

Pocket guide to Edinburgh

Visitingedinburgh.com welcomes you to Edinburgh, Edinburgh Castle and Edinburgh Festival are reasons to visit this historic city. Edinburgh is an all year round city with art galleries, theatres, sightseeing, Blues and Jazz Festivals and the world renowned Edinburgh Festival Fringe.

Visiting Edinburgh for the first time, or, returning to enjoy our city again, we are sure the information contained in the following pages will be useful.

Edinburgh is described by **Prince Charles** as one of the worlds most beautiful cities. Edinburgh was recently voted **one of the top ten cities in the world by Expedia**.

Sightseeing in Edinburgh

Surrounded by hills with a Castle dominating the centre the visitor quickly feel at home. Travelling around Edinburgh is easy and straightforward as the Old Town and New Town in Edinburgh have their own character but are in a stones throw of each other. You can either travel around Edinburgh by coach or bus, or do like the locals and travel Edinburgh City centre on foot.

Edinburgh Castle and the Royal Mile

Edinburgh Castle is the top visitor attraction in Scotland and the most recognisable tourist attraction in the world. It was built on the Castle rock, houses in Edinburgh were historically built on the area in front of the Castle. This area was called the **Lawnmarket** which can still be visited today. The old town continued down the **High Street** and **Cannongate** towards the **Palace of Holyrood House**. These streets are collectively called the **Royal Mile**. This route will also now take you from the Castle to the new **Scottish Parliament**. Situated on an extinct volcano it is part of **Edinburgh's World Heritage site**.

The Royal Mile leading down from the castle is a day out in its own right with **St. Giles Cathedral, Museum of Childhood, John Knoxs House, King Mary's Close** and shops selling whiskey, tartan and other various Scottish gifts. Everything you would want to take home as a reminder of your trip to Scotland can be found on the **High Street**.

Opening times

1 April to 30 September - Monday to Sunday 9.30a.m. to 6.30p.m. Last Entry 6.00p.m. in summer
1 October to 31 March - Monday to Sunday 9.30a.m. to 4.30p.m. Last Entry 5.00p.m. in winter

Tel: 0131 225 9846

Admission Adult: £10.30 Child £4.50

Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

Eating Out in Edinburgh

Bar Roma 39a Queensferry Street , the best Italian restaurant in Edinburgh bar none

Bellini 88 Abercromby Place can't be beaten for classic cuisine 0131476 2602

Guilianos 18 Union Place and 1 Commercial Street Leith , great for the kids

Howies 10-14 Victoria Street / 29 Waterloo Place / 208 Bruntsfield Place 0131 225 1721

Jimmy Chungs 30 Grindlay Street 0131 228 8688, the No 1 Chinese buffet restaurant

Lauriston Farm 69 Lauriston Farm Road 0131 312 7071, lovely setting out of town

Maison Bleu 36-38 Victoria Street 0131 226 1900 / 3-5 Infirmary Street 0131 557 9997

Old Chain Peir 32 Trinity Crescent 0131 552 1233

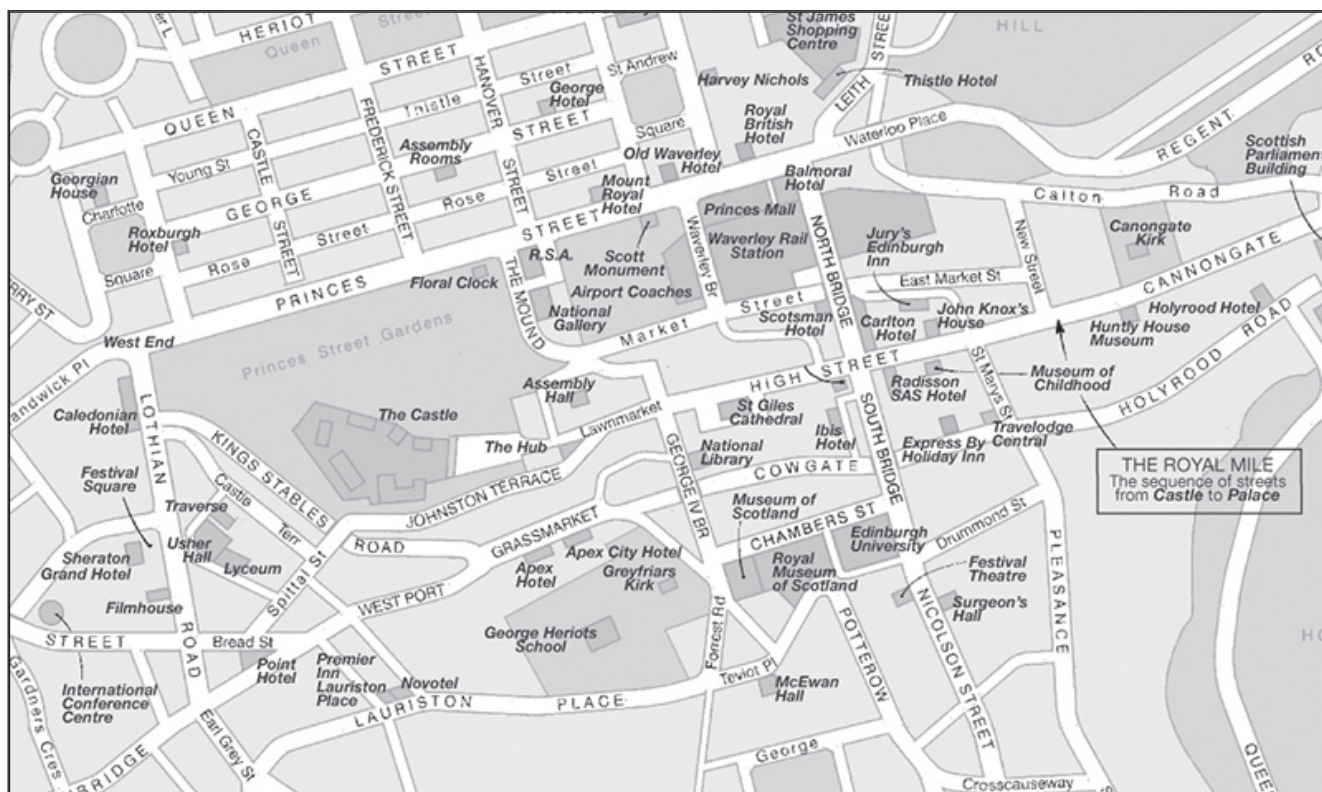
Peacock 100 Lindsay Road 0131 552 8707, best fish in town and near Ocean Terminal

Pizza Express The Shore Leith, overlooking the Forth , great atmosphere, good service

Restaurant Martin Wishart Michelin Starred Restaurant 54 The Shore Leith 0131 553 3557

Tower Restaurant Museum of Scotland Chambers Street Booking Essential 0131 226 3003

Map of Edinburgh



Edinburgh Pubs and Bars

Edinburgh has pubs to suit every taste, you can drink in historic pubs such as Deacon Brodies or take yourself on a tour of the old town including the Three Sisters in the Cowgate and the Black Bull and Beehive in the Grassmarket.

If you are staying in the New Town George Street has many Pubs such as the Standing Order (great prices no music), The Dome, Madogs and many, many more.

The Royal Mile leading down from the castle is where you find a fast array of pubs to suit every taste. The Old town usually has cheaper pubs to drink in than the new town. All pubs in Edinburgh are non smoking although many now have beer gardens or facilities where you can smoke outside. You can drink almost 24 hours a day in Edinburgh so you just need to find where the party is at.

Real Ale Pubs in Edinburgh

Just outside Edinburgh in Musselburgh is one of the best real ale pubs anywhere. Although it is called the Volunteer Arms everyone calls it **Staggs**. Often recognised as real ale pub of the year.

In South Queensferry, under Forth Bridge is the **Hawes Inn** which is said to be the inspiration for the Admiral Benbow Inn in Robert Louis Stevenson's **Kidnapped**.

In Leith the **Malt and Hops** on the Shore, has good beer range **The Kings Wark** close by offers them some competition.

Near the town centre in Tollcross is **Cloisters** is a converted parsonage. It has 9 cask ales on tap.

In the South Side of Edinburgh, **Leslies Bar**, the **Old Bell** and the Southsider are the best.

Behind the east end of Princes Street are the **Guildford Arms** and the **Café Royal**. The Guildford is one of Edinburgh's best real ale pubs and the Café Royal is often voted it one of UK's top 50 Pubs.

Trendy Bars in Edinburgh

The Dome on George Street. **The Q bar**, on Leith Street and **Walkabouts** at the Omni Centre to name but a few. George the IV Bridge has **Frankensteins**.

Au Bar, 101 Shandwick Place 0131 228 2648 Small and Intimate at the end of Princess Street.

Bar Kohl, 54 George IV Bridge 0131 225 6936. Vodka Bar range of Vodkas from across Europe.

Bar 38, 128 George Street 0131 220 6180 Style and Elegance.

Rutland, 3 Rutland Street 0131 229 3402 just off Princess Street, centrally located.

Bar Oz, 14 Forest Road 0131 220 1816 Australian Bar.

Walkabout, Omni Centre Edinburgh Australian Bar.

Edinburgh Pubs and Bars

Drinking in Edinburgh's New Town is a great experience from **Rose Street** to **George Street**

Fashionable and Trendy. This area of town has everything from Cocktail bars to Cosmopolitan Venues. Try the **Cafe Royal** for old world charm or the **Dome** for a mixture of drinking and dancing. **The Caledonian Hotel Bar** is one the best Whisky bars in Edinburgh

The **Grassmarket** is a great place to drink although often at the weekends you will find a welcome for Hen and Stags nights in Edinburgh.

The **Black Bull** which is big enough for people to use as a meeting venue in Edinburgh. The **Grassmarket** is a short walk from the **Royal mile** and close to the **Cowgate**

Edinburgh City Centre Pubs

Auld Hundred, 100 Rose Street 0131 1809 Traditional Scottish Pub on Rose Street

Black Bull, 12 Grassmarket 0131 225 6636 Large Pub great meeting place

Café Royal, 17 West Register Street 0131 556 4124. The Independent voted it one of UK's top 50 Pubs.

Standing Order 62-66 George Street 0131 225 4460 Best prices in George Street.

Visitingedinburgh.com Pub of the Year.

Deacon Brodies, A Pub Near Edinburgh Castle 435 Lawn Market 0131 225 6531.

Oxford Bar, 8 Young Street 0131 539 7119 Made famous by Ian Rankin's Inspector Rebus.

Rose Street Brewery 55-57 Rose Street 0131 220 1227 A real ale pub that brews its own beer.

Worlds End High Street, Edinburgh a traditional pub and a great night out.

Live Music Pubs and Bars in Edinburgh

There are a number of Pubs and Venues that offer live music in Edinburgh, everything from Jazz clubs in Edinburgh to local Rock Bands and Folk music.

Bannermans in the Cowgate is a great venue for Rock Bands in Edinburgh.

Drop Kick Murphys on Merchant Street also has live music at the weekends.

The Saltire a traditional Pub on Rose Street also has live Scottish music.