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Charming Riverfront Cottage in Royal Deeside Hits the Market for Over £500,000

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A historic riverside cottage in Aberdeenshire has gone up for sale, offering prospective buyers the chance to own a scenic property steeped in character and nestled within some of Scotland's most admired countryside.

Cutaway Cottage, located on the edge of the village of Ballater, is now on the market through estate agency Galbraith, with an asking price starting at offers over £500,000. Set against the picturesque backdrop of the River Dee and within easy reach of the Cairngorms National Park, this unique home blends traditional features with refined modern touches.

The period property, believed to have been built around 1866, carries an intriguing past. Originally serving as a Drovers Inn, it was later converted into the Linesman's Cottage for the Deeside Railway. The railway line itself was historically adapted to allow Queen Victoria and Prince Albert to travel directly from Windsor Castle to Balmoral, underscoring the area's long-standing royal connections.

Inside, the property is thoughtfully designed to complement its surroundings. The ground floor includes a welcoming sitting room and dining area, both offering riverside views. A custom-designed kitchen, complete with integrated appliances and a central island, provides a comfortable space for daily living and entertaining. Additional rooms on the ground level include a private study, a sunroom that catches the light throughout the day, and a guest toilet.

Upstairs, the cottage features four generously sized bedrooms, all of which enjoy scenic views over the River Dee. A well-appointed family bathroom serves the first floor, maintaining the blend of comfort and practicality that defines the property.

Set within roughly half an acre of land, the grounds are equally impressive. The landscaped gardens feature mature trees, expansive lawns, and well-kept plant beds. A summerhouse adds to the appeal, while a sheltered patio creates an ideal spot for outdoor dining or simply enjoying the tranquillity of the setting.

"This property offers an idyllic lifestyle within easy reach of the popular village of Ballater and surrounded by the beautiful and tranquil countryside of Aberdeenshire and the Cairngorms National Park," said Hilary Murray of Galbraith.

"The interior design is stylish and ideal for modern family living while the gardens and grounds are equally well maintained and attractive," she added. "The location, just a few steps from the banks of the River Dee, offers a superb rural retreat yet within easy reach of Ballater, Aboyne and Braemar. This is a wonderful location for outdoor activities and enjoying all that Royal Deeside has to offer."

The area surrounding Cutaway Cottage is widely regarded for its natural beauty and rich heritage. Ballater itself is a popular destination in Royal Deeside, often frequented by those looking to explore the Highlands or visit nearby Balmoral Castle. The location's strong links to Scotland's royal history and its reputation for outdoor pursuits make properties in the region particularly desirable.

Galbraith describes Cutaway Cottage as a “rare treasure” with its historical charm, riverside setting, and peaceful garden grounds. It may prove to be just that for its future owners.