



Advice on pheasant/partridge rearing/shooting and Orienteering
Partridge shooting season: 1st September – 1st February
Pheasant shooting season: 1st October – 1st February

Pheasant and partridge shooting are integral to the rural economy; game crops for pheasants and partridge planted alongside woodlands provide excellent cover and foraging habitat for farmland birds.

Care should be taken when seeking access to areas where shooting takes place. The following advice gives the general picture across Scotland.

The bulk of pheasants and partridge are released in Scotland from June onwards; most estates would prefer that dogs are not brought to accompany orienteering parties but if they have to be, they should be kept on leads at all times and care should be taken to check with estates the whereabouts of pens and take measures to orienteer on other parts of the estate.

A recent survey has shown that each pheasant/partridge shooter contributes £1,000 per day to the local economy and much of that income is ploughed back into managing the habitat and wildlife for the benefit of all.

It is advisable to contact estates for access to their land well in advance. Try and plan your events to fit in with estate work schedules.

Also be aware that estates will be extremely busy at many times of year and not always available to answer enquiries or accommodate access requests for orienteering events immediately.

Please also be aware that Scotland is infested with Tick (which is not just a danger to wildlife but to human health too. Check your body thoroughly for Ticks after accessing the Scottish Countryside and seek medical advice if you have been bitten.)

It should be noted that snares, cages and traps are legal management tools and care should be taken to avoid damaging them.

For further advice contact:

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