

The background image shows a dramatic coastline during sunset or sunrise. On the right, a white lighthouse stands on a grassy cliff overlooking the ocean. The water is a deep blue with white-capped waves crashing against the rocks. In the foreground, large, textured rocks are visible. The sky is filled with warm, orange, and yellow clouds.

beCuriou presents:

Scotland
Castles, Estates and Outdoor
pursuits

LET YOUR IMAGINATION SOAR

Scotland: One of the best things about Scotland is its diversity. The rolling countryside, bustling cities, icy mountain peaks and charming villages all combine to provide an excellent holiday destination, whether you're looking for an action-packed break, a cultural adventure or a relaxing retreat.

There are some magnificent glens, castles and estates to explore in Scotland, and for those with a taste for Whisky, an additional 2 nights can be added to include a visit to the Isle of Islay, Skye or Jura.

Travel from London: For this itinerary, we recommend flying into Edinburgh Airport and collecting a rental car from the airport. The drive from London is approx. 7.5 hours.





4 nights / 5 days

Adventure

DAY	PROGRAMME
Day 1	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Arrive at Edinburgh Airport and collect rental car • Drive to Balmoral Hotel • Afternoon at leisure • Whisky experience at SCOTCH • Overnight in Edinburgh
Day 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full-day speedboat adventure • Overnight in Edinburgh
Day 3	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Drive to Gleneagles • Afternoon at leisure, choice of activities and pursuits • Overnight in Gleneagles
Day 4	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Half-day 4x4 Safari adventure • Afternoon at leisure, choice of activities and pursuits • Overnight in Gleneagles
Day 5	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Explore nearby Castles • Return car rental at Edinburgh Airport • Depart from Edinburgh Airport • Arrive in London



DAY BY DAY

Day 1

Arrive on a morning flight into Edinburgh Airport and collect your car rental from the airport.

Drive to Balmoral Rocco Forte Hotel (approx. 25 minutes drive) and leave your bags for check-in later.

The Balmoral is where Old Town meets New, and where a welcome comes in bespoke Balmoral tartan; Hebridean blues, heather hues and classic Scottish art; whisky ambassadors with 500 malts – The Balmoral is a love letter to Scotland.

Day at leisure in the city:

Head-off to explore the city of Edinburgh, meander through the old town, walk along the royal mile, or take a trip to Edinburgh Castle. There is plenty to explore nearby on foot.

Enjoy a late lunch at The Little Chartroom, tucked away down the tiny Leith Walk.

After lunch, walk back to the hotel (approx. 20 minutes) and recline in the hotel's famous SCOTCH bar and begin your whisky experience before dinner.

Whisky Experience:

Choose from over 500 single malts and blends courtesy of SCOTCH, The Balmoral's destination whisky bar. The kilted Whisky Ambassadors will take you through one of Edinburgh's largest collections of whisky. Travel on a tailored journey to distilleries in the Highlands and Lowlands from the comfort of a tweed armchair.

Dinner at Number One, the hotel's Michelin Star restaurant where Head Chef Mark Donald and his team have developed a menu fusing modern Scottish cuisine with international flair.



Day 2

Speedboat Adventure:

Discover the wild side of Scotland on a day of adventure, with a speedboat ride on Loch Lomond. Situated in west central Scotland and home to stunning landscapes, Loch Lomond is the largest loch in the country and is the gateway to the Highlands. Take in the scenery from land and loch on this full day of adventure.

Take to the water and discover Loch Lomond's picturesque islands. An experienced skipper can tailor the experience for you to include a stroll on the nature reserve island of Inchcailloch, a visit to the conservation village of Luss, or the unique pub on the island of Inchmurrin, which is only accessible by boat.

Duration: Full-day

This activity is available through April-October only. Outside of these dates, we recommend a 4x4 Off-Road Experience as an excellent alternative.

Each speedboat has a capacity for 8 guests and may be shared.

On return to Balmoral, spend time in the Hotel Spa or explore the local area further. The hotel is perfectly situated to ramble along, and you will find many dining choices nearby.



Day 3

Edinburgh – Gleneagles:

A stay in Edinburgh wouldn't be complete without a trip up to Arthur's Seat! So this morning after breakfast, depending on your desired activity level: either take the car (approx. 10 minutes drive) or head up on foot (approx. 50 minutes each way) and marvel at your last view over Edinburgh.

Head off to Gleneagles, an iconic country estate set beneath the beautiful Ochil Hills, and offers the perfect retreat for those looking for relaxation, fun and adventure. The drive is approx. 1 hour 10 minutes.

On arrival, take in the beauty of the 850-acres and leave your bags with reception and have a spot of lunch in the Birnham brasserie before jumping in to one of the many activities and pursuits on offer.

At Gleneagles, all activities take place within the estate. Enjoy the magnificent golf-course, Archery, Fishing, Cycling or Shooting in an afternoon session.

After a stirring afternoon, head to The Blue Bar, the hotel's alfresco Whisky Bar for a wee dram before dinner.

Enjoy dinner at the 2 Michelin star Andrew Fairlie restaurant.



Day 4

Off-Road Safari:

Gleneagles offer some of the best off-road driving experiences in the UK. Choose to even take a lesson in driving off-road yourself, or enjoy the thrill from the back-seat as your guide expertly navigates you through the terrain.

Access stunning highland scenery on private estate roads and tracks, the safari will take you on a half day excursion to a remote, beautiful and exclusive hill farm, accessible only by private invitation from the landowner. Leaving public roads behind, the Land Rovers climb high into the hills to enable you to discover the wild beauty of the heather uplands and the magnificent vistas which are the quintessence of Scotland.

You will see Munros, lochs and lochans and historic landmarks, together with local wildlife. You will certainly see the native black-faced sheep, buzzards, rabbits and some of the varied songbirds, you may see grouse, black grouse, peregrine falcons, merlins, blue hares and red deer. If you are particularly fortunate you may even see a golden eagle, soaring majestically overhead. Hear about the local lore and sporting practices, such as heather burning and the origins of tartan.

At a high point en-route, stop and take in the view with a glass of champagne and, with a gourmet picnic, before you descend in the Land Rovers to the picturesque valleys, returning to the hotel by a different route. Binoculars will be supplied and cameras are definitely recommended.

Duration: Half-day

Choice of afternoon activities and pursuits such as falconry or gun-dog training.

Evening at leisure to explore the numerous restaurants and bars Gleneagles offers.



Day 5

To the Castles we go:

Picture Scotland and you will often think of ancient castles against a backdrop of dramatic hills and glens. Well, that's pretty accurate! And from Gleneagles there are a number of fascinating castles within a short drive. Head off early this morning to take in the 3 castles before returning home.

Huntingtower Castle:

Just up the road from Gleneagles on the outskirts of Perth, Huntingtower Castle was originally the House of Ruthven and was built in the 15th Century. King James VI was imprisoned here in 1582 when he was fifteen. In revenge he killed the Ruthvens in 1600 and their lands were forfeited. Today the grounds and the castle are beautifully cared for and it is a popular venue for weddings – after all Mary Queen of Scots honeymooned here!



Scone Palace:

Carry on your journey heading north east to Scone and the impressive Scone Palace. 1500 years ago Scone was the capital of the ancient Pictish kingdom and from the middle ages the Kings of Scotland were crowned there on the Stone of Destiny. The palace there now was built in the early 1800's and is set in lovely grounds and gardens which include a pinetum (a pine copse featuring varieties from all over the world) and a maze. Here you will find many restaurants and pubs to stop for lunch.

Stirling Castle:

Heading South now, you will make for one of Scotland's most popular visitor attractions, Stirling Castle. Stirling Castle is also of the largest in Scotland, and of great importance historically. Built in the 14th and 15th centuries, its stunning location on the promontory of a rocky crag afforded the castle a strong defensive position with panoramic views. Recently a £12 million refurbishment returned 6 of the royal apartments to how they may have looked in the mid-16th century, a real step back in time experience!

The airport is approx. 40 minutes drive from Stirling Castle.

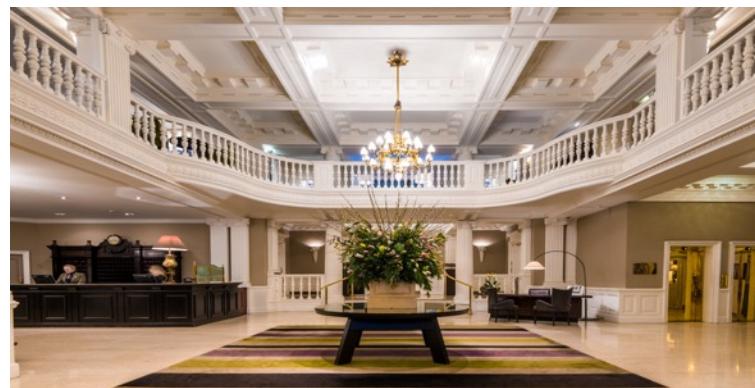


HOTELS

Balmoral

Edinburgh

You will find The Balmoral at Edinburgh's most prestigious address, No. 1 Princes Street, where the Old Town stops and the New Town begins. The hotel's majestic clock defines the city's skyline and since the day it opened in 1902 it has run three minutes fast to ensure you will never miss your appointment. Experience Number One the Michelin-starred restaurant, indulge in afternoon tea at Palm Court or drinks in the signature whisky bar, SCOTCH. A comprehensive range of treatments will help you unwind in the award-winning Balmoral Spa. The 20 opulent suites and 167 stylish rooms have magnificent views of the city or the hotel's internal courtyard.



Gleneagles

Gleneagles, Auchterarder

When Gleneagles first opened its doors in 1924, this magnificent countryside estate in the heart of Scotland was described as a "riviera in the Highlands". Today, as a member of the Leading Hotels of the World, Gleneagles continues to offer an unrivalled array of attractions, including luxury hotel accommodation, a range of bespoke suites, three championship golf courses, an award-winning spa, and Restaurant Andrew Fairlie, the only restaurant in Scotland to hold two Michelin stars.