

SCOTLAND DRIVING TOUR

8 Days / 7 Nights

(Note: Itinerary can be planned in either order)

Here you will find the best of Scotland with Avanti's easy self-guided driving tour. You'll explore the highlights of historic cities, including Edinburgh, Glasgow, Aberdeen and Inverness; medieval castles such as Stirling, Brodie and Craiginvar; visit the historic battlefields of Culloden Moor and Bannockburn; and follow the Spey Valley Whisky Trail before traversing the picturesque Scottish. You'll also explore some of Scotland's most enticing scenery on the shores of Loch Ness and Loch Lomond.



Edinburgh Castle

Your 7-night Scotland Driving Tour includes

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 nights hotel in Edinburgh• Hop-on/Hop-off city bus tour of Edinburgh• 2 nights West Highlands hotel in your choice of towns:<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Inverness, ✓ Strathpeffer (NW of Inverness) ✓ Ballachulish ✓ Isle of Mull ✓ Oban• 6 days of economy car rental• Michelin Scotland road map• Daily breakfast | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 nights in Glasgow• 2 nights Aberdeen hotel• Great British Heritage Pass• DK Publishing Top 10 Scotland book• Hotel taxes and service charges |
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~ Additional pre and post nights available upon request ~

Day 1 ~ Edinburgh: Arrive in Scotland's historic capital city with free time to explore the full length of the King's Mile. Optional transfers from the airport to your hotel are available. (Accommodation, Edinburgh)

- Great British Heritage Pass - The Great British Heritage Pass offers free entry to more than 580 of Great Britain's most popular heritage sights, including properties under the care of National Trust, English Heritage, National Trust for Scotland, Historic Scotland, and Cadw (pronounced: *Ca-doo*) in Wales. (You receive a voucher to exchange at Edinburgh Visitor Center for the pass and guidebook.)



Day 2 ~ Edinburgh: Take the City Sightseeing bus tour for a recorded tour of the city highlights, including Edinburgh Castle, Holyrood Palace, the Royal Mile and Princes Street which is lined with world renowned quality shops. Your afternoon is free for shopping or strolling around this elegant capital city; or use your Great British Heritage Pass for free admission to Edinburgh Castle. (Breakfast & accommodation Edinburgh)



- Edinburgh City Sightseeing Hop-on, Hop-off tour ~ Meet your open-top, double-decker bus at Waverley Bridge, Edinburgh Castle, Grassmarket, St Giles Cathedral, or Burns Monument. Tour departs daily every 15-20 min from 9:00 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. April - September (Winter months: every 20-30 min from 9:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Redeem your voucher at a kiosk or on the tour bus.)

NOTE: If you have never driven in the British Isles, we strongly recommend that you rent a car with an automatic transmission for reasons of ease of operation and safety.



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Day 3 ~ Edinburgh to Aberdeen: Check out of your Edinburgh hotel and pick up your rental car before traveling west (*See drive time and distance chart below*) past the striking ruins of Linlithgow Palace, birthplace of Mary Queen of Scots then continue to Bannockburn Battlefield, the site of battles between the English and the Scots led by “*Braveheart*” William Wallace and Robert the Bruce. You may elect to spend some time in the beautiful medieval city of Stirling and visit its castle which dominates the surrounding countryside. Continue through the spectacular mountain scenery of the Grampians to Braemar, site of Braemar Castle and Queen Elizabeth’s summer residence of Balmoral. (*Breakfast, Edinburgh; accommodation, Aberdeen*)



Day 4 ~ Aberdeen: (*See drive time and distance chart below*) Follow the Spey Valley Whisky Trail (*distillery pictured left*) through valleys and mountains; take in a distillery visit and taste a “wee dram” of Scotland’s finest export. Spend some time visiting one of more of the many castles in the area—Crathes, Frazer or Craiginvar. (*Breakfast, accommodation, Aberdeen*)

Day 5 ~ Aberdeen to West Highlands: (*See drive time and distance chart below*)

Nor sure what to include here – used existing description for this section. Need suggestions. Thanks

(*Breakfast, Aberdeen; Accommodation, West Highlands*)

Day 6 ~ West Highlands: This is your longest day of driving (*see drive time and distance chart below*) through spectacular Highland scenery on your way to the west coast. (*Breakfast, accommodations, West Highlands*)



*Eilean Donan Castle
Dornie, Scotland, near the Isle of Skye*

Day 7 ~ West Highlands to Glasgow: (*See drive time and distance chart below*)

Start the day traveling along the banks of Loch Ness—home of the famous monster as far as the spectacular lakeside ruins of (*picture right*) then proceed to Fort William, situated in the shadow of Ben Nevis, Britain’s highest mountain. Your drive continues through Glencoe, site of a famous 1691 massacre then alongside the “bonnie banks of Loch Lomond” and finally to Glasgow, the 1999 European City of Architecture. (*Breakfast, West Highlands; accommodations, Glasgow*)



*Urquhart Castle
on the shores of Loch Ness*

Day 8 ~ Glasgow: Visit the Glasgow Cathedral before turning in your rental car at either the Glasgow or Edinburgh airport or a downtown location. Optional

Transfers from your hotel to the airport are available. (*Breakfast, Glasgow*)

Scotland Driving Tour Average Driving Times and Distances

From – To	Time	Miles	From – To	Time	Miles	From – To	Time	Miles
Edinburgh - Aberdeen	3:00	126	Aberdeen - Inverness	3:00	105	Inverness - Glasgow	3:55	171
			Aberdeen - Strathpeffer	3:30	122	Strathpeffer - Glasgow	4:15	188
			Aberdeen - Ballachulish	4:35	177	Ballachulish - Glasgow	2:30	92
			Aberdeen - Isle of Mull	6:15	199	Isle of Mull - Glasgow	4:10	115
			Aberdeen - Oban	4:50	182	Oban - Glasgow	2:45	97

For information and reservations, please see your professional travel agent.

Agency label or business card here

