

#### **Room 4:**

Here is a depiction of a local standing stone, possibly about four thousand years old. It is a river stone standing in the middle of a field.



Obviously erected for a special purpose whose exact meaning has been lost in the midst of time. In the wall case there is an example of a jadeite axe, once thought to be magic.

**Room 5:** The wall photographs show the style of female dress which, to her consternation, Claire found herself being forced to wear. Jamie and his confreres would have worn the feileadh mor or belted plaid. This very practical garment served as a blanket at night and a warm outfit by day.

**Jacobite Corridor:** The story of the Stuart Dynasty and the Jacobite Risings.

**Room 6:** This room illustrates the story of the Jacobites and their doomed efforts to regain the throne of Britain. The oath exacted from the Highlanders and enforced for forty years, explains why so many clans people including the Frasers fled overseas.

At the entrance there is a painting by Jemima Blackburn showing a group of women working on a piece of cloth. This was to shrink and stretch the fabric, it was called wauking and the women sang wauking songs while working.

One case displays belongings associated with Flora MacDonald. After a short term of imprisonment in the Tower of London, Flora and her family emigrated to the Americas. Her husband fought in the American War of Independence before returning to live in Scotland. These belongings mirror what Claire may have taken on her journey to the Americas.

*Please feel free to explore other rooms in the museum. Our volunteer staff will be happy to try to answer any questions you may have. And as you descend the stairs one more aspect from the world of Claire and Jamie.*

#### **Room 8:**

As you leave via room 8, observe the targe which was the type of shield carried at the Battle of Culloden. In the case displaying a MacKenzie kilt there is a Brown Bess musket. Technical staff filming for the T.V. Series have found firing the musket can be temperamental in poor weather. They have recourse to special effects. Imagine what it must have been like for the armies at Culloden.



*We hope you have found this short guide useful and that you have enjoyed your visit. Our Museum is free but we depend on donations to cover 50% of our running costs. If you have enjoyed your visit, please consider making a donation in one of our donation boxes.*

*Thank you for visiting*

*The tartan featured on the front cover is the official 'Outlander' tartan and is available at **The Celtic Croft**, [www.kilts-n-stuff.com](http://www.kilts-n-stuff.com)*

# Outlander

*A taste of the world of  
Claire and Jamie Fraser*

*whm*  
West Highland Museum

*Fort William, Scotland*



# Welcome to the West Highland Museum

*We hope this short guide will give you a view of the world Claire Randall found herself sharing with Jamie Fraser in 1743.*



## **Montrose Corridor:**

On the left hand wall are illustrations of the Fort as it would have been in its hey day.

## **Room 3:**

This shows the natural history of the area. There is no wolf, but a meeting of a feral goat on a dark night would certainly be very scary. Here also are examples of branches, brooches and the buidseach illustrating strong beliefs in the magic qualities of certain objects and plants for protection healing and luck. The buidseach was the presence of wizardry, usually evil or bringing ill luck. Not only standing stones, alone or in circles, were held in awe. Strange objects from afar were deemed to have special powers. Exotic drift seeds from the far Caribbean washed up on the shore, polished crystals and objects such as jadeite axe heads used in conjunction with a spoken spell were thought to have healing powers. Claire, with her knowledge of plant life, would have had sympathy for Unity Mathews who sent a hussif to her beloved before the Battle of Waterloo. She trusted that the enclosed Germander (Speedwell) would protect him from harm. Alas – it did not. He was killed at Quatre Bras. As for branches – outside many desolate ruins of old croft houses, the rowan tree (mountain ash) still flourishes as a protection against witchcraft.

## **Room 2:**

When the Fort was dismantled, the Glencoe Suite (The Governor's Office) was reassembled at the Museum. The size of the lock emphasises the fact that the fort was a serious military establishment. It was in a room of this description that both Claire and Jamie suffered horrible ordeals at the hands of Captain Randall.

In the open Bible Box the Governor would have kept, not his bible, but papers of official importance. The wall cabinet contains artefacts from the Fort including cannon balls which fell short during the Jacobite siege of 1746. Also in the cabinet are examples of what Geilie and Dougal knew as Gaberlunzie Tokens. In Fort William they are called Beggars' Badges. A plan of the Fort as it would have been in 1743 is shown on the panelled wall.

