

A panoramic view of Edinburgh, Scotland, at sunset. In the foreground on the left, the Temple of Antonine is silhouetted against the sky. The city's skyline is visible in the background, featuring the tall, ornate clock tower of St. Giles' Cathedral and the spire of St. Martin's Church. The sky is filled with soft, golden light from the setting sun, creating a warm and atmospheric scene.

EDI NBU RGH

TABLE OF CONTENT

INTRODUCTION	3
HISTORY	5
CULTURE	7
MUSEUMS	19
LIFESTYLE	30
OUTDOOR	42
FOOD	52
NIGHTLIFE	67
CITY WALKS	75
SURVIVAL GUIDE	84
THE TEAM	87



INTRODUCTION



It's easy to fall in love with the city of Edinburgh. The city wins hearts within seconds with its distinctive, charming flair.

When you're planning your trip to Edinburgh, you might be overwhelmed by the multitude and variety of magnificent spots and attractions in and around the city. Because of this, we made it to our task to find out the best places to go. We explored Edinburgh's culture, museums, lifestyles, outdoor spaces, culinary gems, nightlife, and city walks. This travel guide aims to show you some of Edinburgh's greatest highlights.

This beautiful city is full of history and is waiting to be explored. Edinburgh has so much more to offer than just bagpipes and kilts.

The city's warm welcome will instantly make you feel at ease. The proud Scots of Edinburgh will be thrilled to share their history and traditions with you.

Edinburgh Castle anchors the skyline on one of the city's most prominent and centrally located hills. It's also worth visiting other hills that give you a great view of the Castle and the rest of the city, such as Arthur's Seat or Calton Hill. Moreover, the city is close to the shoreline of the Firth of Forth, which flows into the North Sea and gives the city a maritime ambiance.

The centrally situated Princes Street divides the city into two halves: the Old Town to the south and the New Town to the north.



INTRODUCTION



Ironically, the New Town isn't actually all that new. In fact, the city just celebrated its 250th anniversary in 2017. The New Town was originally developed to deal with overpopulation in Edinburgh's Old Town. A modern heart beats through the city's historic cobblestone streets, seamlessly blending the old and new.

Fall in love with the tiny streets, sweet corner shops, libraries, majestic architecture, mighty monuments and all the other delights you'll discover on your way through the wonderful and unique city of Edinburgh!

Edinburgh has more to see and do than you could possibly fit into one trip. This is a city you'll want to return to again and again!

Sarah Schedler



HISTORY

As you might imagine, the history of Scotland is quite exciting.

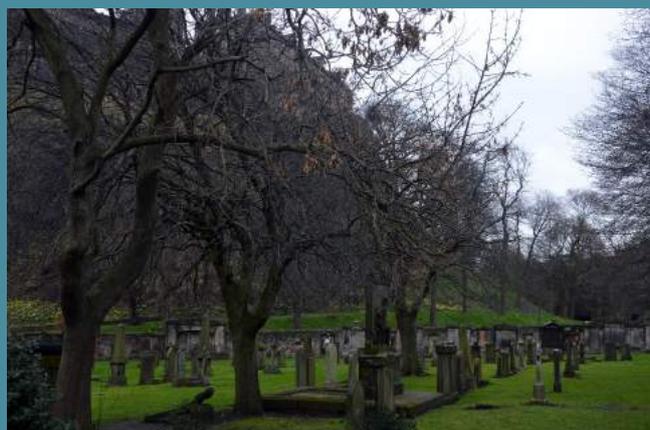
Mesolithic hunter-gatherers and farming communities were the first people to live in Scotland, arriving around 4500 BCE. The Romans came in 80 CE and left 120 years later. In 503 CE, the Scots arrived.

When you're in the city of Edinburgh, you'll see three impressive rocks: Castle Rock, Calton Hill and Arthur's Seat, with a volcanic origin dating some 340 million years ago.

The oldest building on Castlehill is St. Margaret's Chapel. It was built in the 12th century. However, from archaeological explanations it is known that there were earlier buildings. For example, historical records mention a fortification on this site during the reign of Malcolm III (1058-93). Today, the most impressive and visited site on the rock is Edinburgh Castle.

Other significant buildings in Edinburgh include the Holyrood Abbey and the Palace of Holyroodhouse, sometimes used as a home for the reigning King or Queen.

Scotland has been reigned by monarchs since 843 CE. The first King was Kenneth McAlp-



King of Scots, who united Scotland into one kingdom. You will find many Gaelic names and sayings in Scotland. Some people still speak Gaelic today. You will certainly know one Scottish Queen, whose life story has been turned into many books and films: Mary, Queen of Scots, also known as Mary Stuart.

Her mother, Marie of Guise, sent her to France as a small child for her safety. There she became the wife of Francis II, King of France. Mary was therefore not only the Queen of Scotland, but also the Queen of France. Her husband died young and Mary returned to Scotland as a teenage widow. You can visit her elegant chambers in the Palace of Holyrood, where she lived with her second husband Lord Darnley and where their son James was born. After the Darnley's death, Mary married Lord Bothwell. After a long political rivalry, in 1587 Queen Elizabeth I of England executed her cousin Mary.

Mary's son James VI (1566-1625) became King of England and Scotland after the death of the childless Queen Elizabeth. He created a politically united Scotland and England called the Union of the Crowns in 1603. Therefore, he was not only known as James VI of Scotland, but also as James I of England.

Before the 1700s, Edinburgh didn't exist as it does today. All inhabitants lived in the Old Town. The buildings you see on the Royal Mile today were formerly about 15 floors high. Sometimes up to 11 people lived together in one flat. The pubs and shops were also based in the closes of the Old Town.

HISTORY

At the turn of the 18th century, the people of Edinburgh had a tough life. Starving because of failed harvests, many inhabitants decided to leave the city. With Scotland losing its independence, the political centre moved to London. Universities, the Tribunal, the Presbyterian Church and medical institutions stayed in Edinburgh. The middle class was also formed at this time. These developments were called the “Scottish Enlightenment”. Contemporaries of that time included David Hume (1711-1776) and Adam Ferguson (1723-1816). These philosophers recognized that their city needed a fresh concept. Mayor George Drummond hired important architects to build a new area, today known as the New Town. If you walk through Edinburgh, you will be able to see the different architectural styles. Fun fact: the New Town just celebrated its 250th anniversary in 2017. Other important people of the time were the poets and authors Robert Burns (1759-1596) and Sir Walter Scott (1771-1832), the geologist James Hutton (1726-1797), the artists Allan Ramsay (1713-1784) and Henry Raeburn (1756-1823), and engineer James Watt (1736-1819).

The Scottish Enlightenment resulted in a better economy, compulsory schooling for all and Scotland even got ahead of England with respect to education. Private clubs were developed to make networking easier.

Scotland played a major role in the Industrial Revolution of the 1800s. In fact, Scotland native Andrew Carnegie was instrumental in bringing the steel industry to the United States during that time.



Great Britain declared war on Germany on 4 August 1914, entering them into the First World War. They did not expect the war would last so long. Around 700,000 Scots fought for their country. Scotland was also heavily involved in the Second World War.

In 1997, the Scottish people voted to re-establish a Parliament in Edinburgh. In 2014, the Scottish people rejected a referendum to leave the United Kingdom. However, because of Brexit, Scotland is considering another independence referendum today.

Alessa Brings

CULTURE

„We look to Scotland for all our ideas of civilization.“

Voltaire



1. CALTON HILL

Calton Hill, EH1 3BJ EH1 3BJ



You want to escape the city and walk a little bit but you don't want to climb up Arthur's Seat? Then Calton Hill is the right place for you. Walk to the end of Princes Street and you will see it from the ground. It is across from Calton-Graveyard, also a great place to visit with a nice view of Calton Hill. On the top of the 103 metre high hill are the National Monument, the Nelson Monument, the Old Observatory House and the City Observatory, which is no longer an active observatory. The National Monument is a very prominent point in Edinburgh's silhouette. If you, for example, see it from Arthur's Seat, it may remind you of Greece because it reproduces the Parthenon. The monument was built in 1823 to remember the Scottish soldiers who died fighting in the Napoleonic Wars (1803-1815).

The most impressive aspect of the hill is the view all over Edinburgh and beyond. If you go there in the afternoon at dusk, the panorama will take your breath away.

Jemima Wittig

OPENING HOURS:
24 hours daily

ADMISSION FEE:
Free

WEBSITE:
<http://bit.ly/1AYv71K>

2. SCOTTS MONUMENT

East Princes Street Gardens, EH2 2EJ

Edinburgh's residents paid homage to their beloved Walter Scott with this monument and although Charles Dickens called it a "failure," visiting the Scotts Monument is advisable! Here you can learn more about one of Scotland's most famous writers and enjoy a panoramic view over Edinburgh at the same time! It was designed by the architect George Meikle Kemp and officially opened in 1846, just 14 years after Scott's death. With its gothic architecture and its central location on Princes Street it's a real eye-catcher.

Don't underestimate the climb of the 287 steps, but after arriving at the top you will see that it's definitely worth it. The view differs from the ones you get from Arthur's Seat or Calton Hill. Here you can overlook Edinburgh from its centre. On your way up you'll pass numerous niches with statuettes incarnating characters from Scott's novels. You should be prewarned: the corkscrew stairs get tighter with increasing height. It is an adventurous experience if you aren't afraid of heights!



OPENING HOURS:

Oct - Mar 10am - 4pm

Apr - Sep 10am - 7pm

ADMISSION FEE:

£5

WEBSITE:

<http://www.edinburghmuseums.org.uk/venues/scott-monument>

Mona Fischer



3. EDINBURGH CASTLE

Castlehill, EH1 2NG



Sitting enthroned on a majestic cliff, you can see this historic fortification from most parts of the city. It's uncertain when people first started living on the rock, but there were certainly buildings there by the reign of Malcolm III (1058-93). The oldest surviving building is St. Margaret's Chapel, which dates from the 12th century.

The Castle offers you many attractions. Here are several museums and items of historic interest. For example, you can see Scotland's Crown Jewels, the oldest in the UK, and the Stone of Destiny, on which Scottish and subsequently English and British monarchs have been crowned for hundreds of years. In many different museums located at the area, you are able to learn a lot about Scottish War and the Union of Scotland and England. Include three or four hours of your time, you will need them. Here, history is tangible.

A spectacle is the One O'clock Gun, which is fired every day except Sunday at 1 pm. It was used for navigators, today it is a tradition. Just take a look around, you may see who is Scottish, because they will check their watches. The tourists will be surprised.

OPENING HOURS:

Apr – Sep 9:30am – 6pm

Oct – Mar 9:30am – 5pm

ADMISSION FEE:

£17

WEBSITE:

www.edinburghcastle.gov.uk/



Alessa Brings