

Nairn and Nairnshire extends from the Moray Council boundary in the east, westwards to Ardersier, southwards to Cawdor and that Estate's southern boundary at the Dava Moor. There are two rivers - the Nairn and Findhorn - running eastwards to the Moray Firth.

The main land uses are farming and forestry. These are traditional industries and are managed under business plans and estate charities.

Sport and game management has been and is still important to the economy of the local area, with grouse shooting, pheasant shooting, salmon and trout fishing, and deer stalking attracting considerable financial income.

The Partnership area is well served by the A96 between Inverness and Aberdeen. Plans are advanced for a new dual carriageway for this route incorporating a Bypass for Nairn.

The A939 links Nairn with Grantown-on-Spey, Speyside and Don-shire. The present, mostly single track railway runs from Aberdeen to Inverness. Plans are proposed to twin-track most of this route and build a number of new stations including Dalcross for the airport.

Dalcross Airport, just outside the Partnership boundary at Ardersier, serves as a link with a number of Scottish Islands, UK, Continental and Scandinavian airports.

Tourism continues to be an important industry and Nairn and Nairnshire has attracted holiday makers long before continental travel took off. The area benefits from miles of attractive sandy beaches, a very low annual rainfall, castles open to the public (Cawdor and Brodie), distilleries at Cawdor and further afield in Speyside.

Nairn has a population of just fewer than 10,000 and the town benefits from a library, swimming pool, museum and a recently built Community & Arts

Centre. It has two large primary schools (Millbank and Rosebank) and an Academy.

The Nairn Town & County Hospital has been replaced with a new state of the art facility which also incorporates the Nairn Healthcare Group of GPs and nurses. This group operates from a section of the hospital building and from premises in Ardersier. The Healthcare Group is integrated with the management of the hospital and is an extremely important element in incorporated healthcare in the whole Partnership area.

The villages in the area are:-

- Auldearn, with its own primary school, public halls and Community Council.
- Cawdor, with its own primary school, Community Centre and Community Council.