

Bicycle Tours in United Kingdom: Scotland - The Grand Tour (TourzPlus!™)

OVERVIEW

Explore the ancient town of St Andrews, visit Edinburgh castle and freewheel down the famous Royal mile. Ride through the Cairngorms National Park, pass the Queens residence at Balmoral Castle and enjoy a stop at the whisky distillery.

HIGHLIGHTS

- The ancient town of St Andrews
- Cairngorms National Park
- The Queens residence at Balmoral Castle
- Royal Lochnagar Distillery
- Guided tour through Glamis Castle

TOUR FACTS

Tour Style	■ TourzPlus: Learn more about our TourzPlus tours at https://www.experienceplus.com/choosing-the-best-tour/styles/tourzplus
Includes	6 nights' accommodation; use of a quality aluminum frame road or hybrid bike; all breakfasts, 6 lunches, and 1 dinner; whisky tasting; Guided tour of Glamis Castle.
Countries	United Kingdom
Begin/End	Inverness/Edinburgh
Arrive/Depart	Inverness Train Station/Edinburgh Train Station
Total Distance	378km (235 miles)
Avg. Daily Distance	Average per riding day 54km (34 miles) per riding day
Tour Level	▶▶▶▶▶

Please Note: We may have small itinerary changes to this trip after you download this PDF document. If you have booked this trip and there are major changes, including changes to towns or activities, we'll email you directly. However, you should always be sure to refer to the ■ [online itinerary](#) for the most up-to-date trip information including arrival and departure tips before you depart for your trip:

<https://www.experienceplus.com/bike-tours/united-kingdom/bike-touring-scotland>

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DATES & PRICES

DAILY RIDE SUMMARY

Day	Distance/Gain	Terrain	Day Level	Notes
1	60km / 0m (37mi / 0ft)			
2	63km / 0m (39mi / 0ft)			
3	32km / 0m (20mi / 0ft)			
4	64km / 0m (40mi / 0ft)			
5	64km / 0m (40mi / 0ft)			
6	56km / 0m (35mi / 0ft)			
7	40km / 0m (25mi / 0ft)			

Bicycle Tours in United Kingdom: Scotland - The Grand Tour (TourzPlus!™)**Inverness to Grantown on Spey**

Highlights Bike fitting and historic battlefield of Culloden

We meet in Inverness in the morning, where your guide will give you a trip briefing and bike fitting before we set off. Leaving behind the Highland capital of Inverness we head towards the historic battlefield of Culloden. From Culloden we head east on flat and fast roads, part Cawdor, where we stop for lunch at a great little tearoom and then into the Whisky Country of Speyside. A ancient military road dating from the 1700's leads to our first overnight stop at Grantown on Spey.

DAY 1

Distance 60 km (37 mi)

Meals Lunch, Dinner

The Cairngorms National Park

Highlights Cairngorms National Park, Tomintoul, Ballater

Named by National Geographic as one of the '50 Must Visit Places on Earth', we ride from west to east across the UK's largest and most spectacular National Park. We reach our first stop at Tomintoul - the Highland's highest village and home to one of Scotland's best whisky shops. After lunch we make for the stiff climb over Lecht pass with the summit providing rewarding views over Royal Deeside. From here a long descent, one final climb and a 10km run downhill delivers us to the lovely village of Ballater and home for two nights.

DAY 2

Distance 63 km (39 mi)

Meals Breakfast, Lunch

Riding on Royal Deeside

Highlights Royal Deeside, River Dee, Balmoral Castle, and Lochnagar Distillery

An easy day today with a short ride on Royal Deeside one of the most beautiful corners of Scotland. Riding along the River Dee and through the hills we come to Balmoral Castle and Lochnagar Distillery. We can visit the castle if the Queens not in and follow this up with a whisky tasting before a relaxed ride back to Ballater.

DAY 3

Distance 32 km (20 mi)

Meals Breakfast, Lunch

Bicycle Tours in United Kingdom: Scotland - The Grand Tour (TourzPlus!™)**Royal Deeside to Angus**

Highlights Birse Forset and climb over Cairn O'Mount

Today we will continue east along the River Dee through the picturesque Forest of Birse. An early lunch sets us up for the climb over Cairn O'Mount with a stone cairn said to be more than 4000 years old. Here we get our first glimpse of the North Sea and Scotland's East Coast. From here we have a superb 10 miles of downhill riding all the way to Edzell our home for the night.

DAY 4

Distance 64 km (40 mi)

Meals Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner

Glamis Castle & Dundee, the City of Discovery

Highlights Clamis Castle guided tour

Leaving the Cairngorm Mountains behind we head south through Kirriemuir onto Clamis Castle. We stop here for lunch and take a guided tour of what is said to be Scotland's most beautiful castle. We continue our journey crossing the low-lying Dislaw Hills before reaching our waterfront accommodation in the City of Dundee.

DAY 5

Distance 64 km (40 mi)

Meals Breakfast, Lunch

St Andrews & The East Neuk of Fife

Highlights Coastal ride and harbor lunch

Today we'll make an early start from Dundee, crossing the Tay Estuary and reach St Andrews with plenty of time to explore this ancient town. Following the coast along the east corner of Fife we enjoy added bonus of this being one of the sunniest parts of Scotland. Passing through several villages with plenty of lunch choices, our favorite being fish and chips at the Harbor in Anstruther. Finishing in Elie, with a pint by the harbor, we then make a short transfer to Aberdour for the night.

DAY 6

Distance 56 km (35 mi)

Meals Breakfast, Lunch

Bicycle Tours in United Kingdom: Scotland - The Grand Tour (TourzPlus!™)**Scotland's Capital, Edinburgh****DAY 7**

Highlights Edinburgh Castle and Royal Palace of Holyrood.

The final day of our Grand Tour takes us across the spectacular Firth of Forth. We will round the city's Grassmarket and climb the road up to Edinburgh Castle. After taking in the outstanding views across the city we freewheel down the full length of the famous and historic Royal Mile to the royal Palace of Holyrood. The trip ends with a celebration lunch and drinks.

Distance 40 km (25 mi)

Meals Breakfast, Lunch