





Scotland's Highlands, Islands and Cities



Scotland's Highlands, Islands and Cities



- Start Location
-  Plane
-  Cruise
- 1 Over night

- Visited Location
- End Location
-  Train
-  Ferry

Day 1 | Welcome to Edinburgh



Embrace the allure of Auld Reekie and explore its labyrinthine lanes, before joining your fellow travellers and Travel Director for a Welcome Reception to kick-start your tour through an unimaginably beautiful part of the world.

Meals: Welcome Reception

Hotel: Voco Hotel Haymarket Edinburgh

Day 2 | Discover Enchanting Edinburgh



Let your Local Specialist take you on an informative sightseeing tour of Edinburgh. See the regal Palace of Holyroodhouse, the new Scottish Parliament Building and the Royal Mile, delving into the heart of the city, before visiting Edinburgh Castle, perched atop Castle Rock. Stroll through the grand New Town with its Gothic façades enjoying the rest of the day at leisure. Tickets to see the Edinburgh Tattoo are included on departures that coincide with performance dates.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Voco Hotel Haymarket Edinburgh

Optional Experiences:

Rosslyn Chapel - We'll drive out of Edinburgh to the tiny village of Rosslyn, where we'll hear the inside story of the famous Rosslyn Chapel from a Local Specialist. One of Scotland's most unusual 15th-century buildings, Rosslyn is famed for its associations with the Knights Templar, the Masonic movement, and now 'The Da Vinci Code'.

Adult: 22.00 GBP

You will be offered one of the following two optional experiences depending on availability:

Dinner and Drive to Historic Torphichen - Enjoy a scenic drive to the ancient village of Torphichen, associated with Scottish kings and Knights Templar. At the Torphichen Inn, your arrival will be toasted by our gracious host before enjoying an excellent dinner of local specialties and entertainment.

Adult: 56.00 GBP

Scottish Show with Dinner - Tonight is your chance to put on that tartan and join us for an evening of singing, dancing and bagpipe playing. You'll enjoy Scottish food and wine, join in the singing and watch a Highland dance or two. There's even a chance to sample Scotland's national dish – haggis.

Adult: 72.00 GBP

Day 3 | A Day of Abbeys, Landscapes and History



A scenic day's excursion brings us to the ruins of the 12th-century Augustinian Jedburgh Abbey, which we will have an opportunity to view. Continue to nearby Melrose Abbey, said to be the final resting place of the embalmed heart of Robert the Bruce. We take the scenic route back to Edinburgh this afternoon, following the lush green landscapes along the Tweed River.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Voco Hotel Haymarket Edinburgh

Optional Experiences:

You will be offered one of the following two optional experiences depending on availability:

Kilt Wearing Demonstration and Drink - Tonight we'll enjoy a glass of wine or beer, followed by a demonstration of how to pleat and tie "The Great Kilt", which was worn in the pre-Jacobite era. This is the traditional garment worn by Jamie Fraser in the Outlander series.

Adult: 24.00 EUR

Ghost Walk and Drink - Tonight, we'll discover some of Edinburgh's most haunted places with our Local Specialist, who'll share ghoulish tales. After we've recovered, we'll enjoy a pint of beer or a glass of wine in a local pub.

Adult: 24.00 EUR

Day 4 | Explore Glamis Castle and on to Creative Dundee



This morning, we cross the Firth of Forth to the celebrated home of golf - St. Andrews, to view its ancient university and famous golf course.

Shakespeare's Macbeth takes centre stage as we visit Glamis Castle, once the home of the beloved Queen Mother and birthplace of Princess Margaret. Enjoy a guided tour of the castle and explore its beautiful gardens, before we travel to the waterfront city of Dundee, distinguished for its status as the first UNESCO City of Design, and the original home of marmalade.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Apex City Quay

Day 5 | Venture to Culloden and Inverness



Dive Into Culture and learn about the local whisky industry at a distillery, including a tasting of Scotland's much-loved golden nectar. Hearts warmed, we wind our way to the tragic battlefield and Visitor Centre at Culloden, past rugged landscapes and the imposing Cairngorms Mountains. Visit the site where Bonnie Prince Charlie's Jacobite army was defeated. Our final stop for the night is Inverness, the cultural capital of the Scottish Highlands, where we'll overnight.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Columba

Optional Experiences:

Highland Farm Experience - Visit a real Highland sheep farm and meet Neil the Shepherd and his border collies. He'll show you how he uses different whistles to command each dog to carry out different tasks. You'll also have the opportunity to try your hand at feeding the lambs and discover his training techniques. Weather permitting.

Adult: 18.00 GBP

Cawdor Dinner Evening - Join us for dinner at a traditional country pub in the charming village of Cawdor, home to Shakespeare's Macbeth.

Adult: 42.00 GBP

**The price of this optional may increase if taxis are needed to return to the hotel.*

Day 6 | Journey to Loch Ness and Thurso



The mystical haunt of Nessie is our first stop today en route to Dunrobin Castle. This stately home and its magnificent gardens, inspired by the Palace of Versailles, comes straight from the pages of a fairy tale. Spend your afternoon exploring its chateau-like structure and surrounds, once home to the Clan Sutherland. Arriving in Thurso, our home for the next two nights, we enjoy dinner at our hotel.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Hotel: Pentland/Norseman

Optional Experiences:

Loch Ness Cruise - Today, we'll experience a scenic cruise on Scotland's most famous waterway, Loch Ness. On the lake, we'll also see beautiful Urquhart Castle, founded in the 13th-century. The management regretfully informs you that Nessie sightings are not guaranteed!

Adult: 26.00 GBP

Day 7 | A Day on the Orkney Islands



After stopping at John O'Groats, we board a ferry to South Ronaldsay in the Orkney Islands. Visit the ornate Italian Chapel, built by Italian prisoners of war. See the prehistoric free-standing stones of the Ring of Brodgar before visiting Skara Brae and delving into the stories of the Neolithic village. We stop at beautiful Kirkwall Cathedral for a photo opportunity before returning to our hotel for dinner.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Hotel: Pentland/Norseman

Day 8 | Over the Sea to Skye



Dramatic landscapes accompany our scenic drive along the rugged north-west coastline of the Scottish Highlands to remote Ullapool on the shores of Loch Broom. We journey to Eilean Donan Castle, built in the 13th-century perched on a tiny island where three sea lochs meet, then continue to the Isle of Skye where we'll stay overnight and enjoy a delicious dinner in our hotel.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Hotel: Kings Arms

Day 9 | Onwards to Oban



We return to the mainland following a beautiful route that takes us past the Glenfinnan Viaduct, along which Harry Potter's Hogwarts Express once crossed to his beloved school of magic. We pass Fort William on the shores of Loch Linnhe, renowned as the gateway to Ben Nevis, before continuing to Oban, our Highland home for the next two nights.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: Royal

Optional Experiences:

You will be offered one of the following two optional experiences depending on availability:

Isle of Skye Drive - An opportunity to travel around the Isle of Skye with your Local Specialist. You'll hear about the way of life on this remote inner Hebridean Island and discover its dramatic scenery and rock formations.

Adult: 19.00 GBP

Local Crafts on Skye - Join us this morning to gain a real insight into crafts on the Isle of Skye. First we'll drive up to Slig Hotel to take in magnificent views of the Cullins. Then, we'll meet local weaver Bev and see a traditional hand spinning demonstration on a spinning wheel with a drop spindle; with time to browse around her workshop. Next we'll visit Love from Skye, to see a selection of Celtic jewellery and handmade gifts. We'll finish off our whistle-stop tour

with tea and scones at a local hotel.

Adult: 17.00 GBP

Dinner by a Scenic Scottish Loch - We'll enjoy dinner and drinks this evening at our favourite local restaurant, by one of Scotland's scenic lochs.

Adult: 41.00 GBP

Day 10 | Sail to the Isles of Mull and Iona



Set sail from Oban to the Isle of Mull, disembarking at Craignure. Cross the pretty island countryside to catch a ferry from Fionnphort to the island of Iona, which was once the home of a Gaelic monastic community in Iona Abbey. Before our journey back to Oban, we'll have the chance to view Rèilig Odhrain, the final resting place of many Scottish kings.

Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Hotel: Royal

Day 11 | Off to Glasgow



A solemn reminder of the MacDonald clansmen, who were massacred at the 'Glen of Weeping', marks our morning journey south to Glasgow. Join a wildlife cruise on Loch Lomond, a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience, then enjoy an orientation tour viewing St. Mungo's Cathedral and George Square with its statues of Britain's famous sons and daughters.

Meals: Breakfast

Hotel: AC by Marriott

Optional Experiences:

The Kelpies and the Falkirk Wheel - Discover two of modern Scotland's great achievements as a contrast to its scenery and historic sights. Watch the Falkirk Wheel in action, an engineering marvel and the world's first revolving boat lift in a tranquil setting linking Scotland's two canals. Further down the Forth and Clyde canal are the Kelpies, towering metal horse sculptures, a tribute both to the Scottish legend of the water horse and the work horses of the canals by Scotland's foremost modern sculptor.

Adult: 15.00 GBP

Glasgow City Evening - You'll enjoy a chance to experience a night out in the city of Glasgow. Your Travel Director will take you for an evening of good food, drinks, and undoubtedly interesting conversation.

Adult: 45.00 GBP

Day 12 | Uncover Stirling Castle's Secrets



Venture to Bannockburn, where King Robert Bruce of Scotland defeated Edward II of England during the First War of Scottish Independence. Mary, Queen of Scots and several Scottish kings and queens have made Stirling Castle their home over the centuries. Enjoy a visit to its grounds and delve into the history of this royal residence and fortress, besieged by Bonnie Prince Charlie in the 18th century. We'll visit the splendidly decorated Royal Palace of King James V and view the renowned Stirling Heads. Later, we Connect With Locals, joining the Wood family this afternoon for a memorable Be My Guest experience at their 15th-century farm, on the shores of Loch Ard, amidst tales of Rob Roy. This evening, we return to Glasgow for time at leisure to enjoy true Scottish hospitality.

Meals: Breakfast, Be My Guest

Hotel: AC by Marriott

Day 13 | Farewell Glasgow



Our epic journey across Scotland's highlands, islands and cities has come to an end. It's time to say a fond farewell to our travel companions and Travel Director as our memorable holiday comes to an end. Find out more about your free airport transfer at [trafalgar.com/freetransfers](https://www.trafalgar.com/freetransfers).

Meals: Breakfast