

Ravens' Craig Tower

Craig, Plockton, Wester Ross, IV52 8UB

A distinctive Tower House in an elevated position with views over Loch Carron towards the Applecross peninsula set in circa 5 acres.

Duncraig Station 0.5 mile, Plockton 3 miles, Kyle of Lochalsh 7 miles, Inverness 80 miles

Ground Floor
Entrance vestibule | WC/Utility | Dining Room |
Kitchen | Conservatory | Loggia

1st Floor
The Great Hall | WC

2nd Floor

Master bedroom with en suite |
2 Further bedrooms | Bathroom | WC

3rd Floor
Bedroom (Ivory Tower) | Large studio













The property

Ravens' Craig is a modern Tower House designed by and built for the current owner, the highly respected Scottish architect lan Begg. It was completed in 1992 and its layout and style were developed from many years of experience as architect on many old castles and tower houses. It is not a copy of anything. Ian Begg says the attempt was made to get the feel of an old place that doesn't shake in storm conditions and would get the economy of building and heating a house on a small footprint.

Firmly rooted in the tradition, it is nonetheless a 20th century building with concrete block walls, underfloor heating and even incorporates a lift shaft.

It has generously proportioned living space spread over four floors, plus a basement with workshop and wine cellar.

The ground floor has the main entrance, WC/ utility, dining/living room, kitchen, conservatory and boiler room. The generous turning stair in the east tower is traditional and leads to the Great Hall which occupies most of the first floor. The ceiling here is modelled on the triangular panelled ceiling in the room of the five queens at Chenonceau in France (Mary Queen of Scots was one of the queens). Also from this level a smaller circular stair with open newel and neat edge detail leads up to the bedrooms. The idea behind the design of this

stair is taken from the 17th century secondary stair in the Borromini church of San Carlo alle Quattro Fontana in Rome.

A lift shaft has been built with guides, but no lift has been installed. Instead there is an electric hoist used to bring up logs for the Great Hall fire and heavy luggage. There is a chair lift on the secondary stair. The Great Hall has windows in all four external walls and an antique French chimney-piece. The lower floors are constructed of concrete beams with intermediate block spacers finished with Spanish clay tiles on the ground floor and Scots stone tiles and oak framing in the Great Hall.

Outside

There is a projecting Italianate loggia which is great for the summer months and outside dining/entertaining.

The property sits in around 5 acres of mostly wild garden with sloping lawns and two paddocks, one each side of the driveway to the tower.

There is also a fruit and vegetable patch with a polytunnel. A large industrial shed has been constructed in the lower part of the garden and is accessed via its own driveway.







Location

Plockton is considered one of the UK's most beautiful locations and eniovs a mild climate thanks to the Gulf Stream. Painted cottages, palm trees on the waterfront and a backdrop of stupendous wooded crags lend Plockton an exotic charm that is rarely found in Highland villages. Sheltered by a headland from the wind and open sea, the small community is located at the mouth of Loch Carron. There are unspoiled coral beaches on the shore and you can wander over the crags and moors and round the lochs of the hinterland. Plockton developed as a herring port in the early 19th century and is now a haven for summer visitors including artists and vachtsmen. The Plockton Small Boat Sailing Club established in 1933 gives excellent small sailing boat racing in early summer. In 1995 Plockton was chosen for the popular television series Hamish MacBeth. The village itself has its own reputable primary and secondary school and a good local village store that provides for everyday needs and requirements. Plockton also has a number of inns, small hotels, restaurants and pubs. There are endless opportunities for outdoor pursuits which include hillwalking, sea and loch fishing. Stalking and shooting are also available on nearby estates. Nearby Plockton airstrip, built by the Royal Engineers in 1966, is available for use by private light aircraft. The village is also served by rail from Inverness. The Inverness to Kyle line was featured in a series by Michael Palin who stated that this was one of the most beautiful railway journeys in the world.



General

Services: Mains electricity with private water and drainage. There is a mains water connection for the tower at the roadside which would have to be connected to the property. There is oil fired central heating plus off-peak electrical warm water storage within the spandrel of the vault. Fixtures and Fittings All fitted carpets and integrated appliances are included in the sale.

Solicitors: Lindsay Bishop, Macleod & MacCallum, 28 Queensgate, Inverness, IV1 1YN, Tel 01463 239393

Local Authority: Highland Council, Glenurquhart Road, Inverness, IV3 5NX. Tel: 01349 886606.

Viewing: Strictly by appointment with Strutt & Parker.

Council Tax: The property has been assessed for council tax purposes as Band G.

EPC Rating: E.

Offers: Offers are to be submitted in Scottish legal terms to the selling agents Strutt and Parker, 9-11 Bank Lane, Inverness, IV1 1WA. A closing date for offers may be fixed and prospective purchasers are advised to register their interest with the selling agents in order to be kept fully informed of any closing date that may be fixed.











Directions

From the North

Turn off the A890 at Achmore heading towards Plockton. Approximately 2.5 miles from Achmore there is long layby on the left where you fork left up the hill past the garage to reach Ravens' Craig Tower.

From Plockton

Leaving from Plockton proceed up hill over the railway bridge, turn first left after the railway bridge signed 'Achmore, Stromeferry'. Proceed along this road for approximately 2 miles, passing Craig Highland Farm. After crossing a narrow stone bridge, you should turn sharp right at the long lay-by on the right, going uphill past the garage.



Inverness

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