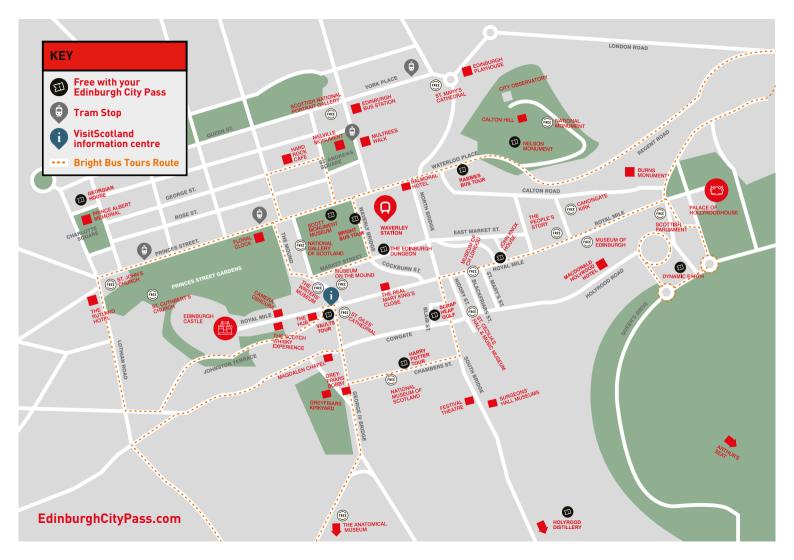


Local Tips, Offers and Maps

EdinburghCityPass.com

THIS IS EDINBURGH





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## **TOP TIPS**

# FOR VISITING EDINBURGH

- We've included a map in the guide but ask locals for directions - we're a friendly bunch.
- → English money will do just fine
- Explore the side streets of the Old Town – lots of secrets of the past will be revealed
- Enjoy 'green' Edinburgh

   scenic walks, gardens,
   streets and 'old villages'
- Make the most of the free entry to many Galleries and Museums
- Scottish stores and supermarkets can only sell alcohol between 10am and 10pm (after 12pm on a Sunday). You can still buy alcohol after 10pm in places that are licensed for you to consume on their premises

- Beside Greyfriars Bobby you'll see Greyfriars Kirkyard. If you fancy a challenge go in search of Tom Riddle's grave
- We have some of the most amazing sunsets – head up Calton Hill with your camera and a flask
- Don't miss out on the Stockbridge Market every Sunday from 10am-4pm
- Buy a day saver pass for use on buses to get around town
- Luggage storage is available at the bus station and Waverley train station (cheaper at the bus station)
- Listen for the one o'clock gun fired Monday to Saturday from Edinburgh Castle

## **DISCOVER**

# MORE OF EDINBURGH

到后副的

We've handpicked some amazing Edinburgh experiences you might otherwise miss. Discover fascinating local sights with a difference and get the ultimate inside info from local tour guides - it's Edinburgh, but not as you know it.

#### **HOW TO USE YOUR EDINBURGH CITY PASS**

- Your Edinburgh City Pass is activated as soon as you visit your first attraction
- It will then be active for one, two or three calendar days depending on which option you purchased
- One day comprises of a calendar day, not a 24 hour period and the pass will expire at midnight on its last day
- → Each pass has a unique QR code which is scanned at each attraction
- → You can use your pass to enter each attraction only once
- → Make sure to check opening times and our top tips for visiting each attraction
- If your pass is lost or stolen let us know right away. We can cancel and reissue a pass by email if it has not been activated.
- → Child passes apply to children aged 5-16 years. Entry to each experience is generally free for children under 5 years of age (4 years at Edinburgh Zoo & Dynamic Earth)

#### **EXCLUSIVE OFFERS**

There are also some exclusive local offers on our website and at the back of this guide.

### **EDINBURGH TRAMS**



The easiest way to get to the city!

Glide from Edinburgh Airport to the city centre on board Edinburgh Trams with an Adult Airport Open Return Ticket.

The journey takes just 35 minutes and tickets are open ended with the return leg being used on any day. Friendly tram

staff are available on all trams to help with your journey and there is a dedicated team at the airport tram stop to help guide you on your way.

All trams are fully low floor and have dedicated spaces for wheelchairs. There are luggage racks located throughout the tram for large bags and suitcases.



# **GETTING TO THE CITY CENTRE....**

Edinburgh Trams has 15 stops that connect Edinburgh Airport with the New Town.

Trams run regularly throughout the day and into the evening, 7 days a week. Trams run every 7 minutes during the day and every ten minutes before 7am and after 7pm. The last tram departs from Edinburgh Airport at 10.48pm and the last tram to the airport runs from York Place at 23.30pm.

Your City Pass is activated when you first use it on the tram – you will need to select your date of travel in advance using the link in your email confirmation or by visiting edinburghcitypass.com/ trams. This will create a ticket to show on your first journey – you will then be given a printed return ticket which you can you use to return to the airport. Airport return tickets are open ended with the return leg being used on any services on any day. Airport return tickets are valid on Airlink and the night bus N22 outside of tram operating hours

### **TIMES**

Trams run every 7 minutes during the day and every ten minutes before 7.00am and after 7.00pm

#### WHERE

Tram stops are marked on the city map in this guide

### **OPEN**

Edinburgh Trams run 7 days a week

### **TOP TIP**

Plan your journey at edinburghtrams.com or download the Transport for Edinburgh app

#### WEE

edinburghtrams.com

Only valid on Edinburgh Trams services, printed ticket must be show for return journey. You may also be asked for photographic ID.

### **BRIGHT BUS TOURS**

Hop on Hop off City Bus

\*\*\*\*

Fantastic tour and friendly staff

Bright Bus Tours is one of the friendliest and easiest ways to explore Scotland's capital. By hopping on and off as much as you want in 24 hours (over two days), Edinburgh is yours to discover. The tours are flexible and the incredibly friendly street team and tour drivers will be sure to look after you.

### **TOUR STOPS**

Waverley Bridge Lothian Road Grassmarket Museum of Edinburgh (Free entry), Canongat

### **BEFORE YOU GET ONBOARD....**

#### **DURATION**

The full route takes approximately 1 hour and 15 minutes to complete. But you don't have to do it all in one go, you're welcome to hop and off to break up the journey and see some of the sights on foot.

#### THE BEST SEAT

Wrap up warm and head to the upper deck for some great views!

#### **GET SOCIAL**

Share your best photos of Edinburgh and the lovely Bright Bus team using the hashtag #BrightBusTours and #EdinburghCityPass.

#### **HEAR HEAR**

Headphones can be provided or bring your own to hear the tour commentary in your choice of nine languages.



Speak to the

Street Team for their top tips to get the most out of your tour

### **TIMES**

Tours run daily from 9.00am with the last tour departing at 5.00pm

### WHERE

Tours start and finish at Waverley Bridge - look out for the orange buses (you can't miss them)

www.BrightBusTours.com

Terms: Children under 5 years are welcome onboard and go free - all children under the age of 16 should be accompanied by an adult. Well behaved pets are welcome aboard.

### THE EDINBURGH DUNGEON

\*\*\*\*

It's so much fun, it's scary!

The ultimate underground journey through Edinburgh's darkest history!

Live and breathe the ultimate underground journey through Edinburgh's darkest history. Discover 1000 years of Scotland's murky past, brought to life through live actor shows, immersive theatrical sets, spectacular effects and thrilling rides. You'll come face to face with notorious rogues including murderers Burke &

Hare, to Mary Queen of Scots, Edinburgh's baddest witch Agnes Finnie and cannibal Sawney Bean! Will you survive? Recently awarded the 2019 Scottish Thistle Best Regional Attraction in Lothian & Borders

The Edinburgh Dungeon is a 70-minute, scary fun experience like nothing you've seen before!



### WHILST YOU'RE THERE....

Market Street is named after a large vegetable market once located where Waverley Station stands today.

The City Art Centre is a tall striking building across from the station and is home to the city's collection of Scottish Art and one of the UK's leading temporary exhibition spaces. Free entry apart from certain exhibitions.

The Fruit Market Gallery showcases home grown and international contemporary art exhibitions. It's free to get in and well worth a visit.

The Arches on East Market Street is a must visit for edgy independent local food, drink, shopping in renovated Victorian Archways and there's also the alternative Food & Flea Market.

#### HIINGRY?

Milk café at The Fruit Market Gallery for tasty and creative daytime menu. Need something stronger? Head to the Doric Tavern across from the Dungeon, Edinburgh's oldest gastro-pub, built in the 17th century.

### TOP TIP

Take the 104 different marble steps (Scotsman Steps) from opposite the railway station up to North Bridge Street to get to the Royal Mile. Or take the long narrow Advocates Close on Cockburn Street, across from the Dungeon, as a shortcut up to the Royal Mile past the Devil's Advocate Bar and Kitchen (including 200 different types of whisky).

### **TIMES**

Tours every 15 mins daily (each tour lasts 70 mins)

### **WHERE**

31 Market St, Edinburgh EH1 1DF

### **OPEN**

Opening times may vary, check website for more details

#### WEE

thedungeons.com/Edinburgh

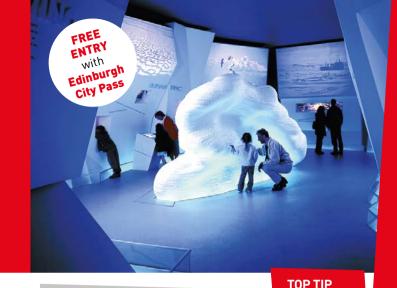
Not suitable for those with a nervous disposition or heart condition. All children under 15 must be accompanied by an adult (not suitable for those under 8). Closed on Christmas Day and Boxing Day.

### **DYNAMIC EARTH**

★★★★ What an experience! A visit to Dynamic Earth is like nothing else on Earth.

It's a chance to experience the primeval forces of nature as they shaped our planet, to journey through space and time and even go on a 4DVENTURE around the world. You'll embark on the interactive adventure of a lifetime – the lifetime of our planet. Experience films as you've never seen – or felt them – before.

The ShowDome cinema with its 360° digital dome technology shows a library of films throughout the year – check out the website to view the current schedule.



## WHILST YOU'RE THERE....

Wander around the corner to explore the Holyrood area of Edinburgh, once home to several breweries and a flint glassworks, at the east end of the Royal Mile.

Holyrood Palace is the official residence of the Queen in Scotland, the 16th century apartments offer an insight into the life of Mary Queen of Scots, as well as state entertaining of today. Watch out for Agnes Sampson – tortured for witchcraft in 1592 she's said to roam the palace. Open from 9.30am with last admission at 4.30pm. Closed when the Royal Family are in residence – normally the first week in July.

Queen's Gallery is part of the Holyrood Palace complex, you'll find wonderful treasures from the Royal Collection, exhibitions change regularly.

The Scottish Parliament offers a chance to see the artworks on display and admire the unique architecture. All visitors welcome free of charge and doors generally open 10am - 5pm.

**Arthur's Seat** this ancient volcano isn't to be missed for some free fresh air and great views - two hour circular walk.

### **TOP TIP**

If you're short on time take a taxi to Dunsapie Loch and walk the last 15 minutes to the top.

#### **HUNGRY?**

Head to Hemma across the road, a light-filled contemporary bar with vibrant decor and outdoor tables, for European/Swedish café fare.

### **TOP TIP**

Check if Parliament is in recess if you're keen to listen to a debate.

### Great for fa

Great for families and rainy days.

### **WHERE**

Holyrood Rd, Edinburgh EH8 8AS

#### **OPEN**

10.00am - 5.30pm daily (closed Mondays and Tuesdays November to February.

#### WEB

dynamicearth.co.uk

Dynamic Earth is fully accessible. Last entry is 90 minutes before closing. Children under 15 must be accompanied by an adult. Audio quides are available for download in advance or hire on the day.

### **EDINBURGH Z00**

\*\*\*\* Lots to see and do!

### It's More Fun at the Zoo!

Home to over 1,000 rare and endangered animals, including the UK's only giant pandas and Queensland koalas, RZSS Edinburgh Zoo is packed with fun things to do.

Watch the famous penguin parade and say hello to the world's only knighted penguin, Sir Nils Olav

Spend your visit learning about brilliant birds, mischievous meerkats and many more with daily keeper talks.

Get closer than ever to monkeys, pelicans, lemurs and wallabies in the animal walkthroughs and be sure not to miss out the animal-handling sessions.

## WHILST YOU'RE THERE....

Make sure to check out the Giant Panda Exhibit. RZSS Edinburgh Zoo is home to the only giant pandas in the UK. The female is called Tian Tian (Sweetie) and the male is Yang Guang (Sunshine)

Whilst you are there, come face to face with a Sumatran tiger at Tiger Tracks. This spectacular habitat features a glass viewing tunnel for visitors as well as a high-level viewing area. Tiger Tracks also features climbing structures, a feeding post, heated rocks to relax on, ponds to splash in and a new indoor house.

Experience the famous daily Penguin Parade and learn more about the king, gentoo and rockhopper colonies. During the parade, any penguins who fancy a stroll leave their enclosure and walk around the parade route with their keepers.

Getting to the Zoo is easy with regular buses between the city centre and Edinburgh Zoo, Lothian Buses 12, 26. 31 and the 100 Airlink Service all stop right outside. Download the Transport for Edinburgh App for travel times.



Check out the Zoo's website for the latest animal antics, updates and a day planner to help you make the most of your visit.

The Zoo has its own picnic areas as well as three cafés and several kiosks offering a wide range of hot and cold food, snacks and drinks.

### WHERE

134 Corstorphine Rd. Edinburgh EH12 6TS

### **OPEN**

Open daily from 10.00am (closes between 4.00pm and 6.00pm depending on the time of year)

edinburahzoo.ora.uk

Open every day apart from Christmas Day with last entry one hour before closing. Car parking spaces are limited and there is a £4.00 car park admission cost (cash only). There are also a small number of lockers available

### RABBIE'S EDINBURGH CITY BUS TOUR

Great Tour!

Take a guided our of Edinburgh and listen to remarkable stories on a unique 16-seat convertible mini-coach. Venture down streets the bigger buses can't reach, enjoy panoramic views in every weather, and meet a few of the famous locals along the way. Join Rabbie's city tour and get a new view of Edinburgh.

### Tour Highlights

Princes Street - Travel along this street and learn about the Scott Monument and the Princes Street Gardens.

Grassmarket - This area offers fantastic views of the castle, stories of ancient crimes, and many old-fashioned drinking spots.

The Old Town - Listen to the tales of ancient Edinburgh in the oldest part of the city.

The New Town - This part of the city has stunning architecture, and the historic home to the country's finest writers and inventors.

**Dean Village** - A hidden-away place that feels more like a cosy village than a capital city.

Holyrood Palace - Venture past the beautiful palace situated at the bottom of Arthur's Seat.



### **TOP TIP**

Arrive tens mins early as seats are allocated on a first-come first-served basis. Seats can be limited during peak times.

#### **HUNGRY**

Howies on Waterloo Place is a top rated bustling restaurant dishing up delicious Scottish dishes in historic settings. Make sure you try the Haggis.

#### **TIMES**

Departs every day at 9.45am, 12.15pm and 3.15pm -Edinburgh Waterloo Place, at the Rabbie's bus stop opposite Howies Restaurant. Tour lasts around two hours

# DISCOVER SOME OF EDINBURGH'S OTHER QUIRKY SECRETS

Head out to **Wild West** in Morningside where you can find a run-down old saloon from El Paso. Once housing the Springvalley cinema, you can find the south west style of yesteryear complete with authentic paint effects and signage. Hidden off Springvalley Gardens this stroll down memory lane won't cost you anything.

Hidden away at 41 Cowgate, the Magdalene Chapel houses secrets linked to the Incorporation of Hammermen. Prosperous as an Almshouse and Chapel in the 16th century, it became the headquarters of the Scottish Reformation Society in

1992, following major restoration. Free to visit, the chapel is currently open to visitors Monday to Friday between 10am and 4pm.

Not many visitors know about The **Dococt Studio**, but this 100-year old tapestry studio building once housed a Victorian swimming pool. Located off the Royal Mile in Infirmary Street, you can view the workers on the weaving floor from the gallery from 12noon-3pm Monday to Friday or 10.30am-5.30pm on Saturdays. The café is open from 9am-5pm Monday-Friday or from 10am-5pm on Saturday.

#### WER

rabbies.com

English language audio guide describing Edinburgh from a locals perspective. Not suitable for children under five years of age. On very rare occasions tours can be rescheduled – if you ever have any questions just head into Rabbie's cafe at 6 Waterloo Place.

### **JOHN KNOX HOUSE**

\*\*\*\* Step back in time John Knox House dates back to 1470.

It and Moubray House which are attached are the only original medieval buildings surviving on the Royal Mile. The house is associated with one of the most dramatic and turbulent times in Scottish History - The Scottish Reformation - which resulted in the outbreak of civil war and the abdication of Mary, Queen of Scots.

John Knox House is located half way down Edinburgh's historic Royal Mile, attached to the modern Scottish Storytelling Centre.

The two buildings house a café, bookshop, theatre and exhibition space as well as the museum and a centre for Traditional Arts in Scotland which doubles up as a venue for the Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

### WHILST YOU'RE THERE....

John Knox House is in the centre of the famous Royal Mile so be sure that there are lots of historic gems waiting to be discovered within the High Street section - and beyond. Look on the ground for the Brass Cobbles that mark the area once occupied by The Netherbow Port where citizens once had to pay to enter the Old Town from the Canongate.

Dunbar Close Garden is where you'll find peace and quiet away from the hustle and bustle of the outside world. This secret pocket of greenery is a source of inspiration waiting for deep thinkers.

The Museum of Edinburgh is free to visit and is the city's treasure box - a maze of historic rooms crammed full of iconic objects from Edinburgh's past.

The People's Story Museum is also free to visit and explores the lives of Edinburgh's people from the late 18th century to present times.

The Museum of Childhood is the first museum in the world dedicated to the history of childhood. Toys, games and clothing all contribute to taking every visitor on a journey through generations. Entry is free.



grown seasonal produce. Did we also mention their Edinburgh roasted coffee and home baking?

You are less than a minutes' walk from Monteiths - tucked away off the main street down a fairy lit arched tunnel. It's one of Edinburgh's most romantic cocktail bars. They also serve delicious Scottish dishes.

### WHERE

43-45 High Street, Edinburgh, EH1 1SR

### **OPEN**

Daily apart from Sundays between September and June

### **TOP TIP**

Look out for the amazing painted ceiling.

scottishstorytellingcentre.co.uk

Children under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

### THE VAULTS TOUR

Auld Reekie Walking Tours

★★★★
Fascinating

Visit the infamous vaults hidden under the South Bridge in Edinburgh's Old Town.

Hear tales of how the poor and unfortunate lived in these former slums. Explore these dimly lit vaults, once the haunt of criminals, body snatchers and witches alike!

Each vault has stories of crime, disease, death and lots more, with which your guide shall enlighten you with all the gory details. You will see a genuine witchcraft temple, recently used by the "Source Coven of the Blue Dragon" and you will enter their former temple and learn why it was no longer safe for them to practise their craft in that yoult.

### WHILST YOU'RE THERE....

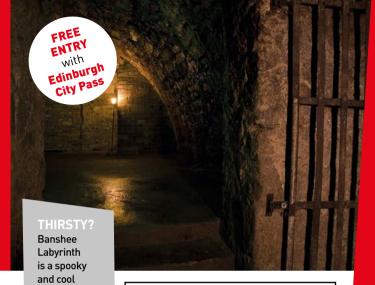
St Cecilia's Hall is hidden away across the road from the Auld Reekie Walking Tours ticket office. This free museum is home to one of the most important historic musical instrument collections anywhere in the world. It's also the only place in the world where you can hear 18th-century music being played on 18th-century instruments in an 18th-century setting. Free entry open 10am-5pm most days (closed Mondays).

#### TOP TIP

Sensible footwear recommended for the vaults

Around the corner on Blair Street is **Monkey Barrel Comedy** – look forward to live comedy seven nights a week in this award-winning venue. If you sit at the front prepare to be roasted!

The Royal Mile is actually made up of four connecting streets: at the top (west) is Castlehill, then Lawnmarket, High Street and Canongate. Dozens of steep closes lead off the Royal Mile and are worth exploring to find many of Edinburgh's hidden gems.



### **TIMES**

Tours daily at 10-00am, 11-00am, 12-00pm, 1-00pm, 2-00pm, 3-00pm, 4-00pm, 5-00pm

### WHERE

'Edinburgh Welcome' Police Box on the Royal Mile next to the Bank of Scotland - EH1 2PH

### **OPEN**

Ticket office open daily 10.00am-10.00pm

#### WEB

underground

Niddry Street.

vault bar on

It's said to

he the most

haunted bars

in Edinburgh.

They also have

their own free

cinema playing

scary movies

dailv.

auldreekietours.com

One vault tour per pass – children under the age of 15 must be accompanied by an adult. Make sure to arrive a few minutes early.

### **NELSON MONUMENT**

\*\*\*\*

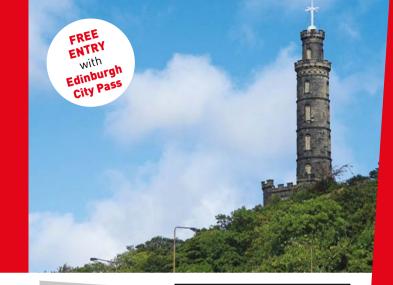
An exhilarating experience!

Designed to resemble an upturned telescope, the Nelson Monument was built to commemorate Admiral Lord Nelson's victory, and death, at the Battle of Trafalgar in 1805.

You can also learn more about this naval hero at the museum at the foot of the monument.

Situated at the top of Calton Hill, climb 143 steps to the top where you will enjoy breath-taking panoramic views of Scotland's capital.

Find out why time balls were so crucial for navigation at sea, as well as this time ball's connection with the one o'clock gun still fired each day from Edinburgh Castle.



## WHILST YOU'RE THERE....

Outstanding panoramic views await from the top of **Calton Hill**, it takes 5-10 mins to climb and boy is it worth it. It's not too busy during the day and there are plenty of grassy slopes where you can relax and take in the views after a visit to the Nelson Monument. It's the best place to watch the sunset over Edinburgh.

Wander into the **New Calton burial** ground and hunt out the family tomb of the lighthouse Stevensons - grandfather of Robert Louis Stevenson

Look out for the unfinished Athenian Acropolis due to lack of funds - one of the features that gives Edinburgh its name 'Athens of the North'. Built as a memorial to all who served in the Napoleonic Wars.

Head down to **Valvona and Crolla**, at the top of Leith Walk, Scotland's oldest delicatessen. Walk through the shop with its irresistible array of produce and tempting aromas of coffee and cheese to the restaurant at the back. Dishes cooked to traditional central and southern Italian recipes never fail to delight.

#### **HUNGRY?**

The Lookout by Gardener's Cottage features floor to ceiling glass windows and promises panoramic views across Edinburgh from the top of Calton Hill. Book ahead at weekends.

### WHERE

Footpaths lead up Calton Hill from both the south and east. At the east, the path from Royal Terrace starts close to Greenside Church. On the south side, steps lead up from the junction of Waterloo Place and Regent Road

### **OPEN**

Open daily from 10.00am-5.00pm

#### WEB

edinburghmuseums.org.uk/venue/nelson-monument

Open daily from 10am-5pm. Last admission 30 mins before closing.

# THE SCOTT MONUMENT MUSEUM

★★★★ Astounding!

The story of the monument, and much more, is told within the monument's Museum Room on the first floor combined with stunning outdoor viewing points. Discover more about Scott himself, his tumultuous life, his legacy on international literature, as well as the memorial built in his honour. Sound points enable you to listen to extracts from his writings.

The Scott Monument, among the largest monuments to a writer anywhere in the world, is a truly unique building.

The Museum Room is also the best place to view four magnificent stained-glass windows, designed by leading 19th century Scottish artist David Roberts and made by lames Ballantine

They feature two saints, Andrew and Giles, as well as the coat of arms of the City of Edinburgh and the coat of arms of Scotland.

### WHILST YOU'RE THERE....

The Scott Monument is located on **Princes Street** in the New Town. This is the main shopping street with outstanding views of Edinburgh Castle.

Not many visitors know about the **Library Room** in Debenhams superstore on Princes Street. This is an antique book library dedicated to former Prime Minister William Gladstone complete with ornate bookcases. It's part of the store so you can visit anytime.

Princes Street Gardens is a public park which you are welcome to explore. This area used to be a marsh at the foot of the Castle Rock and was known as the Nor Loch, Looking

For some peace and quiet? Very few visitors know about the **Archivists Garden** lying in the gap between the General Register House and New Register House across from the Ralmoral Hotel on Princes Street

The Royal Scottish Academy is a contemporary Scottish art gallery located on Princes Street. The elegant Georgian building is hard to miss with its striking stone pillars. Next door is the Scottish National Gallery, home to Old Masters and Scottish Masterpieces. Take the steps up to the Museum on Mound to see Scotland's oldest banknote as well as one million pounds in cash. These are all free to visit however donations are welcome.



### MORE

brasserie decor.

#### Rose Street and Thistle Street

to the north and south of George Street were originally built for the artisans of the New Town. They are now famous for their bars and restaurants.

### **WHERE**

East Princes Street Gardens, Edinburgh EH2 2E.J

### **OPEN**

Open daily from 10.00am

### **TOP TIP**

Feeling energetic - pay £2 to climb all the way to the top

#### WEB

edinburghmuseums.org.uk/venue/scott-monument

Guided tours run every half an hour from 10am until 3.30pm, which is the last admission.

### **GEORGIAN HOUSE**

\*\*\*\* Georgian gem

> In the late 1700s, this grand townhouse was at the heart of Edinburgh's New Town development. The house was designed by acclaimed architect Robert Adam and was a true statement of luxury in an era of enlightenment, for those who could afford it

The house has been magnificently restored to show a typical **Edinburgh New Town house** 

The Georgian era produced some of Scotland's most distinctive architecture.

of the late 18th and early 19th century.

The fine collections of period furniture, porcelain, silver and glass reflect the Lamonts' lifestyle and the social and economic context of the time. The kitchen and servants' room give a glimpse of the arduous 'below stairs' life of the servants. who made the Lamonts' elegant lifestyle possible.

## WHILST YOU'RE THERE....

Charlotte Square has long been known as a prestigious Edinburgh address the home of the City's financial community. Look out for Nicola Sturgeon, the Scotland's First Minister as she comes and goes from her official residence next door at No 6.

The central open space is a private garden, available to owners of the surrounding properties. For the last three weeks in August each year Charlotte Square gardens are the site of the Edinburgh International Book Festival. A large underground air raid shelter was created on the south side of the garden in 1939.

The large statue in the middle of the gardens commemorates Prince Albert, the Royal Consort to Queen Victoria. and was unveiled by Victoria herself. Charlotte Square was originally intended to be called St. George's Square (not George Square). This was for the Patron saint of England to sit alongside the Patron saint of Scotland in St. Andrew's Square.

Learn about the famous architect Robert Adam as you look round Charlotte Square - spot the fanlight windows above the front doors, the stonework representing the status of residents on each floor and the boot scrapers outside the front doors.



Looking to treat yourself? Visit the hidden gem - Garden Restaurant at The Kimpton Hotel on Charlotte Square for modern Scottish comfort food

Head down the stairs below the Rutland Hotel, at the west end of Princes Street for Heads & Tales - Gin Bar Distillery and one of Edinburgh's best kept secrets.

### **WHERE**

7 Charlotte Square, Edinburgh EH2 4DR

### **OPEN**

Apr to Oct, daily, 10.00am-4.15pm; Nov & Mar, daily, 11.00am-3.15pm; Dec to Feb. Wed to Sun. 11.00am-3.15pm

**WEB** nts.org.uk

Georgian House closes 45 mins after the above final admission times.

### **HOLYROOD DISTILLERY**

\*\*\*\*

Exceptional tours and tastings

Holyrood Distillery is an exciting new attraction and the first single malt whisky distillery in Edinburgh for nearly 100 years. The distillery includes a guided experiential tour, a gin distillery, a whisky distillery, a tasting bar and shop. Led by expert guides, the Holyrood Distillery Tour will give you the full flavour experience, allowing you to get hands on with ingredients and botanicals, and witness the distillation processes.



## WHILST YOU'RE THERE....

The distillery is located near Holyrood Park - a treasured historic green area in the heart of Edinburgh. If you're feeling energetic after your tour climb to the top of Arthur's Seat - an ancient majestic volcano and Edinburgh's top rated experience.

#### **TOP TIP**

Arrive early for best tour availability.

#### **Getting to Holyrood Distillery**

The Distillery is a 15 minute walk from the Royal Mile and Waverley Station and on a city cycle route. Lothian Buses number 14 stops on St Leonard's Street, a minute's walk away from the Distillery. Nearby South Clerk Street is on many major bus routes. Edinburgh Bus Tours stop at nearby Chambers Street.

#### **HUNGRY**

Check out the nearby Blonde restaurant or Pibroch on Holyrood Road for traditional Scottish fare.

#### THIRSTY'

Join us for one of our perfect serve cocktails in our bar after your tour, with exceptional views towards Salisbury Crags.

### **TIMES**

Tours every 30 minutes (each tour lasts 1 hour)

### **WHERE**

19 St Leonard's Lane EH8 9SH

### **OPEN**

Open from 11.00am daily. Last tour 4.00pm.

#### WEB

holyrooddistillery.co.uk

Holyrood Distillery is fully accessible and suitable for children. Under 18s must be accompanied by an adult. Soft drink alternatives will be made available during the tour.

### **HARRY POTTER TOUR**



Experience the magic of the world's most famous wizard on a Harry Potter. Alongside your Potter-mad guide, you'll explore the winding streets and mysterious alleys that inspired J. K. Rowling to create the iconic wizarding world, and see filming locations featured in the movies.

Plus, tick off top Edinburgh sights along the way.



## WHILST YOU'RE THERE....

Use your knowledge of spells to outwit the guide and seek out inspiration and film locations around the city. Visit locations such as the **entrance to the fictional Hogwarts**, invisible to the Muggle world. Take a walk along the winding streets of the old town to the spot where JK Rowling wrote the books! Learn about the inspirations behind the books and the background of the story we all know and love. Soak up the historical glory of Edinburgh while you duel with your guide and group: and so much more.

### **TOP TIP**

Great for muggles of all ages and a brilliant way to explore more of Edinburgh – make sure to arrive early during peak times.

#### **HUNGRY?**

Ask your tour guide for some excellent local recommendations for eating and drinking around Edinburgh.

### **TIMES**

10.30am daily

### **DURATION**

Two hours

#### WHERE

William Chambers Monument - 45 Chambers Street, Edinburgh EH1 1JF

### **WEB**

seeyour.city

This tour is great for families and also a good way to see the sights of Edinburgh. Make sure to wear comfortable shoes and arrive ten minutes early during peak times to guarantee a place.

Any questions? Call your Harry Potter quide on +44 (0) 208 1234 081

# SCRAPHEAP & WIZARDS GOLF

A new type of golf

Scrapheap Golf has arrived in Edinburgh. Offering two themed 9-hole courses as well as selection of hot tasty treats, Scrapheap Golf is here. Completed with a fully stocked bar including specialty drinks such as smoking potions, candy cocktails, mini kegs and all your favourites.

Take your pick from one of two 9-hole indoor themed courses just off the Royal Mile right in the City Centre.

### WHILST YOU'RE THERE....

Just across the road... save the world **Department Of Magic – Escape Rooms** Save the world of witchcraft and wizardry by returning the stolen prophecies scattered throughout the Department of Magic or enter the Mausoleum of the Dead and summon all your dark magic to bring the Dark Lord back from the grave. Save 10% on either of these two magical escape rooms when you book online using the code 'EdinburghCityPass' (max five people per booking) at departmentofmysteries.com

### **SCRAPPY DOO COURSE**

Play 9-holes over delightful debris on the construction site themed course, Scrappy Doo. Half pipes, heavy machinery and hazardous materials lie between you and scrapheap supremacy!

#### WIZARD GOLF COURSE

How about something a little more enchanting? The world of witchcraft and wizardry can be a hectic place. So, what do witches & wizards do to relax? Wizards Golf!



### HUNGRY OR THIRSTY?

There are cocktails, slushies, coke floats, Butterbrew and magical potions at the Scrappy Bar as well as hot snacks to keep you going!

### WHERE

12 Blair Street, Edinburgh EH1 1QR

### **OPEN**

Daily apart from Tuesdays and Wednesdays

### **TIMES**

Open from 11am – 10pm Friday – Sunday Open from 5pm – 10pm Mondays and Wednesdays

#### WEB

scrapheapgolf.com

Scrapheap Golf & Wizard Golf contains flashing lights, UV lights and loud music.

## **GRAVITY TRAMPOLINE PARK**

open Jump

★★★★★
Great fun!

Feel the rush of oxygen as you experience the force of GRAVITY - jump, bounce and hop as you fly through the air - nobody does it better than GRAVITY!

At Open Jump you can use the general park activity area.
60 minute sessions start every half hour through the day.



## WHILST YOU'RE THERE....

Fountain Park is just west of Edinburgh city centre, and features a Cineworld cinema, Adventure Golf, Tenpin bowling alley, Gravity Trampoline Park and an excellent range of restaurants, bars and pubs.

Gorgie City Farm is located just along the road and is a free entry urban farm, cafe, and events space supporting youth and adults with support needs while educating the public about farming and food production (open daily).

### **TOP TIP**

Everyone using trampolines needs Safety Socks – you can buy a pair on arrival for £2.50.

#### **HUNGRY?**

Take a break in the park's cafe which serves hot and cold food – not to mention their famous unlimited refill slush drinks

# TOP TIP Remember

to wear comfortable clothes & sports type footwear.

### **TIMES**

11.00am-9.00pm Mon - Fri and 9.00am-9.00pm on weekends and during the holidays, there's something for everyone at Gravity Active Entertainment

### **OPEN**

Open daily

### **WHERE**

Fountain Park, Edinburgh, EH11 1AF

#### **WEB**

gravity-uk.com/fountain-park-edinburgh

Not suitable for children under 18 months – all kids under 5 years should be accompanied by an adult at all times.

### **FORTH BOAT TOURS**

Three Bridges Cruise



All aboard! Take in the spectacular views of the three bridges.

Experience the beautiful panoramas of the Edinburgh skyline to the south and the Kingdom of Fife to the north and includes an optional landing on Inchcolm Island (small fee).

During your tour, you'll have plenty of opportunities to see a wide variety of marine wildlife. There is a café-bar serving a selection of hot and cold drinks and light snacks. You can also

enjoy the sea breeze and views from the outside decks, some of which have weatherproof seating. If the weather is less inviting, the heated observation lounge has fantastic views.

A guided commentary means you won't miss a thing wherever you sit. And, of course, you will get to see the three Forth bridges as you have never seen them before.



### WHILST YOU'RE THERE....

Stop at the south side of the Forth Road Bridge to admire the three bridges which span three centuries. Built in 1890 the Forth Bridge carries 200 trains a day (or 3m passengers annually) and requires 240 thousand litres of paint each time it's repainted. Look out for the St Andrew's Cross supporting the suspension of the Forth Road Bridge which has almost 31 thousand miles of wire in the main cables. Spanning 1.7 miles the Queensferry Crossing is the longest three-tower cable-stayed bridge in the world.

Walk along the coast to **Cramond** village, passing Dalmeny House. Once there walk out to Cramond Island, when the tide is right, passing 'the dragon's teeth' built before WWII to prevent enemy submarines slipping through.

During your cruise look out for the marine wildlife including many seabirds, seals and watch out for the occasional porpoise. Binoculars are available to hire for a small, refundable deposit. Just ask a member of our crew. There is also a café-bar serving a selection of hot and cold drinks and light snacks.

# WINTER CRUISES

During the winter months (1 Jan - 31 MAR) each City Pass will provide entry to the Blackness Castle and Three Bridges Cruise (including free cream teal.

### **TIMES**

Winter Tours run daily at 11am and 1pm and last 90 mins.

### **WHERE**

Boat departs from Hawes Pier South Queensferry EH30 9TB

#### **OPEN**

Tours run daily (reduced hours off season)

#### WEE

forthtours.com

Children under 16 years of age must be accompanied by an adult. There are no height or weight restrictions. If it is wet, appropriate clothing is recommended. In the event of bad weather, please contact Forth Boat Tours for details and revisions to published sailing times.

# HOPETOUN HOUSE AND GROUNDS

\*\*\*\*

Outlander fans must see!

It is also a five-star Visitor Attraction with friendly and knowledgeable guides. The house and the grounds were used throughout Season 1, 2 and 3 of the Outlander TV series.

As you approach Hopetoun House, the impressive panoramic view of the main facade is breathtakingly revealed. Designed by William Bruce and then altered and extended by William Adam,

### Hopetoun House is often referred to as Scotland's Finest Stately Home

Hopetoun House is one of the finest examples of 18th century architecture in Britain.

The magnificent interiors which have remained virtually unchanged for three centuries reflect the elegance of the Georgian era and are decorated with the best period furniture, paintings, tapestries and clocks, with beautifully crafted finishes of carving, gilding and plaster work.



### WHILST YOU'RE THERE....

Wander through the untouched cobbled streets of the coastal village of **South Queensferry** with its stunning views of the Forth Bridges. Make sure to visit the local free museum and discover the traditions and historic past of the village – the Burryman costume is a must see.

The famous 400-year-old **Hawes Inn** in the east of the town overlooks the Hawes Pier and is where Robert Louis Stevenson stayed in 1886 – inspiring him to write the classic tale 'Kidnapped'.

Take the **Three Bridges Cruise** for a chance to see the three Forth Bridges as you have never seen them before. Admission is free with your Edinburgh City Pass.

Another iconic film location for Outlander is **Linlithgow Palace**, birthplace of Mary Queen of Scots. A great picnic location, this haven of wildlife is ideal for pets as well as families. The ornate fountain plays every Sunday in July and August.

Visit the **House of the Binns** - set in beautifully landscaped parkland overlooking the River Forth, this fascinating laird's house near Linlithgow has been the home of the Dalyells for 400 years. The house is open from June - September.

#### HUNGRY?

One of the delights of Hopetoun is a visit to the 18th Century Adam Stables, now sensitively restored and transformed into a comfortable and cosy eatery with a delicious contemporary menu including traditional full Scottish Afternoon Tea.

### WHERE

When using a Sat Nav enter EH30 9RW which will take you to Farquhar Terrace, South Queensferry. From here it's a straight road (approx. 1 mile) to Hopetoun. Parking is free

#### **OPEN**

Open daily from 10.30am -5.00pm (10 April - 27 Sept) Last admission 4.00pm

#### WEE

hopetoun.co.uk

Occasionally we close for private events, to avoid disappointment please check with us before you visit (see website or phone 0131 331 2451)

### **GLENKINCHIE DISTILLERY**

\*\*\*\*

Great tour, worth the trip

Visit this picturesque distillery and experience a real taste of Scotland.

Your visit begins with a unique exhibition on the original malting floors, home to the renowned model distillery. You will then be met with your guide and led through the distillery production area, learning how they make their 'water of life'.

To finish your tour you are welcomed into the bar for a dram or two of the finished product.

Glenkinchie Distillery is the nearest malt whisky distillery to Edinburgh. Most of the production areas are accessible by wheelchair, but the Mash Tuns can only be reached by a staircase.



#### GETTING THERE

Take the direct luxury shuttle service from Edinburgh City Centre which operates twice a day, 7 days a week with pick-ups at 10am and 1.30pm. Book your seats for £14 per person on 01875 342 012 (attraction entry included with your City Pass).

Getting there by Road (Postcode EH34 5ET) Head for A720, Edinburgh City-pypass. Take Millerhill exit (between Sheriffhall roundabout and A1) - A68, Jedburgh. Turn left - A6093, Haddington. Continue to Pencaitland. Follow signs for Glenkinchie Distillery

(turn right at petrol station towards Lempockwells. Continue to crossroads. Turn right, then turn left downhill to the distillery)

By public transport from Edinburgh city centre, there is the East Lothian Bus service 113 which departs from Princes Street (outside the Mercure Hotel) and takes just over an hour to reach the village of Pencaitland. From there it is a 2.5 mile walk uphill (approx. 40 minutes) to the distillery, or you can telephone for a taxi - we recommend Shirley at Glen Hire on 07437896908

### **TOP TIP**

Take the return shuttle bus from the City Centre

#### **HUNGRY?**

Humbie Hub is a vibrant village café with community at its heart just a short drive away (ideal for breakfast, lunch and savoury snacks).

### **WHERE**

Pencaitland, Tranent EH34 5ET

### **OPEN**

Open daily from 10.00am- 5.00pm (closes at 4.00pm over the winter)

WEB malts.com

Shuttle bus seats may be available on the day, make sure you're at the departure point 10mins before to check with the driver (always best to call in advance)

### **SCOTTISH SEABIRD CENTRE**

★ ★ ★ ★ ★ So Good!

Visit the incredible five star Scottish Seabird Centre in North Berwick

Control live cameras to zoom in on amazing wildlife, which can include puffins, gannets and seals. The Discovery Centre team will take you through key things to spot during your visit and there's also a café, Wildlife Theatre, 3D TV, fish tanks plus a Kids' Corner and Kids' Zone

The Seabird Centre is a 35 minute train journey from Edinburgh Waverley followed by a 15 minute downhill walk from North Berwick train station.

## WHILST YOU'RE THERE....

Building sandcastles, cycling along the coast or even a boat ride – there is something for everyone in **North Berwick**. However, for the energetic it's essential to climb North Berwick Law from where there are truly fabulous views of the Firth of Forth – and you may even catch a glimpse of the Exmoor ponies.

Visit **Tantallon Castle**, Scotland's last surviving mediaeval castle, with arguably the best example of castle architecture in Scotland. Best to see it before it falls into the sea forever.

Calling all gardeners – the world's longest herbaceous boarder can be found at **Dirleton Castle**. Whilst there take time to count the nesting boxes in the doocot – or discover the 12th century pit prison.

The Bass Rock is the world's largest colony of northern gannets and the Isle of May is the biggest puffin colony on the east coast of Britain.

Northern Scotland lies at the same latitude as Stavanger in Norway and Nunivak Island in Alaska which means that you're in with a good chance of spotting the **Northern Lights** in North Berwick.



A trip to the seaside isn't complete without enjoying a portion of fish and chips or an ice cream cone (or both)!

#### **HUNGRY?**

The Ship Inn is a popular harbourside pub with a large beer garden overlooking the Forth, serving delicious meals. Ask for the beautiful beer-battered fish and chips with mushy peas.

### **WHERE**

The Harbour, North Berwick EH39 4SS

### **OPEN**

Open daily 10.00am-6pm in summer and 10.00am - 4.00pm in winter

#### web seabird.org

Children aged 15 years or under must be accompanied by a responsible adult. Last entry to the Discovery Centre and final hot food orders 45 minutes before closing.

### **STEWART BREWING**

\*\*\*\*

Beer lover's paradise

An independent, family-owned brewery run tours every Saturday. On arrival you'll be given a beer to sample, then you'll be taken around the brewery and given an understanding of who they are and how they make beer. Your guide will be ready to answer all your questions, whether it's about the history of beer or just

Stewart Brewing are offering a unique opportunity to discover the 'behind the scenes' operations.

how it's made. There is no need to pre-book, simply pop along to the brewery!

While on site, you will get a chance to try bespoke, oneoff beers only available at the brewery; stock up on beers and merchandise in the brewery shop or just relax on the terrace with some fun outdoor games.



### **MORE BEER?**

There's some other brewing highlights not to be missed around Edinburgh. Here are a few of our favourites.

#### **Campervan Brewery**

Head along to Campervan Brewery's new taproom every Friday and Saturday evening down in Leith and learn all about how this brewing company has grown from a humble campervan. Bonnington Business Centre, 112 Jane St, Edinburgh EH6 5HG.

#### **Edinburgh Beer Factory**

A new family-owned craft brewery based in Edinburgh - proud home of Paolozzi lager. The taproom is open on Thursday, Friday and Saturday afternoons with views straight into the brewery. 7 Bankhead Crossway N, Edinburgh EH11 4EQ.

#### **Barney's Beer**

Microbrewery at Summerhall, Edinburgh. They brew a range of craft beer from their bestselling Volcano IPA to collaborations like Eteaket vs Barney's Mount Fuji Pale. Brewery tours are available and there is also an onsite bar. 1 Summerhall Place, Edinburgh, MidLothian, EH9 1PL.

### **TIMES**

Tours are available at 1.00pm, 3.00pm and 5.00pm on Saturdays and last 30 mins.

### **WHERE**

Brewery is situated in an industrial estate just south of Edinburgh City Bypass and is easily accessible by car, taxi and bus (routes 37 and 47) from city centre.

### **OPEN**

Tours only on Saturdays however the taproom and shop are open 7 days if you just want to enjoy a beer and stock up on essentials

#### WEI

stewartbrewing.co.uk

Please wear sensible shoes and clothing: No sandals, open-toed shoes or high heels. Over 18s only. No need to book ahead. Take the 37 bus from outside Marks & Spencer on Princess Street to Herd Terrace, Loanhead followed by a 3 min walk to the Brewery.

### **NEWHAILES**

\*\*\*\*

Amazing building a must see!!

Newhailes brings three centuries of history to life.

Originally built in the 17th century, this Palladian house was owned by the influential Dalrymple family and featured prominently during the Scottish Enlightenment.

Today, the house is accessible by guided tours, which offer an intriguing insight into the past. The National Trust for Scotland have followed a conservation strategy of carrying out 'only as much work as necessary but as little as possible to maintain the multi-faceted character of the house.

Visitors will see the remarkable library wing, imposing Italian marble fireplaces, gilded eagles over the drawing room windows, Chinese wallpaper and an impressive art collection.



### WHILST YOU'RE THERE....

Portobello Beach is irresistible throughout the year – you can stroll along the promenade, build a sandcastle or why not take your socks off and paddle in the sea. Lots of ice cream and great Scottish bars and restaurants along the way and regular buses back into town.

Inveresk Lodge Garden, just south of Musselburgh, has all the ingredients for a green paradise tucked away in a charming village. Open all year round. from 10am-5pm you're guaranteed to find familiarity as well as the unusual

with interpretation guides on hand to take you round if you want. Top Tip – not a garden for dogs but a scattering of picnic tables offer a break amongst the woodland walk.

Take a road trip to **Preston Mill** and **Fantasie Doocot**, which featured in Outlander, by heading 30 minutes east of Musselburgh on the A1. With its waterwheel, millpond and mill you can't help but be carried away. Enjoy your picnic in the grounds on the banks of the River Tyne. Open from 1 May – 30 Sept from 12.30pm-5pm

Situated in 34 hectares of historical landscape, the Newhailes estate offers unspoilt views across the Forth. There are several footpaths leading around the estate for all to enjoy.

### **TIMES**

Following essential conservation Newhailes will be reopening this spring.

#### WHERE

Newhailes, Musselburgh EH21 6RY

### **OPEN**

Check website for opening dates

### **WEB**

nts.org.uk

By bus: Lothian Buses 30, 26 and 44 and First Buses 140 and 141 stop near the property. By train: Newcraighall Station is a 20-minute walk from the estate entrance. Free parking with your City Pass. Book ahead by emailing newhailes@nts.org.uk or call +44 0131 653 5599.

### **GILMERTON COVE**

★★★★ It will blow you away

Gilmerton Cove is a series of chambers and passageways hewn from the bedrock sandstone that lie hidden beneath the streets of Gilmerton on the southside of the city. An archaeological mystery that has baffled investigators for over 300 years.

Visit this unique hand carved subterranean attraction with seven different rooms featuring rock hewn furniture tables and chairs, after extensive historical Delve deep into the past of one of Edinburgh's most intriguing and enigmatic sites and discover Edinburgh's best kept secret.

and archaeological research investigators still don't know the exact origins of this site.

The cove has features such as a well, a fireplace, a blacksmiths forge and two back filled tunnels just waiting to be explored - theories abound as to its origins and uses. Secret Drinking Den? Covenanters Refuge? Witches Coven? Secret Meeting Place? Hellfire Club? Knights Templar? 300 or 2000 years old? You decide.



### WHILST YOU'RE THERE....

### Edinburgh Butterfly and Insect

World is just along the road. This is a fascinating indoor tropical environment with all sorts of mini beasts. The staff are exceptional and this is a local family favourite. Admission is free with your Edinburgh City Pass.

Head to the **National Mining Museum** and retrace the footsteps of thousands of miners and their families who relied on the colliery to make a living. Take a tour of the pithead, recreated underground roadway and coalface, with an ex-miner as your guide – you'll experience the atmosphere and noise of a working pit – an experience which instantly makes you glad you're not a miner! Admission is included with your Edinburgh City Pass.

There is speculation that one of the collapsed tunnels from Gilmerton Cove leads to the nearby **Craigmillar Castle**. Mary Queen of Scots famously used the castle as a safe haven in 1566. Visitors can still explore the Castle for a small fee.

You're just a few miles away from Rosslyn Chapel. Described as 'a bible in stone' it featured in the popular 'Da Vinci Code' book and film. Take time to spot the green men, identify the plant carvings and delve into its myriad mysteries and intriguing history. Open from 9.30am-5.00pm Mon-Sat and from 12noon - 4.45pm on Sunday, allow 1-2 hours for your visit.

#### **HUNGRY?**

The Beetroot Bar &
Grill is a local favourite
for its atmosphere
and terrific food.
Margaretanne at
Gilmerton Cove will
point you in the right
direction.

### **WHERE**

16 Drum St, Edinburgh EH17 8QH

### **TIMES**

Weekends 12.00pm and 2.00pm. Open Midweek From April 4th daily tours at 11.00am, 12.30pm, 2.00pm and 3.00pm

#### WEE

gilmertoncove.org.uk

Seasonal hours may vary see website. Book your places in advance - text 07914 829177 or email bookings@gilmertoncove.org.uk. Take the 3 bus across from the Scott Monument on Princess Street to Gilmerton 130 minsl.

# EDINBURGH BUTTERFLY &INSECT WORLD

★★★★ Fascinating

Flying freely in an indoor tropical rainforest are hundreds of spectacular exotic butterflies oblivious of the visitors that walk amongst them. Watch them feeding, courting, laying eggs and sunning themselves in the lush, colourful jungle. Also, see if you can spot some of the many caterpillars that are eating their way through the specially grown food plants. Next, stand on the bridge near the waterfall and watch the terrapins lazily bask under the lamps of the main pond.

The world's longest running butterfly house and one of Scotland's favourite tourist and educational attractions.

Take a walk into the 'Bugs and Beasties' exhibition and discover the weird world of the mini-beast, including tarantulas, stick insects, praying mantis, scorpions and millipedes, all living in purposebuilt enclosures. Watch as the LeafCutter ants bite off pieces of leaves and petals and carry them back to their colony. The Nocturnal Zone uses infra-red light to illuminate the night-time activities of many of these creatures.

### WHILST YOU'RE THERE....

Dobbies Garden Centre (the largest in Scotland) is located right next to Edinburgh Butterfly and Insect World. If you are a keen gardener, then this could be considered a slice of paradise.

Nearby is **Gilmerton Cove** (see page 36) a series of chambers and passageways hewn from the bedrock sandstone that lie hidden beneath the streets of Gilmerton on the southside of the city. An archaeological mystery that has baffled investigators for over 300 years. Admission is included with your Edinburgh City Pass.

Head to the **National Mining Museum** and retrace the footsteps of thousands of miners and their families who

relied on the colliery to make a living. Take a tour of the pithead, recreated underground roadway and coalface, with an ex-miner as your guide – you'll experience the atmosphere and noise of a working pit – an experience which instantly makes you glad you're not a miner! Admission is included with your Edinburgh City Pass.

If the Great Outdoors beckons head for the **Dalkeith Country Park**. Share the open spaces with the great variety of wildlife along way-marked walks, cycle by the river, learn to survive through bushcraft, or picnic whilst little adventurers enjoy Fort Douglas. There's something for everyone in this 1000 acre park.



#### HINGDV:

as it's warm inside.

There is a food hall at Dobbies Garden Centre if you are looking for a quick bite to eat or a refreshment. Soft drinks are also sold at the attraction shop.

can get to grips with all types of

mini-beast. No need for a jumper

### **WHERE**

Butterfly & Insect World is located within the grounds of Dobbies Garden Centre, Lasswade, Midlothian, EH18 1AZ

#### **OPEN**

Open daily 10.00am to 5.00pm

#### WEE

edinburghbutterflyworld.com

Last admission / re-admission 30 minutes before closing. There are regular events throughout the day which are included. The attraction has full disabled access as well as FREE parking. Closed for Christmas and New Years Day

# **NATIONAL MINING MUSEUM** SCOTLAND Pit Head Guided Tour

★ ★ ★ ★ Extremely Interesting

A visit to the awardwinning National Mining **Museum Scotland** is an absolute must.

Just 5 minutes from the Edinburgh City Bypass and a 5 minute walk from Newtongrange train station, the museum is housed in the wonderfully restored Lady Victoria Colliery.

Visitors can retrace the footsteps of thousands of miners and their families who relied on the colliery to make a living. Take a tour of the pithead, recreated

underground roadway and coalface, with an ex-miner as vour quide - vou'll experience the atmosphere and noise of a working pit - an experience which instantly makes you glad you're not a miner!

All of the tour guides have a wealth of knowledge and stories from their time in the mines.

## FREE ENTRY with Edinburgh City Pass **TOP TIP** Get there using Edinburgh City Centre Lothian Buses - 33 and 29 or First Buses - 95/X95 **TOP TIP** Make sure you wear warm clothing as many parts of the colliery are open to the elements!

### WHILST YOU'RE THERE....

**Newtongrange** is a former mining village in Midlothian, Scotland. Known in local dialect as Nitten, or Nitten by the Bing, it became Scotland's largest mining village in the 1890s. You can reach Newton Grange using the new Borders Railway direct from Waverley Station in the centre of Edinburgh. This is the UK's longest newly constructed domestic railway for over 100 years carrying passengers on the scenic iourney between the Scottish Borders and Edinburgh.

The National Mining Museum is close to Gilmerton Cove (see page 34) and **Edinburgh Butterfly and Insect World** (see page 36) which are both included in your Edinburgh City Pass.

The Undercroft contained a series of railway sidings, some of which are still visible in particular areas. Among the objects now housed in the Undercroft are two railway wagons that were moved from Prestongrange Museum as part of the Recognition project. These core items from the National Mining Museum Scotland collection had resided at Prestongrange for two decades and bear the livery of the Lothian Coal Company and the National Coal Board. so are symbols of key periods in the Lady Victoria's history.

Café Coal is operated is located on the ground floor of the Museum. Entry to the café is free and it is fully accessible. You can enjoy hot and cold drinks, freshly made food and desserts. Gluten free and children options are also available.

### **OPEN**

Open from 10.00am daily - last tour is two hours before closing

### **WHERE**

The museum is situated on the A7 at Newtongrange. You can't miss them - you'll see the huge overhead concrete gantry which used to take the miners to the pithead baths

nationalminingmuseum.com

Tours run daily regularly each day (check website for times). The museum is wheelchair accessible, with the exception of the Winding Engine Room. Parking is free.

### FREE TO SEE

Discover some of Edinburgh's famous free attractions. It's free to get in but donations are welcome. Find them on the map at the front of this quide.

#### NATIONAL MUSEUM OF SCOTLAND

Enjoy a world of discovery at the National Museum of Scotland, the UK's most popular museum outside of London. From the age of dinosaurs to the technology of the future, the galleries contain treasures from around the world

#### Open daily 10.00am - 5.00pm | nms.ac.uk

#### **GREYFRIARS KIRKYARD**

This is the world-famous graveyard surrounding Greyfriars Kirk in Edinburgh. Here J.K. Rowling found the inspiration for some of the well known characters in her books including William McGonagall and Tom Riddell (see if you can find the headstones).

#### Open daily (and nightly).

#### ST. CECILIA'S HALL & MUSIC MUSEUM

Scotland's oldest purpose-built concert hall and home to one of the world's most important collections of musical instruments, including two galleries of world-class keyboards.

### Open Tue-Sat 10.00am - 5.00pm | stcecilias.ed.ac.uk

#### THE PEOPLE'S STORY

The People's Story gives a unique insight in to Edinburgh's working class people from the 18th century to the late 20th century. The displays include tableaux, original objects, images and personal stories to reveal their fascinating history of the city.

#### Open daily 10.00am - 5.00pm | edinburghmuseums.org.uk

#### MUSEUM OF EDINBURGH

Discover Edinburgh's fascinating history through the Museum of Edinburgh's wide and varied collections. In exploring the museum's maze of 16th century buildings, you will see iconic items, beautiful objects and learn fascinating facts and gruesome tales.

### Open daily 10.00am - 5.00pm | edinburghmuseums.org.uk

#### WRITER'S MUSEUM

This museum celebrates the lives of three giants of Scottish Literature – Robert Burns, Sir Walter Scott and Robert Louis Stevenson. Home to portraits, rare books and personal objects including Burns' writing desk, the printing press on which Scott's Waverley novels were first produced, and even the rocking horse he used as a child.

#### Open daily 10.00am - 5.00pm | edinburghmuseums.org.uk

#### SCOTTISH PARLIAMENT

You are welcome to enter the building and discover the visitor areas without booking ahead. If you would like to join a tour or listen in on a debate you can confirm your place online.

### Open Mon-Sat 10.00am - 5.00pm | parliament.scot/visitandlearn

#### SCOTTISH NATIONAL PORTRAIT GALLERY

The Scottish National Portrait Gallery is one of Edinburgh's most remarkable buildings. The gallery was designed by Sir Robert Rowand Anderson as a shrine to Scotland's heroes and heroines. It opened to the public in 1889 as the world's first purpose-built portrait gallery.

### Open daily 10.00am - 4.30pm | nationalgalleries.org

#### MUSEUM ON THE MOUND

A museum of money and economics located in the Bank of Scotland Head Office building. See Scotland's oldest banknote as well as one million pounds in cash.

#### Open Tues-Fri 10.00am - 5.00pm | museumonthemound.com

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### **OFFERS**

# DEPARTMENT OF MAGIC – ESCAPE ROOMS

Save the world of witchcraft and wizardry by returning the stolen prophecies scattered throughout the Department of Magic or enter the Mausoleum of the Dead and summon all your dark magic to bring the Dark Lord back from the grave.

Save 10% on either of these two magical escape rooms when you book online using the code 'EdinburghCityPass' (max five people per booking) at departmentofmysteries.com

#### INVISIBLE EDINBURGH

Invisible Cities is a Social Enterprise. They offer friendly walking tours of Edinburgh that showcase the city's historical landmarks and explore the social projects that make the city what it is. The experienced tour guides, all of whom have been affected by homelessness, simply live and breathe the city, and offer their own personal insight into Edinburgh's past, present and future.

Enjoy two tours for the price of one using promo code 'CITYPASS19' when you book online at invisible-cities.org

#### **CYCLE HIRE**

Discover Edinburgh by bike. Edinburgh's new cycle hire scheme 'Just Eat Cycles' offers visitors a unique and wonderful way to explore and experience the capital in a simple and affordable way.

Get your discounted day pass by following this link: edinburghcyclehire. com/buy/discount-day-pass then download the app 'Just Eat Cycles' to get going (happy cycling).

# SILENT DISCO TOURS BY SILENT ADVENTURES

It's a Flash Mob, it's a Silent Disco, It's a roaming, rhythmic riot through the capital! Join the Silent Adventures Team as they take you on a journey of song and dance through the famous streets of Edinburgh. Hi-tech headsets will fill your body with beats, theme-songs and some favourite hits across the decades.

Get 10% off your tour booking when you book online at silentadventures.co.uk using the coupon code 'EdinburghCityPass'

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Join Edinburgh's SPOOKIEST Tour, a 'Haunted Show On Wheels'! Step aboard the Haunted History Bus for a guided trip around the WORLD'S MOST HAUNTED CITY, lasting approximately 1 hour. You'll experience a short haunted graveyard walk, hear stories about The ghosts of Greyfriars Kirkyard, as well as gruesome tales of Edinburgh's most notorious characters

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One of Edinburgh's most dynamic, forward thinking style bar and restaurant groups in Scotland. Tigerlily, Rabble, Candy Bar, Indigo Yard, Eastside.

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