Edinburgh cultural attractions

Edinburgh's historic city centre can offer as much or as little as you can fit into your business schedule – from historic walks to beautiful stately homes – it is a city rich in cultural heritage

Did you know ...?

Tourism agency Visit Scotland is looking to grow tourism by 50% by 2015. Edinburgh is blessed with a wealth of history that inspires visitors to return time and again to its attractions. The castle dominates the skyline – perched on the edge of an extinct volcano it has become an icon for the city and the country of Scotland.

Edinburgh is a city of contrasts. The Old Town lines the Royal Mile leading to the new Scottish Parliament buildings at Holyrood. The Georgian New Town offers parks and terraces to explore while the city's shopping streets which span both the Old and New towns and include boutique shops and big name fashion stores. The city's neoclassical architecture led to it being called 'the Athens of the North.'

The city is edged with splendid countryside and is not far from beautiful beaches, golf links, stately homes and cosy pubs. Edinburgh's waterfront, Leith, offers shops of all sizes, restaurants, funky bars and the Ocean Terminal Shopping Centre.

Here are some of the must-see attractions for Edinburgh's visitors: >

