

THE LOTHIANS ITINERARY - 4 DAYS

01

John Muir's Birthplace

John Muir was a conservationist who changed the world but also a writer, explorer, inventor, botanist, geologist, glaciologist, farmer and an artist. Your clients can discover the many sides to this remarkable man in this unique, award winning museum. The exterior of the house has been restored to what it would have looked like back in 1838 while the interior is now three floors of interactive displays where your clients will have the opportunity to interactively walk in John Muir's footsteps.

126 High Street
Dunbar, EH42 1JJ

www.jmbt.org.uk

[Link to Trade Website](#)



Distance between John Muir's Birthplace and Preston Mill and Phantassie Doocot is 6.6 miles / 10.6km

Preston Mill and Phantassie Doocot

This picturesque 18th century water mill in an idyllic East Lothian location might make your clients think they've wound up somewhere in a story book. Cared for by the National Trust for Scotland, this property is an architectural oddity which was also featured in season one of the world renown tv series Outlander. Your clients can tour the mill to see and hear the mechanisms in action, learn more about the millers who worked there and enjoy the peaceful surroundings.

Preston Road
East Linton
East Lothian, EH40 3DS

www.nts.org.uk

[Link to Trade Website](#)



Distance between Preston Mill and Phantassie Doocot and Tantallon Castle is 6 miles / 9.7km



Tantallon Castle

Set on the edge of the cliffs by the sea just along the coast from North Berwick, Tantallon Castle is one of Scotland's last medieval castles. Your clients can climb to the top of the towers and take in great views of the surrounding areas and the Bass Rock whilst listening to stories of ghost sightings within the thick walls that stood strong until a siege by Oliver Cromwell's army. They might even be lucky enough to watch gannets plunging into the North Sea.

Near North Berwick
East Lothian, EH39 5PN

www.historicenvironment.scot

[Link to Trade Website](#)



Distance between Tantallon Castle and the Scottish Seabird centre is 3.1 miles / 5km



The Scottish Seabird Centre

The multi award-winning Scottish Seabird Centre in the delightful coastal town of North Berwick offers your clients a unique opportunity to view seabirds and other wildlife up close using camera technology. They will be able to control interactive live cameras on the local islands to zoom in on the amazing wildlife in its natural habitat. The centre also offers a range of boat trips, including a visit to the iconic Bass Rock, home to the world's largest colony of Northern Gannets.

The Harbour
North Berwick, EH39 4SS

www.seabird.org

[Link to Trade Website](#)



Distance between Scottish Seabird Centre and Dirleton Castle is 2.9 miles / 4.7km



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



Free
independent
travellers



Languages
spoken



Seasonal Opening
(as noted)
Winter by
appointment



Open all year



Accessible
access



Green Tourism
Business
Scheme



Coach
parking
available

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Dirleton Castle

Dirleton Castle is one of Scotland's oldest surviving strongholds. It was built on a naturally rocky outcrop, on a low ridge overlooking the farmland of East Lothian. Your clients can learn about how the castle was damaged and taken on two occasions by the English during the Scottish Wars of Independence. They can also admire this 13th-century fortress which was a magnificent fortified residence to three successive noble families for 400 years and stroll around the impressive gardens.

Dirleton

East Lothian, EH39 5ER

www.historicenvironment.scot

[Link to trade site](#)



Distance between Dirleton Castle and the National Museum of Flight is 5.7 miles / 9.2km



National Museum of Flight

A visit to this fascinating museum must be the greenest flight-related experience your clients could possibly have. Your clients can discover a world-class collection of aircraft and hear the fascinating stories of the people who built and flew them, all in the setting of a historic hangar and airfield. A highlight of the visit is the opportunity to board the iconic Concorde. Interactive experiences take your clients through the history of aviation from the First World War to the present day.

East Fortune Airfield

North Berwick, EH39 5LF

www.nms.ac.uk

[Link to Trade Website](#)



Distance between National Museum of Flight and Glenkinchie Distillery is 12.6 miles / 20.3km

Glenkinchie Distillery and Visitor Centre

Glenkinchie is a single malt whisky distillery found in East Lothian, 15 miles from the centre of Edinburgh. It is one of six distilleries in the Lowland region. On a tour to Glenkinchie, your clients will learn of its rich history, which dates to the early 1800's when it was bought and founded by brothers John and George Rate. Your clients will soon be able to enjoy a brand-new visitor centre in Glenkinchie, forming part of a multi-distillery Johnnie Walker blend experience.

Pencaitland

Tranent

East Lothian, EH34 5ET

www.malts.com

[Link to trade site](#)



Distance between Glenkinchie Distillery and Rosslyn Chapel is 15.3 miles / 24.6km

Rosslyn Chapel

Founded in 1446, Rosslyn Chapel attracts visitors who are drawn by its unique and mysterious carvings and the beauty of its setting. Featured in the concluding chapters of Dan Brown's The Da Vinci Code bestseller, the chapel was built by craftsmen over a 40-year period and its ornate stonework and mysterious symbolism have inspired and intrigued artists and visitors ever since. Today, there are countless theories, myths and legends associated with the Chapel, many of which are impossible to prove or disprove conclusively.

Chapel Loan

Roslin, EH25 9PU

www.rosslynchapel.com

[Link to Trade Website](#)



Distance between Rosslyn Chapel and Jupiter Artland is 13.9 miles / 22.4km



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Jupiter Artland

Jupiter Artland is a contemporary sculpture park and art gallery set within the picturesque 80-acre estate of Bonnington House. It is the brainchild of Nicky and Robert Wilson, who collaborate with the artists and the landscape to create a museum which was shortlisted for the Museum of the year award in 2016. Your clients will be able to enjoy a journey through the park, narrated by the exclusive work of individual artists who are given the freedom to express themselves through the landscape.

Bonnington House Steadings
Wilkieston
Edinburgh, EH27 8BY

www.jupiterartland.org

[Link to trade site](#)



(May-September)

Distance between Jupiter Artland and Forth Boat Tours is 10.7 miles / 17.2km

Forth Boat Tours

Setting off from the Hawes Pier in South Queensferry, right next to the iconic Forth Rail Bridge, Forth Boat Tours offer a range of different tours on the River Forth. The experience was voted Scotland's best activity day out in 2019 and is a great attraction for families. Your clients can choose from a variety of tours, including a visit to Blackness castle that comes with a complimentary cream tea, or Inchcolm island with its historical 13th century abbey.

Hawes Pier
South Queensferry, EH30 9TB

www.forthtours.com

[Link to Trade Website](#)



Distance between Forth Boat Tours and Hopetoun House is 3.1 miles / 5km



Hopetoun House

Hopetoun House has been described as Scotland's finest stately home. Your clients can enjoy the panoramic views of the impressive main façade on approach which are complemented by the elegant Georgian era interiors. The magnificent entrance hall is a special sight that your clients are sure to love. Dating from the 18th Century, the surrounding 6,500-acre estate is one of Scotland's finest designed landscapes, and a focus on energy conservation and wildlife preservation ensures it will be protected for the benefit of future generations.

South Queensferry, EH30 9SL

www.hopetoun.co.uk

[Link to trade site](#)



(April-September)

Distance between Hopetoun House and Blackness Castle is 9.3 miles / 15km



Blackness Castle

Built in the 15th century and massively strengthened in the 16th century as an artillery fortress, Blackness Castle has been a royal castle, prison, armaments depot and film location for several films and television series such as Outlaw King and Outlander. This castle's fortifications make it look like a ship that never sailed. Your clients can explore what was one of the most advanced fortifications of its time whilst taking in impressive views of the Forth and its three bridges.

Blackness
Linlithgow
West Lothian, EH49 7NH

www.historicenvironment.scot

[Link to trade site](#)



Distance between Blackness Castle and the Bo'ness & Kinneil Railway and Museum is 5.2 miles / 8.4km



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The Bo'ness & Kinneil Railway and Museum

Based in Bo'ness, just a 40-minute drive from Glasgow and Edinburgh, the Bo'ness & Kinneil Railway is a four-star VisitScotland Rated attraction that offers your clients the chance to board a vintage steam or diesel-hauled train. They can soak up the atmosphere of this heritage railway, travel by steam train and explore Scotland's largest railway museum. Your clients can enjoy the on-train buffet where afternoon tea is served on most Saturday and Sunday afternoons.

Bo'ness Station

Union Street

Bo'ness, EH51 9AQ

www.bkrailway.co.uk

[Link to Trade Website](#)



Distance between the Bo'ness & Kinneil Railway and Museum and Mary's Meanders Tours is 4.4 miles / 7.1km

Mary's Meanders Tours

Based in Linlithgow, Mary's Meanders Tours have been welcoming visitors from all over the world for the past seven years. They share their enthusiasm for their local area and love telling tales of history and local traditions. Your clients can enjoy a range of tours, with the company specialising in Outlander, Mary Queen of Scots, filming and ancestry tours. From first contact, Mary Meanders tours will guide you clients all the way and make them feel at home.

Linlithgow

West Lothian

www.marysmeanders.co.uk

[Link to trade site](#)



Distance between Mary's Meanders Tours and Linlithgow Palace is 0.6 miles / 1km

Linlithgow Palace

Linlithgow Palace is a magnificent ruin set within its own park and was a favoured residence of the Stewart kings and queens from James I (1406-37) onward. Your clients will be able to see where King James V (1512) and Mary Queen of Scots (1542) were both born. Its high towers look out over lush greenery and a loch brimming with wildfowl. The palace was also used in more recent times as a filming location for the television series Outlander.

Kirkgate

Linlithgow

West Lothian, EH49 7AL

www.historicenvironment.scot

[Link to Trade Website](#)



Distance between Linlithgow Palace and Cairnpapple Hill is 4.5 miles / 7.2km



Cairnpapple Hill

Your clients can explore a rare ceremonial complex in the Bathgate Hills. The broad summit of Cairnpapple Hill was a significant site for ceremonies and burials for at least 4,000 years, and in its day would have been comparable to better known sites like the Standing Stones of Stenness. Your clients will discover its henge, which dates from about 3800BC. On a clear day, they might even be able to spot Goat Fell, the highest peak on the Isle of Arran.

2km east of Torphichen

West Lothian

www.historicenvironment.scot

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FOOD & DRINK SUGGESTIONS

The Seabird Café at the Scottish Seabird Centre

An award-winning café in an ideal location with views of the Bass Rock. A range of snacks and meals made with locally sourced produce.



The Waterside Bistro, Haddington

The Waterside Bistro is a family run business providing food all day on the banks of the River Tyne with indoor and outdoor seating.



Boardside Café, Foxlake Adventures

Boardside Café is an outdoor eatery near Dunbar. It is a perfect venue for casual eating, socialising, family gatherings and children's parties.



The Orangery at Dalhousie Castle Hotel

Delightful 'Conservatory Style' restaurant, open all day, with views over Anna Park and the castle grounds. Serves primarily Scottish cuisine with continental influences.



Ducks Inn Restaurant, Aberlady

Relaxed and fun family run restaurant in East Lothian with two separate dining options serving Scottish cuisine paired with an extensive wine list.



The Paper Mill

The Paper Mill is an award-winning all-day restaurant and bar situated on the banks of the River North Esk. It serves fresh, seasonal produce, coffee and cakes.



Café Party, Jupiter Artland

A quirky, custom made café that was recently partnered with Edinburgh's New Town restaurant, Fhior. Boasting a unique custom menu in a fascinatingly decorated setting.



Stewart Brewing

Stewart Brewing is Edinburgh's local, independent brewery producing hand-crafted beer in small batches, to unique recipes. Tasting tours are available.

Archerfield Walled Garden

A fabulous taste, shop and explore experience in the heart of East Lothian. There is a garden serving a delicious menu and a food market offering the best of local produce.

The Allan Ramsay Hotel Restaurant

One of Scotland's oldest coaching inns and named in honour of the Scots poet Allan Ramsay, this restaurant offers a modern Scottish menu using locally sourced produce.

ACCOMMODATION SUGGESTIONS

Gilmerton House

A 5-star Georgian mansion situated in East Lothian with a choice of 10 luxuriously appointed bedrooms.



Straven Guesthouse B&B

A 4-star high quality Bed and Breakfast in Portobello with newly refurbished welcoming rooms, just one minute from the beautiful beach and promenade.



Crosswoodhill Farm Holiday Cottages

A secluded 3-5 stars self-catering eco lodges in West Lothian, near Edinburgh, that sleeps groups of 2-16 people in 1800 acres of tranquillity in the Pentland Hills.



Borthwick Castle

This is one of the largest and best preserved medieval Scottish fortifications. It is available for exclusive private hire and offers 12 bed chambers and room for 85 guests.



Linwater Caravan Park and Glamping Pods

A caravan Park offering Glamping pods, camping pitches, touring pitches and self-catering accommodation.



The Old Milhouse

An 18th century listed Scottish country house set on the banks of the River Esk. A 5-star self-catering venue also nominated for best self-catering establishment at the Scottish Thistle awards.



Carberry Tower Mansion House and Estate

Carberry Tower is a wonderful historic 4-star Mansion House with 30-bedroom set in 35 acres of beautiful grounds. Offers afternoon teas, caters for corporate events.



Garleton Lodge Haddington

This 5-star lodge with 8 bedrooms offers panoramic views across the Firth of Forth and along Scotland's Golf Coast. Guests can enjoy the restaurant, spa, a hot tub and golf facilities. Taste our Best Award.

Mercure Livingston

A comfortable and convenient 3-star hotel with 120 bedrooms located in Livingston. The swimming pool facilities and 9 meeting and private function rooms make it perfect for business and leisure.

Villas at Renaissance

The 5-star Villas at Renaissance is an exclusive use accommodation sleeping up to 28 across 14 rooms in the most tranquil of settings.

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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	www.visitscotlandtraveltrade.com
Destination Education Programme	www.visitscotlandtraveltrade.com/scotsagent
VisitScotland consumer site	www.visitscotland.com

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