



# CLASSIC LUXURY

SCOTLAND STARTS HERE

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## Classic Luxury Starts Here...



Luxury Accommodation



Tweed & Cashmere



Floors Castle

Midlothian and the Scottish Borders are a region to the South of Edinburgh which provides visitors with a relaxed calm not found elsewhere in Scotland. Away from the crowds and the busy roads, it is a haven of tranquillity.

Still, don't be mistaken and think there is little going on here. Heritage, culture and especially tradition play an important role that have shaped the nation over centuries. From iconic sights such as Rosslyn Chapel to iconic Scots such as Sir Walter Scott, from the sea to the rolling, forested hills - this is where Scotland truly starts.

Outstanding hospitality is the norm with exceptional food to match. Take the time to explore a side of Scotland which will delight and charm you.

A classic Scotland in a most unexpected place. Luxury that will embrace and endear any visitor, exclusive experiences that will create memories to last a lifetime.

## Day 1



Restoration Yard



Dawyck Botanic Garden



Rosslyn Chapel

Depart Edinburgh City Centre and make your way south to Midlothian, which starts just as the City ends.

A relaxing shopping experience awaits at [Restoration Yard](#) at Dalkeith Country Park. The store is a shopping haven; less boutique, more curated emporium. Choose from handpicked collections of fashion and beauty treats. Browse inspiring books, be inspired by homeware and experience the

Foodhall – a gourmand's heaven, complete with cheese counter, olive bar and bespoke chocolatier.

Afterwards, continue to nearby [Rosslyn Chapel](#) for a private guided tour. Founded in 1446 the chapel took some 40 years to build and its ornate stonework and mysterious symbolism have inspired – and intrigued – artists and visitors ever since. Today there are countless theories, myths and legends associated with the Chapel, many of which are impossible to prove or disprove conclusively.

For lunch, why not stop by [the Papermill](#), an outstanding bistro restaurant offering modern European Fare made from Scottish produce. Alternatively, drive on towards Peebles for lunch at the award-winning restaurant at [Cringletie](#).

In the afternoon visit [Dawyck Botanic Gardens](#), an important outstation of the Edinburgh Royal Botanical Gardens. Its sheltered setting amid the rolling hills was once part of the Dawyck Estate and today is an arboretum of world-class renown. An exotic woodland garden at its heart, Dawyck's collection provides colour all season.

Alternatively, you may want to book a chocolate making masterclass experience at award-winning [Cocoa Black](#) chocolate boutique in the centre of Peebles. Since being awarded UK World Chocolate Master, owner of Cocoa Black Ruth Hinks has welcomed many well-known faces through the doors. Recent visitors include HRH Prince Edward and world champion cyclist, Mark Cavendish MBE. Indulge your sweet tooth with a delicious selection of hot chocolate drinks, patisserie, chocolates and celebration cakes, as well as master classes which need to be pre-booked.

Overnight in the area (see the end of the document for Classic Luxury accommodation recommendations)

## Day 2



Scottish Food & Drink Trails



Johnstons of Elgin



Borders Distillery

This morning you will be whisked away to a secret and wild location to not only enjoy the wonderful scenery the region has to offer but also some of the best local food available.

Enjoy a half day guided tour (provided by [Scottish Food and Drink Trails](#)), accompanied by a local foody host:

Have a digital detox, escape the crowds, get off the beaten path. Join your guide at their favourite picnic spots both in the countryside or on the coast. The locations remain a secret until departure. Feast on fresh sweet Scottish Shellfish, Charcuterie, Terrines, Scottish Cheeses all with homemade bread. Washed down with local pressed apple juice and Kombucha or – if you wish – a Scottish Gin Cocktail specially created for Scottish Food and Drink Trails. To finish there will be a choice of Scottish fruit in season and Scottish sweet treats.

In the afternoon, travel to nearby Hawick, the centre of the fabrics industry in Scotland and the 'Home of Tweed'; for the finest collection of premium Scottish products, there's only one town to visit.

[The Famously Hawick Gold package](#) can be arranged for you exclusively and tailored to your interests and requirements. A qualified guide will be with you to assist and answer any questions you may have. There is the opportunity to meet some of the senior representatives from the five partner businesses, providing a personal introduction to each company and its offering.

You can visit, view and purchase goods with exclusive opening hours as well as meet with designers and have goods designed and made to order. Enjoy an exclusive viewing of next seasons collections!

Any food and drinks offering will be tailor made to your wishes, there may even be the opportunity to have dinner with business owners or senior executives.

And of course, the afternoon will also include a tour of the Borders Distillery with a whisky tasting masterclass at your venue of choice or indeed your accommodation if you wish. A truly exclusive experience tailored individually awaits!

After an exciting day, have a relaxing evening at the hotel. You can also enjoy dinner at one of the many outstanding restaurants in the region, such as –

#### CASUAL DINING

[Firebrick Brasserie](#) (Lauder)

[Provender Restaurant and Bar](#) (Melrose)

[Allanton Inn](#) (Duns)

#### SOPHISTICATED DINING

[The Sutherland Restaurant at Cringletie](#) (Peebles)

[Windlestraw](#) (Walkerburn)

[Sunlaws Restaurant at Schloss Roxburghe](#) (Kelso)

## Day 3



**Abbotsford**



**Melrose Abbey**



**Traquair Ale**

After a leisurely start to the day, it's time to explore the central Scottish Borders a wee bit further. Rich in historic charm, delightful experiences await around every corner. It's time to discover some of the hidden gems of the Borders.

The small and charming town of Melrose is not far and very much worth a visit. Here you will find imposing Melrose Abbey, one of the four famous Borders Abbeys, and range of quaint little shops lining the cobbled streets.

A short drive will take you to **Abbotsford**, the home of novelist Sir Walter Scott. A private guided tour of the house, Scott's 'conundrum castle', will see you step back in time with fascinating stories, followed by some time exploring the beautiful gardens.

Lunch can be taken at Ochiltree's Bistro, a stylish café restaurant in an elevated position with wonderful views over to the historic house. Alternatively save yourself until you get to **Traquair House** where you could indulge in a delicious afternoon tea at the charming Garden Café, a building dating back to 1745.

Explore this historic family home and its gardens. Traquair is known as the oldest inhabited house in Scotland, looking back on a colourful history. Dating back to 1107, it has been visited by 27 Scottish Kings, and has been occupied by the same family since 1491. In fact, the family still live at Traquair today. You might even want to book a private tour with the Lady of the house. After exploring the historic walls, do not miss a tour and tasting at the Traquair Brewery.

Return to your hotel for a relaxed evening.

## Day 4



**Jim Clark Motorsport Museum**



**Fishing at Eyemouth**



**Beirhope Alpacas**

Today sees you journey through time – at high speed – and you take a walk on the wild side.

You first visit of the day will be to [Mellerstain House and Gardens](#). Begun in 1725, this grand country house was designed by the famous architects William and Robert Adam. Discover a very complete picture of a stately home as it would have been 240 years ago, including expansive gardens with hidden follies and decorative tea house.

Now, travel forward in time and visit the [Jim Clark Motorsport Museum](#) in Duns and immerse yourself in the incredible story of Jim Clark's life and career. Widely regarded as one of the greatest racing drivers of all time, he dominated world motor racing like no one before or since, winning the Formula 1 World Championship in 1963 & 1965 and Indianapolis 500. The star attraction of this interactive museum is two of Jim Clark's most famous race cars, a stunning Lotus Cortina and iconic Formula One, Lotus 25.

Fancy fresh seafood for lunch? Make sure to head to the coast to St Abbs or Eyemouth for some of the best fish and chips in the country. Why not make the most of freshly caught produce by ordering a taster seafood platter at [Oblo Restaurant](#).

In the afternoon, enjoy a walk on the wild side and head to [Beirhope Alpacas](#) near Kelso. Nesting in the heart of the Cheviot Hills, the family-run farm is home to a growing herd of friendly and equally fluffy alpacas. As you take to the hills with your new companions, you will embark on the most spectacular journey through the Cheviots. Along the way, there is an abundance of wildlife to be seen, and some fantastic photo opportunities both of the landscape and of course your alpaca. It's the perfect pre-booked, private experience for those seeking a unique yet gentle adventure in the Scottish hills.

Return to your hotel for a relaxed evening.

## Day 5



Leaderfoot Viaduct



Afternoon Tea



St Abbs

Continue your journey today through Scotland, possibly heading North or West further up the country. Or you may be spending some time in Edinburgh or Glasgow, doing some last-minute shopping before travelling to the airport for your journey home.

All we are left to say is 'Haste ye back' to the beautiful South of Scotland.

## Overnight recommendations

A small selection of the top-rated small hotels and B&Bs in the region

### Windlestraw (Walkerburn by Peebles)

An independently owned small luxury (5\*) hotel overlooking the picturesque Tweed Valley. A magnificent Edwardian manor set in three acres of landscaped grounds, award-winning Windlestraw offers an intimate two AA rosette dining experience.

### Fauhope Country House (Melrose)

A secluded, award winning '5 star gold' B&B near Melrose in the heart of the Scottish Borders, with views that have inspired artists, writers, poets and musicians over the centuries. The house has been renovated with great style and attention to detail, and now offers luxurious home-from-home bed and breakfast accommodation that is both elegant and inviting.

### Whitehouse Country House (St Boswells near Melrose)

Five-star Bed and Breakfast in a wonderful rural setting at the heart of the Scottish Borders. It offers spacious, luxury ensuite bedrooms, elegant public rooms with open fires, and striking panoramic views across the rolling Borders countryside. There are walks from the door to the banks of the River Tweed, there is generous space to unwind in the comfort of the drawing room, and fine food served in the stylish dining room.

***If you like any of the above, you may also like the below suggestions:***



**Gunsgreen House**



**Manderston House**



**The Secret Herb Garden**



**Scott's View**



**Border Common Ridings**



**Paxton House**