

Scotland

With its magnificent landscapes, exciting countryside, vibrant culture, beautiful heritage and even more beautiful people, a holiday in Scotland makes up memory for lifetime. The country makes a perfect choice for all distinct holiday tastes, offering some greatest thousand years old historical structures, beautiful mountains, and rich green landscapes. Scotland is foodie's paradise and is renowned for its distinguished barbequed cuisines and famous single malt scotch whiskey.

History and Culture

Scotland is all about unique cultural blend of history and modernism. It is a land with preserved culture throughout the centuries, expressing fascinating tales of history, embedded in the life of common folks. Every city, countryside, landscapes and castles have a rich historical background, promising to take back to old centuries, delighting you with insights of ancient European life.

Scotland's political history has largely been influenced by the British Monarchy, which can be witnessed through the hundreds of Castles perched throughout the country, with the major castles being Edinburgh Castle, Stirling Castle, Eilean Donan Castle, and Glamis Castle, the birthplace of HM Queen Elizabeth.

Outdoor Adventure

The mesmerizing landscapes, spectacular coastal regions and beautiful wildlife make Scotland, a dream destination for adventure seekers. The range of outdoor activities vary widely from water rafting to kayaking, fishing to trekking, and sailing to snowboarding, suiting different ages and tastes. The country boasts of some of the largest wildlife havens in Western Europe, providing you with a glimpse of some rare species in mountains and sea.

Top Must See Sights in Scotland

- **Edinburgh Castle** – A historic fortress, sitting on the Castle Rock in Edinburgh, the Castle has been the symbol of Scotland for centuries. The famous iconic building features on the list of top European Heritage buildings and continues to be the most visited tourist attraction in the country.
- **Scottish Highlands** – The picturesque highlands of the Scotland are the ancient landscapes, offering spectacular scenery and beautiful isolated islands. The highlands make the perfect choice for the outdoor enthusiasts.
- **HMY Britannia** – HMY Britannia was the official Royal Yacht of Queen Elizabeth II till 1997 and is currently berthed in Leith, Edinburgh, offering free tour and chance to experience Royal life of British Monarch. The tour gives five-star experience to tourists, recommended by BBC News as the top ten visitor friendly attraction.
- **Scottish National Gallery** – Located in The Mound in Edinburgh, the National Gallery of Scotland was built in neo-classical style and is a home to European Art collection from Renaissance period. The gallery showcases the work of prominent European artists like Van Dyck, Tiepolo, Rubens, and Raphael among many others.

- **Cuillin Hills** – Located on north most island of Skye, these hills are one of the most challenging peaks in Britain, inviting thousands of trekkers every year. The beautiful Cuillin hills are known worldwide for their unique formation in red and black.
- **Broch of Mousa** – Renowned worldwide as the tallest still standing since Iron Age, this prehistoric building was built around 100 BC. Located on Shetland Islands, it is the only complete broch in rotund shape, made using stone both internally and externally.
- **Luskentyre Beach** – One of the top ten beaches of Britain, the picturesque Luskentyre beach is located in the west coast of South Harris in Outer Hebrides. The shimmering sand and turquoise waters makes it a perfect choice to spend days amid serene surroundings.
- **Melrose Abbey** – Founded by Cistercian Monks in 1136, the ruined monastery of Melrose Abbey is one of the elegant structures in Scotland that attracts historians from all over the world for its magnificent history. The ruined churches are also the burial place of heart of Robert the Bruce, King of Scotland.
- **Ben Nevis** – At 1344 meters above sea level, Ben Nevis is the highest mountain peak in Britain, known worldwide for its breath-taking spectacular views. Located at western end of Grampian Mountains, Ben Nevis attracts mountaineers, trekkers, and climbers from across the globe.

How to reach Scotland

The country has air-connectivity to all the countries in the world. The major airports in the country are at Glasgow, Edinburgh, and Dundee. The country has wide network of train and roadways connectivity throughout the Europe. Scotland railway system is integrated with National Rail System of England, offering seamless rail connectivity through all over Europe. National Express is the major bus operator, having services from England to different cities throughout the country.

Best time to visit Scotland

Scotland is a year-round tourist destination that can be visited any time of the year. The spring and summer are the best times to visit, if you want to rejoice the countryside beauty and indulge yourself into outdoor activities. During summer, the country hosts Edinburgh Fringe Festival and Edinburgh Military Tattoo and Highland Games.

Traveler's Tips - Do's and Don'ts in Scotland

- Do visit Scotland in winter, if you want to avoid crowds
- Do visit the countryside to enjoy beautiful landscapes
- Don't plan travelling on day after Christmas, which is called Boxing Day in Scotland
- Drink whiskey since it's a birthplace of Scotch
- Do visit the castles and museums in Aberdeen and Edinburgh

- Don't call Scottish people as English. It might be taken as disrespect