

SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS - PRIVATE

ITINERARY

DAY

1

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 (with your Explorer Pass): Entrance to Edinburgh Castle

HIGHLIGHTS: Calton Hill - Edinburgh - Edinburgh Castle - Edinburgh New Town - Edinburgh Old Town - The Grassmarket - The Royal Mile & St Giles Cathedral

DAY

2

DAY 2: INTO THE HIGHLANDS

Today your guide will pick you up from your hotel in a comfortable vehicle to start your private tour. On the way you'll have many possible stops, such as the picturesque village of **Dunkeld**, the 13th-century **Blair Castle** and the **Highland Folk Museum** inside the **Cairngorms National Park**. Arriving near **Inverness**, you can 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 8-9 hours

HIGHLIGHTS: Blair Castle - Cairngorms National Park - Clava Cairns - Culloden Battlefield & Visitor Centre - Dunkeld - Highland Folk Museum - Inverness

DAY

3

DAY 3: THE BEAUTY OF LOCH NESS

Today, you'll start by spending some time in Inverness, "The Capital of the Highlands", and its surroundings, such as the Black Isle Peninsula and Moray Firth, where dolphins can sometimes be spotted at low tide. Your guide will take you south along the shores of the mysterious **Loch Ness**, where you can stop to visit the Loch Ness Centre and Exhibition or to try to spot the notorious monster, Nessie. You can also explore the nearby **Urquhart Castle** ruins. You could also opt to take a detour to visit the picturesque Glen Affric. Continue south to **Fort William**, passing by Scotland's highest mountain, **Ben Nevis**.

Spend the night in the Fort William area.

Included: Entrance to Urquhart Castle

Driving distance: 155 km / 95 miles

Average travel & exploring duration: estimated 7-8 hours

HIGHLIGHTS: Black Isle & Moray Firth - Fort Augustus - Fort William - Glen Affric - Loch Ness - Urquhart Castle

DAY
4

DAY 4: EXPLORE FORT WILLIAM AT YOUR LEISURE

You have today to explore the surroundings of Fort William, or you have the option of taking a day trip to the **Isle of Skye**. As you have a private driver, you'll be able to relax between locations, but please be aware that the latter will be a long day. Before arriving at the island, you can stop by the picturesque **Eilean Donan Castle**. On Skye, you can visit the village of **Portree** and hike to the mystical **Fairy Pools**, from where you can take in the beauty of the **Cuillin Mountains**.

For a more leisurely day, we recommend staying around Fort William. You could board the "Harry Potter train", the Jacobite Steam Train, which passes by the **Glenfinnan Viaduct** and is considered one of the most beautiful railway journeys in the world. Hikers will love the area and could discover the beautiful Glen Nevis where you can view the Steall Falls, Scotland's second highest waterfall.

Spend another night in the Fort William area.

Driving distance to Skye and back: 380 km / 235 miles

Average travel & exploring duration: estimated 10-11 hours

Driving distance around Fort William: 85 km / 55 miles

Average travel & exploring duration: estimated 6-7 hours

HIGHLIGHTS: Ben Nevis - Eilean Donan Castle - Fairy Pools - Fort William - Glenfinnan - Portree

DAY
5

DAY 5: TRAVEL ALONG DRAMATIC VALLEYS

Today's drive will take you past Scotland's most famous valley, **Glen Coe**, which offers world-famous scenery. You'll then take the scenic drive the longer scenic route via the seaside town of **Oban** onto the historical valley of **Kilmartin Glen** and past the charming village of **Inveraray**. This region is considered to have one of the most important concentrations of Neolithic and Bronze Age remains in Scotland, including cairns, standing stones, and castles.

Spend the night in the Trossachs National Park area.

Driving distance via Kilmartin Glen/Inveraray: 285 km / 180 miles

Average travel & exploring duration: estimated 8-9 hours

HIGHLIGHTS: Glen Coe - Inveraray & Inveraray Castle - Kilmartin Glen - Loch Lomond

DAY
6

DAY 6: TROSSACHS NATIONAL PARK TO EDINBURGH

Your guide will bring you back to Edinburgh (you can choose to end your trip in Glasgow in the optional activities below). It will take you through the **Loch Lomond** and **Trossachs National Park**, where you could stop to take a walk in nature, enjoy an optional steamship tour on **Loch Katrine**, or visit a local whisky distillery. For a fun photo opportunity, don't miss **Doune 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 impressive **Kelpies**, two giant horse-head sculptures.

Spend the night in Edinburgh.

Included: Entrances to Doune Castle and Stirling Castle

Driving distance: 130 km / 80 miles

Average travel & exploring duration: estimated 8-9 hours

HIGHLIGHTS: Doune Castle - Loch Lomond - Stirling & Stirling Castle - The Kelpies - Trossachs National Park

DAY

7

DAY 7: DEPARTURE FROM SCOTLAND

On your day of departure, a private driver will pick you up from your hotel to take you directly to the Edinburgh 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.

Nordic Visitor | Tel: +354 578 20 80 | info@nordicvisitor.com | nordicvisitor.com