



## Visit Inverness Loch Ness Community Update

February 2023

Welcome to the second update of the year (where did January go?!) Please see our updates below.

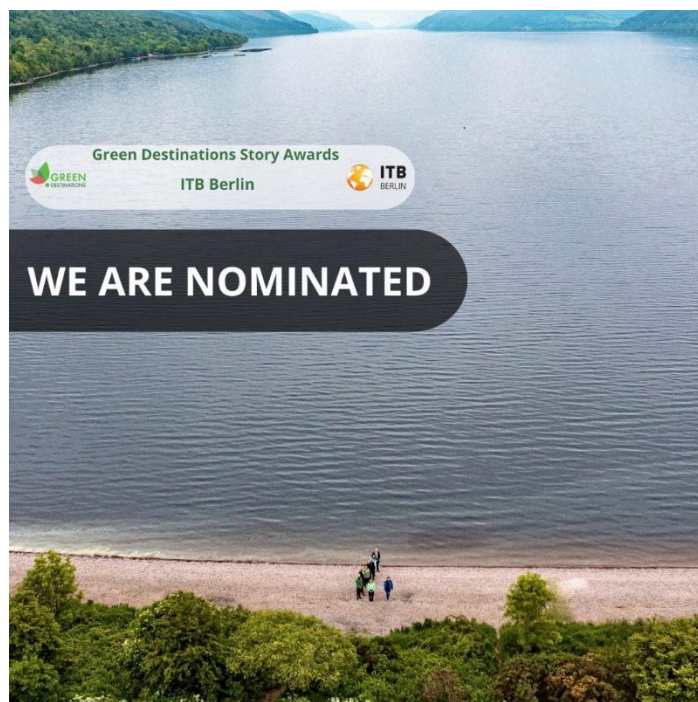
### Green Destinations Top 100 Stories

We (Visit Inverness Loch Ness) are excited to announce that we have been nominated for the Green Destinations Story Awards at ITB Berlin 2023 in the Environment & Climate category!

This category includes good practice stories to tackle climate crises (adaptation and mitigation measures), reduce single-use plastic and waste pollution.

We have been nominated for our work on our destinations Climate Action Plan. In September we won Top 100 Stories from Green Destinations and we are delighted to have been nominated further, it shows our destination is leading the way in climate action for tourism, something we are very passionate about.

If you would like to know more about what we are doing you can read our Climate Action Plan <https://www.visitinvernesslochness.com/sustainable-tourism>



### **Shortbread Showdown- 18<sup>th</sup> Feb & 25<sup>th</sup> March**

We are looking for member businesses to put themselves forwards to compete in a Shortbread competition across the Highlands. The shortlisting event takes places in Inverness Victorian Market on 18<sup>th</sup> February, and the top 3 shortbreads will go through to a grand final on 25<sup>th</sup> March at Inverness Cathedral. For more information please look at

<https://www.visitinvernesslochness.com/shortbread-showdown> and please do sign up if you are a member business.

### **Food and Drink Networking event**

We are hosting a food and drink networking event on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February. A great way to meet businesses in the area from the hospitality industry and a chance to try samples of Inverness Coffee Roastery Coffee, Icecream from Loch Ness Icecream, Wine from WoodWinters and vegan cheeses from Left Coast Culture. There are a few spots remaining - [Sign Up Here](#)

### **Litter Pick – April 3<sup>rd</sup> Beauly 11am – All Welcome!**

We are facing a #LitterEmergency. According to Keep Scotland Beautiful, 87% of people believe that litter is an issue across Scotland. Visit Inverness Loch Ness are taking part in #SpringCleanScotland with a litter pick in Beauly on 3rd April at 11.00 - join us and make a difference to your local community, environment and wildlife! For more information on the event find us on the map [here](#). To register your interest please email [bryony@visitiln.com](mailto:bryony@visitiln.com)

### **Active Travel Events**

VILN are working with member businesses to offer an Active Travel event in both Drumnadrochit and Inverness. The event aims to promote active travel across the Highlands especially biking. There will be activities for both adults and children including free E Bike tours of the areas and self ride routes, clearly signposted. More information coming soon, but dates for your diary-

Pedal Power: There's More Than What You Think- Drumndrochit Green, 13<sup>th</sup> April  
Active Ness: Inverness, 15<sup>th</sup> May