



Outline Itinerary

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Dear Janet,

Thank you for your enquiry. We have prepared an outline itinerary based on the details you gave us, with some options to consider.

Given the limited time you have available in Scotland, we recommend you do not have time to visit Campbeltown (there is no shortcut and it is a long 5 hour drive each way). The Monarch of the Glen location, Glen Bogle Castle, is in fact Ardverikie House on the shores of Loch Laggan, some sixteen miles south west of Newtonmore in the Grampians. You could go there from Pitlochry (about an hour away), but as the House and Grounds are not open to the public, you would only see the beautiful countryside.

Expected travel time has been kept to a maximum of about 4 hours, although traffic conditions will of course determine the actual length of time.

The cost estimate (which is purely indicative and cannot be taken as accurate) is based on a double and single room (we will try to ensure single occupancy reductions) in a 50/50 mixture of band A and band B accommodation, plus one night in superior rooms. If you want to reduce the cost then we can change the ratio.

A tour like this does not lend itself to be fully guided, as it reduces the freedom you have to visit what you want, when you want it. It would also be quite expensive. However, there is the opportunity to have a personal guide in Edinburgh and in the Warwick and Stratford areas, with an estimated cost of £100 - £150 per half day.

Just to remind you of the process, if you like the sound of this outline itinerary and want to proceed, on payment of the service fee (please see our [terms and conditions](#)) we will start work on your [detailed itinerary](#), and finally the completed package, including detailed route instructions, maps, walking routes, etc.

First we will arrange a telephone call to go through the details. At this stage we can change any part of the outline itinerary; it is entirely up to you.

Hope this whets your appetite! Let us know what you think.

Regards

Kate & Ian

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		Distance/approx. time travelling
Day 1/2/3	Ipswich Arrive at Heathrow and pick up your hire car. Try www.thrifty.co.uk or www.alamo.co.uk . Travel to Ipswich (distance based on Ipswich itself) to stay/meet with friends for the first 3 nights, getting used to the traffic via the famous London orbital motorway, the M25. If you wish us to book accommodation for you during this period, just let us know where your friends live and we will find a solution. Ipswich is not too close to London and it would take a whole day out of your time with your friends. Suggest you save the shopping for later in your holiday, although if you do want to visit, then take the train which will take about 75 minutes each way. For tourist attractions in London, check out www.visitlondon.co.uk Ipswich has a rich maritime heritage, its port founded in the 6/7th C. Visit the Victorian wet dock which is undergoing an exciting renaissance, with waterfront bars and restaurants, a marina, and cruises down the river on the Orwell Lady. You could 'shop till you drop' in one of the region's best retail centres, featuring big-name stores and more specialist shops. For night-time fun, try one of the numerous eating establishments, friendly pubs, visit the cinema, or take in a show at The Regent or New Wolsey Theatres.	120 miles/2.5 hrs (depending on time of travel)
Day 4	York Drive from Ipswich to the fine old city of York, once Britain's second city. There is plenty to see and do here. Stroll through the narrow cobbled streets of the medieval old town and along the town walls. Marvel at the magnificent 13th century Minster cathedral. York was once a major Viking trading settlement so a visit to Jorvik, the Viking city (www.jorvik-viking-centre.co.uk) might be of interest. York is also home to the award winning National Railway Museum www.nrm.org.uk At the end of the day drive on to Pickering (30 miles). <i>Option: skip York and go straight to North Yorkshire</i>	210 miles/ 4.0hrs

Outline Itinerary

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Day 5/6	North Yorkshire Moors <p>Pickering is the gateway to the North Yorkshire Moors. Within easy access from your accommodation around Pickering, there are many places to explore.</p> <p>On the coast is Whitby, divided into two by the estuary of the river Esk. The old town, which huddles around the harbour, has pretty cobbled streets and pastel coloured houses, with the Abbey ruins above. Jewellery shops specialise in locally made jet pieces. The other Whitby is a traditional British 'kiss me quick' seaside resort, famous for, quite possibly, the best fish and chips in the World. Eat them straight out of the paper sitting on the pier!</p> <p>A good walk would be along the coastal path from Whitby to Robin Hood Bay, an old smuggling village with steep cobbled streets down to the sea (and a pub!).</p> <p>There are many ruined abbeys in the area, dating back to the 12th century. Two of the most beautiful are Fountains and Rievaulx, with extensive grounds and gardens.</p> <p>These, along with beautiful drives and walks across the Moors, make this an ideal place for exploring and extra time here might be welcomed by all.</p> <p>If it is wet, maybe pay a visit to Castle Howard, www.castlehoward.co.uk used as the location for the television series based on the Evelyn Waugh novel Brideshead Revisited. This early 18th century house is still the family home for the Howard family.</p>	
Day 7/8	Edinburgh <p>Leave early and take the road North to Edinburgh, capital of Scotland and a thriving, cosmopolitan city.</p> <p>Depending on how much time you have when you arrive, you may want to take a city tour bus and hop on/off wherever takes your fancy. There is also the option of a guided walking tour, depending on availability.</p> <p>If you are sightseeing independently, make sure you explore the famous castle. Stroll along the Royal Mile (the 'High Street' of the medieval city), past the new controversial Scottish parliament building, to Holyrood Palace, home to past Scottish monarchs and now the Queen's official residence in Scotland.</p> <p>Edinburgh has many museums and galleries. For something more unusual, try the Museum of Childhood, stuffed full of old toys and other memorabilia of childhood through the ages. (www.cac.org.uk/venues/museum_childhood)</p> <p>Edinburgh is of course renowned for its Arts festival. This will</p>	215 miles /4.0 hrs

Outline Itinerary

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	<p>not be on when you are there (which is probably a blessing as the city gets very crowded). However there are many theatres and entertainment venues, including bars with live music which are free or very cheap to enter. You may even be able to find a traditional Ceilidh! Check out what is on closer to the time on www.edinburgh.org/events</p> <p>You could visit Lochgelly easily from Edinburgh as it is only 20 miles away across the Forth Road Bridge. We confess to knowing little about this area, but if you have anything you would like us to investigate, please let us know.</p> <p>The Royal Highland show at Ingliston, near Edinburgh, is another option as it is open during the 3rd week of June.</p>	
Day 9/10	<p>Pitlochry</p> <p>Travel North again towards Pitlochry, on the banks of the Tay. Pitlochry is a wonderful base for exploring the surrounding area. You have the chance to visit the rambling, turreted Blair castle in Blair Athol, the Pass of Killiecrankie (site of the famous battle in 1689) and, in Pitlochry itself, a salmon leap to help these tremendous fish reach their spawning grounds further upriver.</p> <p>And, as for distilleries!!</p> <p>Edradour Distillery - Whisky uisge beatha (pronounced 'oosh-ga beh-huh'), meaning 'water of life'. Edradour is a unique, single Highland malt whisky, to be enjoyed in recognition of those small, significant moments that make up the ebb and flow of life. Edradour is produced in Scotland's smallest distillery - and is hand made today as it was over 150 years ago by just three men who are devoted to the time-honoured methods of whisky making. Indeed equipment used at the distillery has remained unchanged since the day the distillery opened and is only just capable of producing commercial quantities. Only 12 casks of whisky are produced a week, making Edradour single malt a rare pleasure for a fortunate few.</p> <p>Blair Athol Distillery - established in 1798 near the picturesque town of Pitlochry, Blair Athol is one of the oldest working distilleries in Scotland. The distillery produces a 12 Year Old Single Malt Whisky, with a mellow deep-toned aroma, a strong fruity flavour and a smooth finish.</p>	70 miles / 1.5 hrs
Day 11	<p>Lake of Monteith</p> <p>Travel southbound for a night in the land of Rob Roy – outlaw, cattle thief, murderer or Scottish hero depending on your point of view.</p> <p>Take some time out to visit the only 'lake' in Scotland. Call for the ferry to take you across to a tiny island on the lake and take a step back in time walking through the ruins of Inchmahome</p>	125 miles/ 3 hrs

Outline Itinerary

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	<p>Priory, near Port of Menteith.</p> <p>If you are feeling adventurous, visit Stirling Castle (20 miles away) where a guided tour of the castle is very worth while.</p>	
Day 12	<p>Dumfriesshire</p> <p>Continue South for your last night in Scotland and treat yourselves to a night of relaxation at Auchen Castle. Sample the award winning restaurant, individually styled rooms with unique features such as four poster beds, superior service and attention to detail.</p> <p>The Castle also benefits from its own falconry centre, private loch and gardens ensuring a fantastic leisure stay.</p>	90 miles / 2 hrs
Day 13/14	<p>The Lake District</p> <p>After your relaxing evening, perhaps take a short detour to Dumfries and visit the museum of the famous Scottish poet, Robert Burns.</p> <p>Then take a leisurely drive down over the border back into England and on to the Lake District. The whole area is outstandingly beautiful, but we would recommend avoiding Windermere, as this area tends to be much the busiest and most commercialised. Keswick is an ideal centre for touring the area, or for hiking.</p> <p>Some of our favourite lakes are Derwent Water, Grassmere, Buttermere and Coniston. One of the attractions to us was to get off the beaten track to some of the lesser known lakes like Hawkeswater, with its golden eagle viewpoint.</p> <p>Some of the roads can be challenging. If you are feeling adventurous, try the Hardknott Pass across to Eskdale. Alternatively the public transport system (buses and ferries) are good across the area.</p> <p>Places of interest in the area include the homes of the writers Beatrix Potter and William Wordsworth. The recent success of the film Miss Potter may make this an even more popular area to visit this year.</p>	80 miles / 2hrs
Day 15/16/17	<p>Warwickshire</p> <p>Spend the last few days of your holiday in Warwickshire, Shakespeare country, and the gateway to the Cotswolds. This area tends to be a tourist stop off point, but don't be put off, it is popular partly because there is plenty to interest everyone.</p> <p>A fun way of seeing the Shakespearian sites is to take an open top bus in Stratford upon Avon.</p> <p>Another option would be Warwick Castle, arguably Britain's</p>	220 miles / 4 hrs

Outline Itinerary

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	<p>greatest medieval castle with its battlements, dungeons and haunted tower and much more. It is quite expensive to get in and needs a good few hours to do it justice, so get there early. www.warwick-castle.co.uk</p> <p>You could visit the Hatton Flight. This flight on the Grand Union Canal, just west of Warwick, delivers 21 locks in less than two miles and provides a stern test of boater stamina. One of the most picturesque spots on the Grand Union, it has been feared and revered in equal measure since the days of the working boatmen.</p> <p>Warwick is also very convenient for the Cotswolds. Drive around the Cotswold villages, dating back to the 12th Century, stop at one of the many charming pubs. There are numerous walks in the area, depending on the length of time and stamina you have left.</p>	
Day 18	Warwick to Heathrow and home! With your homeward flight at 15:00, you will need to be at Heathrow around 12:00 to return your car and check-in. Warwick is a convenient 2 hours away via the motorway, so a relatively gentle start to your last day.	100 miles/ 2 hrs
	Travel times are approximate and reflect the type of road travelled.	

Approximate Cost (indicative)

Accommodation (18 nights @ band A/B mixed, 1xdouble and 1xsingle room)	£2880
Service fee	£200
Other direct costs (books, maps, postage)	£80
Total	£3160