



See Things Differently
Scotland's greatest attractions and activities fit for a Queen or King
5-day sample itinerary

Day 1

Morning	<p>Arrival to Edinburgh & check-in to Gleneagles Townhouse</p> <p><u>Gleneagles Townhouse</u> The hotel opened its doors to visitors in August 2022 and is ideally set in one of Edinburgh's most historic buildings in St Andrews Square. The Townhouse hosts an all-day restaurant, a gym and wellness space, as well as a buzzy members club with stunning city views from the rooftop bar. Previously, the building was home the British Linen Bank before becoming the Bank of Scotland. Now a listed property, the building's heritage will surely be seen throughout the interiors and architecture of the townhouse.</p> <p>By bus to the Royal Yacht Britannia (30 mins)</p> <p>Visit the <u>Royal Yacht Britannia</u> Britannia was launched from the John Brown & Company shipyard in Clydebank, Scotland, on 16 April, 1953. For over 44 years the Royal Yacht served the Royal Family, travelling more than a million nautical miles to become one of the most famous ships in the world. Follow in the footsteps of Royalty through the State Apartments where the royal family spent many relaxing holidays.</p>
Lunch	<p>Walk to the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh (40 mins or 10 mins by cab)</p> <p><u>Private Afternoon Tea Tour at the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh</u> Just one mile from city centre, the Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh offers visitors peace and tranquillity. The garden is one of the finest botanic gardens in the world and offers fantastic views of the capital's skyline featuring Edinburgh Castle. Visitors can explore the gardens with a private guide followed by a delicious afternoon tea in the Terrace Café.</p>
Afternoon	<p>Explore the capital on a <u>Trike Tour</u> Bus tours can easily be swapped for an alternative fun and exhilarating way of exploring Edinburgh - a trike tour. Visitors can feel the wind in their hair as they travel in style between historic sights and stop off at scenic viewpoints. From an afternoon cocktail tour exploring the city centre to a coastal tour showcasing the beautiful nature close to the city, there is something different and fun for everyone.</p>
Evening	<p>Dinner at <u>Sheep Heid Inn</u> The Sheep Heid Inn is a beautifully restored pub, bar and restaurant. Situated in the heart of Edinburgh, this charismatic establishment was a favourite amongst past monarchs and poets. Today, it's one of Edinburgh's oldest surviving watering holes. The 650-year-old Sheep Heid Inn has been linked to the Royals since the 1500s. In 1580, King James VI of Scotland gifted the landlord an ornate ram's head snuff box, which remained on site for 300 years before being sold at auction to the Earl of Rosebery. It is believed that he and his mother Mary Queen of Scots, stopped by the inn many times to play skittles in the courtyard.</p>

	<p>Drinks at <u>The Cocktail Geeks</u> The small independent team of The Cocktail Geeks uses their passion for all things geeky to create immersive drinking experiences inspired by some of their favourite works of entertainment. Their permanent cocktail bar in the Edinburgh Arches offers drinks inspired by a constantly rotating theme.</p>
Overnight	Overnight at Gleneagles Townhouse
Day 2	
Morning	<p>Breakfast at the hotel</p> <p><u>Royal tour at Edinburgh Castle</u> The world-famous icon of Scotland was home to kings and queens for many centuries. Visitors can explore the Royal apartments at the Royal Palace where some key moments in Scotland's history took place. Another highlight is the Honours of Scotland which are on display in the Crown Room. They are the oldest Crown jewels in Britain. The crown was made for James V, who first wore it at the coronation of Queen Mary of Guise in 1540.</p> <p><u>Walk down the Royal Mile</u> The Royal Mile runs through the heart of Edinburgh's Old Town. It connects the magnificent Edinburgh Castle with the splendid Palace of Holyroodhouse. It offers so much to see and do, from exciting attractions such as <u>The Real Mary King's Close</u> or the <u>Scottish Storytelling Centre</u> to some of the best eating and drinking spots in the city has to offer.</p>
Lunch	<p>Lunch at <u>Monteiths</u> Located on the Royal Mile, Monteiths kitchen uses very best locally sourced produce. They are working closely with their suppliers to ensure their food comes from farm, to plate as quickly as possible. The seasonal menu showcases Scotland's larder and visitors can try some of the classics such as Haggis, Scotland's national dish.</p>
Afternoon	<p><u>Tour the Palace of Holyrood House</u> The Palace of Holyroodhouse, commonly referred to as Holyrood Palace or Holyroodhouse, is the official residence of the British monarch in Scotland. Open throughout the year, the Palace of Holyroodhouse stands at the end of Edinburgh's Royal Mile. Explore the Palace's close associations with some of Scotland's most well-known historic figures such as Mary, Queen of Scots and Bonnie Prince Charlie, and learn how today it is used by the Royal family when carrying out official engagements in Scotland.</p> <p><u>Ghostly Underground Tour</u> Visit the Blair Street Underground Vaults – one of Edinburgh's most haunted sites. Learn about the city's ghostly past from the stories of mischief-makers and murderers to vagrants and torturers. Uncover the true tales which lie hidden beneath Edinburgh's streets with one of Mercat Tours fantastic guides and storytellers.</p>
Evening	<p>Dinner at <u>Duck & Waffle</u> The famous London restaurant opened a new restaurant in Edinburgh's St James Quarter in February 2023. The warm and buzzy atmosphere invites guests to celebrate the joy of delicious food and drinks. From brunch to dinner and cocktails, the restaurant offers something for any occasion.</p> <p>Drinks at the <u>Cold Town House</u> Cold Town House serves the freshest beer in town, brewed in the in-house Microbrewery. Their newest item on the drink menu is the showstopper Cold Town Beer tower filled with up to 6 pints to share a cold one with friends. The roof top with the best view of Edinburgh castle is a must-visit when in Edinburgh. Drinks can be ordered from a vintage Nissan while taking in the stunning views.</p>
Overnight	Overnight at Gleneagles Townhouse
Day 3	
Morning	Breakfast at the hotel & check-out

	<p>Train to Pitlochry (1h 55mins from Edinburgh Waverley)</p> <p>Stroll through Pitlochry Set in the heart of Scotland, the vibrant town of Pitlochry is an excellent base to explore Perthshire. Visitors can delve into a whole host of outdoor activities in Perthshire's natural playground. From walking and fishing to adrenaline-filled activities, such as bungee jumping and mountain biking, Pitlochry has so much to offer.</p>
Lunch	<p>Lunch at Fonab Castle Hotel Brasserie The Brasserie is nestled within Tummel Valley and offers stunning views of Loch Faskally. It is the perfect spot for a relaxed lunch surrounded by nature. For the ones looking for a 'beyond the ordinary' experience, the hotel's latest offering are their pods providing a relaxing secluded dining space. For visitors planning to stay for the night in Pitlochry, the castle offers rooms in the original castle to feel like a Royal or in their contemporary wing with great loch views.</p>
Afternoon	<p>Walk to Loch Tummel and the Queens view (2h30mins) The Queen's View in Highland Perthshire overlooks Loch Tummel and is said to have been named after Queen Victoria, following her visit to the area in 1866.</p> <p>Take the bus back to Pitlochry (15mins)</p>
Evening	<p>Train to Aberdeen (3h)</p>
Overnight	<p>Overnight at The Marcliffe Hotel and Spa</p> <p>The Marcliffe Hotel and Spa The luxurious, relaxed and ultra-elegant five-star Scottish country hotel is situated on the outskirts of Aberdeen. The Marcliffe is set on scenically beautiful Royal Deeside against a backdrop of 11 acres of wooded grounds. With 33 rooms and 7 suites the hotel is designed as a restful, elegant refuge for all visitors. Read here about all the celebrities who stayed at the castle.</p>
Day 4	
Morning	<p>Breakfast at the hotel</p> <p>Rent a car for the day & drive to Balmoral castle (1h 20mins)</p> <p>Stop on the way at Deeside Deli in Ballater The family-owned business and Royal Warrant Holder welcomes visitors in the heart of Ballater. From fresh fruit and veg, delicious home baked goods and sandwiches to a wide range of cheeses and antipasti, the deli offers everything needed for a picnic or a snack for on the way.</p> <p>Balmoral Castle (1 April – 31 July) Balmoral Castle has been the Scottish home of the Royal Family since it was purchased for Queen Victoria by Prince Albert in 1852. Visitors can explore the grounds, gardens and exhibitions of the stunning castle every year from April until July. The highlight for every visit to Balmoral is the Castle Ballroom, which will host exhibitions. This year's exhibition will celebrate the Coronation of His Majesty The King and Her Majesty The Queen Consort.</p>
Lunch	<p>Lunch at the café at Balmoral castle or picnic</p>
Afternoon	<p>Tour & Tasting at Royal Lochnagar Distillery The distillery is known for its outstanding flavour and incredible location, sitting at the foot of the Cairngorms mountains. Originally called New Lochnagar, it was renamed following the royal visit of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert in 1848. Visitors can embark on one of their tours to learn how they create their golden and delicious Highland Single Malt Scotch Whisky. For the ones with a sweet tooth, the distillery offers a whisky and chocolate pairing.</p> <p>Drive to Rothesay Rooms (10mins)</p>

Evening	<p>Early dinner at <u>Rothesay Rooms</u> The award-winning Royal Deeside restaurant, the Rothesay Rooms, serves the finest, freshest ingredients sourced from a range of local suppliers. Head Chef Ross Cochrane's focus is on Scottish dishes, executed immaculately, embracing a field to fork cooking philosophy. The restaurant was established as a pop-up eating destination by Charles III to drive tourism and employment to the area following flooding and fire in the village in 2015.</p> <p>Drive back to Aberdeen (1h 10mins)</p>
Overnight	<p>Overnight at The Marcliffe Hotel and Spa</p>
<p>Day 5</p>	
Morning	<p>Breakfast at the hotel & check-out</p> <p>Visit <u>Aberdeen Art Gallery</u> Located in the heart of the city center, Aberdeen Art Gallery is home to one of the finest collections in the UK. The gallery underwent a major transformation and reopened in 2019. It features a space dedicated entirely to the 'Balmoral Phenomenon', which explores Aberdeenshire's connection with the British monarchy from different eras. The new rooftop café and terrace offers amazing views over the cities Schoolhill and Belmont Street.</p> <p>Departure from Aberdeen</p>