



SCOTLAND

Capital: Edinburgh

Population: 5.2 Million

Currency: British Pound (GBP) - Sterling £

Language: English, Gaelic, Scots

Time Zone: EST plus 3 hours

Electricity: 240V. 50HZ

Fun Facts



- Scotland is the second-largest country in the United Kingdom.
- Scotland is comprised of approximately 790 islands, out of which around 130 are inhabited.
- England and Scotland joined as Great Britain in 1707.
- Scotland is very well known in the world for its Scotch whisky.
- Edinburgh was the first city in the world to have its own fire brigade.

The abiding glory of Scotland is in its majestic scenery, especially the Highlands of the north, one of the last areas of wilderness left in Europe. Scotland is a land of jagged rock and wooded forests, of misty mountains and heather-clad moors, where wild stag roam and ospreys swoop. Loch Lomond—where kilted pipers play upon the “Bonnie Banks” and the mysterious and enormous Loch Ness still guards its secrets—is but two of hundreds of Scottish lochs replenished by tumbling trout streams and majestic salmon rivers. Here the Gaelic culture and Gaelic language flourish amidst awe-inspiring seascapes and mountain ranges, and memories of Flora McDonald and Bonnie Prince Charlie still linger. To the far north are the Orkney and Shetland Islands, which are very remote and more Viking in character!

Scotsmen and women have helped to shape our modern world through invention, exploration, philosophy, literature, medicine, commerce, political thought, industry, and science. The list of great Scots and their discoveries and inventions is infinite...James Watt for the steam engine; John Logie Baird for the television; Alexander Graham Bell, the telephone; Alexander Fleming, penicillin; and Adam Smith, the father of economics. Sean Connery and Harry Lauder stole the world stage, and Andrew Carnegie became a king of industry and is known as one of the world’s most generous philanthropists. Like the profound wit and wisdom of Robert Burns and the romantic poetry of Lord Byron, Scottish authors have created some of the best-known characters in literature: Sir Walter Scott’s Rob Roy and Ivanhoe, Robert Louis Stevenson’s Long John Silver and Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle’s Sherlock Holmes, J.M. Barrie’s Peter Pan, Ian Fleming’s 007-James Bond, and J.K. Rowling’s Harry Potter. Gifted architects such as Charles Rennie Mackintosh, “Greek” Thompson, and Robert Adam have left their graceful mark upon country mansions and city streets alike.

This majestic country boasts strong royal connections. The Queen is a regular visitor to both Balmoral Castle and the Palace of Holyrood House. King Robert the Bruce, Mary Queen of Scots, and Bonnie Prince Charlie leap out from the pages of Scottish history, along with Macbeth, John Knox, and Braveheart William Wallace. Castle ruins and clan memorials are proof of a turbulent past, and the ancient battlefields of Bannockburn, Glen Coe, and Culloden are a poignant reminder of battles fought on Scotland’s great countryside.

Most of today's population is centered in and around the two great cities of Edinburgh and Glasgow. Edinburgh is truly one of the world's most splendid cities. Visually breathtaking, the old castle dominates the city center and, when illuminated at night, seems to float high above Princes Street and the Royal Mile. Glasgow, on the River Clyde and once flourishing with new industry, was famous for shipbuilding yards and textile mills. Today, it is the modern, prosperous face of Scotland, and it manages to blend 21st-century architecture with the best of the old Georgian and Victorian commercial buildings. Other famous Scottish towns include Aberdeen and Dundee, Gretna Green, John O'Groats, and most famous of all, St. Andrew's, which is the home of the university and golf lovers' St. Andrew's golf course.

Scotland is renowned for its food and drink. The world's finest whisky is distilled here—Scotch. Roast meats are generally of good quality and popular. Haggis is quite spicy but surprisingly good! Traditional fish dishes include *cullen skink* (haddock soup) and *kippers* (smoked herring). Oatmeal is frequently used, especially in porridge, and Scottish shortbread melts in the mouth. The woolen industry remains very important; tartan kilts, Harris Tweed, cashmere sweaters, and other fine knitwear are readily available.



VISAS AND PASSPORTS

Visas to Scotland are not required for U.S. citizens. If you hold a passport from another country, please check with your local consulate about requirements for travel to Scotland. All passengers traveling internationally are required to have a passport. Please carry proper identification (your passport) on you and do not leave it in your suitcase or hotel room. European law requires you to carry your passport with you at all times.



COUNTRY CODES

The country code for Scotland is 44. When calling to Scotland from overseas, you dial your international access code (011 from the U.S.) followed by the country code, area code, and phone number. Phone numbers in Scotland are 10 digits in length (including area code). Dialing from the U.S.: 011+44+XXX XXX XXXX.



CURRENCY AND BUDGETING

Throughout Scotland, the currency is the pound sterling or also known as the British Pound (GBP).

1 Pound (£) = 100 Pence (p)

- Banknote denominations: £5, £10, £20, £50
- Coin denominations: 1p, 2p, 5p, 10p, 20p, 50p, £1, £2

For the most current exchange rates, please go to our Web site at www.globusfamily.com/currency

Credit cards are widely accepted in Scotland, and you should have no issues using them. Visa and MasterCard are most accepted. Smaller shops may ask you to pay in cash or have a minimum amount required to use a credit card.

Visitors from outside the European Union can have the value-added tax (VAT) refunded at the end of their trip. Ask for a tax-free shopping form with each purchase and follow the instructions for completion.



TO HELP YOU BUDGET:

The following budget guidelines are just approximate values or starting values for meals and are per person. Actual prices will vary widely by restaurant and city within a country but below are some averages as provided by our experienced personnel.

The approximate cost of a soft drink/mineral water/coffee is £2.50.

An average lunch consisting of a salad or sandwich and a soda or water starts at approximately £8.

A steak dinner at a mid-range restaurant, with desert and a non-alcoholic beverage start at approximately £25.



TIPPING

Tipping is common in the United Kingdom and is similar to tipping in the United States in restaurants. A tip of 10% is usually acceptable. Some restaurants add an optional service charge to the check which is in lieu of tipping the service staff directly. However, tipping in pubs for drinks ordered at the bar is not customary.

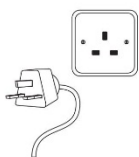
For taxi, round up the fare as the tip even if it is only a small amount. Tipping for taxis is generally not expected.

Tip hotel staff £0.50 for room service.



ELECTRICAL OUTLETS:

Voltage for outlets is 240V. American voltage is generally 110V. Therefore, a converter may be necessary for your travels. Adapters will be necessary to adapt your plug into the outlet but may not convert the voltage, so both devices are necessary. Scottish facilities have 3-prong outlets with two flat prongs in line and one perpendicular, which look like



Type G



TEMPERATURES

Scotland's weather is best described as "brisk". Summers days are long but not often hot, and weather is often windy, misty and sometimes cold. We recommend layered clothing for warm days and chilly nights.

To help you plan, below are average low and high temperatures for Edinburgh.

Month	Average High °(F)	Average Low °(F)
January	45.0	34.5
February	46.0	34.5
March	49.1	36.0
April	52.7	38.3
May	58.1	43.2
June	63.0	48.0
July	66.6	51.1
August	66.6	51.1
September	62.1	47.5
October	55.6	42.4
November	49.3	37.6
December	44.2	33.4

To convert to Celsius, subtract 32, then multiply by 5 and then divide by 9.

See examples in the Know Before You Go Europe document.



FOOD SPECIALTIES

Scotch whisky, Haggis, traditional fish dishes including *cullen skink* (haddock soup) and *kippers* (smoked herring), oatmeal porridge, and shortbread.



A FEW WORDS OF THE LOCAL LANGUAGE

American to British English:

Elevator: Lift, **Apartment:** Flat, **Yard:** Garden, **Trunk:** Boot, **Truck:** Lorry, **Bartender:** Barman, **Cell phone:** Mobile, **Check:** Bill, **Bill:** Bank note, **Trash can:** Bin, **Sidewalk:** Pavement, **Drugstore:** Chemist, **Band-Aid:** Plaster, **Bathroom/Washroom/Restroom:** Toilet/WC/loo, **Highway:** Motorway, **Subway:** Tube/underground, **Taxi:** Cab, **Crosswalk:** Pedestrian crossing, **Movie theater:** Cinema, **Orchestra seats:** Stalls, **Sweater:** Jumper, **Pants/slacks:** Trousers, **Pantyhose:** Tights, **Sneakers:** Trainers, **Line:** Queue, **Mail:** Post, **Napkin:** Serviette, **Fries:** Chips, **Potato chips:** Crisps, **Eggplant:** Aubergine, **Dessert:** Pudding, **Jelly:** Jam, **Cookie:** Biscuit, **Liquor:** Spirits, **Dark ale:** Bitter, **Beer:** Lager, **Emergency room:** Casualty, **Washcloth:** Flannel, **Wallet:** Purse, **Purse:** Handbag.

Last updated 11/1/12