

### Around Edinburgh

7 days – 6 nights

**Edinburgh, Highland Glens, Lochs, Whisky Tour, Kelpies, Loch Lomond, Sterling Castle  
Fun, Discovery, Culture, History**

**This program may be operated for individuals or for groups**

**This is a suggested itinerary – Please call us to customize**

*If you spend some time in Edinburgh, you must to go out of the city to visit the surroundings. There are several sites to see nearby that are worth visiting. Pentland Hills National Park: It's just outside the city, southwest of Edinburgh, and is the perfect place for great hikes in the hills and moors. In winter, you can even ski there. Do not miss to admire the Rosslyn Chapel, a sumptuous church buried in the woods and which has notably served for the film Da Vinci Code.*

#### **Day 1 - Mon: Edinburgh**

Upon arrival in Edinburgh you will be met by our representative and transferred to your hotel in the comfort of a private A/C car. The rest of the day is free for you to rest and adjust to the jetlag or to start discovering the neighborhood of your hotel. Overnight at the hotel.

#### **Day 2 - Tue: Edinburgh (Orientation, Royal Mile, Castle)**

On our Edinburgh city tour, we take you sightseeing around all of Edinburgh's glorious attractions. We start along Princes Street and head to the Grassmarket, a notorious place of execution. Then the university area with stunning buildings that that inspired the Harry Potter books. After, we go to the famous Royal Mile, venture past the National Gallery and down into the new town. After we'll visit Edinburgh's quaint Dean Village. Back into the city center, we travel along George Street and Queen Street before taking you past Calton Hill. From here we head down to the foot of Arthur's Seat, where the regal Holyrood Palace is located. Our last step of the journey takes us through the Canongate and back to Waverley Bridge. In the afternoon, take a walking tour to discover an Edinburgh beyond the reach of tour buses and guidebooks. You'll be hanging on your tour guide's every word, as the true stories of our capital's past unfold. The characters? Think Mary Queen of Scots, David Hume, Adam Smith and Robert Burns. But you'll go far beyond the well-known facts and faces – uncovering another side of our city, and Scotland's past. The castle dominates Scotland's capital city from its great rock. Battles and sieges were fought over it, royalty lived and died within its walls, and countless generations have been inspired by it. Visit the castle with your guide and you'll walk straight over the drawbridge and straight past the ticket line – to continue your history tour with a guided visit. Overnight at your hotel. [B]

#### **Day 3 - Wed: Edinburgh (Old Town, Holyrood Palace)**

Explore the hidden treasures of the Royal Mile and let your expert guide unlock the history of this ancient seat of power. Discover the lesser known history of the Canongate, and the glorious Palace of Holyroodhouse. Uncover a path to the palace that escapes the notice of history books and bus tours. As you walk down the quiet closes of the Royal Mile your guide will show you a different side of the city – in rich, engaging detail. Here, rebellious Jacobites clattered over the cobbles, led by a proud Bonnie Prince Charlie. You'll 'meet' the sickly poet, Robert Fergusson, the inspiration to renowned Robert Burns and forever immortalized on the street. In the hands of your gifted storyteller on this walking tour, you'll find that romance and intrigue are everywhere – in the architecture, literature, crime and politics, on the very doorstep of the Queen's Palace. After the Canongate, your guide will introduce the glorious Palace of Holyroodhouse – which you'll explore on your own time. You'll find 14 magnificent state apartments, as well as the romantic ruins of the 12th century Holyrood Abbey. The palace was the setting for many dramatic episodes in the short reign of Mary, Queen of Scots – and Her Majesty The Queen still makes use of the State Apartments for royal ceremonies. Overnight at your hotel. [B]

#### **Day 4 - Thu: Edinburgh (Rosslyn Chapel, Scottish Borders)**

Uncover the myths and legends around the Da Vinci Code, the Knights Templar and the heart of

Robert the Bruce. Your tour takes you south to the world-famous Scott's View, with stunning views over the Tweed Valley and the Eildon Hills. From here you travel to Melrose exploring the great Border Abbey of Melrose, burial place of Robert the Bruce's heart. This is also your lunch stop. From here you will make your way to the stunning 15th Century Rosslyn Chapel, immortalized in Dan Brown's "Da Vinci Code" where you can find out more about the myths and legends surrounding the whereabouts of the "Holy Grail". Return to Edinburgh mid-afternoon to rest and relax before tonight's dinner at an unforgettable evening of traditional Scottish dance, storytelling and music, located in the center of Edinburgh. The welcoming atmosphere invites you to sing along or simply enjoy the music and poetry while you sample the "National Dish". Pipe Major Andy Coulter, is one of Scotland's most accomplished pipers, having learned his trade with the 1st Battalion of the Irish Guards. He was seen regularly at The Beating of the Retreat and The Trooping of the Color. He has played personally for HM the Queen and other Royals at various State functions. Vocalist and guitarist, Bruce Davis, leads the evening's music with vocalist and fiddle player Jenny Stirling and accordion player David Vernon. The evening's traditional Ceilidh atmosphere is complete with professional Scottish dancers who will have some of the audience moving more than just their toes as everyone is swept up in the "Spirit of Scotland". Overnight at your hotel. [B/D]

### Day 5 – Fri: Edinburgh (Highland Glens, Lochs, Whisky Tour)

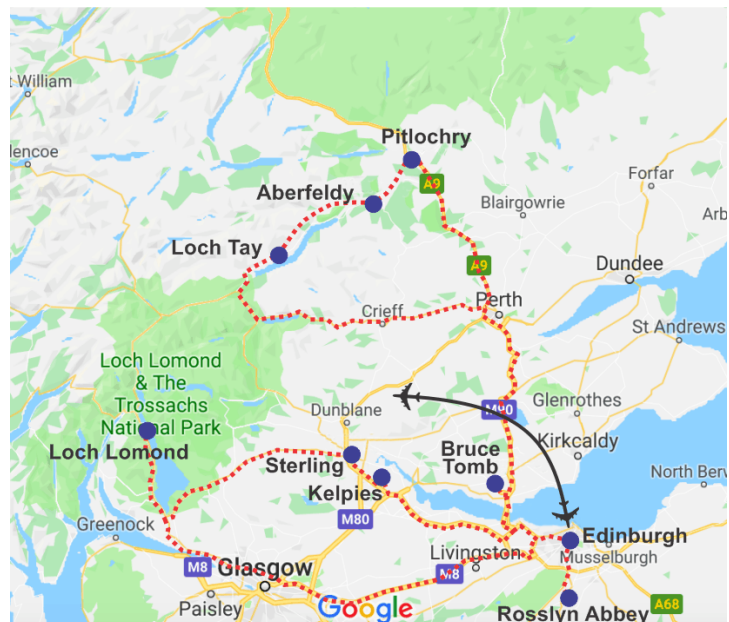
A journey through the Central Highlands taking in the waterfalls of the Hermitage Forest Walk, Pitlochry, the Queen's View and the splendor of Loch Tay. You also visit a whisky distillery for a tour and tasting of Scotland's "Water of Life". This tour is great for those who enjoy forest walks, waterfalls, dramatic mountain views and learning about the art of making whisky; and you can try it too! Explore the history and legends of the Scottish Highland Heartlands. You travel over the Forth Road Bridge to Dunkeld and The Hermitage for a forest walk amongst spectacular waterfalls and the tallest trees in the country. Then journey north for lunch at Pitlochry before travelling to see the Queen's View on Loch Tummel. Your afternoon continues as you cross the mountains to majestic Loch Tay sitting beneath dramatic Ben Lawers. Here you will make a stop at the picturesque waterside village of Kenmore. You finish off the day with a visit to Dewar's World of Whisky at Aberfeldy Distillery to discover the secrets of single malt whisky, before returning to Edinburgh. Overnight at your hotel. [B/L]

### Day 6 - Sat: Edinburgh (Kelpies, Loch Lomond, Sterling Castle)

Today, you travel the short distance to The Kelpies monument that stands as testament to Scotland's industrial past. Here you can learn about the power of these legendary water horses and how Scotland's industrial revolution was driven by horse power. You then continue into the beautiful forest-covered hills of the Trossachs to the "bonny, bonny banks" of Loch Lomond. You will get a great view of the loch; you can relax at the local inn or walk in the footsteps of Rob Roy taking in the nature, tranquility and spectacular views found on the eastern shores of Loch Lomond. From here you travel to Stirling Castle, where you can visit this imposing stronghold, the favorite residence of the Stuart kings, where Mary Queen of Scots was crowned. From Stirling we pass The Kelpies once again to return to Edinburgh in the late afternoon. Overnight at your hotel. [B]

### Day 7 – Sun: Edinburgh, USA

Enjoy breakfast at your hotel before you're picked-up at the appointed time to be transferred to the airport and board your flight back home. [B]



[B] = Breakfast | [B/L] = Breakfast and Lunch | [B/D] = Breakfast and Dinner

**Your Package includes:**

- Round-trip airfare USA-Edinburgh
- Arrival and departure private transfers
- 6 nights hotel accommodation at the hotel of your choice
- Breakfast daily
- One lunch
- One dinner
- Spirit of Scotland dinner and entertainment night
- Travel through Edinburgh in a deluxe, open-top mini-coach
- Learn about Edinburgh through the eyes of a local
- See all of Edinburgh's UNESCO World Heritage Center
- Discover the secrets of the Royal Mile
- Visit the Royal Castle
- Explore the Old Town and Holyrood Palace
- See the tomb of Robert the Bruce
- Follow the path of Da Vinci Code at Rosslyn Chapel
- Dine, wine, sing and dance at the Spirit of Scotland

- Guided visit to:
  - The Kelpies
  - Stirling Castle
  - Callander
  - The Trossachs
  - Rob Roy country
  - Nature trail walk
  - Loch Lomond
  - Central Highlands
  - Queen's View
  - Hermitage Forest Walk
  - Kenmore
- Tours lead be expert guides
- Walking tours lead by expert local guides
- Hotel taxes

**Package does not include:**

- Airport taxes
- Travel Insurance
- Meals not mentioned under inclusions
- Tips to guides or drivers
- Expenses of a personal nature
- Any item not mentioned as "Included"

**Recommended hotels in your Package:**

City	Hotel Name	Tripadvisor
<b>Tourist Class</b>		
Edinburgh	Ceilith-Donia	4.5
	The Royal Scots Club	4.5
	Leonardo Boutique Hotel Simpson	4.5
<b>First Class</b>		
Edinburgh	The Principal Edinburgh George Street	4.5
	Radisson Blu City Center	4.5
	Apex Grassmarket	4.5
<b>Deluxe</b>		
Edinburgh	Old Town Chambers	5
	The Chester Residence	5
	The Balmoral Hotel	4.5

Hotels will be confirmed at time of booking

**Tour Prices:**

**From: \$1,979 including airfare**

Add-ons available from all US gateways.

Prices are per person and may change without notice

This program can be customized for individuals and groups.

Changes to this program may be requested by phone (1855-55-TOURS) or using the web FIT Quote Request

• **Airfare**

We also be glad to add the necessary airfare from your gateway so you take advantage of our special discounted leisure fares

- **Program**

You may add or remove;

- Trip days
- Cities and sites
- Meals

- **Other options**

- The program was designed with shared services; however, we may substitute private sightseeing where available
- If you prefer deluxe services we may operate this program including private driver, private guide and concierge service.

- **Quotation**

Once we have designed the program the way you want we'll give you a quote within 2 business days.

**Tour Code:** SCT04EDI21VT

**Options:**

- Lunches and dinners can be arranged for individuals, families and groups at top restaurants or any restaurant requested by you.
- We can revise the itinerary to spend more time and provide more depth in those areas that you are interested on.
- Any other changes to the itinerary will be accommodated depending on the facilities available in the area.

**Group Quotations**

- If you wish to use these programs for your group or as the basis for a customized journey please either call us (1-855-55-TOURS or use the web Group Quote Request.
- In either case our specialists will work with to refine all the details and they will get you a quote with 2 business days. Quotes may be obtained for the air and land portions of just for the land journey.
- Booking both air and land with us will represent savings for you because of our buying power and longtime relationship with the airlines.
- We will also may have the choice between regular fares and special leisure fares not available to the public.