Edinburgh - Scotland

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Trip Start Date</th>
<th>Destination</th>
<th># of Nights</th>
<th>Include d Meals</th>
<th># On Trip</th>
<th>Price Per Person Double (Includes Tips)</th>
<th>Price Per Person Single (Includes Tips)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>July 8-13</td>
<td>Edinburgh - Scotland</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>5B, 1L</td>
<td>15-19</td>
<td>$ 809</td>
<td>$ 1,204</td>
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Day 1 - ARRIVAL - EDINBURGH
Arrival from your flight at Dublin Airport.
Overnight: Edinburgh
Your tour starts at your Edinburgh Hotel (Transfers not included).

Day 2: BRAVEHEART & STIRLING
Breakfast at the hotel.
Overnight: Edinburgh

- Visit Bannockburn Visitor Centre & Stirling Castle

Travelling through the heart of Scotland, the coach will transport you to the brand new Bannockburn Centre. Learn about the eight year campaign was fought by Robert the Bruce, to drive the English from Scotland and be recognized as king. The climax of this was at the Battle of Bannockburn in Jun 1314. After two days of fighting it became clear that England was losing, causing Edward II to flee, leaving a disorderly and chaotic retreat. The English surrender meant that the Scottish victory was complete and Robert the Bruce took his position as King.

Seen as one of the most significant Scottish victories in the Wars of Scottish Independence, the Battle of Bannockburn can be relived through an immersive, interactive 3D presentation. Here you will be able to experience medieval warfare like never before and discover how the tactics and decisions made by the two kings influenced the outcome of the Battle of Bannockburn. Following this, you shall travel to Stirling.

Stirling is situated on one of the many loops of the River Forth. It rises abruptly from the flat plains; a fortress with a colorful but blood-stained history. Because of its strategic position, guarding the route north, this was a fortress town since earliest times; bitterly fought over, bravely defended. The castle has appropriately been called the ‘Key to Scotland’. As a result its possession has been the focus of contention for many centuries, with battles like Bannockburn being fought in its shadow.

We'll drive through the old town to arrive at the castle. The present castle dates mainly from the 15th and 16th century. James III was born here in 1451, James V spent his childhood here, and the infant Mary Queen of Scots was crowned here on 9 September 1543. Your self-guided tour will show you the main features of the central turreted gatehouse with its flanking towers and curtain wall, the Great Hall, the Palace, one of the earliest Renaissance buildings in Scotland, and the Chapel Royal.

Duration of the tour (4.5 hours)

CONDITIONS & REMARKS
Restrooms: Available at Bannockburn Visitor Centre & Stirling Castle

Walking information: Not suitable for wheelchair users or those who struggle to walk distances due to the historic nature of the Stirling Castle site.
Day 3: EDINBURGH, CASTLE & ROYAL YACHT BRITANNIA
Breakfast at the hotel.
Overnight: Edinburgh
- Visit to Royal Yacht Britannia & Edinburgh Castle
- Lunch at local Hotel

Our full day tour of Edinburgh highlights will take us from the simplistic elegance of the former Royal Yacht “Britannia” to the imposing Castle, to lunch at a city center hotel, and then to free time for shopping along Edinburgh’s famed Princes Street.

We first visit the royal yacht “BRITANNIA” - Home to the Queen and the Royal Family, and host to glittering State and official occasions. Launched in 1953, “Britannia” sailed over a million miles during the 43 years she spent as the sovereign ship of the Royal Navy. Your tour starts in the shore-side Visitor’s Centre where you’ll see an engaging photo gallery documenting historical and personal moments of the yacht and her passengers. See the Queen’s and Duke of Edinburgh’s cabins, the simple and comfortable large drawing room, impressive formal dining room, bridge, admiral’s suite, spotless engine room, open decks, and more. We also go `below` decks to view the crew accommodation, hospital facilities and the laundry. Returning to the exhibition center, you can browse in the gift shop.

Travelling the short distance from Leith to Edinburgh city center we next enjoy lunch at a city center hotel. Our afternoon will bring us to the world renowned castle where our Guide gives us an overview of the main parts of the castle. We then have an independent visit of the castle and you must not forget to see the Scottish Crown Jewels! The unwritten history of Edinburgh goes back to the ancient British tribes who existed in clusters of wooden huts on the rocky slopes of the castle crag, choosing the windy heights for greater security. You enter the castle via the Esplanade which slopes steeply towards the main gate. There is much to see within the castle including the 15th century Old Royal Palace in which are housed the Scottish Crown Jewels. This will be followed by a panoramic sightseeing of the Old Town, including areas of Royal Mine and Canongate. Enjoy free time for shopping before returning to the hotel.

Duration of the tour (7 hours 40 minutes)

CONDITIONS & REMARKS
Restrooms: Available at Royal Yacht Britannia, lunch venue and Edinburgh Castle

Walking information: Not suitable for wheelchair users or those who struggle to walk distances. Inclined walk to Edinburgh Castle with cobbledstones, steps and some areas that are difficult to negotiate.

Day 4: SCSI PALACE, THE CROWNING PLACE OF SCOTTISH KINGS
Breakfast at the hotel.
Overnight: Edinburgh
- Visit to Scone Palace

Scone is a place that breathes history like nowhere else in Scotland. It is at the center of Scotland both geographically and historically. Scone is indeed the place where you mingle with the many legends of Scotland's past. Here, Macbeth, King of Scots, bled to death on the floor of Scone. Of the many King-making inaugurations and coronations here, King Robert the Bruce’s was the most dramatic. Having slain his rival he rode to Scone to be crowned by the Bishop of St. Andrews. In 1651 the last coronation took place at Scone Palace when King Charles II was crowned.

We travel across the rolling landscape to reach the Palace, poised above the River Tay which is perhaps the greatest Salmon River in the world. Here the palace overlooks the roués north to the Highlands and east through Strathmore to the coast. The Grampian Mountains form a distant backdrop, and across the river stands the city of Perth.

As we begin our tour of Scone Palace we are aware of the intrigues that history has bestowed on Scone. The Stone of Scone was kept at Scone for nearly 500 years before it was seized by King Edward in 1296 and taken to Westminster Abbey. The Stone was used at the Coronation of Queen Elizabeth II but has now been returned to the people of Scotland and forms part of the royal regalia at Edinburgh Castle. As we go from room to room, notice the unique collection of large European ivories. In the Drawing Room we shall see the walls are clad in early 19th century silk and hung with a large pair of royal portraits of King George III and Queen Charlotte. The spacious library, with views over parkland pastures to the River Tay, now holds a fabulous collection of 18th and 19th century porcelain. Not to be missed in the Royal Gallery where you follow in the footsteps of many kings who have walked its 142 length of Scottish oak. Before leaving we can explore part of the palace grounds and delightful formal gardens where the lawns are home to free-roaming peacocks.
Duration of the tour (3.5 hours)

CONDITIONS & REMARKS
Restrooms: Available at Scone Palace
Walking information: Some areas of Scone Palace are not accessible by wheelchair. Guest discretion advised.

Day 5: EDINBURGH
Breakfast at the hotel.
Overnight: Edinburgh

Enjoy the day at leisure.

Day 6: Departure
Breakfast at the Hotel.
Check-out of the hotel. Transfers to the airport not included.