



Scotland adventure

12 night driver-guided tour



Customisable itinerary
Luxury vehicles
Private driver-guide



This Scotland adventure tour combines guided tours of places of historical interest and adventure, such as hiking, wildlife watching and bush-craft. Along with the fun of really getting off the tourist trail and exploring. We have built-in time for various sporting activities such as archery, zip wires, canoeing and fishing. The choice is enormous and will be up to you.

The Scotland adventure will take you on a historic journey too. We suggest stops at Stirling Castle, where battles between the Scots and the English have been won and lost. See Viking forts, Outlander film locations and sublime lochs. By the way, you will not miss Scotland's wildlife, namely sea eagles, dolphins and seals – this is a real Scottish Adventure.

We have not missed out the capital of Scotland, Edinburgh with its impressive castle and Palace of Holyroodhouse. Glasgow is Scotland's largest city, a great European cultural centre. There are world-class museums along with beautiful public parks. This tour is perfect for active people who also love history and culture.

You will be looked after from the very start to the last moment you leave our shores. This twelve-night suggested tour can be customized to match personal interests, the pace of travel, and hotel-style.

Day 1

Arrival at Edinburgh airport and transfer to your hotel

You chauffeur will meet you inside the arrivals hall, assist with luggage and escort you to the vehicle. Your journey time will take approximately 45 minutes.

Overnight: Edinburgh.





Day 2

Classic tour of Edinburgh and Scotch whisky experience

Scotland's capital is bursting with character and charm. Edinburgh is a tale of two cities, the hilltop settlement with alleys, snickets, and old churches and The Castle, and the NEW City, of 18th-century origin. They constructed a new town on the back of new money and investment following the Union with England in 1707. There are the cashmere and kilts for sale, but our guide will help you authentically navigate Edinburgh. Tour **Edinburgh Castle**, dominating Edinburgh's skyline and giving stunning views across the City and countryside. Home to the Scottish Crown Jewels, the legendary Stone of Destiny and Mons Meg – a giant cannon.

Explore the official Scottish residence of Her Majesty the Queen! The **Palace of Holyroodhouse** situated at the end of the Royal Mile and visible from Arthur's Seat. Tapestries, paintings and elaborate plasterwork adorn the staterooms. Discover the Throne Room, the Great Gallery and of course – Mary, Queen of Scots' private apartments. It was the outer chamber of the Queen's bed-chamber where David Rizzio met his unfortunate end.

Stop at the **Scotch Whisky Experience**. The whisky collection is vast at 3,384 plus bottles of Scotch Whisky, and therefore highly valuable. This incredible collection is kept secure behind a marble and glass vault. We can arrange several tasting options, along with learning about the history of whiskies from different regions.

Fancy a hike and a great place to watch the sunrise? Climb Calton Hill, it's not too tiring we promise and it's so worth the walk. With its classical monuments and hilltop position, it has an almost Athenian feel, and the views over the City are the best from this spot! A sunset picnic would be splendid too!

Overnight: Edinburgh.





Day 3

Stirling Castle, Loch Lomond and Inveraray Castle

Stop for a photo stop of **Stirling Castle**. Perched high and proud on impressive cliffs, Stirling Castle has played a crucial role in Scottish history; the battles of Stirling Bridge and the Battle of Bannockburn fought within its shadow, and **Mary Queen of Scots** lived here as a child – go inside time permitting.

Drive the sublime shore of Loch Lomond. Made up of mountains, forests, rivers and lochs, the **Trossachs National Park** is a miniature version of the Highlands with historical connections to Rob Roy. Take a short hike from the main road to the romantic ruins of **Kilchurn Castle**, built in the 15th century by the Campbell family.

Stop in Inveraray and see the hereditary seat of the Dukes of Argyll. The Gothic stone castle of Inveraray (go inside time permitting) sits alone, surrounded by 16 acres of greenery. **Inveraray Castle** featured in an episode of Downton Abbey, which will interest Downton fans. Within the town is Inveraray Jail, a 19th-century prison with 3 foot thick walls. The jail holds 4345 former prisoner records, so there are many tales to be told by the costumed characters walking around the prison.

Overnight: West Coast of Scotland.





Day 4

West coast touring and wildlife boat trip

Drive the spectacular hilly West Coast roads, around inlets, passing Lochs and picturesque like beaches.

The western coast of Scotland is genuinely beautiful; the best way to explore is by car and boat. Enjoy a boat trip and see some of Scotland's treasured wildlife. Expect to see dolphins, basking sharks and porpoise not to mention sea eagles, puffins and otters. The boat will circle the rocks allowing you to see the heart-warming seals lazing around. The Corryvreckan natural whirlpool is one of the most impressive in the world and feeling its pull on the vessel is a strange but enjoyable experience.

Stop for a light lunch on the coast and enjoy afternoon tea at the hotel.

Overnight: West Coast of Scotland.



Day 5

Castle Stalker, Glen Coe to Isle of Skye

See **Castle Stalker**: In Gaelic, Stalker is 'stalcaire', which means hunter or falconer! On an island, surrounded by the water of Loch Laich, with a backdrop of the snow-capped Scottish hills, the castle is only reachable by foot at low tide. Otherwise, you need a boat! The four-storey castle is a real fortress, with 9 ft thick walls. No one has lived at the castle since the 18th-century, but the castle is still privately owned and as such runs limited tours, by appointment, throughout the year.

The waterfalls of Glen Nevis and the rugged views of **Glen Coe** are a must-see when visiting the Highlands. Glen Coe featured in James Bond's Skyfall. From the road, you can see the legendary rocky ridge of the Devil's Staircase.

The Jacobite steam train is an 84-mile journey and one of the greatest railway journeys in the world! The vintage railway route boasts views of the mighty **Ben Nevis**, the King of Britain's mountains. For the Harry Potter fan and muggles among us, crossing 21-arched Glenfinnan viaduct is simply the closest you can get to travelling on the Hogwarts Express back to school.

Your driver-guide will be waiting for you ahead of time ready to drive on to the ferry.

Overnight: Skye.





Day 6

Hike the haunting Cuillin mountains

Part of the Scottish Highlands, **Isle of Skye** has it all – ancient structures, natural miracles, unspoiled countryside and magnificent coastlines broken by lochs. Portree is the main town on Skye and a working harbour, a great place to sit and eat **fish and chips**.

Visit the Dinosaur Museum which displays fossils locally found and see the dinosaur footprints in the rocks at Staffin Bay, dating back 165 million years ago. Set on the shore, **Dunvegan Castle** is the oldest inhabited castle in Scotland but has over 800 years' worth of history. On Skye is Talisker Distillery, the only distillery on the isle which produces single malt whisky.

See the **Cuillin mountains** which visitors are welcome to climb. The Trotternish peninsula is a ridge of hills which includes '**The Old Man of Storr**' a spectacular rock formation. **The Quaraing Rocks and Fairy Glen** are genuinely enchanting famous. Walkers must see the thunderous Rha Waterfall and at low tide visit Spar Cave – a natural wonder made up of limestone. If you are stealthy, see Red deer, sea-eagles, seals, whales and dolphins.

Skye locations appear in films such as Stardust, Highlander and Maid of Honour. Within fiction, the 'Pride of Portree' Quidditch team in Harry Potter come from the Isle of Skye.

We advise using a local mountain guide when hiking the Cuillin Mountains.

Overnight: Skye.





Day 7

Adventure day with expert guide

We tailor your day to match your physical abilities, level of endurance, and courage.

Skye is one of the world's most beautiful islands in the world, to see it and know it is to explore it. Powerboating around Skye is super fun and enables you to see wildlife and get to those challenging to get to locations you tend not to see from landside. Learn bush-craft, hike and go wild swimming and discover hidden waterfalls, secret lochs and wild rivers.

Overnight: Isle of Skye.



Day 8

Eilean Donan Castle and Lochness

Eilean Donan Castle must be the most photographed castles in the world. The construction you see today is enchantingly deceptive, appearing every bit the medieval castle, but, the castle was re-built in the 1920s and 30s. If you were to 'google' pictures of Eilean Donan in the 19th-century, you would see a ruin. A view of the castle that had been blown to smithereens by the British Navy during the Jacobite uprising. The real story of **Outlander**.

There has been a castle here, at the point where three sea lochs meet, since the 13th-century – constructed to defend the lands of Kintail, a sea-kingdom from foes, including those curious and sometimes bloodthirsty Vikings. **Eilean Donan Castle** is shrouded in highland legend in the form of a mysterious warrior who could speak to birds, yes; you read that correctly. To be blessed with magical ability, you drink from the skull of a raven. Unearth the mysteries with your driver-guide and create beautiful memories of one of the most romantic views in Scotland!

Loch Ness is a massive body of water covering 22sq miles with depths of almost 800 ft. The Loch is famous for its monster mysteries, reported sightings of giant aquatic lizard gained international interest in the 1930s. Is the creature of Scottish folk law real? Or a strange sea-serpent species? Now it is your chance to see the beast of the deep.

Overnight: Pitlochry.





Day 9

Bungee jump and The Whisky Trail

Take the Highlands Fling bungee and plunge 40 meters into a spectacular ravine.

We drive into the Spey valley, the location of world-famous whisky trail – here is the highest concentration of whisky distilleries in the world. Discover how the national drink is made and how you can appreciate it more. The Whisky trail sits on the edge of the **Cairngorms National Park**, an area of outstanding natural beauty. Drive around, and through lochs, rivers, and mountain scenery will delight you, especially after a few Whisky tastings.

We can arrange a tour at a favourite whisky producer, or we can suggest. Discerning whisky enthusiast or novice, learn and enjoy your favourite malts, get behind the scenes, meet the distillery owners and hear the tales of the smugglers of days-gone-by, safe in the hands of your driver-guide.

Overnight: Pitlochry.





Day 10

Land Rover experience and Sporting activities

There are several different 4X4 experiences, and we can tailor the morning or afternoon to suit your ability. Drive steep inclines, avoid obstacles and use the vehicle features to overcome almost anything. You will be amazed at what a **Land Rover** can do and go. The list of options is varied and plentiful from golf to cycling to archery.

Here are some ideas: Fishing, Gun dogs experience, archery, golf, cycling, falconry, horse riding, tennis, shooting, ferret school, zip wires, jogging trails and Canadian canoeing.

Overnight: Gleneagles hotel.



Day 11

St Andrews golf day

Please contact us for Golfing choices. There are ten authentic links courses in and around St Andrew's, including the world-famous **Old Course**. St Andrews, the home of golf and real-life royal love stories! The sport invented here, and the Scots have been playing it here since around the 12th-century! It was particularly popular with Mary, Queen of Scots, who was chastised in 1568 when she chose to 'tee-off' straight after her husband, murder! These stories and more are shared and displayed at the British Golf Museum, which documents the game from the middle ages to the modern-day.

The seaside and university town is the place where Kate Middleton stole Prince William's heart, now the Duchess of Cambridge! The university is the oldest in Scotland with over six centuries of teaching, and the surrounding milieu includes medieval cobbled streets, a **13th-century castle**, and the haunting gothic ruin of **St Andrews Cathedral**.

Overnight: Gleneagles Hotel.





Day 12

The classic tour of Glasgow

The history of **Glasgow**, Scotland's largest city is rich and diverse. In its 1400 years, Glasgow has been a religious community, a salmon fishing village, a medieval university town, a significant centre of trade with North America and the second city of the British Empire, famed for its shipbuilding and engineering.

Today, Glasgow its outstanding variety of museums, galleries and performance venues led to the town being one of the first to be designated European City of Culture. Visit the **Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum**, where the highlights include impressionist paintings and incredible medieval armour. Close by take a walk in leafy Kelvingrove Park or visit the campus of Glasgow University to enjoy the panoramic views from the tower. See the shopping district "the style mile", and the bustling Merchant City was once home to warehouses and markets. Now it's a sophisticated area of bars, restaurants and housing. This historic area is home to towering **Glasgow Cathedral** with ornate windows, dating from Norman times. Appropriately nearby is The Necropolis, a grand Victorian cemetery for the elite of Glasgow's merchant class. We will tailor the day to your interests.

Overnight: Crossbasket Castle, Glasgow.



Day 13

Chauffeur-driven transfer to Edinburgh or Glasgow airport

Your chauffeur will be with you 15 minutes before you need to depart. He or she will assist with luggage and listen for any final requests.



"I just wanted to take a moment to say thank you for all your help in making our trip to London a "once in a lifetime" trip. The itinerary was superb and the accommodations were perfect. I would not change a single thing."

ORIHIL, T.





Hotels, restaurants and
travel information



Guest Houses and historic places



Guesthouses and B&B's have come a long way in the past 20 years. High-end bedding, luxurious surroundings, and refined touches are now much more common.

You get a massive bang for your buck with this category of accommodation. Stay in a private castle, gatehouse, folly, fort, lighthouse or historic country cottage is the way the British enjoy Britain. Be surrounded by glorious countryside, walking distance to a genuine village pub, and be intrigued by living if but for a short time somewhere special.

Castles & Manor House Hotels



There's nothing quite like arriving at an authentic medieval castle or manor house and knowing you are staying the night. Every portrait, grand staircase and corridor has a tale to tell.

Each chamber will be unique, have quirks and exciting features. This style of hotel will have historic landscaped grounds, gardens, and produce grown onsite. Some have golf courses and other leisure facilities such as spas.

Town House & Boutique Hotels



Location, location, location, your traditional townhouse hotel will be centrally situated right in town. Walk out the door and be surrounded by shops, cafes, restaurants and historical landmarks.

The boutique versions of these town centre locations will have a contemporary feel with designer bars and lounges. There is a choice of out of town boutique hotels too.

Contemporary & Designer Hotels



Cutting edge design with elegance, setting new standards of luxury. Contemporary British hotels embody comfort, style and tech. Britain's designer hotels are just that.

Every last detail created for that place to stay and that place only. Door handles, keyholes, wine glasses and spa have seamless themes and motifs, generating the feeling of being inside a work of art.

Classic & Britain's finest Hotels



Start and end your day in a refined and grand hotel with the best service. Known as Britain's finest Hotels, enjoy the grandeur, history, architecture along with high-end facilities.

The Classic British, five-star hotel, has world-class restaurants, up to date spas, and beautifully designed golf courses. These hotels will have manicured gardens and extensive grounds to explore. Rooms tend to have antiques and valuable works of art.

LUXURY VACATIONS UK

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Classic tour of Scotland

Additional Information



Virtuoso on-site | Visit Britain Partner | European Tour Operator Association Member | UK-Inbound Member



We look forward to seeing you soon!