETNA GREEN HANDFASTING EXPERIENCE

A Scottish tradition since medieval times, Handfasting is the perfect way for couples to affirm their commitment to each other over the legendary anvil. Not just for lovers, this ceremony can be enjoyed by friends or family members who wish to experience a Scottish tradition whilst visiting Gretna Green, the original home of love and romance! This experience can be booked in advance and a series of handfasting packages are available.

SCOTTISH FOOD & DRINK EXPERIENCES

THE GINS OF SCOTLAND TOUR EXPERIENCE

The Gins of Scotland tour is a fun and exciting way to try some of the best gins and gin liqueurs from across Scotland. The team at the Famous Blacksmiths Shop will share their hints and tips for the best mixers and fruits/vegetables to compliment your drinks.

THE SCOTTISH MALT WHISKY TOUR

Entertain your group with an introduction to Scottish Whisky. If you're looking for things to do in Gretna Green, or want to break up your journey then why not book a Whisky Tasting Demonstration? A description of the various whisky regions and the mysteries behind whisky production are part of this experience. The climax of the demonstration is a nosing's and tastings session with your group able to sample whiskies from these famous whisky regions.

GROUP FOOD AND DRINK TASTING EXPERIENCES AT GREтна GREEN FOODHALL

When visiting the 'Gateway to Scotland', what better time to experience the culinary curiosities of Scottish cuisine. The unique food tasting experiences at Gretna Green offer groups the chance to try some of Scotland's most famous flavours.

EXCLUSIVE SHOPPING EXPERIENCES

VIP & OUT-OF-HOURS SHOPPING EXPERIENCE

Arrange an VIP shopping experience for your group with exclusive, out-of-hours access to the shops at Gretna Green and access to **tax-free shopping and AliPay**.

The team at Gretna Green are always working on improving the visitor experience, and adapt their services regularly to cater for demand and to offer unique experiences. The dedicated Group Travel Team are based on site and available to assist in designing bespoke activities. For more information contact: blacksmiths@gretnagreen.com or visit the Gretna Green team on their stand.

Gretna Green Ltd launch 3D virtual Tours:

Family run business Gretna Green Ltd have launched their very first virtual reality experience, aimed at showcasing their unique suite of Hotels; Smiths Hotel at Gretna Green, Gretna Hall and Greens at Gretna.

This interactive experience will allow users to virtually walk through the public areas of each hotel and showcases a selection of wedding ceremony and reception venues, corporate facilities, bedroom suites and external garden areas from their desktop or mobile device.

The Gretna Green Ltd Hotel tours are available now via the below links.

[Smiths Hotel – Public Areas](#)

[Smiths Hotel – Penthouse Suite](#)

[Gretna Hall – Public Areas](#)

[Gretna Hall – Historic Marriage Rooms](#)

[Gretna Hall – Queensberry Clayton Bedroom Suite](#)

[Greens at Gretna – Public Areas](#)

[Greens at Gretna - Conferencing](#)

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For further information contact

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Notes to Editors

About Gretna Green Ltd

Founded in 1885, Gretna Green Ltd has been a **family business for over 130 years**. Beginning with the **Famous Blacksmiths Shop at Gretna Green**, renowned for its romantic history as a haven for runaway lovers since 1754, the Gretna Green Brand continues to be a popular wedding destination for couples from across the globe.

The site is now a multi-award winning 5star visitor attraction. Developed to include a suite of wedding venues, museum, unique retail and hospitality offer with online store www.gretnagreen.com, on site shops dedicated to Fashion, Food, Homeware and Speciality Scottish Product and three individually designed hotels, each with unique accommodation, dining and conference offers:

Multi-award winning 4star Smiths at Gretna Green www.smithsgretnagreen.com

3Star Gretna Hall www.gretnahall.com

3star Greens at Gretna www.greensatgretna.co.uk