

In and around Edinburgh

Discover great local attractions





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Ideal for groups and FITs on short breaks and touring holidays Surprise and inspire your clients by taking them on a journey of discovery in and around Scotland's capital city. Also see Day trips from Edinburgh. As one of the UK's largest conservation charities, we manage many of Scotland's favourite heritage attractions, including world-famous gardens, historic battle sites, castles, palaces and stately homes. Many are 4- and 5-star visitor attractions with multi-lingual interpretation, tax-free shopping and group-friendly cafés.







THE BATTLE OF BANNOCKBURN

Stirling FK7 0LJ

34 miles/55 km from Edinburgh city centre

Prepare for battle!

700 years after King Robert the Bruce's famous victory in 1314, experience medieval warfare like never before and discover how the tactics and decisions of two kings inspired events which defined the Scottish nation.

A major new attraction for group and FIT programmes from 2014, The Battle of Bannockburn is within easy reach of both Edinburgh and Glasgow, perfect for day trips and as an exciting start or finish to tours of Scotland.





GLADSTONE'S LAND

477B Lawnmarket, Edinburgh EH1 2NT Close to Edinburgh Castle

Gardyloo!

Experience what life was like 400 years ago in this narrow, six-storey tenement, close to Edinburgh Castle in the heart of the capital's Old Town. Discover the indignities of living in cramped conditions, the embarrassing consequences of sitting too close to the fire and the gruesome punishment for cheating your customers! Highlights include the Green Room and the Painted Chamber. Pause for a moment and enjoy the views of the busy Royal Mile below. Imagine what it would have been like to have lived here and have witnessed, from these very same windows, either Charles I en route to his coronation at Holyroodhouse in 1633 or the arrival of Bonnie Prince Charlie in 1745.





THE GEORGIAN HOUSE

7 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh EH2 4DR West end of Princes Street

From Old to New Town

Part of the UNESCO World Heritage Site, this Robert Adam masterpiece, in the city's elegant New Town, is adjacent to Bute House, the official residence of the First Minister of Scotland. Step back in time and experience fashionable late 18th-and early 19th-century high society living. Discover grand rooms like no others in central Edinburgh, rich in paintings, silverware, china and furniture; then compare this 'upstairs', well-to-do lifestyle with the 'below stairs' life of the domestic staff. Look out for the large collection of Tassie medallions, including a portrait of Napoleon, and the plaque commemorating the 1913 visit of Abdu'l-Bahá.





MALLENY GARDEN

Balerno, Edinburgh EH14 7AF 8 miles/ 13 km from Edinburgh city centre

Seclusion in the city!

Relax and reconnect with nature in this intimate garden dominated by 400-year-old clipped yew trees and renowned for its flamboyant plantings of old-fashioned roses. There are 150 rose varieties, including a National Collection of 19th-century shrub roses. Throughout summer and autumn, the wide mixed borders are a kaleidoscope of scented herbaceous perennials including lavender, philadelphus and clematis; while the Victorian greenhouse offers spectacular displays of scented-leaf pelargoniums, fuchsias and heliotropes.





NEWHAILES

Newhailes Road, Musselburgh EH21 6RY 6 miles/10 km from Edinburgh city centre

A treasure chest of wonders!

An amazing survival story, this neo-Palladian villa, rescued using pioneering conservation methods, boasts some of the finest rococo interiors in Scotland. Discover exquisite Chinese hand-painted wallpaper, gilded golden eagles, Italian marble fireplaces and a library once described as 'the most learned drawing room in Europe'. Home to Sir David Dalrymple, Newhailes was an intellectual hub of the Scottish Enlightenment and played host to glittering society balls. Exit via the dark and eerie servants' tunnel and emerge into an 18th-century designed landscape with a shell grotto, water garden and a number of waymarked trails.

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INVERESK LODGE GARDEN

Musselburgh EH21 7TE

7 miles/12 km from Edinburgh city centre

Sweet-smelling winter paradise

Tucked away behind stone boundary walls, this secluded hillside garden is a delight for the senses all year round. Featuring many rare and unusual plants, including a National Collection of Tropaeolum. The garden is especially impressive throughout autumn and winter, starting with the reds, oranges, yellows and purples of Cercidiphyllum japonicum and its rich smell of toffee and strawberry jam.

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PRESTON MILL & PHANTASSIE DOOCOT

East Linton EH40 3DS

24 miles/39 km from Edinburgh city centre

East Lothian's last working water mill

This architectural oddity, with its remarkable conical-roofed kiln, red pantiled buildings and idyllic rural setting, has a Middle-earth feel, where you'd almost expect to bump into Bilbo Baggins. See the water-wheel and grain milling machinery in action, whirring and clanking as they would have back in the 17th century. Listen to accounts of how the miller spent his days fending off floods and mice. A short walk reveals another curious structure – the beehive-shaped Phantassie Doocot, built in the 16th century to house 500 pigeons.

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HOUSE OF THE BINNS

Linlithgow EH49 7NA

15 miles/24 km from Edinburgh city centre

'Bloody Tam' and the Devil

A living monument to one of Scotland's oldest families, this 17th-century laird's house has been home to the Dalyell family for 400 years. Listen to tales of 'Bloody Tam' who, according to Sir Walter Scott, roasted his enemies in the Bake House oven and introduced the thumbscrew to Scotland. Learn of his great escape from the Tower of London to Russia and of his granddaughter Magdalene, who became the great-great-great-great grandmother of US president Harry Truman. Hear of Captain James Dalyell who was scalped by native Americans while fighting in North America for king and country; of Sir John Graham Dalyell, scholar and scientist who taught Darwin; and of today's Tam Dalyell, former Father of the House of Commons. Stroll in the surrounding parkland to enjoy panoramic views over the Firth of Forth and spot the 'ship that never sailed', and perhaps a colourful peacock or two!

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All distances are approximate

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