# How To Enjoy A UK Holiday Neat, With A Twist Or On The Rocks

Whether you're a UK resident or a welcome visitor from overseas, holidaying in the UK has so much to offer. You can choose from a selection of wonderful beaches, quaint country villages and vibrant cities. You can take in the beautiful Renaissance architecture and check out the galleries, museums and cathedrals.

Steeped in colourful and extremely interesting history, the UK caters for almost 36 million visitors every year, each with their own personal preferences in visitor experience, local cuisine and unrivalled hospitality. However, when it comes to hospitality, few can rival the warmth and generosity of the Scots. So when in the UK, why not treat yourself and your travel companions to a memorable trip to the highlands and lowlands of Bonny Scotland.

# Castles, cliffs, rocks and... Scotch

If castles are your thing then be sure to visit Edinburgh Castle, a historic fortress positioned on the edge of Castle Rock and overlooking the great city of Edinburgh. Balmoral Castle is another fine example, situated in Royal Deeside, Aberdeenshire and then there's Inverness castle, which sits on a lonely clifftop overlooking the graceful river ness below.

Scotland can certainly boast some very interesting and ancient forts and bastions but the real attraction is the myriad of Scotch whisky distilleries. According to the Scotch Whisky Association there are 126 licensed distilleries in Scotland with a further 10 being added to the list in 2018.

## Think of a brand... any brand

With so much interest in Scotch whisky, its history and its unique reputation as a world-famous spirit, **The Scotch Whisky Travel Company** now offers visitors, holidaymakers and tourists the unique opportunity to visit one or more of these celebrated distilleries as part of a guided tour. You might have already heard about a specific brand such as Glenfiddich, Aberlour, Glengoyne, Aberfeldy and Strathisla.

Or perhaps you would like to visit one of the small island distilleries such as Jura, Arran or the Talisker Distillery on the Isle of Sky. Whichever brand you may be interested in, we can create a guided tour specifically to suit your taste, be that single malt, single grain or blended.

# Do you know your Scotch?

The distilling process is quite a complicated one and differs according to the type of whisky being produced. For example a single malt, made from barley and water and

matured in oak vats for at least 10 years is a highly popular mellow whisky, which is preferred by many a connoisseur. Whereas, a single grain whisky, made from barley, water and one or more other grains is distinctly different in taste. A blended whisky will usually consist of one or more single malt and one or more single grain whiskies. However, blended whiskies do not have to be older than the minimum 3 years, whereas single malt and single grain whiskies have to be at least 8 years old before they can be sold.

#### Why not try one or two and see which you prefer?

If you don't know your single malts from your single grains then the best way to learn more is to try a few for yourself and see which you prefer. And what better way to test the water, so to speak, than to visit the distillery on a guided tour, taking in all the local scenery and landscapes on the way. We can arrange for you to stay at a quality hotel near the distillery of your choice or put together a whole tour, allowing you to enjoy all that this beautiful country has to offer.

Why not combine your visit to a whisky distillery with a visit to a nearby tourist attraction such as world famous Loch Ness or the breathtakingly beautiful Loch Lomond or the idyllic Isle of Sky and the Inner Hebrides. If golf is your passion then you could combine a golfing holiday with a visit to Eden Mill Distillery, which is just a short 10-15 minute drive from the course.

# You can take the high road or the low road

While most of Scotland's whisky distilleries are situated in the Highlands, there are 3 well-known distilleries situated in the Lowlands. These are Auchentoshan, Bladnoch and Glenkinchie. Scotch whisky from the Lowland region tends to be the lightest and sweetest whisky. Whisky produced in the Highlands is best described as smooth, medium to full-bodied and with a great aroma. Some of the most well-known names include Clynelish, Dalmore, Glenmorangie and Oban.

However, flavours are quite diverse and will vary considerably depending on the region. For example, in Islay the flavour is very distinct with a much stronger taste due to the influence of peat, which is used in the malt drying process. However you like your Scotch whisky, there is a malt, a grain or a blend to suit your particular taste buds.

## What to do now...

Think of a brand of Scotch whisky or any Scotch whisky distillery that you would like to visit for a guided tour including a taster session. Then contact us and we'll arrange your transport, your accommodation and your special visit. It doesn't matter were in the UK you might be staying right now, or where you are planning to stay.

We can arrange for a short flight to the most convenient Scottish airport then a taxi ride to your hotel and finally, an experienced tour guide to take you to the distillery and to show you around. Enjoy a fully managed excursion to any one or even several Scotch whisky distilleries, enjoy the scenery and most importantly... enjoy your favourite tipple.

Contact Daniel at **The Scotch Whisky Travel Company** to arrange your special guided tour to any of Scotland's famous whisky distilleries.

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