JacTravel

7-Day Stories of Scotland

Overview

Awash with stunning scenery, fascinating history and world famous culinary delights, Scotland also boasts a rich literary landscape, and many stories have been inspired, created, written or filmed here! From poets, authors, myths & legends to books, libraries and famous film locations.

Suggested Itinerary

Day 1 - Arrive in Edinburgh
Our Story begins in Edinburgh, the worlds first UNESCO city of literature, and home to the International Book Festival every August. Based on the Royal Mile, the Scottish Storytelling Centre is an ideal first stop on your walking tour of Edinburgh, where you can experience Scotland's rich cultural heritage. With an interactive storywall for children, and live story telling, workshops and exhibitions dedicated to traditional Scottish tales, there is something for all the family. A short walk away is the historic Greyfriars Kirkyard, and its many graves said to have inspired JK Rowling including Lord Voldemort. It is also famous for the bronze statue of the famous Greyfriars Bobby which sits just outside the Kirkyard. A famous Scottish story, which was also retold in the 1961 Disney adaptation. End your day with an award winning Mercat Tour, whose storytellers will regale historic tales and tell you of Edinburgh's haunted past. Overnight in Edinburgh.

Day 2 - Edinburgh Sightseeing
Star your day with a visit to the Writers Museum & Makars Court where you will find a museum dedicated to some of Scotland's most famous literary greats, Robert Burns, Sir Walter Scott, and Robert Louis Stevenson. With so many iconic writers, Edinburgh boasts many a number of captivating bookshops, and we would encourage you to spend today exploring some of them. McNaughtan's, Topping & Company Booksellers, Armchair Books and Elvis Shakespeare are all uniquely amazing! In the evening pay a visit to the Conan Doyle Bar to taste some local food and drinks. The bar name pays homage to Sir Arthur Conan Doyle who was born in Picardy Place across the street and studied at Edinburgh University. It is said that one of his professors inspired Conan Doyles most famous character, Sherlock Holmes. Today you will find a commemorative bronze statue of Holmes on Picardy Place. Overnight in Edinburgh.

Day 3 - Rosslyn Chapel - Dumfries
Today, you will depart Edinburgh, and search for the Holy Grail with a visit to Rosslyn Chapel, which featured in Dan Browns book, and the Hollywood Blockbuster, the Da Vinci Code. Continue driving south to Dumfries, where you will spend the day exploring the history of Robert Burns. With a museum, statue, his town house and Ellisland Farm, there is plenty to see and learn about one of Scotland's most famous poets. Dumfries was also famously the town where the author JM Barrie spent his childhood. Overnight in Dumfries.

Day 4 - Wigtown - Ayrshire
Today head west and visit Wigtown, known as Scotland's National Book Town. With exhibitions throughout the year, a book festival and plenty of bookshops and café's, it is easy to spend hours in this local town. Continue onwards to Ayrshire, where you will find Burns Birthplace museum, along with the Burns National Heritage Park and Trail, with modern art depicting some of his famous works. There is also the opportunity to celebrate the legacy of Burns with a tasting of the traditional Scottish dish, haggis, neeps and tatties in the museum café. Overnight Ayrshire.

Day 5 - Loch Lomond
Today you will drive north through the scenic Loch Lomond and the Trossachs. Take a cruise on the Sir Walter Scott Steamship on Loch Katrine, where he wrote the poem "The Lady of the Lake". Overnight in Trossachs area.

Day 6 - Doune Castle
Today we head just north of Stirling to explore Doune Castle, also known as 'Castle Leoch' from Outlander, 'The Castle of Guy De Lombard' in Monty Python and the Holy Grail, and 'Winterfell' in Game of Thrones. Head back to Edinburgh for your final overnight in Scotland. Overnight in Edinburgh.

Day 7 - Departure from Edinburgh
Time permitting, head to the Royal Mile, where you'll find St Giles Cathedral, that was recently the setting for the epic fight scene in Avengers: Infinity War. The Cathedral is open to the public and you can take a roof top tour with views of Edinburgh's impressive skyline, before heading back to the airport to head home.