



Spirit Journeys Worldwide
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Scotland Tour

INCLUDED

- Hotels as per itinerary
- Attractions as per itinerary
- Transport



Trip Summary

Arrival Glasgow

The City of Glasgow

Arrive Glasgow

Grand Central Hotel - 1 Night Dinner BB

Tour of Glasgow hidden gems

Glasgow to Oban via Kilmartin

Depart Glasgow and travel to Oban

Tour to Druid history sites in Argyll on route to Oban

Alexandra Hotel Oban - 2 nights Dinner BB

Mull Iona and Staffa

Mull Iona and Staffa Tour

Oban to Inverness

Journey from Oban to Inverness

Kingsmills Hotel - 2 nights Dinner B & B

Inverness

Tour of Culloden Battle Field, Clava Cairns and Cawdor Castle

Inverness to Aberdeen

Inverness to Aberdeen

Doubletree By Hilton Aberdeen City Centre - Dinner BB

Aberdeen to Edinburgh via Royal Deeside

Balmoral and Glamis and St Andrews -

The City of Edinburgh

The George Edinburgh - 2 Nights BB

Explore Edinburgh

Secrets of the Royal Mile tour

Departure

Transfer to Airport

Arrival Glasgow



The City of Glasgow

Glasgow is the largest Scottish city, fourth in the United Kingdom, the Scottish economic capital and, most of all, preserves some of the richest historic heritage in the country.

The city is crossed by the Clyde River, around which the Roman general Gneus Julius Agricola - who played the main role during the Roman conquest of Britain - led the construction of some fortresses in 80 AD. Remains of those can still be seen in modern Glasgow. As the legend goes, hundreds of years later, the Christian missionary Saint Mungo founded the city and built a small wooden church close to Molendinar Burn, which centuries later will turn into the splendid Glasgow Cathedral.

Formally a major industrial and commercial centre, modern Glasgow is a flourishing centre for arts and culture. Over the past couple of decades, it has been named City of Culture, Capital of Sport, UNESCO City of Music and City of Architecture and Design. The latter is, perhaps, partly due to the abundance of unique buildings designed by legendary Scottish architect Charles Rennie Mackintosh that dot the city.

The areas of most interest to visitors are, of course, the City Centre - containing some of the city's major attractions - and the West End, a hip area with some of Glasgow's coolest cafes and bars, also home to the University of Glasgow and the well-known Kelvingrove Museum. West of the city centre, on the banks of River Clyde, sit the Science Centre and the Riverside Museum, both a must for tourists.



Arrive Glasgow

On arrival at Glasgow Airport our representative will be at the airport to meet you.

We will transfer you to your hotel for check in and to freshen up



Grand Central Hotel - 1 Night Dinner BB

Located at Glasgow Central Station, the award-winning Grand Central is an iconic hotel set within Glasgow's shopping district. It boasts a fine restaurant, a champagne bar, free Wi-Fi and 21 meeting rooms for up to 500 guests.

The historic building that The Grand Central Hotel occupies dates back to 1883. The hotel has original features including the grand staircase and the magnificent Champagne Central Bar with its domed ceiling and marble floor.

The stylish bedrooms all feature a plasma TV, a laptop safe and an iron.

The elegant Tempus Bar and Restaurant serves both traditional and local specialities, made from seasonal local produce as well as a varied cocktail menu. Deli Central offers fresh, light snacks in a relaxed environment.

This historic hotel has hosted stars including Frank Sinatra and Charlie Chaplin, and even features in the James Bond book, Licence Renewed. In 1927 John Logie Baird broadcast the first-ever long-distance TV pictures from a 4th-floor bedroom.



Tour of Glasgow hidden gems

Discover the world famous Glasgow sights in one day and get a real feeling of the city!

You'll see and learn about the city's most famous landmarks, hear stories about its history and development, and find out lots of interesting and fun facts.

Some of the places we can visit

- Glasgow Cathedral - £5 per person donation
- Kelvin Grove Art Gallery - free
- Transport Museum - £5 per person donation
- The Tenement House - under explore Scotland Pass
- Pollock Country Park + House under explore Scotland Pass
- Glasgow Green
- Glasgow Murals

This tour encompasses some Glasgow's major attractions as well as some of the hidden gems of Glasgow



Glasgow to Oban via Kilmartin



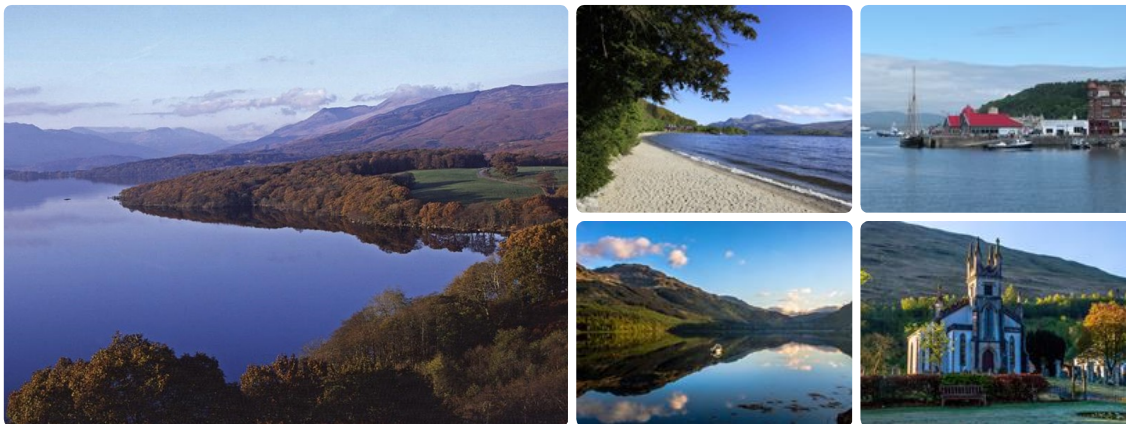
Depart Glasgow and travel to Oban

Today we leave Glasgow travelling via Kilmartin Glen to Oban.

Various photo stops along route

Highlights

- Loch Lomond - Boat Trip 1 hour
- Luss/Loch Lomond
- Kilmartin Glen



Tour to Druid history sites in Argyll on route to Oban

Tour to druid history sites in Argyll.

Crarae Chambered Cairn

Set within the beautiful mix of waterfalls, cliffs and flowers of Crarae Gardens.

Crarae Cairn is a Neolithic Chambered Cairn thought to have been used for the final resting place of a very important person in the Neolithic community of this area.

Brainport Bay Standing Stones and Alignment

Aligned with its main axis for a summer equinox, the Brainport Bay standing stone also aligns with the midwinter solstice. Used as an astronomical calendar and site of special ceremonies, evidence of the people that used it can be found in the form of Cup marks on a nearby stone.

Kilmartin (House) Museum

With over 350 monuments in its immediate vicinity, Kilmartin museum houses a plethora of artefacts found in the Kilmartin Glen excavations. Dated throughout the ages, the monuments include standing stones, cists and a linear cemetery with 5 burial Cairns amongst others. A hugely important religious site for the Neolithic, Bronze Age and Iron Age peoples, Kilmartin museum and Glen are extremely worth visiting.

Dunadd

Thought to be the capital of the Kingdom of Dalriada, Dunadd is of huge significance for the merging of the Pictish and Celtic nations and the transition of ancient religions to Christianity in Scotland. Dunadd has the stone footprint traditionally used when crowning the Gaelic Kings between 500AD and 800AD. Examples of Ogam text and a carving of a boar can also be seen here.

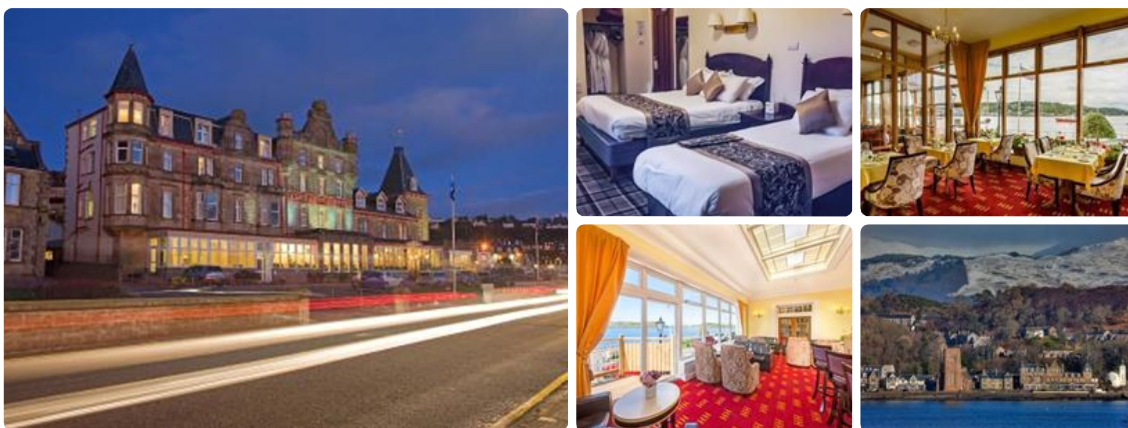


Alexandra Hotel Oban - 2 nights Dinner BB

Situated on the Corran Esplanade with panoramic views of Oban Bay and the island of Kerrera, Muthu Alexandra Hotel is less than a mile from McCaig's Tower. Guests can enjoy the property's bar. Free WiFi and free private parking are available at the property.

Every room is equipped with en-suite facilities with a hairdryer and free toiletries. Guests will find a flat-screen TV and tea/coffee making facilities in their room. Hot chocolate and cookies are provided in the room.

Guests can access the Isle of Mull and Tiree from the ferry terminal, located 1 miles from Muthu Alexandra Hotel. Dunollie Museum, Castle and Grounds is less than a mile from the property.



Mull Iona and Staffa

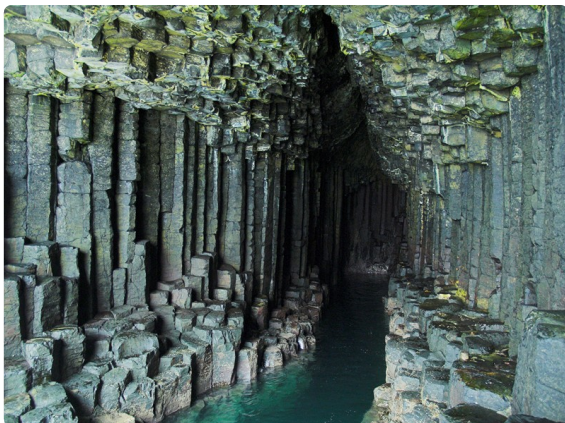


Mull Iona and Staffa Tour

Discover the Inner Hebrides in one day

This island boat tours allow you to discover up to three beautiful and diverse Inner Hebridean Islands – Mull, Iona and Staffa – on a day trip from Oban.

This Three Isle Tour is not only great value, but takes you on an amazing journey of these three stunning islands – from the rugged scenery of Mull to the tranquillity of Iona and the breathtaking beauty of Staffa and the awe inspiring beauty of Fingal's Cave.



Oban to Inverness

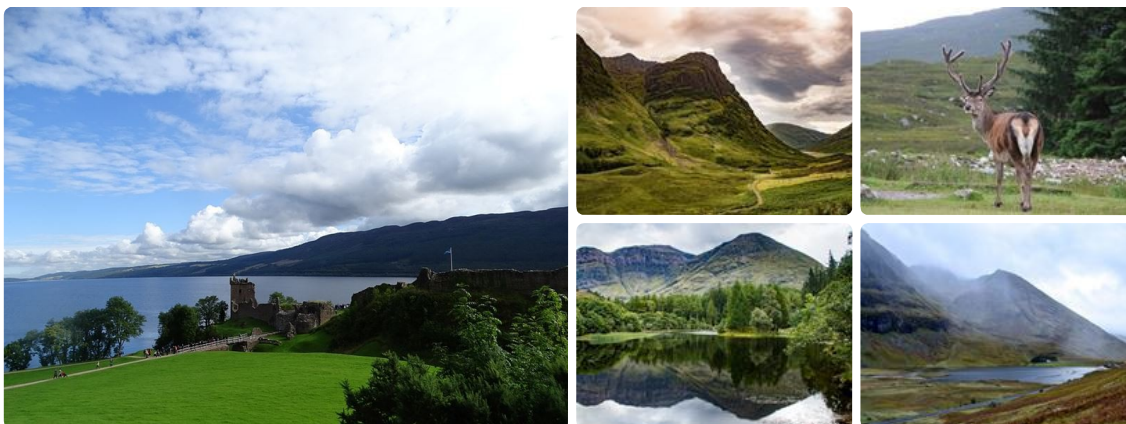


Journey from Oban to Inverness

Today we will travel up the great glen from Oban to Inverness via Glencoe and Fort William. The Great Glen Way stretches for 117km from coast to coast across the Highlands, linking the main centres of Fort William and the regional capital of Inverness. The route follows the major natural faultline of the Great Glen which divides Scotland from coast to coast

You can stop en route at

- Loch Ness
- Fort Augustus
- Ben Nevis
- Glencoe



Kingsmills Hotel - 2 nights Dinner B & B

Set in 4 acres of beautiful gardens, this mansion hotel has a spa, a swimming pool. Inverness city centre is just one mile away.

Guests have full use of the leisure club, with a sauna, steam room, spa bath and gym. There is also a hair salon.

Many of the spacious rooms at Kingsmills Hotel have garden views. Features include satellite TV and tea and coffee-making facilities.

Inglis Restaurant offers excellent cuisine, with a menu of fresh, local produce. Guests at Hotel Kingsmills can also dine in the garden conservatory brasserie, which features an informal menu.





Tour of Culloden Battle Field, Clava Cairns and Cawdor Castle

After Breakfast, we will do a city tour of Inverness followed by Culloden, Clava Cairns and Cawdor Castle

Culloden Battlefield

Find out more about the events leading up to, during and after the Battle of Culloden at the new and award-winning visitor centre.

The battle lines have been redrawn at the new Culloden battlefield experience. With the site restored to as close as possible to that seen by the forces on that fateful day in April 1746, Culloden now welcomes visitors with an impressive new visitor centre and exciting interactive exhibition.

With over 1,200 dead in just one hour Culloden was a short but bloody battle - the last to be fought on British soil. Now all the family can experience and understand so much more about the events leading up to, during and after the battle. Follow characters who were actually involved in the battle around the interactive exhibition, experience the true horror of the battle in an immersive film, take a battlefield tour, and watch the daily Living History presentations which bring the battle to life.

Clava Cairns

Discover one of Scotlands most evocative prehistoric sites the exceptional remains of an ancient cemetery, set on a terrace above the River Nairn.

The Clava Cairns are about 4,000 years old and were built to house the dead. The cemetery remained a sacred place in the landscape for millennia, and provides many clues to the beliefs of Bronze Age society.

What remains today would have once been part of a larger complex. Two parts of the complex, Balnuaran of Clava and Milton of Clava, are open to the public. The sites contain a range of prehistoric burial monuments and the remains of a medieval chapel.

Cawdor Castle

Discover the romantic Highland castle, the 14th century home of the Thaners of Cawdor.

Located about 5 miles south west of Nairn, Cawdor Castle was built around a 15th century tower house which originally belonged to Clan Cawdor before passing into the hands of Campbells in the 16th century. Although famed for its literary connection to ShakespeareTM's Macbeth, the actual 11th century events upon which the play is based to place many years before the castle was built. However the castle does boast its own unique tale surrounding its construction. According to legend, the castle is built around a thorn tree, which has since been identified as a holly dating from 1372, which visitors can still see today in the dungeon.



Inverness to Aberdeen



Inverness to Aberdeen

Travel along the coast road to Aberdeen. This route is also known as the NC250

The North East 250 explores everything for which Scotland is famous in a unique Scottish road trip taking you through the whisky distilleries of Speyside, the spectacular mountain passes of the Cairngorms National Park, the famous castles of Royal Deeside, the Granite City of Aberdeen, the rugged North Sea coastline to the east, and the picturesque seaside villages of the Moray Firth Coast.

Suggested stops

- Ben Romach Whisky Distillery Forres
- Elgin Cathedral
- Balvenie Castle
- Many of the small fishing villages on the Moray Coastline



Doubletree By Hilton Aberdeen City Centre - Dinner BB

With views across Aberdeen Seafront, this Doubletree by Hilton is just 900 yards from Aberdeen centre. The modern hotel has a restaurant and bar, and free parking.

The 4-star bedrooms at Doubletree by Hilton Aberdeen City Centre have complimentary WiFi and a large work desk. All rooms feature satellite TV and tea/coffee facilities, and some have sea views.

Footdee's Restaurant serves a creative modern menu using quality local produce. The Conservatory offers hearty breakfasts and evening meals based on Scottish cuisine, and The Atrium serves a traditional pub-style menu.

Opposite Aberdeen's sandy beach, Doubletree by Hilton Aberdeen is a 10-minute walk from Union Street. There are 5 golf clubs within 3 miles, including Royal Aberdeen. The property is 12 minutes' walk from Codonas Amusement Park.

3 course dinner in hotel



Aberdeen to Edinburgh via Royal Deeside



Balmoral and Glamis and St Andrews -

On our Royal tour today we carry on and follow in the footsteps of Royalty to the Queen's holiday castle - Balmoral.

The tour follows the River Dee as we head towards the castle and watch the rich agricultural landscape change to the mountains of the Highlands. We will experience the journey taken by the lady who put the "Royal" into Deeside, Queen Victoria. Her heart was captured by the Highlands and people continue to be enchanted today.

Balmoral Castle was built in the 1800s by Queen Victoria and her husband Prince Albert and both worked closely with the architect, John Smith to create the home of their dreams. It has been a haven for our Royal family ever since. We can explore the grounds and visit the ballroom exhibition. Refreshments are available in the cafe and the gift shop offers the opportunity to find that unique gift or souvenir.

After the castle tour we visit Crathie Kirk. This is the church where the Royals worship when staying at the castle. It has also been the venue for a Royal wedding as the Queen's

Carry on to Glamis Castle, the childhood home of Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, Balmoral, home of the queen and the famous St Andrews.

Glamis Castle. This magical castle dates from the 15th century, although there has been a royal residence here since the 11th century.

This was the childhood home of Elizabeth Bowes Lyon, later to become the beloved "Queen Mum". It is still owned by the Bowes Lyon family, cousins to our Queen. A family home as well as an historic building, we tour this popular and haunted venue and listen to the story of its 600 years.

Travel into the ancient Kingdom of Fife. The Highlight is a visit to St Andrews where there is plenty of time to discover the rich history of this attractive town.

Finally ending up in the Capital of Scotland, Edinburgh



The City of Edinburgh

Located on the southern shore of the Firth of Forth, Edinburgh has been the capital of Scotland since 1492.

Edinburgh still breathes the spirit of its past, with its streets running through town like scars of distant memories. The most significant is probably the Royal Mile, which goes right through the Old Town and ends at The Palace of Holyroodhouse, once home to Mary, Queen of Scots and now the British Royal Family's official Scottish residence.

On both sides of this famous street lays the unique combination of the cobbled streets and narrow lanes of the Old Town and the elegant Georgian grandeur of the neoclassic New Town. This blend makes Edinburgh's historical centre so peculiar, described by many as one of the most beautiful cityscapes in the world. The Old and New Towns of Edinburgh became a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1995.



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The George Edinburgh - 2 Nights BB

Boasting an enviable **location** in the Edinburgh city centre, the historic and chic, InterContinental Edinburgh The George, is close to Edinburgh Castle, Princes Street Gardens and Holyrood Palace. It has elegant rooms, conference and meeting rooms and a gym. Free high-speed WiFi is available throughout the hotel.

This Grade II listed building with its distinctive facade was built in 1775 and has undergone a great refurbishment project transforming the majority of the bedrooms and public areas. The architecturally-designed interior has created a sense of restored grandeur with simple detailing and the use of natural materials.

Each room features a flat-screen TV, free WiFi, and an en suite bathroom.

The Printing Press Bar & Kitchen serves seasonal Scottish produce throughout the day and night. It is open 7 days a week offering breakfast, lunch and dinner, with a late-night bar until 01:00. Coffee, cakes, pastries, sandwiches and salads are available at Burr & Co, open 7 days a week. A full room service menu is also available.



Explore Edinburgh



Secrets of the Royal Mile tour

Discover the sites, stories and secrets of Edinburgh's Old Town that you might have otherwise missed, and take a guided trip around one of Britain's most famous castles on this Secrets of the Royal Mile Tour and Entrance to Edinburgh Castle.

The capital city of Scotland is filled with ancient stories and colourful secrets, all painting a vivid picture of Edinburgh's varied history. As you wander off the beaten path and hear the tales of the city's culture, crime and politics throughout the years, you'll learn about all the things the guide books wouldn't dare to tell you. From Edinburgh's Victorian Mercat Cross, a marker for a market place that stood in the 14th century, your tour will pass along the Royal Mile and back through time.

Afternoon free to explore Edinburgh on your own or use the time for last minute shopping in Scotlands Capital



Departure



Transfer to Airport

Transfer to Edinburgh or Glasgow Airport for your flight home