

# EDINBURGH ITINERARY - 4 DAYS

01

## Edinburgh Bus Tours

Hop-on/hop-off bus tours are a great way for your clients to quickly orientate themselves on a city visit, and to identify the must-see city sights. Edinburgh Bus Tours offer visitors three fantastic hop on hop off city tours, plus a further option which will allow them to enjoy the spectacle of the iconic Forth Bridges. Your clients can enjoy the views with commentary in 9 different languages, on the company's new fleet of environmentally friendly tour buses. Private hires are also available.

### Waverley Bridge

Edinburgh, EH1 1BQ

[www.edinburghstour.com](http://www.edinburghstour.com)

[Link to Trade Website](#)



Distance between Edinburgh bus tours and the Scottish National Gallery is 0.4miles/0.6km



## Scottish National Gallery

Situated in the heart of Edinburgh, just off Princes street and next door to the Royal Scottish Academy the Scottish National Gallery displays art by Scottish artists such as Wilkie and Raeburn, as well as pieces from world renowned painters, including Monet and Van Gogh. Your clients can spend hours admiring the gallery's many paintings free of charge and enjoy what is truly one of the world's best collections of fine art. Bespoke tours are also available.

### The Mound

Edinburgh, EH2 2EL

[www.nationalgalleries.org](http://www.nationalgalleries.org)

[Link to Trade Website](#)



Distance between Scottish National Gallery and Edinburgh Castle is 0.3miles/0.4km

## Edinburgh Castle

Edinburgh Castle is one of the oldest fortified palaces in Europe. Built on top of Castle Rock and dominating the city's skyline, the castle has a long rich history as a royal residence, and it is alive with many exciting tales. When your clients climb Castle Hill, they will walk in the footsteps of soldiers, kings and queens. The castle is now a world-famous visitor attraction and an iconic part of the Old and New Towns of Edinburgh World Heritage Site.



### Castlehill

Edinburgh, EH1 2NG

[www.edinburghcastle.scot](http://www.edinburghcastle.scot)

[Link to Trade Website](#)



Distance between Edinburgh Castle and the Scotch Whisky Experience is 151 feet / 50 metres

## The Scotch Whisky Experience

A 'must-visit' Edinburgh attraction, The Scotch Whisky Experience has been inspiring visitors to Edinburgh about the joys of Scotch whisky for over 30 years. A visit here will make your clients 'whisky experts', with an unforgettable whisky tasting within the world's largest collection of Scotch whisky. Tours are held in 18 languages and tasting options are available to suit every group, with a superb array of group dining options in the award-winning restaurant 'Amber'.

### 354 Castlehill

The Royal Mile

Edinburgh, EH1 2NE

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

[Link to Trade Website](#)



Distance between the Scotch Whisky Experience and Gladstone's Land is 0.1miles/0.2km

The details provided above are subject to change from time to time. We suggest contacting establishments directly for up to date information.



Groups  
8-12  
people



Groups  
up to 24  
people



All groups  
all sizes

FIT

Free  
independent  
travellers



Languages  
spoken



Seasonal Opening  
(April - October)  
Winter by  
appointment



Open all year

A

Accessible  
access



Green Tourism  
Business  
scheme



Coach  
parking  
available

### Gladstone's Land

Gladstone's Land is one of Edinburgh's oldest buildings and is located on the Royal Mile, just a stone's throw from Edinburgh Castle. Dating back to the 17th century, the house is full of history. Before entering, your clients will spot the golden bird of prey that hangs outside and the 17th century arched shop frontage. Once inside, they will learn about the fascinating lives of the people that lived there and discover impressive hand-painted renaissance paintings from the 1620's.

477B Lawnmarket

Royal Mile

Edinburgh, EH1 2NT

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

[Link to Trade Website](#)



*Distance between Gladstone's Land and Mercat Tours is 0.2miles/0.3km*

### Mercat Tours

Providing award winning storytelling since 1985, Mercat Tours will captivate your clients with passion, humour and flair promising a unique and lasting memory. They have an extensive scheduled tour programme with daily departures to Edinburgh Castle, the many closes of the Royal Mile, and exclusive access to the Blair Street underground vaults in Edinburgh. They provide whisky tastings, history walks, ghost tours and have tour guides that take tours in foreign languages. Private and bespoke tours are also available.

Mercat House

28 Blair Street

Edinburgh, EH1 1QR

[www.mercattours.com](http://www.mercattours.com)

[Link to Trade Website](#)



*Distance between Mercat Tours and the National Museum of Scotland is 0.2miles/0.3km*



### The National Museum of Scotland

Having welcomed over 5 million visitors since its £50 million transformation in 2011, the National Museum of Scotland is the most visited free attraction in the UK outside of London. Whether your clients want to learn more about Scottish history, nature, or world history, the National Museum has something for everyone, with many interesting and interactive exhibits. Visitors can go for a coffee on the top floor whilst looking out over the city or attend one of the ever-changing exhibitions that the Museum offers.

Chambers Street

Edinburgh, EH1 1JF

[www.nms.ac.uk](http://www.nms.ac.uk)

[Link to Trade Website](#)



*Distance between the National Museum of Scotland and Dynamic Earth is 0.8miles/1.3km*



### Dynamic Earth

Dynamic Earth is a 5-star visitor attraction and science centre in Edinburgh. A trip to Dynamic Earth is also a visit to Scotland's largest interactive visitor attraction which will allow your clients to take a journey through time and space to learn about the story of planet earth. From glaciers to volcanoes, to the aurora borealis, this is an immersive attraction that opens visitors' minds. Your clients will also be able to experience 4D films in the 360° ShowDome Cinema.

Holyrood Road

Edinburgh, EH8 8AS

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

[Link to Trade Website](#)



*Distance between Dynamic Earth and the Georgian House is 1.7miles/2.7km*

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### The Georgian House

The Georgian House is one of two National Trust properties that your clients can visit in Edinburgh city centre. The house has been restored to show what a typical Edinburgh New Town House would have been like in the late 18th and early 19th century. Your clients will be able to explore the grandeur of the upstairs house with its period decoration then descend 'below stairs' to see where the servants, who made such a grand lifestyle possible, resided.

7 Charlotte Square  
Edinburgh, EH2 4DR

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

[Link to Trade Website](#)



*Distance between the Georgian House and the Scottish National Portrait Gallery is 0.7miles/1.1km*



### Scottish National Portrait Gallery

One of the capital's most impressive buildings, the National Portrait Gallery is a great neo-gothic palace which sits proudly on the city's skyline. It was opened to the public in the late 19th century as the world's first purpose-built portrait gallery, acting as a shrine for Scotland's heroes and heroines. Your clients can learn about different aspects of Scotland's rich history, with many portraits on display of important historic figures such as Robert Burns and Mary Queen of Scots. Bespoke tours are available.

1 Queen Street  
Edinburgh, EH2 1JD

[www.nationalgalleries.org](http://www.nationalgalleries.org)

[Link to Trade Website](#)



*Distance between the Scottish National Portrait Gallery and the Royal Botanic Gardens is 0.9miles/1.4km*

### Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh

The Royal Botanic Garden Edinburgh is one of the world's leading botanical gardens. It offers visitors peace and tranquillity amongst 72 acres of stunning scenery. When visiting the iconic gardens, your clients can spend hours on end experiencing its 300-year history and learning about the garden's rich and diverse Living Collection whilst taking in wonderful views of the city skyline. They can also enjoy over 3,000 exotic plants from around the world and the Victorian Temperate Palm House which dates to 1858.

20A Inverleith Row  
Edinburgh, EH3 5LR

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

[Link to Trade Website](#)



*Distance between the Royal Botanic Garden and the Royal Yacht Britannia is 1.8miles/2.9km*



### The Royal Yacht Britannia

Your clients can step aboard The Royal Yacht Britannia, Her Majesty The Queen's former floating palace for over 40 years. Berthed in Edinburgh, your clients can follow in the footsteps of Royalty to discover the heart and soul of this most special of Royal residences. Visitors can also enjoy a morning coffee or a light lunch in the Royal Deck Tea Room.

Ocean Drive  
Leith  
Edinburgh, EH6 6JJ

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

[Link to Trade Website](#)

*Distance between the Royal Yacht Britannia and Craigmillar Castle is 5miles/8km*



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### Craigmillar Castle

Known as Edinburgh's 'other' castle, Craigmillar dates to the 14th century and is just a stone's throw from the bustling city centre of the capital. Built around a central tower, Craigmillar was one of the first of this type of castle to be built in Scotland. Your clients will be able to see where Mary Queen of Scots famously took refuge in 1566, explore the castle's many nooks and crannies, and climb to the top of the tower for views of Edinburgh's skyline.

**Craigmillar Castle Road**  
Edinburgh, EH16 4SY

[www.historicenvironment.scot](http://www.historicenvironment.scot)

[Link to Trade Website](#)



*Distance between Craigmillar Castle and Edinburgh Zoo is 7.3miles/11.7km*



### Edinburgh Zoo

Set upon the South side of Corstorphine Hill, Edinburgh Zoo is an 82-acre area of land that serves as the home of over 1,000 endangered animals. The Zoo is home to the UK's only giant pandas and Queensland koalas. Your clients can enjoy an amazing family day out by watching the famous penguin parade, attending one of the daily keeper talks or enjoying a guided tour to learn about the abundance of different animals in the zoo and how they live.

**134 Corstorphine Road**  
Edinburgh, EH12 6TS

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

[Link to Trade Website](#)



*Distance between Edinburgh Zoo and Lauriston Castle and Gardens is 3miles/4.8km*

### Lauriston Castle and Gardens

Lauriston castle is a real hidden gem in Edinburgh. This Edwardian home with its remarkable interiors and tranquil grounds in a seafront location is the kind of place where your clients can have the experience of stepping back in time and gaining an insight into what life was like in a bygone era. They can explore the wooded and seafront walks and maybe even catch a historical costumed performance. They can then finish their visit with a stroll around the charming nearby village of Cramond.

**2 Cramond Road South**  
Edinburgh, EH4 6AD

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

[Link to Trade Website](#)



*Distance between Lauriston Castle and Gardens and the Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art is 2.8miles/4.5km*

### Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art

Located just over a mile from the city centre, The National Gallery of Modern Art is comprised of two gallery buildings as well as a sculpture park that showcase the country's best collection of modern art. Your clients can enjoy the gallery's permanent collection as well as temporary exhibitions in Modern One, an impressive neo-classical building. They can then cross over to Modern Two, which displays an extensive collection of work by Eduardo Palozzi. Bespoke tours of the galleries are available.

**75 Belford Road**  
Edinburgh,  
EH4 3DR

[www.nationalgalleries.org](http://www.nationalgalleries.org)

[Link to Trade Website](#)



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## FOOD AND DRINK SUGGESTIONS

### The Scottish Café and Restaurant

Located in the Scottish National Gallery with iconic views into Princes Street Gardens, this is an award winning sustainable Scottish restaurant run by Contini.



### Afternoon tea at Café at the Palace

Found at the end of the Royal Mile in a striking setting within the Palace of Holyroodhouse, this is one of the top destinations for afternoon tea. All locally sourced produce.



### Rhubarb at Prestonfield House

A glamorous restaurant just a stone's throw from the city centre serving exceptional Scottish cuisine with locally sourced produce from small artisan suppliers.



### Amber Restaurant

Located within The Scotch Whisky Experience on The Royal Mile in Edinburgh, Amber is a traditional Scottish restaurant that offers unique and exciting dishes to delight the palate.



### Contini George Street

Italy and Scotland meet here at Contini restaurant. A grand but relaxed restaurant with good food made with passion and care. Ideal for breakfast, lunch, aperitif and dinner.



### The Skerries Restaurant at the Dunstane Houses

The Skerries brings a flavour from its original home in Orkney to the city of Edinburgh, as well as the freshest seafood and fish, finest Scottish meats and seasonal game.



### The Witchery by the Castle

Located in a 16th century building next to Edinburgh Castle, the Witchery is a magical dining experience which serves up a classic Scottish menu in an unforgettable historic setting.



### Harvey Nichols Forth Floor Bar

Located in St. Andrew Square, your clients can relax and sample a fabulous drink from the bar and enjoy the view to Edinburgh skyline.

### Tigerlily

This is a restaurant, bar and hotel found on George Street serving breakfast, lunch and dinner that also has an infamous cocktail menu, turning it into one of the city's liveliest venues on Fridays and Saturdays.

### Palm Court at the Balmoral

Located within the Balmoral hotel, it is the perfect place to sample a luxury Afternoon Tea with a wide selection of loose-leaf teas, coffee and pastries.

## ACCOMMODATION SUGGESTIONS

### Sheraton Grand Hotel and Spa

A 5-star hotel and spa where clients can experience a modern version of Scottish luxury in the heart of Edinburgh City, complete with stunning views of Edinburgh Castle.



### Kimpton Charlotte Square Hotel

Kimpton Charlotte Square Hotel is a historic luxury boutique hotel with a private garden and a spa, residing in the heart of Edinburgh in the New Town.



### Dalmahoy Hotel & Country Club

A 4-star Hotel just 20 minutes from Edinburgh offering luxury accommodation with 215 rooms, various dining options, meetings and events spaces, and 2 golf courses.



### The Balmoral, A Rocco Forte Hotel

An iconic 5-star hotel in the centre of Edinburgh with 167 rooms, 20 suites, stunning views of the city and a majestic clock tower.



### Edinburgh Central Youth Hostel

A centrally located 5-star youth Hostel with a variety of rooms available – private and dormitories. Hostel can be privately rented.



### Pollock Halls – Edinburgh First

Located at the foot of Arthur's Seat and the royal Holyrood Park, the Pollock Halls Campus offers your clients over 2000 rooms during the university's summer vacation.



### Radisson Collection Hotel, Royal Mile Edinburgh

A 5-star luxury boutique hotel in a prime location on the Royal Mile. It has 136 rooms and boasts striking views and is located next door to all main city centre attractions.



### Waldorf Astoria Edinburgh - The Caledonian

A 5-star luxury hotel located in a former Victorian rail station on Princes Street. With views of Edinburgh Castle, the hotel is home to the UK's only Guerlain Spa and has 241 rooms.

### Mercure Edinburgh City, Princes Street Hotel

In the heart of Edinburgh on Princes Street, Edinburgh's main thoroughfare. Rooms come with panoramic views of Edinburgh Castle and the Old Town. Easy access to public transport.

### Novotel Hotel

Ideally located for visiting main city centre attractions, the hotel has 180 spacious, modern guest rooms and five versatile meeting rooms. It has an indoor pool as well as a restaurant and bar.

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#### Taste Our Best

One way to ensure that you'll enjoy great quality Scottish food and drink, prepared with care and delivered with passion, is to look for places that are part of Taste Our Best, our food and drink quality scheme.



#### Green Tourism Award

Businesses that work in a sustainable, environmentally friendly way are graded: Bronze, Silver or Gold



## VISITSCOTLAND'S WEBSITES

Our travel trade website offers the travel industry a one-stop-shop for Scotland information, inspiration and tool kits. The site is designed to assist tour operators and agents to sell destination Scotland more effectively to their clients.

Travel trade website	<a href="http://www.visitscotlandtraveltrade.com">www.visitscotlandtraveltrade.com</a>
Destination Education Programme	<a href="http://www.visitscotlandtraveltrade.com/scotsagent">www.visitscotlandtraveltrade.com/scotsagent</a>
VisitScotland consumer site	<a href="http://www.visitscotland.com">www.visitscotland.com</a>

### Information on travel trade websites:

- 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	<a href="http://www.britrail.com">www.britrail.com</a>
News & Weather information	<a href="http://www.bbc.co.uk/weather">www.bbc.co.uk/weather</a>
British Train information	<a href="http://www.nationalrail.co.uk">www.nationalrail.co.uk</a>
Scottish Train information   Bus information	<a href="http://www.scotrail.co.uk">www.scotrail.co.uk</a>   <a href="http://www.citylink.co.uk">www.citylink.co.uk</a>
Historic Environment Scotland	<a href="http://www.historic-scotland.gov.uk">www.historic-scotland.gov.uk</a>
National Trust for Scotland	<a href="http://www.nts.org.uk">www.nts.org.uk</a>
Scottish Tourist Guides Association	<a href="http://www.stga.co.uk">www.stga.co.uk</a>