

Scotland. The home of golf.

Homecoming
Scotland
2009

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Scotland.
Welcome to our life.



Your Detailed Itinerary

Scotland
The home of golf.

Day 1

Head over the Forth Bridge for Fife and the hallowed links of St Andrews, the game's spiritual home. Overnight in the town.

Day 2

Time for another serious course: the challenges of Carnoustie. Overnight St Andrews.

Day 3

An early start, heading west for Gleneagles on the edge of the hills. Then it's north for Perth and overnight Aberdeen.

Day 4

Explore the valley of the Dee, with courses such as Aboyne or Ballater set amid the pine and birchwoods. Take care with your tee shots at Ballater – the river is a hazard! Overnight Aberdeen.

Day 5

Just time to fit in a round at Royal Aberdeen before taking the A96, north-west for Elgin, gateway to Speyside. Gordon and MacPhail is a famous whisky shop in the town.

Day 6

Off down the valley for a round at the superb Boat of Garten, with the Cairngorms as a backdrop, then it's a leisurely drive back to Elgin.

Day 7

Head west a short way for the joys of Nairn, a golfing resort on the inner Moray Firth, with a course that has been a Walker Cup venue and is associated with the famous Old Tom Morris as well as James Braid. Return to Elgin for overnight.

Day 8

Join the A9 via a southward route to Grantown-on-Spey for a journey over the Pass of Drumochter for Perth then Stirling. Just time for a round at one of the Stirling courses before overnight Stirling.

Day 9

Fit in a visit to Stirling Castle or the Wallace Monument – super views – before heading west via Callander and Crianlarich for Oban and overnight. Enjoy a waterfront stroll in the evening in Oban – there's a good choice of restaurants nearby.

Day 10

From Oban a short ferry journey takes you to the island of Mull, where you can sample the gentle undulations of the Craignure course. A visit to Torosay or Duart Castles could also be an option. Overnight Tobermory.

Day 11

Tobermory Golf Club is simply one of the most beautifully situated in all of Scotland and overlooks the Sound of Mull. (It's also a nine-hole test that has never been played to par.) But don't spend too long admiring the view – there's a ferry to catch back to Oban and overnight.

Day 12

Your destination is the classic links of Ayrshire – so it's east and south to Inveraray, then stay with Loch Fyne a little longer to follow the road through the Argyll Forest Park down to Dunoon. Take the ferry to Gourock, continuing south along the Clyde coast down to Ayrshire. Overnight Ayr.

Day 13

They say the inward half of Royal Troon is the most challenging of any championship course – but there are a host of other demanding and rewarding courses to choose from within easy reach of Ayr. Overnight Ayr.

Day 14

Take a cross country route back eastwards towards Edinburgh (though there are plenty of gems in Galloway as an alternative). And from Edinburgh, it's an easy journey eastwards to the coastal classics of East Lothian.

The information contained in this publication is as supplied to VisitScotland and to the best of VisitScotland's knowledge is correct at the time of going to press. VisitScotland can accept no responsibility for any errors or omissions. Journey times and frequency are accurate at the time of going to print but may be subject to change. July 2008.

VisitScotland is committed to ensuring that our natural environment and built heritage, upon which tourism is so dependent, is safeguarded for future generations to enjoy. Cover: The Swilcan Bridge and the Old Course with a view beyond to the Royal and Ancient Clubhouse at St. Andrews, Fife. © Glyn Satterley/VisitScotland/Scottish Viewpoint

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Visit
Scotland

Scotland The home of golf.

Scotland is the home of golf for lots of reasons. There is the huge choice of courses, and everyone is united in their enthusiasm for the game – in Scotland it's a very democratic pastime. Organising to play a round is straightforward (and often remarkably cheap). Finally, you'll find the Scots themselves play throughout the year. Very few days are totally unplayable, thanks to a climate without extremes. So golf in Scotland is friendly, great value, easy to take part in and widely available, and we have more courses per head of population than anywhere else in the world. See you at the first tee...



1
ST ANDREWS – The spiritual home of the game, the story of the town of St Andrews is inextricably linked to its golf courses – yet there are plenty of other historical strands to follow here, with cathedral, castle, museums, plus an excellent shopping choice.



2
KINGDOM OF GOLF – While Fife itself has a huge choice, both coastal links and inland courses, across the Tay and beyond the old kingdom lies the awesome challenge of the Open venue at Carnoustie.



3
EAGLES AND GLENS – Perthshire is great golfing country with high profile courses such as Gleneagles and Rosemount, as well as the challenges of Crieff and Murrayshall, all easy to reach from Perth.



4
ROYAL GOLF – Balmoral Castle gives Deeside its royal cachet (and can be visited), while the area has a good choice of courses all the way down to the city of Aberdeen. There, old-established Royal Aberdeen offers the breezy sea-side challenges of the Balgownie links.



5
WHISKY GOLF – The lower reaches of the River Spey might be famed for malt whisky, but it's easy to combine the drink and the sport. There are plenty of courses close to distilleries, especially the upper Speyside courses at Granttown on Spey, Kingussie Newtonmore, and the new Spey Valley course at Aviemore.



6
JAMES BRAID HIGHLAND TRAIL
The legacy of James Braid, the great course designer, can be explored at Boat of Garten, amid the Speyside pinewoods, as well as at Nairn and Brora, both classic northern coastal links.

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7
BRAVEHEART GOLF – All around the historic city of Stirling, there is plenty of golfing choice with three courses 'on the doorstep' and within sight of Stirling Castle and the Wallace Monument. The hillside course at Dollar lies to the east, with Glenberrie by Falkirk also easy to reach.



8
ISLAND GOLF – With those views, a round of golf can be distracting – but Machrie Links on Islay is just one of the rightly renowned island clubs. Mull, Bute and Arran are other great island choices, with castles and fine gardens to increase the options for non-golfers.



9
AYRSHIRE CLASSICS – The Ayrshire coast has been associated with the game for centuries, with a galaxy of outstanding names to choose from, including Prestwick, Royal Troon, Turnberry, Western Gailes, Barassie and more.



10
SOUTH EAST LINKS – Muirfield is the best-known name on this peerless golfing coast – but North Berwick, Aberlady and Dunbar all take advantage of the low rainfall and high sunshine records of the east.