

# SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS EXPRESS WINTER - PRIVATE ITINERARY

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## DAY 1: ARRIVAL IN EDINBURGH

Upon your arrival in **Edinburgh**, you will be greeted by a private driver who will take you to your hotel in the city centre. For those arriving early in the day, we recommend spending the afternoon walking through the city, strolling along the **Royal Mile** and exploring the **Old Town** and New Town, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. There are also plenty of museums and landmarks to visit within the city centre, including the majestic **Edinburgh Castle**.

Spend the night in Edinburgh.

*Included: Entrance to Edinburgh Castle*

**Attractions:** Calton Hill, Edinburgh, Edinburgh Castle, Edinburgh New Town, Edinburgh Old Town, The Grassmarket, The Royal Mile & St Giles Cathedral

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## DAY 2: INTO THE HIGHLANDS

Today your private tour guide will pick you up from your hotel in a comfortable vehicle. On the way you can stop at the charming village of **Dunkeld** and enjoy a walk at the picturesque **Hermitage**. We also recommend passing by the town of Pitlochry, before heading into the **Cairngorms National Park**. Arriving near **Inverness**, you have the option to visit the **Battlefield of Culloden Moor**, to see where the last battle on British soil occurred in 1746, marking "the beginning of the end for the Highlands." Nearby you could also roam around **Clava Cairns**, a series of tombs and standing stones dating back roughly 4,000 years.

Spend the night in Inverness area.

*Driving distance: 251 km / 156 miles*

*Average travel & exploring duration: estimated 9-10 hours*

**Attractions:** Cairngorms National Park, Clava Cairns, Culloden Battlefield & Visitor Centre, Dunkeld, Inverness

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## DAY 3: TRAVEL ALONG LOCH NESS AND GLEN COE

Your guide will drive you south along the shores of the mysterious **Loch Ness**, where you'll stop to visit the Loch Ness Centre and Exhibition. You might also wish to take a boat tour to admire the views of the loch and try to catch a glimpse of Nessie, or go explore the nearby **Urquhart Castle** ruins. You'll then make your way south past **Fort William** and Scotland's highest mountain, **Ben Nevis**, before making the worthwhile detour past Scotland's most famous valley, **Glen Coe**, which offers breathtaking scenery. Continue to **Oban**, known as the "The Gateway to the Isles" and "The Seafood Capital of Scotland".

Spend the night in Oban.

*Included: Entrance to Urquhart Castle*

*Driving distance: 180 km / 110 miles*

*Average travel & exploring duration: estimated 8-9 hours*

**Attractions:** Fort Augustus, Fort William, Glen Coe, Loch Ness, Oban, Urquhart Castle

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## DAY 4: WEST COAST THROUGH TROSSACHS NATIONAL PARK

Today's drive will take you through the **Loch Lomond** and **Trossachs National Park** back to Edinburgh. We recommend stopping for a walk at the atmospheric **Kilchurn Castle** at Loch Awe, one of the most picturesque castles in Scotland. While it is closed during the winter time, you can still walk around the area and take some fantastic photographs. You may want to also stop for a walk in the ancient village of Luss, with its characteristic stone cottages overlooking the shores of Loch Lomond. Later on, for a fun photo opportunity, don't miss **Doone Castle**, featured in *Monty Python & the Holy Grail* and *Outlander*. If time allows, you could also stop by **Stirling Castle**, one of Scotland's top attractions, or at the **Kelpies**, two impressive horse-head sculptures.

Spend the night in Edinburgh.

*Included: Entrances to Doone and Stirling Castle*

*Driving distance: 240 km / 150 miles*

*Average travel & exploring duration: estimated 8-9 hours*

**Attractions:** Doone Castle, Loch Lomond, Stirling & Stirling Castle, Trossachs National Park

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## DAY 5: DEPARTURE FROM SCOTLAND

On your day of departure, a private driver will pick you up from your hotel to take you directly to the airport. If your flight is in the afternoon, you may take your last few hours to do some last-minute shopping, visit one of Edinburgh's many museums, or take one last stroll through the charming city centre.

*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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