UNIQUE EXPERIENCES

SAMPLE ITINERARY
Your Coach: L.R. Executive Travel & Tours
Now specialising in the supply of Chauffeur Driven Executive Mercedes Sprinter mini-Coaches and VIP People Carriers with the option of Driver/Guide service. With offices in Edinburgh and Glasgow we provide an extensive coverage of Scotland. Through the many years of providing chauffeur and travel services, LR Executive Travel has been involved in many events in Scotland.

L.R. Executive Travel & Tours
L.R. Executive Travel & Tours.
98/9 Eastfield Drive,
Penicuik.
EH26 8EZ

C: Stuart Leonard
T: 07810617107
E: info@lrexecutive.com
W: www.lrexecutive.com

STGA: Scottish Tourist Guides Association
The STGA has over 400 members based in Scotland listed under different categories including Blue Badge Guides, Green Badge Guides and Yellow Badge Guides. Each guide brings a host of different skills ranging from languages to specialist areas of interest but what they all have in common is that they are great communicators.

SCOTTISH TOURIST GUIDES ASSOCIATION
Norrie’s House
18b Broad Street
Stirling, FK8 1EF
T: + (0) 1786 447 784
E: info@stga.co.uk
W: www.stga.co.uk

Your Guide: Val Eglinton
T: 07803 855 340
E: val@valeglinton.com
W: https://app.stga.co.uk/guides/valerie-eglinton
Day One

12:10 Start a tour with Eat Walk Edinburgh

Eat walk Edinburgh, the original Edinburgh food walking tour take in the Old and New Towns parts of the City. Your clients can visit five locations, tasting locally sourced Scottish food and drink while hearing about the rich history of Edinburgh from a local guide as you walk between premises.

Eat Walk Edinburgh
76-80 High St,
Edinburgh
EH1 1TH

Contact: Alan Chalmers
T: 07740 869 359
E: alan@eatwalkedinburgh.co.uk
W: www.eatwalkedinburgh.co.uk

14:00 Depart for Dunstane Houses

14:15 Arrival at Dunstane Houses

Luxurious, relaxed and unlike anywhere you’ve ever stayed before, Hampton House at the Dunstane Houses is a family-run boutique hotel that brings a breath of fresh Orkney air to the heart of Edinburgh. In a peaceful corner of Edinburgh’s West End, a short walk from Haymarket and 15 minutes’ drive from Edinburgh airport, The Dunstane Houses - Hampton House is an independent, 18-bedroom boutique hotel.

Dunstane Houses
The Dunstane Houses,
4 W Coates,
Edinburgh
EH12 5JQ

Contact: Samantha Wright
T: 0131 337 6169
E: manager@thedunstane.com
W: www.thedunstane.com

15:15 Depart for Araminta Campbell

15:45 Arrival at Araminta Campbell for a behind-the-scenes visit of the workshop

Handwoven in her Edinburgh studio with exceptional craftsmanship and care, each item is a unique piece, created as Araminta’s handwoven paintings. The designs for these one off works of art stem from her love of the Scottish landscape, from the delicate patterns in a bird’s wing to its rolling hills and fields. A small team of makers and designers select only the finest undyed British alpaca fleeces to use in handwoven scarves, shawls, cushions and blankets, and have them bespoke spun individually to create a beautifully refined collection in natural colours.

FOR ALL YOUR TRAVEL TRADE NEEDS: WWW.VISITSCOTLANDTRAVELTRADE.COM
Araminta Campbell
29 Ocean Dr,
Leith,
Edinburgh
EH6 6JL

Contact: Lucy Logan
T: 0131 555 7395
E: lucy@aramintacampbell.co.uk
W: www.aramintacampbell.co.uk

16:45 Depart for Sheraton Grand Hotel & Spa

17:00 Arrive at Sheraton Grand Hotel & Spa for overnight stay

Experience a modern version of Scottish luxury in the heart of the city at the Sheraton Grand Hotel & Spa Edinburgh. Together with its award-winning One Spa and the Scottish brasserie One Square, this urban resort is the perfect base for exploring Edinburgh. Bright and spacious, all guestrooms feature dreamily comfortable Sheraton Signature Sleep Experience™ beds, mood lighting, opaque glass-walled bathrooms and media hubs, with many also enjoying inspirational views of Edinburgh Castle.

Sheraton Grand Hotel & Spa
1 Festival Square,
Edinburgh
EH3 9SR

Contact: David Russell
T: 0131 229 9131
E: david.russell@marriot.com
W: https://www.marriott.co.uk/hotels/travel/edisi-sheraton-grand-hotel-and-spa-edinburgh/

18:30 Storytelling night at Contini Cannonball for a Scottish storytelling dinner and event in collaboration with Mercat Tours.

Scotland’s heritage, stories, food and music all combine for a captivating evening that indulges the best of Scottish traditions. Your clients will feel right at home in the dining room, with Edinburgh Castle as neighbour. To start, they will enjoy traditional Scottish prose as the chefs prepare the freshest, finest food from a larder of locally sourced ingredients. Your clients will hear all about the very icons that symbolise Scotland and how they came to be part of Scottish character and culture.

Contini’s Cannonball Restaurant
356 Castlehill
Edinburgh
EH1 2NE

Contact: Stephanie Zhara
T: 0131 225 1550
E: stephanie.zhara@conti
Day Two

08:30 Depart Sheraton Grand Hotel & Spa

09:45 Arrival at The Falkirk Wheel

The Falkirk Wheel is the world’s first and only rotating boat lift, designed and built to connect the Forth & Clyde Canal and the Union Canal which allows coast to coast navigation across central Scotland. The magnificent structure stands 115ft tall and requires only the power of eight domestic kettles to sail boats through the air and transfer them between the two canals. The Falkirk Wheel is coach and group friendly, with easy accessibility. Discounted rates are available for bookings with 15 passengers or more. Packages can be tailored to suit your client’s needs.

The Falkirk Wheel
Lime Road,
Tamfourhill,
Falkirk,
Stirlingshire,
FK1 4RS

Contact: Ross McMillan
T: 01324 676 911
E: ross.mcmillan@scottishcanals.co.uk
W: www.scottishcanals.co.uk/falkirkwheel/

10:40 Depart for Glenturret Distillery

12:00 Arrival at Glenturret Distillery for Apertour & lunch

Glenturret Distillery is Scotland’s oldest working distillery that offers a range of great whisky tasting tour experiences. Set in the beautiful Perthshire countryside, Glenturret Distillery is a unique whisky experience for visitors. Glenturret Malt Whisky is still hand crafted today as it was over two centuries ago using the only remaining hand operated mash tun in Scotland.

Glenturret Distillery
The Hosh,
Crieff
PH7 4HA
14:00 Depart for Ballathie House

15:00 Arrival at Ballathie House Hotel for Pheasant Weaving demonstration

Situated in its own 1500 acre estate, Ballathie House Hotel has the enviable stunning location on the banks of the River Tay, only a few miles from the City of Perth. The setting and architecture of the house is stunning, with the interiors full of tradition, with elegantly furnished public areas which are warm and welcoming. The hotel has 41 bedrooms – classic rooms in the Main House are comfortable, with views overlooking the river or the surrounding countryside. Master bedrooms are spacious, many with spectacular views and modern touches have been sensitively introduced which blend well with the period features.

Ballathie House Hotel
Kinclaven
Stanley
Perthshire
PH1 4QN

Contact: Lin Mitchell
T: 01250 883268
E: lin.mithell@ballathiehousehotel.co.uk
W: https://www.ballathiehousehotel.com/

16:30 Depart for Glensk Hotel

17:40 Arrival at Glensk Hotel for dinner and overnight stay

Glensk Hotel is a 24 bedroom Victorian property situated in the beautiful "Britain in Bloom" award-winning village of Edzell at the foot of the Angus Glens. Both Aberdeen and Dundee airports can be reached in around 45 minutes by car. For business or pleasure, the Glensk Hotel is an ideal destination whether you plan an overnight stay, a weekend break or a long holiday. There is something for everyone and your clients will always be assured of a Warm Welcome!

Glensk Hotel
High St,
Edzell,
Brechin
DD9 7TF

Contact: Brooke
T: 01356 647 333
E: reception@glenskhotel.com
W: www.thegleneskhotel.com
Day Three

09:00 Depart Glensk Hotel

09:40 Arrival at Newton Farm

Rest and revive with an agri-tourism holiday on our tranquil, authentic, working farm, where a warm welcome awaits your clients. Savour the flavours of Angus before touring the farm, then explore the nature trails and find the hidden gems of Angus. Pets are welcome by arrangement. Newton of Fothringham is a farm with a difference. In the peaceful, idyllic setting of Angus, Scotland, lies the traditional, working, family run farm that offers not just a well-deserved break in the farmhouse bed and breakfast or self-catering cottage, but memories to last a lifetime.

Newton Farm
Newton of Fothringham Farm,
Inverarity,
Forfar
DD8 2JU

Contact: Louise Nicoll
T: 01307 820 229
E: stay@newtonfarmholidays.co.uk
W: www.newtonfarmsholiday.co.uk

11:10 Depart for The Fife Arms Hotel

12:45 Arrival at The Fife Arms Hotel for lunch

Described by the Financial Times as "Scotland's Hottest Hotel", The Fife Arms is a Victorian coaching inn that has been imaginatively restored. The hotel is located in the historic Scottish village of Braemar. The Fife Arms, Braemar has reopened its doors following a complete restoration project which has restored the splendour of the former Victorian coaching inn and will once again establish it as a hotel for the Scottish highlands. Situated within the magnificent Cairngorms National Park.

The Fife Arms Hotel
Mar Rd,
Braemar,
Ballater
AB35 5YN

Contact Vivienne Willison
T: 01339 720 200
E: vivienne@thefifearms.com
W: https://thefifearms.com/

14:35 Depart for Braemar Highland Experience

14:35 Arrival at Braemar Highland Experience
Braemar Highland Experience is a VisitScotland 5-star tour company, based in the Cairngorms, Scotland. They provide bespoke on road, off road and guided walking tours and love sharing our passion for the history, culture and wildlife of Scotland. They offer bespoke on road tours and guided walking in the local area and further afield in English, French and Dutch. Our off road tours are both scheduled and bespoke, travelling on private hill tracks in the Cairngorms.

**Braemar Highland Experience**  
A93,  
Crathie,  
Ballater  
AB35 5TP

Contact: Katy Fenna  
T: 07760 511 111  
E: katy@bhe.scot  
W: www.bhe.scot

**16:35 Depart for Kincardine Castle**

**17:45 Arrival at Kincardine Castle for dinner and overnight stay**

Wonderful grand family home and 3,000-acre estate on a hillside overlooking Royal Deeside and the hills of the Cairngorms National Park. Magnificent gardens, super views. World-class hospitality from the Laird, his wife and their team including full-time chef, with delicious food and superb wines. Fabulous art, furniture, treasures, music and stories.

**Kincardine Castle**  
Kincardine O’Neil,  
Aboyne  
AB34 5AE

Contact: Andrew Bradford  
T: 01339 884 2255  
E: office@kincardineestate.com  
W: www.kincardinecastl.com

**Day Four**

**09:00 Depart Kincardine Castle**

**09:25 Arrival at Raemoir House**

An exclusive use Mansion House and Estate, the perfect retreat from everyday life, where its full complement of staff provide bespoke experiences tailor-made to your requirements, whether private or corporate. Raemoir House is nestled in 14 acres of private and secluded parkland in the heart of Royal Deeside, less than half an hour from Aberdeen and its international airport. Dating from the 17th century Raemoir is a welcoming and truly authentic Scottish hideaway and is magnificent in stature.

**Raemoir House**

FOR ALL YOUR TRAVEL TRADE NEEDS: WWW.VISITSCOTLANDTRAVELTRADE.COM
Banchory,
Aberdeenshire,
AB31 4ED

Contact: Neil Rae
T: 01330 824 884
E: events@raemoir.com
W: www.raemoir.com

11:00 Depart for Aberdeenshire Highland Beef Farm

11:10 Arrival at Aberdeenshire Highland Beef Farm

Aberdeenshire Highland Beef Farm in the heart of Deeside, Aberdeenshire - Pop-Up Butchery every Sat & Sun with quality meat and merchandise available to purchase along with weekly Food and Farm Experiences every Sunday offering Tours of our farm! Personally welcome your clients for a unique experience to see the working farm, meet our iconic Highland Cattle in the heart of the Scottish Countryside, meet them up close and photograph them followed by refreshments and the chance to taste some of our delicious beef.

Aberdeenshire Highland Beef Farm
Lochton of Leys,
Farmhouse,
Banchory
AB31 5QD

Contact: Grace Noble
T: 07585 007 594
E: grace@aberdeenshirehighlandbeef.com
W: www.aberdeenshirehighlandbeef.com

12:10 Depart for Crathes Castle

12:30 Arrival at Crathes Castle for tour & lunch

Cared for by the National Trust for Scotland. Crathes Castle is every inch the classic Scottish tower house, and a fantastic day out for all the family! Your clients will discover a labyrinth of cultural history, from portraits and antique furniture to painted ceilings, explore the famous garden and enjoy a walk through the wider estate. Standing against a backdrop of rolling hills and set within its own glorious gardens, Crathes Castle provides a memorable experience with its towers, turrets and stories of its resident ghosts. King Robert the Bruce granted the lands of Leys to the Burnett family in 1323: the ancient Horn of Leys, which can be seen today in the Great Hall, marks his gift.

Crathes Castle
Crathes,
Banchory,
Aberdeenshire,
AB31 5QJ

Contact: NTS travel trade

FOR ALL YOUR TRAVEL TRADE NEEDS: WWW.VISITSCOTLANDTRAVELTRADE.COM
14:30 Depart for Maryculter House Hotel

15:00 Arrival at Maryculter House Hotel

Maryculter House Hotel is a 4 star Hotel nestled on the banks of the River Dee on the outskirts of Aberdeen. It has 40 bedrooms, 2 restaurants and 4 private dining rooms. The Hotel sits in 5 acres of woodland and lawns and has 40 bedrooms, a fine dining a la carte restaurant and a brasserie restaurant with superb views over the River Dee. It also offers private rooms for dining with open log fires.

Maryculter House Hotel
South,
N Deeside Rd,
Kirkton of Maryculter,
Aberdeen

Contact: Peter Walker
T: 01224 732 124
E: peter.walker@maryculterhouse.com
W: www.maryculterhousehotel.com
VisitScotland’s Themed Years

Year of Scotland’s Coasts and Waters 2020

In 2020, Scotland celebrates its Coasts and Waters with a year-long programme of events and activities which will shine a spotlight on these vital elements of our landscape.

From our beautiful natural features including coasts, lochs and rivers to our industrial heritage such as our canals, mills and the creation of our national drink – whisky, Scotland’s Coasts and Waters have shaped our culture, our stories and our way of life.

So, whether you want to navigate your way around distant isles or canals, experience Scotland’s maritime heritage at a visitor attraction, enjoy Scotland’s abundant natural larder or discover Scotland’s wildlife on a local boat trip - Scotland’s coasts and waters are perfect for get-away-from-it-all adventures.

For more info www.visitscotland.com/ycw2020 and join the conversation using #YCW2020

Year of Scotland’s Stories 2022

Scotland’s Year of Stories 2022 will shine a spotlight on the richness of our stories, past and present; celebrating our literary icons and heroes, diverse voices, stories that have leapt from page to screen and stage, the richness of our myths, legends and local tales - and the places that have inspired them.

The words of Robert Burns are known and celebrated across the world, as are works by Sir Walter Scott and Robert Louis Stevenson, while stories by modern Scottish authors, such as JK Rowling’s Harry Potter tales, are inspiring today’s generation.

The story of real life legends such as King Robert the Bruce, Sir William Wallace, Mary Queen of Scots have inspired poems, books and even Oscar winning movies.

Stories of magic, ghosts, witches, haunted castles and tales of mystical figures such as Kelpies abound, and there are the oral traditions handed down through generations in Scotland’s many diverse communities. We invite visitors to join us in exploring the rich history of Scotland’s stories in 2022, including a programme of events which will take place across the year.
VisitScotland Websites

Our travel trade website offers the travel industry a one-stop-shop for Scotland information, inspiration and tool kit. The site is designed to assist tour operators and agents to sell destination Scotland more effectively to their clients. 
Travel trade website: www.visitscotlandtraveltrade.com
Destination Education Programme: www.visitscotlandtraveltrade.com/scotsagent
VisitScotland consumer site: www.visitscotland.com

Information on travel trade website
- Inspirational itineraries
- Downloadable e-brochures and maps
- Link to multimedia library for images and videos
- Online destination education programme
- Opt-in to receive our monthly travel trade e-newsletter.
- A comprehensive directory of Scottish companies who have committed to special rates, discounts and commissions exclusively available for the travel trade.

General websites

Britrail: www.britrail.com
News & Weather information: www.bbc.co.uk/weather
British Train information: www.nationalrail.co.uk
Scottish Train information: www.scotrail.co.uk
Bus information: www.citylink.co.uk
Historic Environment Scotland: www.historic-scotland.gov.uk
National Trust for Scotland: www.nts.org.uk