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Plans unveiled for new £15m whisky distillery and visitor attraction in Stirling


It is hoped Wolfcraig Distillery will bring around 50 full-time jobs to the area if approval is given.



By [Sean Murphy](#) Tourism Writer
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SCOTLAND NOW



 An artist's impression of how the new distillery will look. (Image: Wolfcraig Distillery)

Stirling could be set to have a new **whisky** distillery after plans were unveiled for a £15 million site near the city.

Should the proposals go ahead, construction will begin on a new whisky experience which will incorporate the distillery, an interactive, education-focused family visitor attraction, a private tasting room and 180-cover bistro restaurant and bar.

Dubbed the Wolfcraig Distillery, the new project will, according to founder and industry veteran Michael Lunn, tap into Stirling's rich heritage.



 (Image: Wolfcraig Distillery)

Mr Lunn confirmed that they will be working with a trio of industry experts including former production director at Diageo Dr Alan Rutherford OBE, former Bacardi UK Operations Director Iain Lochhead, and renowned master distiller Ian Macmillan on the project.

Subject to planning approval, construction is expected to get underway in spring 2021 with the distillery set to open its doors in summer 2022.

It is anticipated that the distillery will employ around 50 full-time staff members.

MP for Stirling, Alyn Smith, who sees great potential in the proposal, said: "My priority since my election is to support jobs and investment, and my view is that this is a great opportunity for Gargunnock, Cambusbarron and Stirling as a whole."

The team stated that the building's design will maximise its location, showcasing a stunning vista across to the iconic Wallace Monument and Stirling Castle. They added that it will also harness the latest technologies to ensure that sustainability is at its core.

The distillery will have the capacity to produce up to 1.5 million litres of spirit per year and will focus on producing premium Wolfcraig Highland Single Malt Scotch Whisky in addition to a range of other associated spirits.

Founder Michael Lunn is hoping to further capitalise on, and enhance, Stirling's reputation as a major food and drink tourist destination with plans to operate a shuttle service between the distillery, the train station and Stirling Castle to work closely with these hubs.

He said: "Our distillery will encourage visitors and tourists to spend more time in and around Stirling, helping to boost both the local and national economies.

"In addition to producing a premium Highland Single Malt, we want to offer a state-of-the-art immersive experience for people of all ages and knowledge levels. Our research indicates the distillery could attract around 90,000 visitors in its first year given its proximity to Glasgow and Edinburgh."

The distillery's interactive visitor centre will showcase tales of Scotland's national drink, as well as bringing Stirling's colourful past to life. In addition to tours, plans are also being made to offer a range of different experiences and masterclasses.

Michael added: "There has been excellent support for the project so far, from local community groups to the public sector and we are looking forward to taking the next step in Wolfcraig's exciting journey."

Marion MacAllister of Cambusbarron Community Council where the distillery site is being proposed for said that they had already met with the directors and were looking forward to seeing their final plans and learning more of their ambitions, adding: "It is good that they have chosen to be part of our community and wish to celebrate our history and culture.

"A development like this brings infrastructure to the community with the possibility of employment and training for our residents."