



Travel for Credit: Exploring English in Scotland & England

11 DAYS

Included in the program fee:

- Round trip airfare
- Transfers to and from the airport and hotel and between destination cities (as per program itinerary)
- Overnight in hotels with private bathrooms
- Continental breakfast daily
- Dinner daily
- Full-time services of an EF Tour Director

Not included in the program fee:

- Customary gratuities for your tour director, local guide and driver
- Porterage
- Personal Insurance
- Beverages and lunches
- Public transportation to free time activities

Overnight stays: Edinburgh region (3); London (4); Bath region (1); Birmingham region (1).

Sightseeing tours led by an expert: Edinburgh; London; Bath; Windsor.

Entrances included: Stirling Castle; Edinburgh Castle; Scottish Ceilidh; Glamis Castle & Gardens; Westminster Abbey; Globe Theatre Tour & Workshop; Tower of London; Thames River Cruise; Stonehenge; Salisbury Cathedral; Roman Baths; Anne Hathaway's House; Shakespeare's Birthplace; Windsor Castle; St. George Chapel.

Please note that the following is a sample timed itinerary for this EF tour with approximate addresses, activity durations, and transfer times. Exact timing may vary based on available flights, hotel location, scheduled activity bookings, traffic, etc. Your EF Tour Director is available to the group 24/7 while on tour. EF works with Group Leaders to ensure that travellers have a safe and memorable experience while on tour.

Day 1: Board your overnight flight to Scotland!

Day 2: Glasgow | Stirling | St. Andrews | Edinburgh

Arrive in Glasgow and meet your Tour Director at the airport

Walking tour of Stirling

Visit Stirling Castle

There has been a castle fortification in Stirling for over 800 years and today you have a chance to explore these varied histories and eras. Learn about the turbulent measures imposed on the castle by many English invaders, as well as the castle's role as a military depot.

Walking tour of St. Andrews

Supervised exploration time in St. Andrews

Set on Scotland's picturesque coastline, St. Andrews is a renowned university town as well as the birthplace of golf. Pass by the buildings of St. Andrews University, founded by Mary Queen of Scots in the 16th century, and along the restored medieval streets, you can see the ruins of St. Andrews Castle. This includes an oppressive bottle dungeon and a mine dug by besieging forces in the 16th century. You could also choose to explore the nearby ruins of the city's cathedral, once Scotland's most magnificent church.

Arrive in Edinburgh

Storytelling and the written word have been the life force of Edinburgh's art and culture for centuries. Its contributions to the world of literature are so rich and well-recognized that in 2004, Edinburgh became the world's first UNESCO City of Literature.

Day 3: Edinburgh

Guided sightseeing of Edinburgh

Today, enjoy a sightseeing tour that offers panoramic views of Edinburgh's New Town, constructed in the 18th century during a time of rapid expansion, known as the "Scottish Enlightenment." See Charlotte Square, the center of New Town, then pass by the homes of Alexander Graham Bell and Robert Louis Stevenson, and view a monument to Robert Burns, Scotland's national poet. Visit Calton Hill, which offers splendid views of the Firth of Forth to the Lothian Hills of Fife. Pass the Palace of Holyroodhouse, still the Royal Family's official residence in Scotland.

Visit Edinburgh Castle

Situated atop an extinct volcano, the castle is the enduring symbol of Scotland's capital and home to many of the nation's storied events. Ownership of the fortress changed hands on numerous occasions over the centuries, from Scottish to English and back again. Mary, Queen of Scots, gave birth in the castle to James VI of Scotland, who would later rule England as James I. Enter the castle through the Esplanade and see the Stone of Scone, the coronation stone that was returned to Scotland in 1997 after 700 years of English possession.

'Learning Module'

Our flexible on-tour learning modules are included in every tour and are selected by partner school boards or districts from a collection curated by EF.

Scottish Ceilidh

Kick up your heels and sample traditional Scottish cuisine at this evening's optional ceilidh! Before the days of bars and dance clubs, people would gather for a ceilidh to dance, sing, or engage in lively discussions. Professional performers will teach Scottish dances set to pipe music. Enjoy traditional sword dancing and try local fare like haggis, neeps and tatties.

Day 4: Edinburgh

Tour Director-led Sightseeing of Fife

With your Tour Director, explore the Kingdom of Fife today. Fife is a peninsula brimming with colorful fishing villages and green countryside. See the ruins of Macduff's Castle and try to envision what it once was.

Supervised exploration time for lunch in Fife

Visit Glamis Castle and Gardens

It is said that a castle has stood at Glamis for 1000 years. The Earls of Strathmore earnestly built a defensive structure in the 1400's, but as troubles eased, and the castle has been built and re-built, it has evolved into a baronial style mansion. The castle is associated with ghosts and literature. Lady Glamis was burnt as a witch by James the V when she would not give up the castle, and is associated with Duncan's murder of Macbeth, who Shakespeare made famous. Glamis is also connected to the current royal family, and is the birthplace of Queen Elizabeth II. On your visit to the castle, take a stroll through the manicured grounds of the castle.

See Dunsinane Hill

Stop to see Dunsinane Hill, referenced in Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. This site is home to the remains of two forts, though the exact history of these forts is unknown.

Day 5: Edinburgh | London

Supervised exploration time in central Edinburgh

Utilize your last morning in this beautiful city to grab souvenirs, explore more of old town, visit an art gallery, or pop into the (free) Edinburgh Writers Museum to learn more about famous Scottish poets and authors.

Board a day train to London

Arrive in London

Ranging from the North Sea in the east to the playing fields of Eton in the west, London covers an area of some 620 square miles and is home to over 8 million people. Prepare to observe the stunning architecture, vibrant street life and royal majesty of this bustling metropolis.

Guided Visit of Westminster Abbey

The present abbey was built over three centuries, starting during the 13th century. With the Confessor's Shrine, the tombs of Kings and Queens, and countless memorials, it has also been the setting for every Coronation since 1066. Neither a cathedral nor a parish church, Westminster Abbey remains a "royal peculiar" under the jurisdiction of a Dean and Chapter, subject only to the Monarch.

Day 6: London

Guided sightseeing of London

A local guide leads you on a panoramic tour of London. At bustling Piccadilly Circus, the intersection of five busy streets, check out the bright lights and big city displays, before heading to Trafalgar Square, site of Nelson's Column, built to commemorate his 1805 victory in the Battle of Trafalgar. Snap a photo of the Houses of Parliament and continue along London's South Bank for views of the famous Tower of London and London Bridge. View St. Paul's Cathedral, the magnificent 17th-century Baroque church designed by Sir Christopher Wren. Finally, witness a London tradition: the Changing of the Guard. (Subject to scheduling)

Explore Borough Market

Take some time to explore historic Borough Market, one of the oldest and most highly regarded fresh food markets in the city, with over 100 individual stalls. Allow your senses to be enticed by bubbling vats of curry, slabs of English cheese, sizzling sausages and mouthwatering gourmet sweets and baked delights.

Guided Tour of the Globe Theatre

Built just 200 yards from its original site, London's new Globe Theatre transports visitors to Elizabethan England. Those were the days when rowdy groundlings hurled rotten food at the actors to express their displeasure with a performance, and villains like Othello's Iago were mercilessly heckled by the enthusiastic crowd.

Globe Theatre Workshop

This is your chance to channel your inner Bard! After a guided visit of the theater, take this opportunity to perfect your craft during a theatre workshop at Shakespeare's renowned Globe Theatre.

Attend an evening theatre performance at the Globe Theatre

Travel back in time 400 years as you attend a Shakespearean play at the Globe Theatre. As part of the experience, theatergoers can sit on wooden oak benches or choose to be a 'groundling,' where they can jostle, heckle and even rest their elbows against the stage. Most performances are staged in Elizabethan era costumes and aim to give the viewer the same theatergoing experience as when the Bard himself was here. *(Please note: if the Globe Theatre is unavailable, this theatre performance may be replaced with a different activity in London)*

Day 7: London

Visit the Tower of London

The history of London comes to life at this complex of 20 towers surrounding Tower Green. The oldest tower, known as the White Tower, was completed in 1097, when it was the tallest building in London. The Tower buildings have had many uses over the years; perhaps the most infamous was as a jail for political prisoners, not to mention two of Henry VIII's wives. The most famous exhibits at the Tower are the British Crown Jewels. Aside from a short interruption during WWII, these splendid baubles have been locked behind the Tower's walls for centuries.

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Thames River Cruise

Enjoy viewing the famous sights of London by cruising down the River Thames. Drifting under some of the city's landmark bridges, you will pass by the Houses of Parliament and the South Bank arts complex.

Day 7: London | Stonehenge | Bath

Travel by private motorcoach to the Bath Region via Stonehenge

Visit Stonehenge

Arguably, nowhere in Britain has created more debate than the simple ring of stones that dominate the gentle chalk plains of Wiltshire. Archaeologists remain baffled as to what the stone circle means and how it appeared. Ponder the mysteries of the past as you walk around the stones; imagine them in their entirety surrounded by a countryside that remains unchanged over millennia as you try to unravel the mystery.

Visit Salisbury Cathedral

Unlike many of its contemporary structures, Salisbury Cathedral was completed in a little less than 40 years and presents a uniquely consistent architectural style. Despite having Britain's largest spire, at 404 feet, the original foundations were only six feet deep. Only some hasty rescue work by Christopher Wren prevented collapse. Highlights include the octagonal chapter house, which contains an original copy of the Magna Carta in its library.

Arrive in the Bath Region

Arrive in Bath, an English town known for its ties to Roman history and famous literary personalities.

Day 9: Bath Region | Stratford | Birmingham Region

Guided Sightseeing of Bath

See the town of Bath's elegant Georgian squares and terraces—vacation spot for Queen Victoria, Lord Nelson, and Jane Austen, who set some of her novels here. Visit the town's famous Roman baths, where vacationing Romans once enjoyed the hot springs.

Visit the Roman Baths

Transport yourself back in time as you explore the well-preserved Roman baths. The water which bubbles up from the ground at Bath falls as rain and percolates down through limestone aquifers to a depth of over 2,000 meters. The geothermal energy raises the water temperature to over 60 degrees and, under pressure, the heated water rises to the surface along fissures and faults in the limestone. There are four main features: the Sacred Spring, the Roman Temple, the Roman Bath House and the Museum holding finds from Roman Bath. The buildings above street level date from the 19th century when Bath was a haven for Victorians seeking remedies for a wide range of illnesses.

Travel by private motorcoach to the Birmingham Region via Stratford

Visit Anne Hathaway's House and Shakespeare's Birthplace

The town of Stratford-upon-Avon is of course most famous as the birthplace and home of William Shakespeare. The town is amazingly preserved from its Tudor past and visiting both the home of the Bard himself and the famous cottage of Shakespeare's wife before they married gives you an excellent idea of what life was like during their time.

Supervised exploration time in Stratford

Spend the day exploring Stratford on your own. You may wish to visit the Shakespeare museum and birthplace to learn more about the works of England's most famed writer. This half-timbered Tudor building offers detailed insight into life 500 years ago. Leaving the house, you can head towards the River Avon to see fine examples of the houseboats that still journey along England's intricate canal ways.

Day 10: Birmingham Region | Windsor | London

Travel by private motorcoach to London via Windsor

Guided visit of Windsor Castle and St. George Chapel

Journey to Windsor Castle for a guided tour of the Royal Family's retreat. Legend holds that the castle's Round Tower was built on the site where King Arthur sat with his Knights of the Round Table. View priceless objects in the State Apartments, ranging from paintings, to swords and suits of armor. Visit Queen Mary's Dolls' House, and the final resting place of many monarchs including Henry VIII and Charles I at St. George's Chapel. *(Please note that St. George's Chapel is closed on Sunday mornings and if Windsor Castle is closed, you'll visit Henry VIII's extravagant retreat at Hampton Court.)*

Supervised exploration time in London

Enjoy time to explore London on your own. You might choose to browse through the countless stores along Oxford Street or visit one of London's many museums.

Fish and Chips Dinner

Tonight you will dine on one of England's most famous meals. Originally made popular in the 19th century by Dickens' reference to a "fried fish warehouse" in *Oliver Twist*, the first fish and chips dinners were served with bread and butter and a cup of tea, all for just nine pence.

Day 11: Depart for Home

Transfer to the airport for your return flight

Your tour director assists with your transfer to the airport, where you will check in for your return flight home.

Itinerary is subject to change.

For complete financial and registration details, please refer to the Booking Conditions at www.eftours.ca/bc.

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