

SCOTTISH WINTER ESCAPE

ITINERARY

DAY

1

DAY 1: ARRIVAL DAY IN EDINBURGH

At Edinburgh Airport you will be met in the arrivals hall by a private driver who will bring you to your charming accommodation in Edinburgh. After settling in, go out and explore the charming capital city. There are plenty of restaurants and bars to enjoy some warm Scottish hospitality – not to mention a taste of the local whisky.

Spend the night in Edinburgh.

HIGHLIGHTS: Edinburgh

DAY

2

DAY 2: EDINBURGH AT YOUR LEISURE

Today is free for you to explore Edinburgh as you wish. This city has a long and storied history, so there's no shortage of UNESCO World Heritage Sites, museums and landmarks to visit. This includes the majestic Edinburgh Castle and the official Scottish residence of Queen Elizabeth II, Holyrood Palace. As you can easily travel around the city centre on foot, we recommend strolling along the historic Royal Mile or walking to Castle Hill for a spectacular view of the city.

Spend another night in Edinburgh.

HIGHLIGHTS: Edinburgh Castle - Holyrood Palace - The Royal Mile & St Giles Cathedral

DAY

3

DAY 3: ST ANDREWS & DUNKELD

Start your drive today across the remarkable Forth Road Bridge and follow the scenic coastal route around the East Neuk of Fife. Visit the enchanting fishing villages of Anstruther, Elie and Pittenween on your way to St. Andrews. Explore this beautiful and historical city, famous for its old ruins, the Royal and Ancient Golf Club that was founded in 1754 and the University of St Andrews, the oldest in Scotland dating back to 1410.

Continue onwards to the lovely village of Dunkeld, perched on the banks of the River Tay, where you can visit the atmospheric cathedral ruins. In the nearby Hermitage area, you can take a scenic winter walk through the peaceful woodlands to view the Black Linn Falls and Ossian's Hall of Mirrors.

Spend the night in Perthshire.

Driving distance: 130 miles / 210 km

HIGHLIGHTS: Anstruther & the Secret Bunker - Dunkeld - St Andrews - The Hermitage

DAY

4

DAY 4: WATERFALLS & HIGHLAND SCENERY

Spend some time in the town of Pitlochry. Besides the charming Victorian atmosphere, this town is renowned for its accessibility to great walking trails in the surrounding scenic hills as well as Edradour Distillery, the smallest whisky distillery in Scotland, where you can warm up with "a wee dram"—a shot of single malt Scotch (the distillery is closed on weekends, alternatively you could visit Dalwhinnie Distillery on your journey north).

Travelling north towards the Cairngorms National Park, you can stop for walks at the Pass of Killiecrankie, an impressive wooded river gorge, and the charming Falls of Bruar, a series of waterfalls along the Bruar Water. You can also visit the atmospheric ruins of the Ruthven Barracks, situated on a mound visible for miles around, or take a short detour to the Highland Wildlife Park, a wonderful place to see both native Scottish wildlife and endangered animals from around the world.

From there, drive to Glenfinnan, where you can visit the Glenfinnan Monument, a tribute to the Jacobite clansmen, overlooking the mysterious and beautiful Loch Shiel.

Spend the night in the Fort William area.

Driving distance: 145 miles / 235 km

HIGHLIGHTS: Cairngorms National Park - Falls of Bruar - Fort William - Glenfinnan - Highland Wildlife Park - Pitlochry

DAY

5

DAY 5: GLENCOE TO LOCH LOMOND

Head to the magical Glen Coe, a valley combining famous Highland scenery and history.

On your way south, stop for a walk at the atmospheric Kilchurn Castle at Loch Awe— one of the most picturesque castles in Scotland—that was built in the 15th century by Clan Campbell. While it is closed during the winter time, you can still walk around the area and take some fantastic photographs.

You can also stop at the charming village of Inveraray with its white washed houses on the shores of Loch Fyne, before reaching Loch Lomond in the late afternoon. We recommend a walk in the ancient village of Luss, with its characteristic stone cottages overlooking the shores of the loch.

Spend the night in the Loch Lomond / Trossachs National Park area.

Driving distance: 140 miles / 230 km

HIGHLIGHTS: Glencoe - Inveraray & Inveraray Castle - Kilchurn Castle - Loch Lomond - Luss

DAY

6

DAY 6: BACK TO EDINBURGH

It's time to head back to Edinburgh today. You may wish to do some light hiking in the beautiful Loch Lomond and Trossachs National Park area this morning. For a fun photo opportunity, don't miss Doune Castle, which is featured in the classic film *Monty Python & the Holy Grail* and the *Outlander* TV series as "Castle Leoch". Another ideal place to visit is Stirling Castle and the monument dedicated to William Wallace, the rebellious Scottish knight and subject of the film *Braveheart*.

Other worthwhile stops, depending on your time, include Linlithgow Palace and the Kelpies, two giant horse head sculptures that make for a great photo opportunity.

Back in Edinburgh, return your rental car and enjoy the rest of the day at your leisure, perhaps with a fine dinner to top off your amazing journey.

Spend the night in Edinburgh.

Driving distance: 80 miles / 125 km

HIGHLIGHTS: Doune Castle - Linlithgow Palace - Stirling & Stirling Castle - The Kelpies

DAY

7

DAY 7: DEPARTURE

After your memorable adventure, enjoy a comfortable private transfer back to Edinburgh Airport. If your flight is in the afternoon, use the morning to enjoy some last-minute shopping, visit one of Edinburgh's museums or

simply relax and take in the old-world atmosphere of the city.

If you wish to spend more time in Edinburgh or Glasgow before or after the tour, ask your travel consultant about adding extra nights or services, such as private airport transfers. We can also extend your trip with other destinations in the Nordic region such as Iceland or Norway. Contact us for details about customizing your itinerary.

Whatever your needs, we are here to help. If you have any questions about our packages or services, please do not hesitate to contact us.

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