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Enjoy charm, beauty at Glenlaurel Scottish Country Estate & Inn



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Glenlaurel Scottish Inn and Cottages ranks highly among the best accommodations in the region, offering quality lodging and dining as well as amenities, all offered with a delightful Scottish flavor. Cottages like the McLeod are as inviting inside as out. (Photo by Art Weber)





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## **Art Weber**

It was perfect.

A perfect place on a glorious June evening. Appetizers and drinks of choice were offered on the shaded deck – perfectly cool and comfortable with a pleasant breeze ruffling the colorful flowerboxes that surrounded it.

The backdrop was extraordinary, too. Beyond the simple elegance was Camusfearna Gorge, a beautiful natural feature of Ohio's Hocking Hills Region on the private 140-acre estate of Glenlaurel, a Scottish Inn & Cottages.

It was dinner time at Glenlaurel and if it had been Saturday there would likely have been, as Innkeeper Melissa McConnell described the scene, "a bagpiper in full kilt dress piping guests to dinner" in The Legend.

But it was Sunday, so a poem preceded the first of the meal's six courses. Melissa's choice for the evening was a poem from the early 1800s, "The Violet," by Jane Taylor of "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star" fame.

The six courses peaked with the entrée. On this evening it was "Cast Iron Seared Beef Tenderloin and Deep Sea Scallop, Broiled Haricot Verts, Parmesan Polenta, Garlic Lemon Crème."

It was the perfect way to take a breath before the meal. Couples, each at their own table, engaged in conversation – both lively and quiet – relaxing after a day that may have included hikes to the many wonderful destinations in Hocking Hills State Park, or an adventure into the gorge at Glenlaurel. Others had taken on Glenlaurel's on-site Scottish Links- style course. Some simply relaxed and enjoyed the natural setting and features to be enjoyed at each cottage, often relaxing in the hot tub provided on the back deck of each cottage.

There are many right ways to enjoy the natural treasures of Ohio's Hocking Hills. Today, there are so many options that cover the entire gambit from primitive camping to gourmet meals and high-end comfort.

If you're looking for something really special, centered on extraordinary facilities and location, and delivered by a staff – including a quartet of top-notch chefs – that is qualified, knowledgeable, eager to make your stay a great one, and excited to be there, Glenlaurel truly fits that bill.

Perfect, and perfectly Scottish.

It's possible to spend days at the inn and be content without leaving the grounds, but you're in the Hocking Hills with so much to see and do. Unique shopping, dining, and, best of all, the state park and forest.

The best features of the state park are all just minutes away. One of the least known is Cantwell Cliffs, with its deep gorges and high cliffs, and its less than 10 minutes away.

Conkle's Hollow State Nature Preserve, with its scenic gorge trail and spectacular views from the rim trails, is less than 15 minutes away.

Iconic Old Man's Cave and Gorge is less than 20 minutes away from the inn.