



# EFIATLANTIC AND IEFC ANNUAL MEETING

## *The Role of Alternative Tree Species in the Forests of Atlantic Europe*

9-12 May 2017

Edinburgh and the West Coast of Scotland

Hosted by **Forest Research**

### Event Schedule



Photo: Fotolia – Lyd Photography

The impacts of pests and diseases, windthrow and climate change on the forests of Atlantic Europe are becoming increasingly evident. To achieve more resilient forests now and in the future requires the use of a wider range of tree species and appropriate silvicultural management.

EFIATLANTIC and IEFC members have done a significant amount of work to address species choice and forest management for the future and the REINFFORCE project has been a focus for the alternative species work. This year's annual meeting (2017) will consider the results of this work and implications for forest policy and practice.

In 2016, the Scottish Government undertook a consultation on the future of forestry and the EFIATLANTIC/IEFC 2017 annual meeting coincides with a period when Scotland is seeking to expand and further invigorate its forest industry.

The programme allows for a one day science seminar (comprising invited presentations and voluntary contributions from EFIATLANTIC partners and others) on the conference theme and then a rare opportunity to visit forest sites and experiments in the West Coast of Scotland.

The forest visit will take participants by ferry across the Clyde Estuary to a long established Forest Research tree species trial at Kilmum on the Cowal Peninsula and to the Royal Botanic Garden of Edinburgh site at Benmore.

The following day we will take the ferry from Oban to the Isle of Mull to see the REINFFORCE alternative species experiment and a short rotation forestry trial. The return to Edinburgh will travel through part of the Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park.

This trip will provide the opportunity to consider future species selection and silviculture at some unique forestry locations and also see one of the most beautiful parts of Europe's Atlantic coast (the Holy Loch, Loch Long, Oban and the Isle of Mull).

This meeting will be of relevance and interest to researchers, policy makers, practising foresters and others.

***Please note: as a result of the ferry crossings and small local hotels, we have to restrict the forest visit to 25 people and we will assign places on a first come first served basis.***

***Refund Policy – Field Trip – Any cancellations for the field trip must be notified to Evelyn Hall ([evelyn.hall@forestry.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:evelyn.hall@forestry.gsi.gov.uk)) by 31st March (at the latest). Refunds after that will be at the discretion of the organisers.***

## Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> May

a.m. Travel

13:30 Registration and welcome refreshments

14:00 **Joint EFIATLANTIC & IEFC Annual Meeting** (Open to EFIATLANTIC partners and IEFC members)  
Edinburgh Capital Hotel

[\[www.edinburghcapitalhotel.co.uk\]](http://www.edinburghcapitalhotel.co.uk) [\[reservations@edinburghcapitalhotel.co.uk\]](mailto:reservations@edinburghcapitalhotel.co.uk)

*We have reserved 40 rooms at a special conference price of £62.00 per night B&B. These rooms are only available until 31st March. Delegates must book their own accommodation directly with the hotel quoting reference "Forestry Commission Scotland".*

20:00 Official Conference dinner

## Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> May

All day Science seminar (see separate detailed programme)

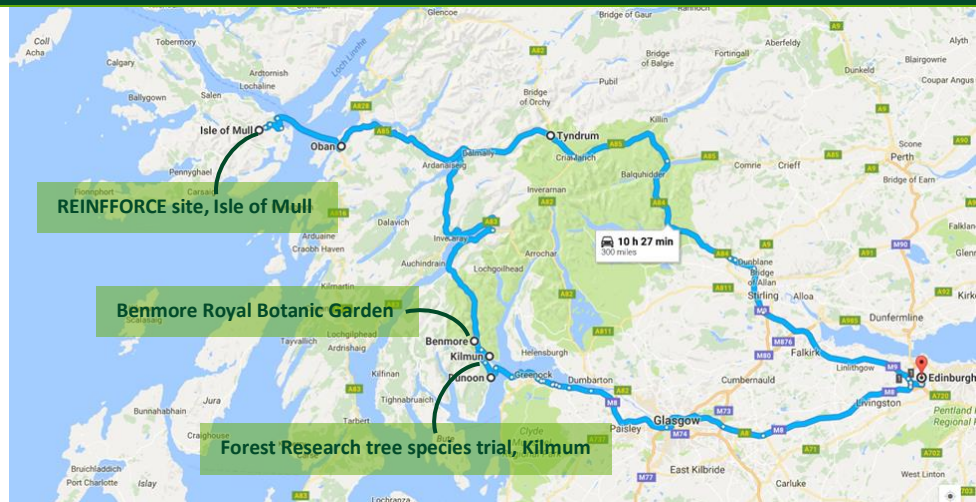
Edinburgh Capital Hotel

Open to everyone

(Dinner: own arrangements)

## Thursday & Friday 11<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup> May

### Forest visits



### Thurs

07:30 Depart Edinburgh Capital Hotel by coach and travel to ferry terminal near Gourock  
10:30 Arrive **Benmore** for site visit  
13:00 Lunch  
13:30 Depart Benmore  
13:45 Arrive **Kilmun** for site visit  
16:00 Travel by coach to Oban Bay Hotel for overnight stay (approx. 2 hours)  
19:30 Dinner in Oban Restaurant

### Fri

07:40 Depart Oban Bay Hotel  
08:40 Ferry from Oban to Craignure (Isle of Mull)  
09:35 Arrive Craignure (disembark ferry)  
10:00 Arrive Mull for site visit to **REINFFORCE site** and short rotation coppice experiment  
13:30 Depart Craignure for Oban then travel by coach to Edinburgh  
18:30 Arrive Edinburgh