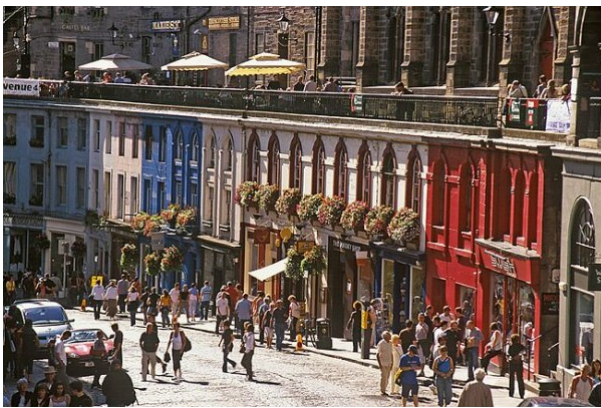




Luxury Tours - Edinburgh and Scotland

- **Edinburgh**

Edinburgh has medieval and Georgian areas and is regarded as one of the most beautiful European capitals. **The Old Town** with medieval alleys in the Grassmarket and Royal Mile. The New Town, built after 1767, with Britain's best collection of Georgian architecture (1720 – 1820). **Princes Street** for shopping, museums and galleries and **The Royal Mile**, a medieval street linking **Edinburgh Castle** and the **Palace of Holyroodhouse** (Queen's official Scottish residence). With 66 alleys off The Royal Mile there is a sense of the medieval history; it includes a Whisky Centre, a museum of the lives of Burns, Scott, Stevenson; John Knox's house (1490); Museum of Childhood.



Victoria Street, Edinburgh



Gallery of Modern Art

- **Edinburgh Festival**

In the late summer for three weeks every year this is the world's largest art festival with 450,000 visitors. The best in international theatre, music, stand-up comedy, jazz, film, television, dance and opera. The **Edinburgh Tattoo** with pipe bands and Scottish infantry battalions; the **Edinburgh Book Festival** has 500 authors discussing their ideas. The **Festival Fringe** provides a window on innovative theatre providing 28,000 performances of 1800 shows in 260 venues.



Edinburgh Military Tattoo



Edinburgh Castle Fireworks



Stone of Destinu



Edinburgh Castle

- **Edinburgh Castle**

A mix of buildings from 1100s to 1900s, from fortress, military garrison, royal palace to a prison. After 1707 Union of Parliaments, Scottish regalia were hidden behind a wall for 100 years.

The **Stone of Destiny** which is a relic from the ancient Scottish kings is in the castle. The English previously seized it and was returned in 1996. The Great Hall built in the 1400s was where the Scottish Parliament met until 1639. Mary Queen of Scots (1542 – 87) lived in the Palace built in the 1400s.

- **Culzean Castle**

Originally a keep dating from the 1500s it stands on a cliff's edge overlooking the Firth of Clyde in a large park. Rebuilt in the late 1700s by Robert Adam. This is a great country estate with ornamental gardens and farming. General Eisenhower was given the top floor in honour of his role in the Second World War. The Armoury holds the world's best collection of flintlock pistols (British Army 1730 - 1830). A beautiful oval staircase.

- **Killiecrankie Walk**

A ten mile walk (16 kms), fairly flat, alongside the River Garry and surrounded by mountains, past the Soldier's Leap: an English Redcoat in 1689 leapt the river to avoid capture by the Jacobites in the Battle of Killiecrankie. Beautiful forest trail, the Falls of Tummel, footbridge built in honour of George IV (1860).

- **Western Isles**

A remote chain of islands, inhabited for 6000 years, almost treeless, mountains of Harris with weaving of Harris Tweed, peat bogs, thin turf. Gaelic is widely spoken. Long white sandy beaches. Flights from the mainland.



Outer Hebrides