





### TOUR ITINERARY



Europe / Scotland

# **Scotland Bike Tour**

Wild Country, Whisky, and the Warmth of the Scots

#### TOUR HIGHLIGHTS

- Cycle the wild and beautiful landscapes of the Scottish Highlands, including the picturesque coastline of Saint Andrews
- Discover historic sites in Saint Andrews, including the Royal and Ancient Golf Club, the ruined Cathedral, and the oldest university in Scotland
- Visit Blair Castle, the ancestral home of the Clan Murray, and learn about its fascinating role in Scottish history
- Sip locally-made single malt whisky straight from the cask during a private tasting
- Spend an evening at Gleneagles, one of the most beloved hotels in all of Scotland











#### ARRIVAL + DEPARTURE

#### **Arrival Details**

- Airport City:
  Edinburgh, Scotland
- Pick-Up Location: Royal Botanic Garden
- © Pick-Up Time: 10:00 am

## **Departure Details**

- Airport City:
- Edinburgh, Scotland
- Drop-Off Location: Edinburgh
- © Drop-Off Time:

**NOTE:** DuVine provides group transfers to and from the tour from the pick-up and drop-off locations stated on the itinerary. In the event your train, flight, or other travel falls outside the arrival or departure times or locations, you may be responsible for extra costs incurred in arranging a separate transfer.

### **Emergency Assistance**

For urgent assistance on your way to tour or while on tour, please always contact your guides first. You may also contact the Boston office during business hours at +1 617 776 4441 or emergency@duvine.com.

#### **Travelers Take Note**

Please note that jeans are not allowed for dinner on Day 5 and men are encouraged to wear a collared shirt.





## Tour By Day



## The Coastal Route of Fife

Welcome to Scotland! Your guides will pick you up at the Royal Botanic Garden in Edinburgh before transferring you across the Firth of Forth to the charming coastal village of Elie. Enjoy a welcome toast, map overview, and bike fitting in the charming harbor before we begin our ride along the quiet coastal roads. Remember to stay on the left side of the road as we venture past the fishing communities of the East Neuk of Fife. Stop for a delicious lunch featuring the local catch, then continue on into the medieval town of Saint Andrews. Our boutique hotel, an idyllic, turreted mansion house set in 10 acres of award-winning gardens, awaits our arrival. Dine in the hotel's fine restaurant tonight and make sure to enjoy their famous sticky toffee dessert.

Meals: Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Elie, Saint Monens, Elie, Saint Andrews

Accomplished: 20 miles / 33 km, elevation gain: 994 feet / 303 meters

**Accommodations: Rufflets Country House Hotel** 



## Deep in the Kingdom of Fife

Our adventure begins with a gentle climb from the hotel into the ancient Kingdom of Fife. Cycle through rolling farmlands, past old stone bridges, and along tree lined lanes to the picturesque village of Ceres—stopping to take pictures of the beautiful scenery. Take in the amazing views of the coast along the ridge-top route back to Saint Andrews. After lunch, we will enjoy a guided tour of Saint Andrews Cathedral, the University, and The Old Course. Stroll along the chic boutiques that line Market and North Streets or head back to our hotel to relax before dinner. Tonight you're free for dinner on your own in Saint Andrews.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch

**Destinations:** Ceres, North Sea, Saint Andrews

Accomplished: 25 miles / 40 km, elevation gain: 1,525 feet / 465 meters

**Accommodations: Rufflets Country House Hotel** 



### The Perthshire Farmlands

Heading north, we'll transfer just over an hour to begin our ride from the grounds of Scone Palace, the Gothic Revival mansion where Scottish kings, including Macbeth and Robert the Bruce, were crowned. As we meander through rural farmland this morning, the most traffic we'll encounter will be from tractors, fellow cyclists, or Highland cattle. Along the way, you'll be enlightened with tidbits about folk legends that inform the names of local sites and plant life. On our arrival in Dunkeld, admire the cathedral, enjoy a bite to eat, then explore the charming shops selling homewares and local Scottish crafts. From here, we head into the Highlands for a short ride to the hotel. Before dinner, have a pint in the hotel's cozy bar or join a local storyteller for some Scottish lore.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Pitcairngreen, Dunkeld, Weem

**Accomplished:** 33 miles / 53 km, elevation gain: 1,741 feet / 531 meters

**Accommodations: Grandtully Hotel** 



# Blair Castle and a Wee Bit of Whisky

Today's ride is a spectacular one that takes us through the rolling hills of Perthshire. Take a short detour to the Fortingall Yew Tree, one of Europe's most ancient trees at an estimated 3,000 to 5,000 years old. It stands adjacent to Fortingall Chapel, which dates back to the 12th century and offers a glimpse into Scotland's medieval religious history. Pedal onward to Blair Castle, the ancestral home of Clan Murray, and marvel at the fascinating collection of artwork, hunting trophies, furniture, and needlework amassed over generations. Here, we'll also learn about the Atholl Highlanders, a personal army serving the Duke of Atholl, head of Clan Murray, and the only private infantry permitted in all of Europe. Enjoy lunch before heading to Pitlochry via the Pass of Killiecrankie, known in equal measure for its history and beauty. We're treated to a well-informed whisky tasting led by a local friend, followed by a short transfer back to the hotel where we'll regroup for dinner this evening.

Meals: Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner

Destinations: Blair Atholl, Moulin, Pitlochry

**Accomplished:** 44 miles / 70 km, elevation gain: 3,092 feet / 943 meters

Longer Option: 49 miles / 79 km, elevation gain: 3,207 feet / 1,008 meters

**Accommodations: Grandtully Hotel** 

#### TOUR ITINERARY



# Glorious Greens and Gleneagles

This morning starts out easy with a spin towards the charming village of Aberfeldy, a pretty town that's right on the River Tay. If time allows, take a ride past the Birks Cinema, a faithfully restored 1930s Art Deco landmark. From here we settle in for a climb up General Wade's Military Road, a narrow and twisty pass. On the other side is Strathbraan, a storied route that's been traversed by notable generals, poets, artists, and pirates—all of whom have played a role in Scotland's folk history. After one more push we reach the valley of Sma'Glen and begin descending gradually through the rolling and manicured farmlands of Strathearn. For our triumphant finish we arrive right to Gleneagles, the iconic five-star estate and our home for our final night in Scotland. After settling into your stately room, we'll reconvene and toast to a wonderful week of cycling, followed by a celebratory dinner.

**Meals:** Breakfast / Lunch / Dinner **Destinations:** Aberfeldy, Auchterarder

Accomplished: 41 miles / 65 km, elevation gain: 2,482 feet / 756 meters

**Accommodations: Gleneagles** 



# Transfer to Edinburgh

After a full Scottish breakfast, take one last stroll around the Gleneagles grounds—perhaps a game of croquet or a morning massage are in order. Then it's off to Edinburgh Airport, only an hour transfer away, and we'll bid you a final farewell.

Meals: Breakfast

