

#### AUTHOR TRAVEL AGENCY

# SCOTLAND



# About travel

# Go to Star author travel agency invites you to Scotland.

If you're in the mood for romance and craving adventure, head to Scotland! This country of thousands of castles, shrouded in fog and steeped in legends about elves and fairies, has everything for an exciting journey.

Wrapped up in blankets by the fire, with a glass of the best whiskey in the world, we will listen to the stories of Walter Scott performed by Oksana, an excellent expert on the history of Scotland, who will accompany us throughout the trip. Let's start with Edinburgh, the birthplace of Harry Potter, Ivanhoe and Sherlock Holmes, where the present is closely intertwined with the historical past. Walking through the narrow streets of the city and trying to solve centuries-old mysteries, we will be transported to a world where knights and ladies, battles and intrigues are reality, not a fairy tale. And then — a journey to the Scottish Highlands, where the mountains meet the sky and the lakes sigh under the moonlight. Walter Scott and Robert Louis Stevenson drew inspiration for their famous works from the beauty of this wilderness.

Let's take a look at the Haggis Experience farm in Stirling, where a professional chef will reveal the secrets of preparing the most Scottish dish — haggis. Under the guidance of local masters, you will learn how to cook it in such a way that even the Scottish poet Robert Burns, who wrote an ode to this dish, would be delighted. The magnificent Loch Lomond and the famous Glen Coe are like fine wine after a tiring day. Wrapping yourself in a blanket and watching the fantastic landscapes,

you will feel peace and tranquility.

And finally, when you find yourself in Fort William, look up to the top of Ben Nevis and you will realize that every step of this journey was magical, like old stories told around a fire over a glass of bourbon on the shores of the North Sea.

It's time to go to Scotland and discover its mysterious charm and greatness, because, as the great Mark Twain said: "Life is short, but the world is big!"





#### Day 1

Arrival to Edinburgh. Evening city tour: you will see Edinburgh Castle, the historic Royal Mile street, the Royal Palace, the Grassmarket area of the old town — the former market square of Edinburgh, where the place of public executions was located, and now there are many authentic pubs, antique shops and shops. We will visit legendary Harry Potter spots.



#### Day 2

A visit to Stirling Castle, shrouded in vague legends about the Knights of the Round Table. Master class on cooking haggis. Glencoe Valley. Travel through the Scottish Hills and Fort William. Accommodation at a hotel on the lake.



#### Day 3

Glenfinnan Viaduct. The village of Mallay is the starting point for a journey to the picturesque Isle of Skye, recognized by National Geographic as one of the most beautiful islands in the world. Walk around the island.



#### Day 4

Continuation of the walk around the Isle of Skye. Visit to the Talisker distillery. Lunch at a fish restaurant. Private tour and tasting. Visit Kilt Rock Falls, the port town of Portree and Fairy Valley. Dinner at the hotel or in Portree.



#### Day 5

Eilean Donan Castle. Walk on things on Loch Ness. Town of Fort Augustus. A visit to the famous Scottish store House of Bruar, where you can buy a real kilt, the softest cashmere sweater, a waxed jacket and authentic home decor.



Day 6

Visit to Scone Palace, where the first Scottish kings were crowned, stroll through the magnificent park near the castle with a labyrinth of colorful hedges. Excursion to three bridges, dating back to three eras — the 19th, 20th and 21st centuries. Lunch overlooking this unique place. Return to Edinburgh. Farewell dinner.

# Stirling Castle

Stirling Castle on the top of Castle Hill was the main residence of the Scottish royal dynasty and has passed from the Scots to the English — and vice versa. But its history goes back even more centuries: scientists have established that already in the first millennium A.D. between two cliffs there was a fortification built by the Romans or Picts. The castle walls remember many historical battles, including the battle between Scottish

rebels, commanded by William Wallace (Mel Gibson's character in the movie "Braveheart") and English troops. In the XIII century the fate of Scottish independence was decided at the castle walls, and Mary Stuart was crowned here.





# Isle of Skye

The Isle of Skye has been recognized as one of the most beautiful islands in the world by National Geographic magazine. Emerald plains, mountain tops, clear bodies of water and flowering meadows — it seems that this is where elves and fairies should live. The main historical site here is Dunvegan Castle, owned by the MacLeod clan for 800 years. Inside is a silk Fairy Flag which, as the legend goes, was used by a fairy mother to shelter her son Malcolm MacLeod.

The natural gem of the island is the Kilt Rock waterfall, whose waters fall from a height of 90 meters (295 feet) into the Atlantic Ocean. The cliff is made up of basalt that has gathered into bizarre folds that resemble a kilt.

Watching the streams of water falling from a great height, it seems that you are at the edge of the universe.



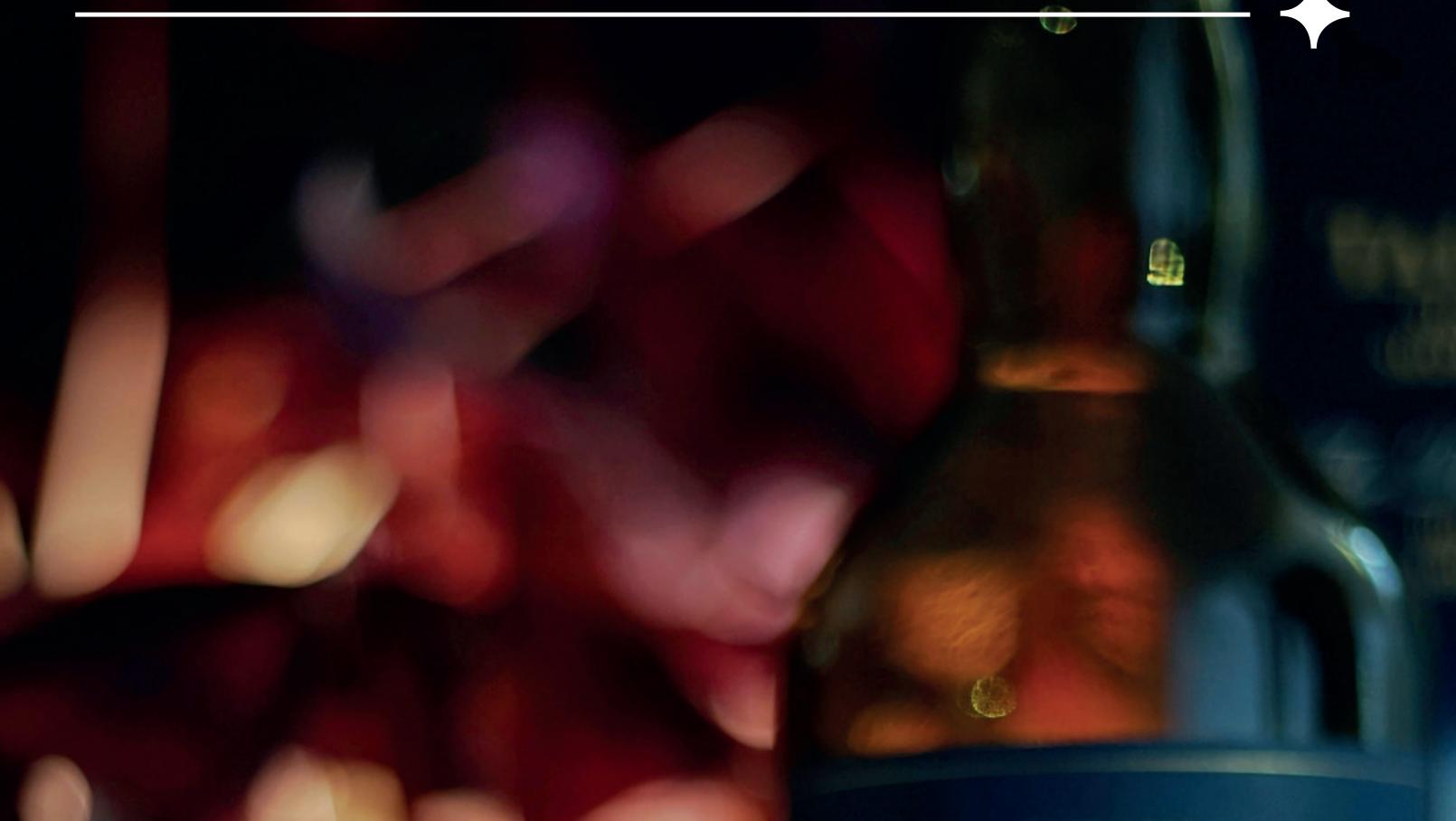
## Eilean Donan Castle

Eilean Donan, situated on the small tidal island of Donan, at the confluence of three lakes: Loch Duich, Loch Alsh and Loch Long, is the most "photogenic" Scottish castle. This is where the movies "The Ghost Goes West", "Highlander", "Mio in the Land of Faraway" were filmed. Fans of mysticism believe that its walls are haunted by the ghosts of a Spanish soldier and Lady Mary.

The history of the castle began in the XIII century under King Alexander II, who built the fortress for defense against the Vikings. And in the VII century there lived a hermit monk Donan, who tried to preach Christianity among the Picts and was burned at the stake — the castle was named in his honor.



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# Glen Coe

In the Highlands, where pure-blooded Celts lived hundreds of years ago, Glen (valley) Coe is one of the most picturesque places in Scotland. However, Glen Coe has a harsh flavor: instead of flowering meadows there are low mountains, small rivers with bridges over them, neat farms on green slopes, bare cliffs and lonely trees, miraculously survived from the winds. Glen Coe is not just a valley, but one of the oldest surviving volcanoes on Earth (after those in Khakassia), some 500 million years old. The gloomy beauty of the valley impressed lan Fleming, the author of James Bond novels: he made Glen Coe the home of the hero, and the movie "007: Skyfall" was filmed here.

In Scottish Gaelic, Glen Coe means "valley of tears" — in memory of the so-called the Massacre of Glencoe, when the MacDonald clan hosted guests from another clan who brutally murdered over 70 MacDonald men.

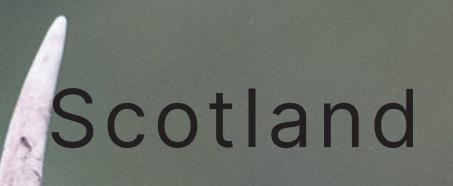
# Scotch whisky

Where to taste the best whisky? Of course, in its homeland, Scotland, where it has been considered a national treasure since the 19th century. Highland whisky from the Glenlivet is especially famous: in 1822, during his official visit to Scotland, King George IV demanded to be served whisky from this area — and since then he has not changed his favorite soft taste. Real Scotch whisky is a complex technological process

and real art: from barley germination to aging in oak barrels for at least three years.

A strong drink can be an accompaniment to national dishes, the most famous of which is haggis, mutton stomach with giblets, chopped onions and lard.







#### Journey cost per person for 6700 EUR a group of 8 people

The price includes:

- accommodation throughout the route in 5\* hotels (double room);
- transportation according to the program;
- sightseeing program and activities;
- professional certified guide.
- Additional expenses:
- international flight;
- meals, alcohol;
- any change of program involving expenses;
- tips for the guide team.



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