



## ***Streap Alba Geamhradh 2020***

**International Scottish Winter Climbing Meet**

**22 - 29 February 2020 @ Aviemore, Scotland**

# GUEST INFORMATION SHEET

## OVERVIEW

The Scottish Winter Climbing Meet has been a highlight on the climbing calendar for 20 years and has attracted climbers from across the world eager to experience the unique Scottish winter experience. The meet has been running since 1997 and was last held in 2016, when it was hosted by The British Mountaineering Council.

Overseas guests will be paired up with experienced UK-based hosts - an excellent formula that has proved to be very successful in the past. In return for sharing their local knowledge and expertise, UK climbers gain a wider perspective by climbing with their international visitors. In previous years many hosts and guests have formed strong partnerships that have gone on to make major ascents further afield and in the Greater Ranges.

Beginning in Aviemore on Saturday February 22 2020, the week-long event will be delivered in close partnership with the British Mountaineering Council, the Alpine Club and the Scottish Mountaineering Club and will be part of a programme of events and activities in 2020 to celebrate 50 years of Mountaineering Scotland.

The format will be different to previous years. The event will start and finish in Aviemore, but instead of being based in a single location, climbers will rotate between climbing huts, and all participants will spend at least one night in the CIC Hut on Ben Nevis. The event will finish with a celebration event in Aviemore on Friday February 29 that will be open to everyone in the Scottish winter climbing community.

*Streap Alba Geamhradh* means Climb Scotland Winter in the Scottish Gaelic language.

Mountaineering Scotland | The Granary | West Mill Street | Perth | PH1 5QP

T: 01738 493 942 E: [info@mountaineering.scot](mailto:info@mountaineering.scot)

[www.mountaineering.scot](http://www.mountaineering.scot)

## PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

- We will team you up with a UK based host climber each day and they will take you out winter climbing.
- Scottish winter climbing conditions are famously very difficult to predict, so climbing with an experienced local climber maximises the chance of finding good routes to climb.
- There will be several evening presentations throughout the week.
- On Friday 28 February we will have a final celebration event that will allow you to share your experience with everyone on the meet and interact with the wider Scottish climbing community.

## EXPERIENCE

- Climbers must be 18 years old or over.
- Climbers must have experience of climbing routes in winter conditions using ice axes and crampons.
- Climbers must be skilled at leading winter routes, placing protection and building belays.
- Climbers should be physically fit. A typical Scottish winter climbing day is 8 to 12 hours long and involves a 2 to 3 hour uphill approach.
- Climbers should be able to speak and understand English to a basic level.
- Please note that the host climbers will **not** be acting as mountain guides or climbing instructors. Hosts and guests will be matched according to ability and experience and will climb together as an equal partnership.

## VENUE & DATES

- **Venue:** Start and finish at Aviemore Youth Hostel. The intervening five days will be based in climbing huts located across the Scottish Highlands.
- **Dates:** Saturday 22 to Saturday 29 February 2020.
- **Arrival evening:** Saturday 22 February (no climbing on this day).
- Climbing for six full days - Sunday to Friday.
- Evening celebration event – Aviemore, Friday 28 February.
- **Departure day:** Saturday 29 February (no climbing on this day).

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## TRAVEL & ACCOMODATION

- Guests are responsible for making their own travel arrangements to and from Aviemore, which has good transport links to the main airports in Scotland – Glasgow, Edinburgh and Inverness. Aviemore Youth Hostel is within easy walking distance of the railway station.
- Details of transport links will be sent to you early in December when places are confirmed.
- The Aviemore Youth Hostel and climbing huts offer 'alpine hut' style accommodation with shared rooms and bathroom facilities.
- Guests are encouraged to carbon offset their air travel to the UK.

## COST

- The event is heavily subsidised by Mountaineering Scotland, BMC, Alpine Club and the SMC.
- The fee is **£195 per person** and includes:
  - Seven nights accommodation
  - At least one night in the famous CIC Hut on Ben Nevis
  - Three catered meals per day
  - Nightly presentations and discussion
  - Six days climbing with experienced host climbers

## INSURANCE

- Guests are required to be insured for medical treatment and repatriation. Rescue costs in Scotland are free.
- Guests will be required to show evidence of their insurance before travelling to the event.

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## HOW TO APPLY

- Federations (one per country) are invited to send a maximum of two climbers, ideally one female and one male, who must be a minimum of 18 years of age.
- If the Meet is over subscribed then places will be reduced to one per country.
- Please complete the online [Guest Application Form](#) by **Monday 18 November 2019**
- Mountaineering Scotland will contact all applying Federations by email by **6 December 2019** to confirm places.
- **Please do not make any bookings (flights, trains etc.) until you have had confirmation from Mountaineering Scotland.**

## FURTHER INFORMATION

Read about the last three winter meets on the BMC website:

- [International Winter Climbing Meet 2016](#)
- [International Winter Climbing Meet 2014](#)
- [International Winter Climbing Meet 2012](#)

More detailed reports are available on [www.scottishwinter.com](http://www.scottishwinter.com)

## THIS EVENT IS SUPPORTED BY:



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