

Glen to Glen

THE SCOTLAND TOURIST NEWSLETTER

Featured in each Months Newsletter

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Travel Tip

If you plan to spend more than a few weeks in Scotland it may be worth your while to invest in a Historic Scotland membership, adult memberships are as low as £4.37/month

Benefits Include:

1. Free entry to Historic Scotland attractions.
2. Free entry to Edinburgh and Stirling Castles.
3. Discounted entry to other attractions.
4. Historic Scotland Membership Card.
5. Membership pack with cards and handbook.
6. Four issues of membership magazine.
7. 20% discount in Historic Scotland shops.
8. 20% discount on Annual Gift Membership.
9. 10% discount in Historic Scotland cafes.
10. Discount on audio guides.
11. Member-only area with exclusive content.
12. Supporting preservation of national treasures.

<https://members.historic-scotland.gov.uk/home>

Featured Castle

*Stanley Castle
Paisley Water Works Reservoir*



Stanley Castle is a 15th century castle located in the reservoir of the Paisley Water Works, two miles south of the town. The structure is of the L Plan, with well-preserved exterior walls and an interior that is completely gutted. The doorway is in the re-entering angle, and the ground floor is

pierced with several loops that have an ancient appearance. The walls are built with coursed work, and the parapet has run round the whole castle, with corbelled bartizans at the angles. The castle and barony of Stanley or Stainly belonged in the fourteenth century to the Danzielstons of that ilk, and passed by marriage to Maxwell of Calderwood, and through them in the fifteenth century to the Maxwells of Newark. In 1629, the estate was sold to Lady Ross, and is now the property of the Earl of Glasgow. Close by is an interesting standing stone set in a broad socket. Stanley Castle is a remarkable example of 15th century Scottish architecture and a great example of how castles have been preserved and adapted to their environment over the centuries. Visitors to Stanley Castle can explore the castle and its grounds, take in the spectacular views of the reservoir, and learn about the history of the castle and its inhabitants. There are also a number of events held at the castle throughout the year, including re-enactments, shows, and more.

Cost: Free

Location: Stanley Reservoir, Stravaig Walk, Paisley PA2 0DY, United Kingdom –11 Miles outside of Glasgow

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Featured Adventure

Journey to the Isle of Skye's Unforgettable Fairy Pools for a refreshing dip

Get ready for an extraordinary journey to Skye's Fairy Pools! Nestled amidst the majestic Cuillin Mountains, these mystical waterfalls are a hidden gem that will leave you spellbound. Brace yourself for an unforgettable adventure as you dive into the breathtaking beauty of this enchanting destination! Legend has it that Skye's Fairy Pools earned their name due to their irresistible allure. Imagine yourself surrounded by cascading waterfalls and an ethereal atmosphere that transports you to a magical realm. It's no wonder that this place has become a paradise for nature enthusiasts, offering a once-in-a-lifetime experience.

To make the most of your visit, embark on a captivating hike through the Fairy Pools. Follow the well-defined path that takes you on a scenic ascent alongside mesmerizing waterfalls. As you explore, you'll discover hidden swimming spots and escape the crowds, immersing yourself deeper into this mystical landscape. For those seeking adventure, don't miss the opportunity to indulge in wild swimming. The crystal-clear waters of the Fairy Pools invite you to take a refreshing plunge into their invigorating depths. Brace yourself for the chill, but the allure of these pristine rock pools is irresistible. Whether you're a seasoned wild swimmer or a first-timer, the Fairy Pools promise an exhilarating and rejuvenating experience.

As you revel in the magic of the Fairy Pools, keep an eye out for the abundant wildlife that calls this area home. Spot rabbits, sheep, and if luck is on your side, catch a glimpse of the majestic wild red deer. Bird enthusiasts will delight in observing plovers, herons, curlews, and other avian wonders. Don't forget your



binoculars to fully appreciate the natural wonders that surround you. When it comes to logistics, driving is the most convenient way to reach the Fairy Pools. Simply follow the winding road from Carbost to Glenbrittle, where you'll find a parking lot situated at the foot of the falls. Arriving early is crucial, especially during peak season, to secure a spot. If you don't have a vehicle, hitchhiking is a reliable option in Scotland, particularly in remote areas like Skye.

While the Fairy Pools are captivating year-round, it's essential to plan your visit wisely. The best time to explore is between April and August, when the weather is warmer and the daylight hours are longer. However, be prepared for unpredictable mountainous conditions throughout the year. Dress warmly, pack waterproof gear, and bring midge repellent during the warmer months.

As you plan your adventure, consider exploring other attractions that Skye has to offer. Visit the iconic Sligachan Bridge, relax on the picturesque Talisker Beach, or savor the renowned whiskey at Talisker Distillery. The Cuillin Mountains present awe-inspiring hiking opportunities for those seeking a challenge.

To enhance your experience, aim to visit during quieter periods. Arriving early allows you to enjoy the tranquility and serenity of this enchanting place. Take a moment to appreciate the untouched beauty that surrounds you.

Cost: Free - £5 parking charge

Location: Glenbrittle, Isle of Skye IV47 8TA, UK -- 20 Miles from Portree, Skye

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Island Adventure

Islay Island

Land of Beauty and Famous Scotch Whiskies

Islay Island is a hidden gem nestled in the beautiful country of Scotland. From its stunning landscapes to its renowned whisky distilleries, Islay offers an unforgettable experience for every adventurous soul.

Let us whisk you away on a journey of exploration as you discover the many wonders this enchanting island has to offer. With its rugged coastline, picturesque beaches, and rolling green hills, Islay boasts breathtaking natural beauty at every turn. Take a leisurely stroll along the pristine shores, breathing in the crisp sea air and relishing the tranquility that surrounds you. For whisky connoisseurs, Islay is a true haven. Renowned worldwide for its smoky and peaty whiskies, the island is home to no less than eight distilleries. Embark on a whisky trail, visiting iconic names such as Laphroaig, Ardbeg, and Lagavulin, and delve into the rich history and craftsmanship that goes into every dram. The warm hospitality of the distillery staff will make your visit even more memorable.

As you immerse yourself in the local culture, don't miss the opportunity to savor the delectable culinary delights of Islay. Sample freshly caught seafood, including succulent oysters and flavorful langoustines, or indulge in hearty dishes featuring locally sourced ingredients. Be sure to pair your meal with a glass of the island's finest whisky for the perfect culinary experience.

While Islay boasts a myriad of attractions, it's essential to mention a few tips and downsides. Firstly, the island's remote location means that travel arrangements should be planned in advance, as ferry services may be limited. Additionally, due to its popularity among whisky enthusiasts, some distilleries may require booking tours in advance to ensure availability. Furthermore, Islay's unpredictable weather can be both a



blessing and a challenge. Embrace the changing skies and come prepared with layers and waterproof gear to fully enjoy the island's natural wonders. It's also worth noting that due to its smaller size, Islay has a limited range of dining and entertainment options compared to larger cities.

As you explore Islay, keep in mind that the island's charm lies in its unhurried pace of life and unspoiled landscapes. Take the time to connect with nature, appreciate the warmth of the locals, and relish the moments of tranquility that Islay offers.

Islay Island is a destination that will enchant and captivate you with its rugged beauty, rich heritage, and legendary whiskies. So, pack your bags, prepare your taste buds, and embark on an unforgettable adventure to this Scottish paradise



Glen to Glen

For the Hiker / Biker

The West Highland Way

The West Highland Way is an iconic long-distance route offers an unforgettable journey from Milngavie to Fort William, showcasing the very best of Scotland's natural beauty. Embark on a thrilling expedition as you traverse Scotland's first and most beloved long-distance trail. From the vibrant city of Glasgow, the trail takes you through the enchanting Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park, offering stunning vistas at every turn. Picture yourself hiking alongside the tranquil shores of Loch Lomond, surrounded by majestic mountains and lush greenery.

Prepare to be awestruck as the scenery gradually transforms from picturesque pastures to rugged highland mountains. Immerse yourself in the grandeur of Glen Coe and marvel at the breathtaking views from the renowned Devil's Staircase. If you're up for a challenge, don't miss the opportunity to conquer Ben Lomond or even the UK's highest peak, Ben Nevis, for an exhilarating sense of achievement.

While the West Highland Way is undoubtedly a thrilling adventure, it's important to be aware of a few things. As Scotland's most popular long-distance trail, it attracts a fair amount of foot traffic. So, if you're seeking solitude, you may need to adjust your expectations. Additionally, Rannoch Moor, with its exposed terrain, requires caution and proper protection in inclement weather.



To make the most of this remarkable experience, plan your journey wisely. Allow yourself ample time to complete the trail, ideally at least 7 or 8 days. Rushing through the route may turn it into a test of endurance rather than a pleasurable expedition. Take advantage of the side-trips along the way, such as exploring Inchcailloch, visiting Glengoyne Distillery, or discovering the RSPB trail at Inversnaid.

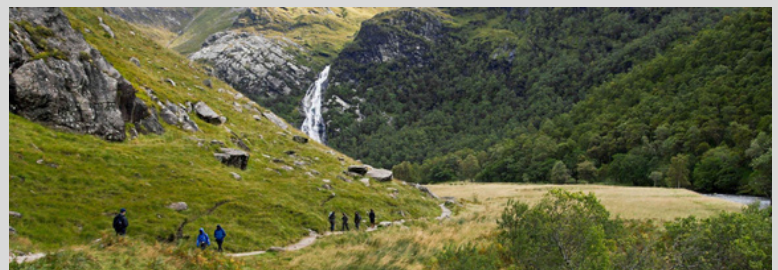
Accommodation options are plentiful, with charming villages offering cozy B&Bs, bunkhouses, and even unique camping experiences. Speaking of camping, if you're a fan of wild camping, Scotland's Outdoor Access Code allows for responsible wild camping, but be mindful of the designated zones during certain months.

So, lace up your hiking boots and get ready to create memories that will last a lifetime on the West Highland Way. Let the breathtaking landscapes, challenging trails, and warm Scottish hospitality captivate your senses. Embark on this unforgettable adventure and embrace the beauty of Scotland's outdoors.

Distance: 154 Km/96 Miles

Start: W Highland Way, Milngavie, Glasgow, Scotland

Finish: W Highland Way, Milngavie, Glasgow, Scotland



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A Must See

The Glenfinnan Viaduct

Immerse yourself in history as you traverse the Glenfinnan Viaduct, a stunning feat of engineering dating back to the late 19th century. With its 21 majestic arches spanning the picturesque River Finnan, this viaduct offers unrivaled vistas of Loch Shiel and the surrounding natural wonders. Feel the allure of a bygone era as you walk in the footsteps of steam trains and embark on a truly epic railway adventure.

The Glenfinnan Viaduct gained global recognition for its role in the Harry Potter films, as the Hogwarts Express made its magical journey across this very structure. Stand on the same spot where Harry and his friends embarked on countless enchanting adventures, and let your imagination soar.

To ensure an unforgettable visit, here are a few tips:

1. Plan your visit accordingly: If you wish to witness the Jacobite steam train in action, be sure to check its schedule and plan your visit during the summer months. Experience the thrill of seeing the iconic train gracefully traverse the viaduct—a sight to behold!
2. Capture the moment: Don't forget your camera! From every angle, the Glenfinnan Viaduct offers postcard-worthy views. Be ready to snap photos of the viaduct and the surrounding landscapes as you create lasting memories.

A Must Eat

Cranachan

Cranachan is a must-try traditional Scottish dessert that tourists visiting Scotland should not miss. This delectable treat consists of a delightful combination of fresh raspberries, cream, Scottish oats, honey, and a splash of whisky. Its origins can be traced back to the celebration of the raspberry harvest, making it a quintessential Scottish delight.

When in Scotland, tourists can find Cranachan in various cafes, restaurants, and dessert shops across the country. It is often available all year round, but it is particularly abundant during the raspberry season in August. This is the perfect time to savor the dessert when the raspberries are at their freshest and most flavorful. By indulging in Cranachan, tourists can experience the



3. Explore beyond the viaduct: Take the time to explore the enchanting surroundings of Glenfinnan. Stroll along the serene shores of Loch Shiel and visit the Glenfinnan Monument, a historic site commemorating the Jacobite uprising. Delve into the rich history and natural beauty of the area for a well-rounded experience. Your paragraph text

Be mindful of crowds: Due to its popularity, the Glenfinnan Viaduct can attract a large number of visitors, particularly during peak tourist seasons. If possible, plan your visit during weekdays or choose early mornings or late afternoons for a more peaceful atmosphere

Location: Top of Loch Shiel in the West Scottish Highlands

authentic taste of Scotland's culinary heritage. The creamy texture, combined with the sweet and tart raspberries, offers a delightful contrast of flavors. The Scottish oats add a satisfying crunch, while the hint of whisky gives it a unique and distinctive twist. Whether enjoyed as a standalone dessert or as a special treat during celebrations, Cranachan encapsulates the essence of Scottish cuisine. So, make sure to seek out this delectable dessert during your visit to Scotland, and savor a taste of tradition that will leave a lasting impression.



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Beach Lovers

Sango Bay Beach

With its golden sands, mesmerizing rocky formations, and tranquil sheltered outcrops, Sango Bay offers an unforgettable experience for visitors of all ages. Bask in the warm sun, take refreshing dips in the North Minch, and immerse yourself in the panoramic views that stretch as far as the eye can see. Surfing enthusiasts, rejoice! Sango Bay provides ideal conditions for catching thrilling waves and riding the surf. Whether you're a seasoned pro or a beginner eager to try something new, this beach will cater to your surfing desires. If you're planning a visit, don't forget to explore the famous Smoo Cave nearby, a natural wonder formed by the powerful forces of both the sea and a river. Marvel at its grandeur and let the mystique of the cave captivate your imagination. While Sango Bay promises endless fun and beauty, it's essential to keep a few tips in mind. The beach can become quite popular, especially during peak times, so arriving early ensures you



secure the perfect spot for sunbathing and picnicking. Additionally, be mindful of the tides and obey any safety instructions provided by the local authorities.

Location: Sango Bay Beach, Durness, Durness, The Scottish Highlands

Museum Buffs

Glenesk Folk Museum

Visit the Glenesk Folk Museum, nestled in the picturesque village of Tarfside, Angus, Scotland. Step into a bygone era as you wander through the halls of 'The Retreat,' a former shooting lodge once owned by the Earls of Dalhousie. Established in 1955 by the visionary Greta Michie, this museum is a treasure trove of artifacts and documents chronicling the rich history of the region. Immerse yourself in themed rooms, each with its unique charm. Marvel at reconstructed 1850s living spaces and discover the fascinating tales they hold. Don't forget to explore the children's room, which is sure to captivate young and old alike. For genealogy buffs, the document archive is a goldmine, offering access to Census records and vital records for research. Take advantage of the computers available for your genealogical inquiries. While here, don't miss the opportunity to browse the gift shop, brimming with locally crafted souvenirs. And after a day of exploration, relax in the café, treating yourself to scrumptious refreshments.



Keep an eye out for craft workshops and enchanting events like music recitals and storytelling sessions. Be sure to check their schedule for upcoming activities!

While the Glenesk Folk Museum promises an unforgettable experience, it's important to note that due to its rural location, transportation options may be limited. Plan your visit accordingly, and consider carpooling or using public transportation if possible.

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The Whiskey Admirer Glenturret distillery

Step back in time and explore the intriguing origins of Glenturret, which dates all the way back to 1763. Legend has it that this historic distillery was once a haven for illicit bothy stills, hidden away from prying eyes. Immerse yourself in the tales of smugglers and their secret operations while surrounded by the breathtaking beauty of the Turret River and the majestic hills. But the fun doesn't stop at history! As you embark on your distillery tour, be prepared to tantalize your senses. Indulge in the aroma of malted barley, soak in the breathtaking views that inspired artists for centuries, and witness the traditional craftsmanship that goes into creating Glenturret's exceptional whiskies.

Don't forget to meet the resident feline pest control experts, Glen and Turret, who continue the legacy of their famous predecessor, Towser the mouser. These friendly feline companions add a touch of charm to your visit.

While you savor the experience, keep in mind a few helpful tips. The distillery is tucked away in a secluded location, so plan your transportation accordingly.



Consider booking your tour in advance to secure your spot and make the most of your visit. And, of course, don't forget to sample some of Glenturret's renowned single malt whiskies—each one a true masterpiece.

Join us at Glenturret Distillery, where history, craftsmanship, and natural beauty blend seamlessly to create an unforgettable adventure. Raise your glass and toast to the wonders of Scotland's whisky heritage. Slàinte mhath!

Location: The Hosh, Crieff PH7 4HA, UK

The Beer Connoisseur Belhaven Brewery

Step back into the 18th century as you learn about Belhaven's fascinating brewing heritage, dating all the way back to 1719. Immerse yourself in the rich history of Dunbar, where brewing traditions were cultivated by Benedictine monks on the Isle of May centuries ago.

But it's not just history that awaits you at Belhaven Brewery – there's plenty of fun to be had! Sample their diverse range of over 20 beers, including the famous Belhaven Best, Scotland's best-selling ale. Indulge your taste buds with a pint of Belhaven Black Scottish Stout or venture into the world of craft beers with their exciting specialty brews.

While you're there, be sure to take a tour of the newly installed brewhouse, which allows for a wider variety of beer styles to be brewed on-site. And don't miss the chance to explore Belhaven's charming pubs, where you can experience the true



Scottish pub culture and savor a pint in authentic surroundings. Mark Belhaven Brewery on your map and get ready for a delightful journey blending history, beer, and Scottish hospitality. Cheers to unforgettable experiences and the joys of exploration!

Location: Brewery Ln, Dunbar EH42 1PE, UK

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Featured Monument Cheapside Street Fire Memorial



Discover the poignant Cheapside Street Fire Memorial in Glasgow, Scotland. This touching tribute commemorates the tragic 1960 fire that claimed the lives of 19 firefighters—the most ever lost during peacetime. The colorful mosaic, created by local school children, depicts a saluting firefighter surrounded by flames and whisky barrels. A nearby slate monument, in need of restoration, features a faded photograph of the incident. A visit to this memorial offers a somber reminder of bravery and sacrifice, honoring the firefighters' legacy and the importance of their memory in Glasgow's history.

About Us

Welcome to "Glen to Glen," your premier destination for exploring the enchanting landscapes and rich heritage of Scotland. Our newsletter is your gateway to discovering the hidden gems and unforgettable experiences that await you. Immerse yourself in the mystique of ancient castles, savor the flavors of traditional Scottish cuisine, and delve into the captivating tales of Scottish folklore. Whether you're drawn to the rugged beauty of the Highlands or the vibrant city life, "Glen to Glen" will guide you through the diverse wonders that make Scotland a truly remarkable and memorable destination. Get ready to embark on an extraordinary journey through the heart and soul of Scotland.

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Newsletter

Scottish Clan Connection

MONTHLY NEWSLETTER

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