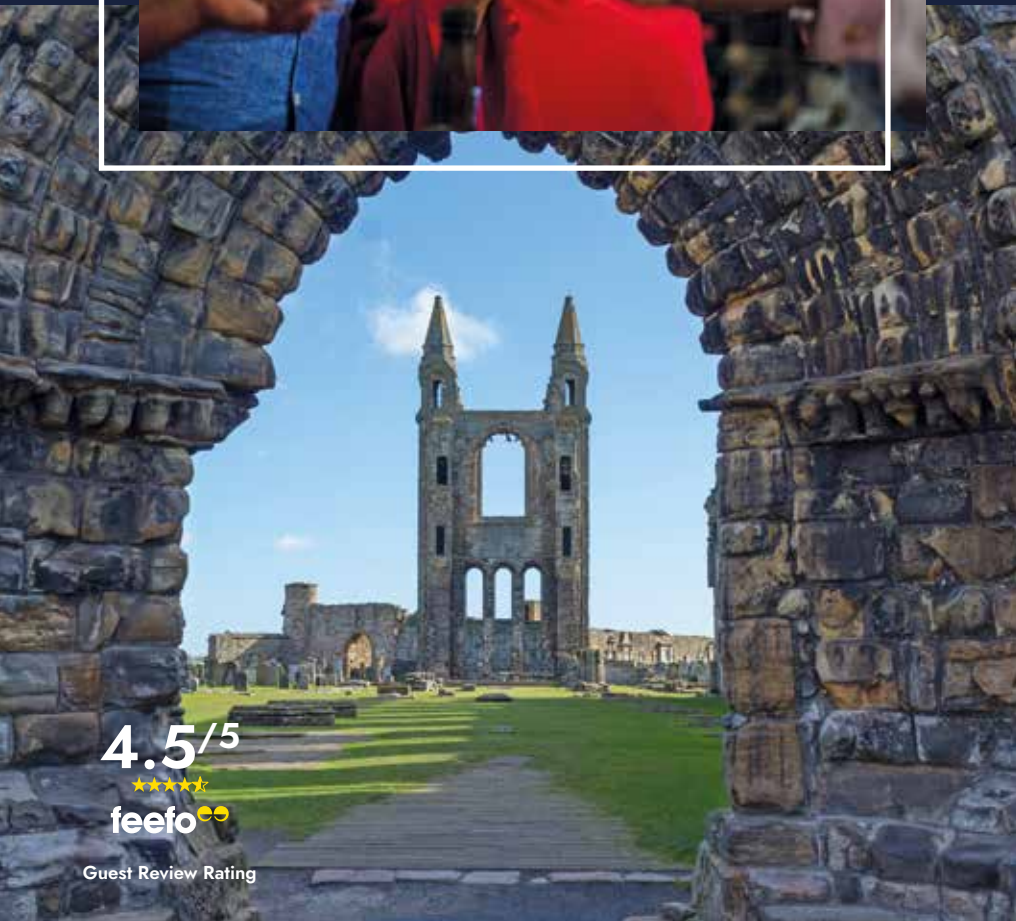


# Country Roads of Scotland

Follow your curiosity sailing to the Isle of Skye, the Orkney Islands and strolling St. Andrews' cobbled streets.

9 DAYS | 1 COUNTRY | 14 MEALS | BALANCED



4.5/5



feefo

Guest Review Rating



Trip code: B905

## DEPARTURE MONTHS

April - September

For dates, prices and to choose your group size call your Travel Advisor or see [insightvacations.com/crscotland](https://www.insightvacations.com/crscotland)

### DAY 1 | WELCOME TO EDINBURGH

Join your Travel Director for dinner at a local restaurant. On select departures, during your time in Edinburgh you will also attend The Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo — a colourful mix of pipes and drums, dance and display, set against the floodlit backdrop of Edinburgh Castle. (D)

**Hotel:** Malmaison, Edinburgh

**TRANSFERS:** Depart the airport at 09:00, 11:00 and 13:00.

**WELCOME:** Meet your Travel Director at 16:30.

### DAY 2 | EDINBURGH, THE CAPITAL OF CULTURE

Join a Local Expert to see the highlights of the city. In the Old Town, see the Palace of Holyroodhouse, the official Scottish residence of the King. Drive along Princes Street to the ornate Scott Memorial, then see the 18<sup>th</sup> century New Town with its neoclassical Georgian facades. Venture up the Royal Mile to visit Edinburgh Castle, home of Mons Meg and Scotland's Crown Jewels. The rest of the day is at leisure; why not visit the art treasures in the National Gallery? (B)

### DAY 3 | TO ST. ANDREWS AND THE HIGHLAND CAPITAL OF INVERNESS

Cross the Firth of Forth into Fife and journey to St. Andrews, passing the Old Course, home of golf since its creation in the 15<sup>th</sup> century. Enjoy free time to explore. Perhaps stroll to West Sands Beach where the famous 'Chariots of Fire' scene was filmed? Alternatively, wander to St. Andrews University where the love story of Kate Middleton meeting her Prince Charming began. Continue via Blair Atholl and pass the Grampian Mountains on the way to the sparkling Spey Valley. Stop at Atholl Palace and Gardens for a delicious cream tea. Originally opened in Victorian times, the hotel retains many traditional features. (B) (D)

**Hotel:** Kingsmills, Inverness

### DAY 4 | CULLODEN, LOCH NESS AND ONTO THURSO

Keep your eyes peeled for the Loch Ness monster this morning during a scenic drive along the legendary lake. See Culloden Battlefield in the morning, where Bonnie Prince Charlie's Jacobite army was crushed in 1746. Visit the Culloden Visitor Centre. Next, with Insight Choice discover the fishing port of Wick. Choose to visit the Old Pulteney Distillery to taste a wee dram of its award-winning whiskies. Alternatively, join a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER<sup>®</sup> Experience with a visit to the highly rated Wick Heritage Museum and hear about the past of this once thriving fishing community. (B) (D)

**Hotel:** The Pentland, Thurso

**INCLUDED MEALS:** Breakfast (B) Lunch (L) Dinner (D)

**RELAXED STARTS:** (RS)

**HOTELS:** On occasion, hotels of a similar standard and location may be used.

**DAY 5 | A DAY IN THE ORKNEY ISLANDS**

Start the day by boarding the ferry to the beautiful Orkney Islands where the countryside is breathtakingly majestic and the tranquillity supports a quieter pace of life. Here the hardy locals say they live 'below the wind and above the water.' Your Travel Director accompanies you as you visit the 5000-year-old village of Skara Brae, the old Norse Town of Kirkwall, the mysterious Ring of Brodgar, Kirkwall and the small chapel built by Italian prisoners during World War II. **(B) (D)**

**DAY 6 | OVER THE SEA TO SKYE**

Travel through stunning landscapes along the northern coast with its white sandy beaches, and further inland to misty valleys and glens, lochs and rushing waters. Then it's 'Over the Sea to Skye,' the largest and most beautiful island of the Inner Hebrides. On the way to Broadford, hear romantic tales of how young Flora MacDonald helped rescue Bonnie Prince Charlie and see the dramatic Cuillin Hills. **(B) (D)**

**Hotel: The Dunollie, Broadford**

**DAY 7 | THROUGH THE SCOTTISH HIGHLANDS TO GLENCOE**

Take in this wild and beautiful landscape before crossing to the Kyle of Lochalsh. Stop for a photo at remote Eilean Donan Castle, which under a clear sky offers a perfect reflection in its loch. Move on to the WWII Commando Memorial where there is a fine view of Ben Nevis, Britain's highest mountain. Enjoy

spectacular scenery en route to the Valley of Glencoe. Join a ranger for a MAKE TRAVEL MATTER® Experience, learn about the protection of this rare ecosystem and the important work reintroducing lost indigenous species to its flora and fauna. In the evening, enjoy market-fresh Scottish ingredients and wine, as you get together with your newfound friends for a sumptuous dinner. Don't be surprised if, by the end of the evening, you're 'Toasting to the Lassies' or singing 'Auld Lang Syne'. **(B) (D) (RS)**

**Hotel: Ballachulish, Glencoe**

**DAY 8 | ALONG THE BONNIE BANKS OF LOCH LOMOND TO GLASGOW**

Spend time around peaceful Loch Lomond or the 'Queen of Scottish Lochs', according to Sir Walter Scott. Perhaps experience the beauty and tranquillity of the loch with an optional cruise before continuing to Glasgow? An orientation drive through the city will show you the grand public buildings, including George Square and St. Mungo's Cathedral. Then the rest of the afternoon is at your leisure. **(B) (RS)**

**Hotel: Radisson Blu, Glasgow**

**DAY 9 | DEPART GLASGOW**

Today, bid farewell to your journey along the country roads of Scotland as you transfer to the airport. **(B)**

**TRANSFERS:** Arrive at the airport at 06:30 and 09:00.

**HIGHLIGHT INCLUSIONS***Premium Experiences*

**Edinburgh** | Visit Edinburgh Castle to view the Scottish Crown Jewels, Mons Meg and other artefacts with your Local Expert.

**St. Andrews** | Visit the university town and see the golf course where the sport was created.

**Loch Ness** | Drive along the shores in search of the legendary monster.

**Inverness** | At the Culloden Visitor Centre, discover why the Battle of Culloden changed the Highland way of life forever.

**Isle of Skye** | See the dramatic Cuillin Hills and stay in pretty Broadford.

**Wick** | *Insight Choice* Appreciate the distinctive flavours of a selection of whiskies as you share a wee dram with a master distiller, or Visit the highly rated Wick Heritage Museum to gain a full picture of this once thriving fishing community. Your visit directly supports United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 11: Sustainable Cities & Communities.

**Glencoe** | Join a ranger in the spectacular Valley of Glencoe, to learn about the protection of this rare ecosystem. Your visit directly supports United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 15: Life on Land.

**MAKE TRAVEL MATTER®**  
EXPERIENCE

*Premium Dining*

**Edinburgh** | Enjoy a relaxing dinner at a local restaurant and get to know your fellow travellers.

**Glencoe** | Your adventure culminates with a wonderful evening enjoying the best Highland hospitality and market-fresh ingredients.

For all inclusions see tour page online.

**KEY**

- Cruise
 Join/Leave Options
 UNESCO Heritage Site
 Hotels and Nights
 Place Visited