

# INNOVATION, ARCHITECTURE AND DESIGN

## Edinburgh & The Lothians and South/Central Scotland



Q Jupiter Artland, West Lothian



Q Manderston, Scottish Borders



Q Rosslyn Chapel, Midlothian



Q Victoria Street, Edinburgh

Delve into Edinburgh and the south of Scotland's rich offering of built heritage, modern landmarks and innovative design. There's an awe-inspiring range of historic and contemporary attractions and sites to discover, as well as opportunities to find out about the people behind some of Scotland's greatest creations.

Scotland's vibrant and cosmopolitan capital city of Edinburgh encompasses two UNESCO World Heritage Sites. On the city's famous Royal Mile alone, you can experience medieval tenements alongside one of Scotland's most contemporary buildings – the Scottish Parliament.

The rolling countryside of the Lothians offers an experience of life in times gone by in the area's industries such as mining and milling, but it also boasts stunning Gothic architecture and magnificent stately homes.

The Forth Valley is home to some of Scotland's most celebrated engineering achievements such as the stunning Kelpies at Helix Park and the mechanical marvel of the Falkirk Wheel.

In the Scottish Borders, the atmospheric ruined abbeys and fine country houses have inspired many writers and artists, while the intrepid explorations of 19th century botanists to all corners of the globe is perfectly captured in the splendour of Dawyck Botanic Garden.

## EVENTS

### APRIL

**Edinburgh International Science Festival, various venues**

Consisting of more than 200 individual events, this annual festival ensures that Scotland's historic reputation as a nation with a strong legacy in science and innovation continues.

[www.sciencefestival.co.uk](http://www.sciencefestival.co.uk)

### JULY

**Music at Paxton, Paxton House**

Celebrate summer by attending the annual programme of delightful chamber music concerts at Paxton House, the stunning 18th century mansion designed by celebrated architect John Adam which houses artworks by Scots masters of the period, on loan from National Galleries of Scotland.

[www.musicatpaxton.co.uk](http://www.musicatpaxton.co.uk)

### SEPTEMBER

**Doors Open Days, various locations**

Every weekend throughout September, buildings not normally open to the public throw open their doors to allow visitors an exclusive peak behind the scenes at museums, offices, factories, and many more surprising places, all free of charge.

[www.doorsopendays.org.uk](http://www.doorsopendays.org.uk)

### AUGUST

**Steam train days, Borders Railway**

Across Sundays in August, travel in style by steam train along the Borders Railway to enjoy beautiful countryside views, with options to experience fantastic Scottish Borders attractions.

[www.srps.org.uk](http://www.srps.org.uk)

## DAY 1 - EDINBURGH



**1**  
**Edinburgh Old Town** – both the Old Town and New Town in Edinburgh are individually recognised as UNESCO World Heritage sites. The Old Town is Edinburgh's medieval heart and there's a sense of history around every corner. Architectural highlights include Edinburgh Castle, St. Giles' Cathedral, the Palace of Holyroodhouse and John Knox's House.  
**T: 0131 668 8831**  
**E: trade@hes.scot**  
**www.historicenvironment.scot**



**2**  
**Edinburgh New Town** – dating from 1767, Edinburgh's impressive New Town is characterised by its wide, symmetrical streets and large tree-filled squares. The highlight is Charlotte Square, the north side of which was designed by celebrated Scottish architect Robert Adam. Don't miss the elegant Georgian House at No. 7 Charlotte Square.  
**T: 0131 668 8831**  
**E: trade@hes.scot**  
**www.historicenvironment.scot**



**3**  
**National Museum of Scotland** – Dolly, the world's first cloned sheep is just one of the fascinating exhibits to be seen at the museum as well many other collections on science and technology, decorative art, design and fashion. Plus, discover seasonal exhibitions and find out about arranging special guided tours for groups.  
**T: 0131 247 4041**  
**E: tours@nms.ac.uk**  
**www.nms.ac.uk/traveltrade**



**4**  
**Scottish Parliament** – sitting at the foot of Edinburgh's famous Royal Mile, this complex building has been hailed as one of the most innovative designs in Britain and has been constructed from steel, oak, and granite. Its design has been inspired by the surrounding landscape and the flower paintings of Charles Rennie Mackintosh.  
**T: 0131 348 5200**  
**E: visit@parliament.scot**  
**www.parliament.scot/visitandlearn**



**5**  
**Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art** – not all the art hangs on the walls; outside, there's a wonderful landscape artwork by artist Charles Jencks, while inside there are some impressive works by Edinburgh-born Scottish sculptor Eduardo Paolozzi, plus many other thought-provoking modern artworks.  
**T: 0131 624 6200**  
**E: enquiries@nationalgalleries.org**  
**www.nationalgalleries.org**

## DAY 2 - THE LOTHIANS



**1**  
**Rosslyn Chapel, Midlothian** – as well as being featured in the bestselling novel *The Da Vinci Code*, this fascinating building is famous for its ornate stonework, magnificent carvings and stunning setting. Its story is told in the state-of-the-art visitor centre which has an excellent café and shop.  
**T: 0131 440 2159**  
**E: mail@rosslynchapel.com**  
**www.rosslynchapel.com**



**2**  
**Hopetoun House, West Lothian** – one of Scotland's finest stately homes, and one of the finest examples of 18th century architecture in Britain. The magnificent interiors, which have remained virtually unchanged for three centuries, reflect the elegance of the Georgian era. There are also 150 acres of grounds to explore around the house, with several walks and trails.  
**T: 0131 331 2451**  
**E: dayvisits@hopetoun.co.uk**  
**www.hopetoun.co.uk**



**3**  
**Preston Mill, East Lothian** – this 18th century architectural oddity is beloved by artists and photographers alike, thanks to its distinctive Dutch style conical-roof. It was also East Lothian's last working water mill. Take a walk across the River Tyne to see the nearby beehive-shaped Phantassie Doocot, with its French style horseshoe parapet, built in the 16th century to house 500 pigeons.  
**T: 0131 458 0204**  
**E: traveltrade@nts.org.uk**  
**www.nts.org.uk/travel-trade**



**4**  
**National Mining Museum Scotland, Midlothian** – get a fascinating insight into how Scotland led the way in the coal mining industry at the National Mining Museum Scotland. Located in the Midlothian village of Newtongrange, this was Scotland's first 'super pit', operational for nearly 100 years. Many of the surface structures are of architectural significance.  
**T: 0131 663 7519**  
**E: enquiries@nationalminingmuseum.com**  
**www.nationalminingmuseum.com**



**5**  
**Jupiter Artland, West Lothian** – set within a 80-acre estate, is a garden like no other. The colourful and awe-inspiring sculpture park is a whimsical collaboration between the owners the Wilson family, some of the nation's top contemporary artists and the landscape. Andy Goldsworthy, Anthony Gormley and Anish Kapoor are just some of the artists whose work features in this unique place.  
**T: 01506 88 99 00**  
**E: enquiries@jupiterartland.org**  
**www.jupiterartland.org/visit**

## DAY 3 - THE FORTH VALLEY & CLACKMANNANSHIRE



**1**  
**Forth Bridges, South Queensferry** – the iconic Forth Rail Bridge built across the River Forth in the late 19th century is celebrated as a major Scottish landmark and a milestone in the development of railway civil engineering. It was joined by the Forth Road Bridge in 1964 and a third, the Queensferry Crossing, opened in 2017. Marvel at these engineering wonders from various vantage points.  
**www.theforthbridges.org/visit**



**2**  
**Stirling Castle** – the grandest of Scottish castles which was a major strategic stronghold during the 13th and 14th centuries. Subsequently a favourite royal residence where knights, nobles and ambassadors were received with pomp and ceremony. The castle's unique story is brought to life by a series of performances and there are amazing views from the castle ramparts.  
**T: 0131 668 8831**  
**E: trade@hes.scot**  
**www.historicenvironment.scot**



**3**  
**The Falkirk Wheel** – take a boat trip along the Forth & Clyde and Union canals using the world's first revolving boatlift. Replacing the previous system of 11 canal locks, the wheel transports visitors in specially designed boats from one canal to the other to enjoy spectacular views right across the Forth Valley. There's also a well-stocked gift shop and spacious café.  
**T: 0870 050 0208**  
**E: FFW\_Info@scottishcanals.co.uk**  
**www.scottishcanals.co.uk**



**4**  
**The Kelpies** – a true feat of engineering, lying close to the main road from Glasgow to Stirling. Step inside these colossal and inspirational sculptures, named after the mystical water-borne equine creatures. The Kelpies tower over the Forth & Clyde Canal, and are a part of The Helix, a 350 hectare park providing access to woodlands, wetlands and waterways.  
**T: 01324 590600**  
**E: kelpies.bookings@thehelix.co.uk**  
**www.thehelix.co.uk**

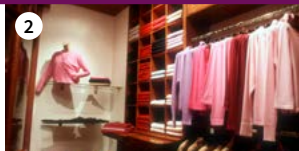


**5**  
**Clackmannanshire Tower Trail** – discover a series of 14th and 15th century tower houses built by aristocrats who needed to be near the royal court in Stirling. Each has its own fascinating story. The imposing ruin of Castle Campbell boasts a dramatic setting with fine views across the scenic Ochil Hills while Alloa Tower has some stunning artworks and even its own dungeon!  
**www.discoverclackmannanshire.com**

## DAY 4 - THE SCOTTISH BORDERS



**1**  
**Abbotsford** – the former home of famed author Sir Walter Scott, Abbotsford was created around 200 years ago on the banks of the River Tweed. The house was the culmination of Scott's creative ambitions as a writer and the fount of his inspiration. See objects which lead to the writing of his greatest poems and novels and explore the beautiful formal gardens and tranquil woodlands.  
**T: 01896 752043**  
**E: enquiries@scottsassbotsford.co.uk**  
**www.scottsassbotsford.com**



**2**  
**Borders Textiles** – the Scottish Borders textile trade stretches as far back as the 13th century. Tartans, tweeds, wool and cashmere produced here make their way to top fashion houses including Chanel and Dior. Follow the Textile Trail to purchase some items to take home from outlets such as Lochcarron of Scotland and Johnstons of Elgin Mill.  
**T: 01450 377615**  
**E: textiletowerhouse@liveborders1.org.uk**  
**www.heartofhawick.co.uk**



**3**  
**Manderston House** – a breathtaking mansion on which no expense was spared, Manderston is the supreme country house of Edwardian Scotland. With the world's only silver stair case and its own marble dairy and 56 acres of formal and informal gardens, complete with woodlands and tennis/croquet lawns, a day at this magnificent property really does offer a surprise around every corner.  
**T: 01361 883 450**  
**E: enquiries@manderston.co.uk**  
**www.manderston.co.uk/visiting**



**4**  
**Dawyck Botanic Garden** – this stunning 60-acre garden is the culmination of more than 350 years of planting and design and the pioneering international plant hunting expeditions supported by 17th century Sir John Naesmith. Here you can see some of the rarest and most exotic plants and trees from around the globe. The late-spring Azalea Terrace is a popular feature for visitors.  
**T: 01721 760 254**  
**E: dawyck@rbge.org.uk**  
**www.rbge.org.uk/the-gardens/dawyck**



**5**  
**Borders Abbeys** – the Scottish Borders have four remarkable abbeys. Dryburgh Abbey by the River Tweed is a fine example of Gothic architecture, Jedburgh Abbey has a tranquil herb garden, Melrose is said to be the last resting place of the heart of Robert the Bruce and Kelso Abbey still bears the traces of sustained cannon fire by the armies of King Henry VIII.  
**T: 0131 668 8831**  
**E: trade@hes.scot**  
**www.historicenvironment.scot**

Please note some attractions have seasonal opening hours. Please check opening times with the attraction.

For more ideas and contacts go to [www.visitscotlandtraveltrade.com](http://www.visitscotlandtraveltrade.com) or email [traveltrade@visitscotland.com](mailto:traveltrade@visitscotland.com)