

SCOTTISH WHISKY JOURNEY

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. You could also take in the largest private collection of whisky in the world at the Scotch Whisky Experience or taste some unique drams at the Scotch Malt Whisky Society on Queen Street.

Spend the night in Edinburgh.

HIGHLIGHTS: Edinburgh - Edinburgh Castle - Edinburgh New Town - Edinburgh Old Town - Scotch Malt Whisky Society - Scotch Whisky Experience - The Royal Mile & St Giles Cathedral

DAY

2

DAY 2: THE HISTORY OF WHISKY AND THE HIGHLANDS

Your private guide will pick you up from your hotel to start your journey into the Scottish Highlands. We'll cross the Firth of Forth, giving you scenic views of the UNESCO **Forth Railway Bridge**. On the way north, there are various distilleries you may wish to visit. We recommend Lindores Distillery, where, it is said, distilling has been taking place since at least 1494. We'll continue into **Highland Perthshire**, where you could stop at some great whisky shops for tasting, or even tour the **Edradour Distillery**. As you continue your drive, there is also **Dalwhinnie Distillery**, where they pair their whisky with locally made chocolates.

Spend the night in Speyside.

Average Driving Distance: 261 km / 162 mi.

Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 8 - 9 Hours

HIGHLIGHTS: Cairngorms National Park - Forth Railway Bridge - Highland Perthshire - Speyside & Whisky

DAY

3

DAY 3: EXPLORE SPEYSIDE

Today we'll delve into the **Speyside Whisky** region. Home to over half of Scotland's Distilleries, there are many different options for tours and tastings depending on your preferences. You may wish to have a post-breakfast tasting at the independently-owned Benromach Distillery before heading to the famous The Macallan Distillery. You will have time to wander along the banks of the **River Spey** and admire Thomas Telford's iron bridge at **Craigellachie**. In the afternoon, we recommend taking an intimate tour at Balvenie Distillery, visiting the Speyside Cooperage or going for a tasting at Aberlour Distillery

Spend another night in Speyside.

Average Driving Distance: 97 km / 60mi.

Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 8 - 9 Hours

HIGHLIGHTS: Craigellachie Bridge - River Spey - Speyside & Whisky

DAY

4

DAY 4: SPEYSIDE TO ISLAY

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This morning we'll make our way over to the west coast, passing through Laggan from where you'll be able to see **Ben Nevis** in the distance, the UK's highest mountain. There will be time to admire the breathtaking beauty of **Glen Coe**, Scotland's most famous valley, before passing through the pretty seaside town of **Oban**. Continuing south, we'll drive past beautiful sea lochs to the historical **Kilmartin Glen**. This area is considered to have one of the most important concentrations of Neolithic and Bronze Age remains in Scotland. In the early evening, we'll board the ferry to the Isle of **Islay**.

Spend the night on Islay.

Average Driving Distance: 381 km / 237 mi. (including Ferry Crossing)

Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 10 - 12 Hours (Incl. 2 hours Ferry Crossing)

Ferry Duration: 2 Hours

HIGHLIGHTS: Fort William - Glencoe - Kilmartin Glen - Oban

DAY 5: EXPLORING ISLAY

You have all day today to explore the best that Islay has to offer. It is home to nine distilleries, offering you plenty of choice of tours and tastings. In the south of the island, there are the smoky and complex Kildalton distilleries, including Laphroaig, Lagavulin and Ardbeg. In the north, you'll have a choice of lighter smoked whiskies with salty coastal notes, at Bruichladdich Distillery or at the newest distillery on Islay, Ardnahoe. While discovering the island's whiskies, you can also stop at some of its many wonderful sights, including the peat bogs, a vital part of Islay's peaty whisky flavour, and the 8th-century **Kildalton Celtic Cross**. And don't miss taking a walk along the beautiful **Machir Beach** and learning more about weaving at the Islay Woollen Mill.

Spend another night on Islay.

Average Driving Distance: 80 km / 50 mi.

Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 9 - 10 Hours

HIGHLIGHTS: Islay Distilleries - Isle of Islay - Kildalton Celtic Cross - Machir Beach

DAY 6: ISLAY TO EDINBURGH

Today we will catch a ferry back to the mainland and make our way back to Edinburgh (you can choose to end your trip in Glasgow in the optional activities below). We'll drive along the beautiful **Loch Fyne** and stop at the pretty whitewashed village of **Inveraray**. Here you can see Inveraray Castle, the home of the Duke of Argyll, and make any last-minute purchase at the Loch Fyne Whisky Shop. We'll then continue our journey, passing by the viewpoint Rest and Be Thankful and along the bonnie banks of **Loch Lomond**.

Back in Edinburgh, your driver-guide will drop you off at your accommodation. Tonight you can enjoy dinner at one of Edinburgh's many gourmet restaurants and spend the evening at your leisure.

Spend the night in Edinburgh.

Average Driving Distance: 310km / 195 mi. (Incl. Ferry Crossing)

Average Travel & Exploring Duration: 9 - 10 Hours (Incl. 2 hours Ferry Crossing)

Ferry Duration: 2 Hours

HIGHLIGHTS: Inveraray & Inveraray Castle - Loch Fyne - Loch Lomond - Trossachs National Park

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 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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