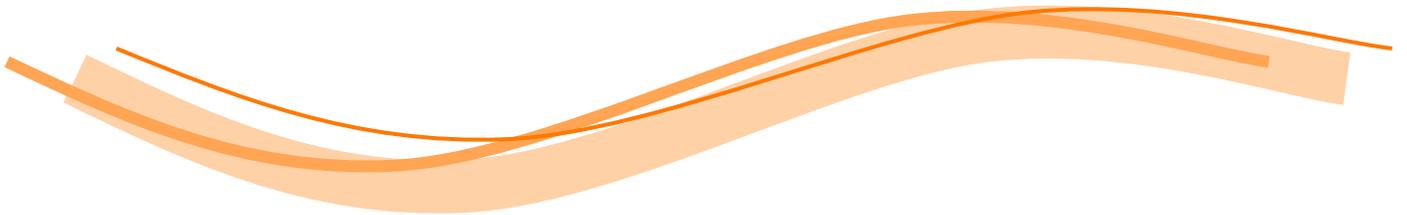




GLASGOW SCOTLAND





GLASGOW

There is a reason that Glasgow has been recognised as a must visit destination for 2015 by a plethora of international publications. Anyone who knew Glasgow even 10 years ago would be amazed at the change – Glasgow is one of Europe's most vibrant, dynamic and stylish cities. It's a transformation that began in the 1990's and which represents much that is new, merged with a hugely successful reclaiming of the past.

The city has a rich heritage of fantastic Victorian architecture. For instance, on the east side of George Square stands one of the city's most important and prestigious buildings - the City Chambers. This is recognized as one of the most beautiful Victorian buildings in the whole of the UK. The City Chambers is the focal point of George Square and a great symbol of Glasgow's political strength and historical wealth. Completed in 1888, the City Chambers has been the headquarters of Glasgow City Council for over 100 years. Free tours are conducted twice every weekday.

But the city didn't stand still and Glasgow is also well known for the Art Nouveau splendour of Charles Rennie Mackintosh - Glasgow born architect, designer and artist. Mackintosh created the "Glasgow Style" movement and is celebrated around the world as one of the most creative figures of the early 20th century. The Glasgow School of Art is considered by many to be his architectural masterpiece and was recently voted by consumers on TripAdvisor as the number one attraction in Glasgow. The Mackintosh trail is the perfect way to explore in the works of Glasgow's most celebrated architect. You can buy a great value ticket for £10 to see the key Mackintosh buildings in the Greater Glasgow area.

Glasgow offers visitors a rich array of activities and attractions. The city has over 20 museums and galleries, most with free entry, and there are over 1 million objects in the Glasgow Museums' collections! It is also a UNESCO City of Music, further reflecting the strong cultural life of the city.

Glasgow is the biggest retail centre in the UK outside London's West End. The "style mile" refers to the square mile in the very centre of Glasgow which houses a great variety of shops - from unique designer boutiques to flagship stores for British and international retailers. And though you are unlikely to run out of things to do in Glasgow, it is a wonderful base from which to explore a bit more of Scotland. There are over 90 golf courses within easy reach of Glasgow.

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	<p>Glasgow's location on the West coast means that Scotland's breathtaking landscapes, historic castles and world-renowned food and drink are all within reach. Less than an hour's drive North West from Glasgow is the splendour of the "bonnie banks" of Loch Lomond. Less than an hour's drive South West from Glasgow you find yourself in Ayrshire, known for its natural beauty, 140 kms of wonderful coastline and its close associations with poet Robert Burns. And with the Forth & Clyde Canal, Edinburgh, Stirling, the Campsie Fells and the West Highland Way to add to your list – you are going to have to book an even longer stay in Glasgow to make the most of it!</p>
Location	<p>Glasgow is located on the banks of the River Clyde, in West Central Scotland.</p> <p>Larger than Nova Scotia, Scotland is two-thirds the size of England and Wales - the other two countries that constitute the kingdom of Great Britain – with a tenth of the total population. It is surrounded by sea on three sides: to the west and north by the Atlantic Ocean and on the east by the North Sea. Its only land border runs for approximately 96 km along the line of the Cheviot Hills in the north of England.</p>
Geography	<p>Glasgow is built around two rivers, the Clyde and the Kelvin, where they meet the Firth of Clyde.</p>
Name	<p>The Gaelic translation of Glasgow, Glaschu, literally means Dear Green Place - a very appropriate name for a city which boasts over 90 parks and gardens within its city boundaries. Glasgow's parks and gardens offer residents and visitors a chance to relax in natural and tranquil surroundings and enjoy some peace and quiet away from the hustle and bustle of city life. Take a walk around Kibble Palace in the Botanic Gardens, visit the Highland Cattle at Pollok Country Park or simply enjoy a stroll along the banks of the River Kelvin in Kelvingrove</p>
Population	<p>Glasgow has around 600,000 and 2.5 million in the city region. There are 5.2 million Scots living in Scotland, but many more around the world, particularly in Canada, trace their roots back to the country. There are 1.8 million Ontarians with Scottish ancestry and over 150,000 in Quebec too. In total, there are over 4 million Canadians whose families originated in Scotland.</p>
Language	<p>English</p> <p>Despite a revival, the Gaelic (a Celtic language) is considered a "vernacular" spoken only by 3% of Scots. There is, however, a rich colloquial vocabulary in common usage. Examples are: bairn (child), loch (lake), lassie (girl), wee (small), ken (to know/to have knowledge), ceilidh (gathering, usually with traditional music), ben (mountain), and dram (shot of whisky).</p>
Currency	<p>The British Pound is the local currency, even though some of the bank notes are very Scottish – it's still the same currency! Currently the</p>

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	Canadian Dollar is at 0.55 against the Pound (as at May 1st 2015)
Tipping	There are no definite rules for tipping. If you feel that you have received good service then you may wish to leave a tip. This is most common in restaurants, where it is normal to leave 10% of the total bill but you should check to see if a service charge has already been included. Tipping in hotels is also at your discretion. It is not normal to tip bar staff.
Government	Scotland has partial self-government within the United Kingdom as well as representation in the UK Parliament. Executive and legislative powers have been devolved to, respectively, the Scottish Government and the Scottish Parliament at Holyrood in Edinburgh. The United Kingdom Parliament retains power over a set list of areas, including, for example, levels of UK taxes, social security, defense, international relations and broadcasting. The Scottish Parliament has legislative authority for all other areas relating to Scotland, as well as limited power to vary income tax. In a recent referendum, the Scots voted against independence from the rest of the UK.
Documentation	Passports are required for Canadians visiting Scotland.
Time zone	Glasgow is 5 hours ahead of EST, Ontario and Quebec.
Health	Good medical care is widely available. Visitors who become ill while in Scotland are eligible for free emergency treatment at National Health Service Accident and Emergency hospital departments. Don't forget travel insurance for all trips outside your home province.
Safety tips	Glasgow is one of the safest cities in Europe even at night, when people may walk alone with confidence.

CLIMATE	
General climate	<p>Scottish weather isn't always the best and is extremely variable, but give it time and the sun will soon be shining. You might come across the odd 'dreich' day, where the weather is wet and overcast, but soon enough you'll be able to see the bright blue skies of Scotland and the sun sits proudly in the sky.</p> <p>July and August are normally the warmest months with average temperatures of 15-19°C. The days are very long in summer as Scotland is significantly further north than Toronto and Montreal.</p> <p>The driest months in Scotland tend to be between April and June, when temperatures average around 15° C, they even reach 28C at their peak</p>
Today's weather	Glasgow has sun and clouds today (May 2 nd 2015) and a temperature of 12C.
Best time to visit	Scotland has a milder climate in winter than Eastern Canada due to the warming effects of the Gulf Stream, so you can visit any time of year. The summer months are the warmest and the most popular, but spring and autumn are often glorious times to visit Scotland too.

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GETTING AROUND	
Getting There	<p>Transat flies directly to Glasgow and you can now also fly to Glasgow with WestJet's new service direct from Toronto. Flights depart Toronto at 6.10pm and arrive in Glasgow at 8am the next morning. Coming back they depart Glasgow at 9.30am and arrive Toronto at 2.30pm same day. These new daily non-stop seasonal flights will operate from May 29, 2015 to Oct. 23, 2015. WestJet flies directly from Toronto to Glasgow in 7 to 8 hours and Glasgow Airport is just 13kms from the city centre.</p> <p>www.AirTransat.com www.westjet.com</p>
Distances	<p>Glasgow to Edinburgh: 72 km; Glasgow to Fort William: 173 km; Glasgow to Thurso: 469 km; Glasgow to London: 650 km.</p>
Ferries	<p>Regular ferry services operate between the Scottish mainland and island communities. These services are mostly run by Caledonian MacBrayne, but some are operated by local councils. Other ferry routes, served by multiple companies, connect to Northern Ireland, Belgium, Norway, the Faroe Islands and also Iceland.</p>
Cruises	<p>Cruising Along the Caledonian Canal: In 1822, a group of enterprising Scots connected three of the Highlands' longest lakes (lochs Ness, Lochy, and Oich) with a canal linking Britain's east and west coasts. Since then, barges have hauled everything from grain to building supplies without having to negotiate the wild storms off Scotland's northernmost tips. Now cabin cruisers tote a different kind of cargo along the Caledonian Canal: people seeking a spectacular waterborne view of the countryside that was tamed centuries ago by the Camerons, the Stewarts, and the MacDonalds. Caley Cruisers, based in Inverness www.caleycruisers.co.uk , rents out skippered boats by the week.</p>
Trains	<p>Scotland's rail network is managed by Transport Scotland. The East Coast and West Coast Main Railway lines and the Cross Country Line connect the major cities and towns of Scotland with each other and with the rail network in England. Domestic rail services within Scotland are operated by First ScotRail. Furthermore, Glasgow has a small integrated subway system since 1896. Currently, 15 stations serve a daily ridership of just under 40,000. There are plans to extend the subway system in time for the 2014 Commonwealth Games. The East Coast Main Line includes that section of the network that crosses the Firth of Forth via the Forth Bridge. Completed in 1890, this cantilever bridge has been described as "the one internationally recognised Scottish landmark".</p> <p>The cost of rail travel in Scotland is often quite low, and trains are generally punctual. Timetables are available at all stations, with free</p>

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	<p>timetables covering only certain regions available at various stations For information on rail travel in Scotland, contact First ScotRail, www.firstgroup.com .</p> <p>The Royal Scotsman www.royalscotsman.com is one of the most luxurious trains in the world. The train passes by ancient mountains and mysterious lochs, through glens and across villages as you live in sumptuous surroundings. It's like being the guest at a private party. The train carries a maximum of 36 guests, each passenger enjoying plenty of space. Plush beds and opulent bathrooms are the order of the day. The classic tour calls for 4 nights aboard, and goes from the panoramic Southern Highlands to the more rugged grandeur of the Western Highlands. Superb cuisine and a long list of fine wines and choice malt whiskies are more reasons to hop aboard.</p>
Car Rental	<p>All major international car rental companies are available. Driving is on the left, remember!</p>
Buses	<p>The cheapest means of transport from London to Scotland is the bus and it's also the least expensive way to travel within Scotland. All major towns have a local bus service, and every tourist office can provide details about half- or full-day bus excursions to scenic highlights. If you want to explore a particular area, you can often avail yourself of an economical bus pass.</p> <p>Many adventurous travelers like to explore the country on one of the postal buses, which carry not only mail but also a limited number of passengers to rural areas. Ask at any local post office for details. A general timetable is available at the head post office in Edinburgh.</p> <p>Scottish Citylink Coaches are a good bet. They link the major cities (Glasgow and Edinburgh) with the two most popular tourist centres, Inverness and Aviemore. Travel is fast and prices are low. For example, it takes only 3 hours to reach Aviemore from Edinburgh, and Inverness is just 3.5 hours from Edinburgh. A direct Scottish Citylink overnight coach makes the run from London to Aviemore and Inverness at reasonable fares.</p> <p>Coaches offer many other popular runs, including links between Glasgow and Fort William, Inverness and Ullapool, and Glasgow and Oban. For details, contact Rapsons www.rapsons.co.uk , or Scottish Citylink www.citylink.co.uk</p>
Passes	<p>The Scottish Freedom Pass provides unlimited transportation on trains and most ferries throughout Scotland and discounts for bus travel. It includes access to obscure bus routes to almost forgotten hamlets, free rides on ferries operated by Caledonian MacBrayne, and discounted fares with P&O Scottish Lines. The ferries connect to the Western Islands, the islands of the Clyde, and the Orkneys. The Freedom Pass covers the entire Scottish rail network and is usable from</p>

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	<p>Carlisle, England (near the western Scotland-England border), and from Berwick-upon-Tweed, England (near the eastern Scotland-England border). In addition, if you have to fly into London and want to go straight to Scotland from there, a reduced rate is available for a round-trip ticket between London and Edinburgh or Glasgow for Travelpass holders.</p> <p>The 2015 Freedom Pass is available for 4 days' travel over an 8-day period for \$289 and 8 days' travel over a 15-day period for \$388. http://www.britrail.net/passes/britrail-freedom-of-scotland</p> <p>BritRail Passes allow unlimited travel in England, Scotland, and Wales on any British Rail scheduled train over the whole of the network during the validity of the pass without restrictions. BritRail Consecutive Pass allows you to travel for a consecutive number of days for a flat rate. Seniors (60 and over) qualify for discounts in first-class travel. Passengers 25 and under qualify for a 2nd Class Youth Pass. One child (under age 15) can travel free with each adult or senior pass by requesting the BritRail Family Pass when buying the adult pass. Additional children pay half the regular adult fare.</p> <p>BritRail Passes and vacation packages can be found at www.britrail.com</p>
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ACCOMMODATION	<p>Visitors to Glasgow are spoilt for choice when it comes to places to stay. Whether you're looking for a luxury hotel or a quirky boutique, there's something to appeal to all tastes and budgets. Take a look below for an overview of some of the best places in Glasgow to get a great night's sleep.</p> <p>A Luxury Retreat</p> <p>Blythswood Square Blythswood Square is an award-winning 5 star spa hotel in a prime central location for anyone that wants a luxurious stay in Glasgow. The 100 stunning guest rooms from standard right up to The Blythswood Suite (complete with its own pool table!), will ensure you have the most luxurious of stays in Glasgow. www.townhousecompany.com/blythswoodsquare/</p> <p>Hotel du Vin Hotel Du Vin at One Devonshire Gardens is a flagship branch of the hotel group that's renowned for its quality and indulgent luxury, so this is one for visitors looking to experience the finer things in life. The stunning boutique hotel is oozing with elegant and understated sophistication, with a great location in the West End.</p>
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<http://www.hotelduvin.com/locations/glasgow/>

Radisson Blu Hotel

Smooth, sleek and sophisticated, the Radisson Blu has won a number of awards for its stunning architecture and is perfect for a weekend break in style. Located deep in the heart of the city, you're never too far from the hotspots.

www.radissonblu.co.uk/hotel-glasgow

A Stylish Stay

Malmaison

This former Episcopal Church has been transformed into one of Glasgow's most striking hotels. With stylish rooms and a quality selection of wines in the bar, this is a great boutique hotel to stay at on a trip to the city.

www.malmaison.com/locations/glasgow/

Hotel Indigo

Housed in the striking façade of a former Scottish Power station from the 19th century, Hotel Indigo is one for fans of art. With a style reflecting the rich heritage and modern design of the city, culture aficionados will feel right at home here. Portraits of local artists adorning the walls might inspire you to get a bit arty yourself.

www.hotelindigoglasgow.com

15 Glasgow

One of Glasgow's latest luxury boutique bed and breakfasts, 15 Glasgow is nestled in the trendy West End, making it a superb spot for any trendsetter to get some shut-eye. The restored A-listed Victorian townhouse is a perfect combination of classic and modern design.

www.15glasgow.com/

Arthouse

Designed to provide a home-away-from-home for visitors, the Arthouse reflects the renaissance of Glasgow, with striking traditional architecture combined with contemporary design.

www.thearthouseglasgow.co.uk/

Grasshoppers Hotel

Perfectly situated next to Glasgow Central Station, the Grasshoppers is an ideal location for a stay in the thick of the action. Every room is individually styled, complete with furniture designed for the hotel, making this a truly unique experience. With a wide choice of bars and

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theatres close by, a top-class night out is only minutes away.

www.grasshoppersglasgow.com/

Park Inn by Radisson

Based in the heart of Glasgow's city centre, this hotel is a perfect retreat after exploring everything the city has to offer. Sleep well and wake energised in one of the 91 modern guest rooms each equipped with power shower, coffee and tea provisions and free wireless high-speed internet access.

www.parkinn.co.uk/hotel-glasgow

Hotels with History

Grand Central Hotel

You can't get much more central than the aptly-named Grand Central Hotel, with it placed right next to the city's rail station. A winner of 7 awards at the Scottish Hotel Awards last year, it's a much-loved icon in the city that has recently undergone a \$32.2m refurbishment to bring it bang up-to-date.

www.thegrandcentralhotel.co.uk

Sherbrooke Castle Hotel

With its distinctive red sandstone exterior and wonderful landscaped gardens, Sherbrooke Castle Hotel is located in the leafy suburb of Pollokshields in the Southside of Glasgow. Enjoy the serenity of the location and unwind a little in tranquillity.

www.sherbrookecastlehotel.com/

The Pipers' Tryst Hotel

This small hotel based at The National Piping Centre is a great place to stay to enjoy local hospitality. With simple rooms and a great restaurant to sample the best of Scotland's cuisine.

www.thepipingcentre.co.uk/hotel-restaurant/hotel/

Budget Boutique

Citizen M

Revel in award-winning, yet affordable, luxury with Citizen M, right in the heart of Glasgow. With cutting-edge modern interior design and a whole range of facilities, you might be surprised at how low the price is.

www.citizenm.com/glasgow/

Z Hotels

Boutique hotel chain Z Hotels has opened its first Scottish property in

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Glasgow, with a designer conversion of the Old Printworks bringing a touch of luxury to the heart of the city. Located near George Square, Z Glasgow offers guests short stay accommodation of the highest quality at an affordable price, boasting bespoke modern interior design and all the creature comforts needed for a good night's rest. The Z Café completes the package with an imaginative menu of freshly made food served in relaxed surroundings.

www.thezhotels.com

A Home from Home

Fraser Suites

If you fancy a more independent stay in Glasgow, the Fraser Suites are sure to be top of your list. The collection of serviced apartments mean you can enjoy the privacy of your own space, all located in the vibrant Merchant City.

www.glasgow.frasershospitality.com/

Glasgow Lofts

These deluxe city centre apartments have won awards for their design and interior. With hardwood floors, wall to wall, floor to ceiling windows, flat screen TVs and Jacuzzis, Glasgow Lofts would be perfect for a luxurious independent stay.

www.glasgowlofts.com

A Scenic Sojourn

Whilst Glasgow has more than enough to offer visitors, sometimes you just want to get away from it all and enjoy some peace and quiet in the countryside. The city is surrounded by some truly beautiful scenery, as well as some equally beautiful locations to get some shut eye.

Cameron House

Situated on the picturesque banks of Loch Lomond, Cameron House offers the perfect location to soak in the majestic glens of the Highlands. With cosy rooms and legendary hospitality, it's also located just minutes away from championship standard golf and spa breaks.

<http://www.devere-hotels.co.uk/hotel-lodges/locations/cameron-house.html>

Mar Hall

Located just 10 minutes from Glasgow International Airport, this tranquil 240 acre woodland estate is perfect for a luxury relaxing break. Mar Hall is set in an Edwardian Scottish mansion with 53 individually designed

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	bedrooms, a championship golf course, Decleor Spa and offers both fine dining and casual dining restaurants. www.marhall.com
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LIFESTYLES	
Kids & Teens	<p>In Glasgow, the Waverley, the world's last seagoing paddle steamer, will carry you to scenic places along the Firth of Clyde. You can have lunch aboard. Back in Glasgow visit the Glasgow Science Centre, a kid-friendly favorite complete with a Space Theatre and plenty of hands-on activities for children. The Museum of Transport has lots of ship models which intrigue kids.</p> <p>Further north, drive through the hauntingly beautiful Glencoe, scene of the famous massacre of 1692, when the Campbells did in the MacDonalds. Kids are fascinated by the audiovisual presentation shown at the Glencoe Visitor Centre.</p> <p>And then there's Loch Ness: stop at the little village of Drumnadrochit to see the official Loch Ness Monster Exhibition. With its lasers and visual effects, this exhibition is definitely a kid pleaser. After you've seen the exhibition, it's great fun for families to explore the ruins of Urquhart Castle, which overlooks the loch. It is from here that most sightings of the Loch Ness Monster are reported.</p> <p>You can explore the Culloden Battlefield, where Bonnie Prince Charlie and his Jacobite army were crushed by the English. Kids also like to walk the ramparts, a distance of 1.6km, found at the Fort George and Queen's Own Highlanders Regimental Museum in Inverness.</p>
Romance	<p>Stay in a castle, cruise gently along a Highlands loch, take a picnic lunch on a hike over the heathered moors, take in a sunset over a Western Isle, ride a deserted Scottish beach or skip barefoot across the sands...there's so many ways to kindle romance in Scotland!</p>
Genealogy	<p>If you hail from Scotland - trace your roots. Don't just learn about your Scottish heritage - live it! Experience first-hand the places your ancestors lived and worked. Try on the kilt of your clan, touch the walls of your family castle and see the very documents that chronicle their lives.</p> <p>Scotland has an unrivalled range, depth, quality and accessibility of ancestral archives and historical resources across the country. Visit one of the local family history centres, registrars offices or historical buildings to access their records. You'll receive a friendly welcome from one of the local experts and you can ask them any questions you might have.</p> <p>The main centre you can visit in Edinburgh - ScotlandsPeople – which has one of the largest online sources of original genealogical information; with almost 80 million records to access there is every chance that you will be able to connect with your own Scottish ancestry.</p>

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	<p>Check out www.Scotlandpeople.gov.uk to start your search.</p> <p>The www.Ancestralscotland.com website is the official ancestral tourism website of VisitScotland - this unique online resource provides a wealth of information for those wishing to make that trip 'home' to walk in the footsteps of their ancestors. Start planning your own personal ancestral trip now with the clan surname search and clan touring itineraries.</p> <p>Other useful genealogy websites are: www.scotlandpeople.gov.uk www.scotlandplaces.gov.uk www.nls.uk/maps www.abdn.ac.uk/emigration/methodology.html</p>
Zoomers	<p>Independent or guided touring – you have a choice here. If you prefer the latter, try Insight, Trafalgar or Globus. There are lots of discounts available to older visitors too, from rail and bus passes to entry into many of the big attractions. Just make sure you have the appropriate identification available.</p>

UNIQUES	
Surprising	<p>Glasgow has over 20 museums and galleries, most with free entry; there are over 1 million objects in the Glasgow Museums' collections!</p>
History	<p>Glasgow's Time Line</p> <p>6th Century; Early settlement founded by St Mungo (also known as Saint Kentigern) on the River Clyde.</p> <p>1175 Bishop Jocelyn secures a charter from King William making Glasgow a Burgh.</p> <p>c.1690 The city begins to rise out of its mediaeval slumber.</p> <p>1707 Treaty of Union with England allows increased trade with colonies.</p> <p>1720 Glasgow now a major port, overtaking Liverpool, Bristol and Whitehaven in importance through the success in the tobacco trade with Virginia.</p> <p>1723 Daniel Defoe describes Glasgow as 'the beautifullest little city I have seen in Britain.'</p> <p>1770 Dredging of the River Clyde establishes Glasgow as a deep water port. Shipbuilding established helping the city to survive the threat of the American War of Independence and the subsequent collapse of the tobacco trade.</p> <p>1780 The creation of the textile and chemical industries signals the start of the Industrial Revolution</p> <p>19th Century</p>

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	<p>1811 Glasgow becomes the second city of the British Empire. It is now larger than any other city in Britain outside London.</p> <p>1842 Creation of the Botanic Gardens in Glasgow's rapidly expanding West End.</p> <p>1850 Water from Loch Katrine in the Trossachs provides Glasgow with the best water supply in Great Britain.</p> <p>1870 Glasgow University moves to its present site on Gilmorehill.</p> <p>1888 The International Exhibition at Kelvingrove Park.</p> <p>1896 Opening of the Glasgow Underground.</p> <p>20th Century</p> <p>1900 Glasgow reaches its peak of industrial production.</p> <p>1901 The International Exhibition and opening of the Glasgow Museum and Art Gallery in Kelvingrove Park.</p> <p>1938 Empire Exhibition in Bellahouston Park.</p> <p>1983 Opening of the world famous Burrell Collection in its purpose built gallery in Pollok Country Park.</p> <p>1985 Opening of the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre.</p> <p>1987 Opening of Princes Square shopping centre.</p> <p>1988 Glasgow hosts the National Garden Festival attracts 4.3 million visitors.</p> <p>1990 Glasgow marks its reign as Cultural Capital of Europe with a yearlong festival of over 3,000 events and the opening of Glasgow Royal Concert Hall.</p> <p>1993 Opening of the new St Mungo's Museum- the UK's only Museum of Religion - sited appropriately on Cathedral Square next to the city's finest historic 13th century cathedral.</p> <p>1996 Glasgow puts together a sustained city-wide Festival of Architecture and Design</p> <p>21st Century</p> <p>2000 The IMAX Theatre at Glasgow Science Centre opens.</p> <p>2001 New Lanark Village is awarded World Heritage Status.</p> <p>2014 Hosts the 20th Commonwealth Games</p>
<p>Books</p>	<p>Frommer's have got Scotland covered from all angles – here are my recommended reads:</p> <p>Frommer's Scotland</p> <p>Frommer's Best Walking Trips in Scotland</p> <p>Frommer's Scotland's Best Loved Driving Tours</p>
<p>1000 Places to See Before You Die</p>	<p>Scottish golf;</p> <p>The Castle Trail, Grampians;</p> <p>The Hebrides; Isle of Skye;</p> <p>Scotch Whiskey Trail;</p> <p>Highland Games;</p> <p>Loch Ness; Inverlochy Castle (hotel);</p> <p>Edinburgh Castle;</p>

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	<p>Hogmanay; Edinburgh Festival; The Royal Scotsman; The Mackintosh Trail, Glasgow; The Trossachs</p>
Must Sees	<p>There are five UNESCO World Heritage sites in Scotland:</p> <p>St. Kilda is a small, out-lying archipelago of Hebridean islands which was inscribed as a "natural" site in 1986. In 2004, the site was extended to include a large amount of the surrounding marine features as well as the islands themselves. In July 2005 it became one of the few World Heritage Sites to hold joint status for its natural and cultural qualities. The islands were bequeathed to the National Trust for Scotland in 1957. They are also a Biosphere Reserve and a National Scenic Area.</p> <p>Edinburgh Old and New Towns were together inscribed as a World Heritage Site in 1996. The former includes the medieval Royal Mile which runs from Edinburgh Castle to the Palace of Holyroodhouse, and is bordered to the north by the neo-classical 18th century "New Town" which includes Princes Street. It is managed by the Edinburgh World Heritage Trust.</p> <p>The Heart of Neolithic Orkney includes Maeshowe, the Ring of Brodgar, Skara Brae, the Standing Stones of Stenness and other nearby sites. It was inscribed in 1999 and is managed by Historic Scotland.</p> <p>New Lanark was inscribed in 2001. It is a restored 18th century industrial cotton mill village in South Lanarkshire constructed by Robert Owen as an experiment in utopian socialism. Restoration was organised by the New Lanark Conservation Trust.</p> <p>The Antonine Wall was inscribed in July 2008. It is an extension to a wider series of sites in Austria, Germany and Slovakia entitled "Frontiers of the Roman Empire". The Wall is the remains of a defensive line made of turf circa 20 feet high, with nineteen forts. It was constructed after 139 AD and extended for over 60 kms between the Firth of Forth and the Firth of Clyde. The wall was over-run and abandoned soon after 160 AD, then occupied again for a brief period after 197 AD.</p>

SPORTS ACTIVITIES	
Shinty	Shinty is a team game played with sticks and a ball. Shinty is now played mainly in the Scottish Highlands, and amongst Highland

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	<p>migrants to the big cities of Scotland, but it was formerly more widespread, being once competitively played on a widespread basis in England and other areas in the world where Scottish Highlanders migrated.</p> <p>While comparisons are often made with field hockey, the two games have several important differences. In shinty, a player is allowed to play the ball in the air and is allowed to use both sides of the stick, called a caman which is wooden and slanted on both sides. The stick may also be used to block and to tackle, although a player may not come down on an opponent's stick, a practice called hacking. Players may also tackle using the body as long as it is shoulder-to-shoulder.</p> <p>The game was derived from the same root as the Irish game of hurling but has developed different rules and features. These rules are governed by the Camanachd Association.</p> <p>Shinty is also one of the forebears of ice hockey: in 1800, Scottish immigrants to Nova Scotia played a game on ice at Windsor. In Canada, informal hockey games are still called shinny.</p>
<p>Golf</p>	<p>Playing two rounds a day it would take almost seven weeks to complete the grand tour of Greater Glasgow's many and varied courses! There are an estimated 94 courses, underlining why Glasgow is known as the 'dear green place', given the huge swathes of land given over to the Royal & Ancient game.</p> <p>Few large cities can claim to have a golf course almost bang in its centre, but Haggs Castle is barely a 4km drive from the very heart of Scotland's largest city, with the M74 motorway bordering the picturesque setting where visitors are very welcome on weekdays.</p> <p>A lush parkland course with tree-lined fairways, Haggs has a thriving membership and is of a standard that was considered good enough to host the Glasgow Classic in the early to mid-1980s and the first of the Scottish Opens after an absence of 13 years, in 1986.</p> <p>The price of a round of golf in Glasgow varies from £12 at one of the city council run municipal courses such as Knightswood, a nine-hole track, to three-figures with the majority of venues having a 'pay and play' facility with visitor packages available at several leading clubs.</p> <p>Glasgow Golf Club, situated at Killermont on the north bank of the River Kelvin, and just five miles from the city centre, is the ninth oldest golf club in the world, having been founded in 1787.</p> <p>A members club generally referred to as Killermont, the parkland course follows the original line of play to the green sites laid out by Old Tom Morris in 1903 and the venue has hosted many prestigious tournaments. It costs £95 per round weekdays and £100 at weekends. A day ticket (two rounds) is £115 and a four ball costs £215.</p> <p>Interestingly, the Glasgow Golf Club also owns and runs Glasgow Gailes Links, which is situated south of Irvine and north of Troon on the</p>

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Ayrshire coast, approximately a 40 minute drive from the city. Gailes also offers visitor packages and is the sole Scottish links to be appointed by the R&A to host final Open Championship qualifying for four years from 2014.

Glasgow's golf clubs and courses are many and varied and cover all points of the city, from the quaintly named **Rouken Glen to Ruchill; Cathcart Castle to Cowglen and Kings Park to Linn Park.**

Listing each would quickly exhaust the confines of space, but it is worth noting at least some of finest real estate to be found at the home of golf. Cathcart Castle established in 1895 - and where visitors are welcome all year round - is situated in suburban Clarkston and is a James Braid-designed undulating parkland course offering panoramic views of the city and towards the north-west and Loch Lomond. Braid, a five-time Open champion, also designed the **East Renfrewshire** course, a par-70, 6,100 yard track a short hop from Cathcart Castle. A challenging mix of short par-4s and testing par-3s, the setting allows the visitor to peer over the mighty metropolis that is Glasgow to the north, with the southern Highlands providing a scenic backdrop, while to the west the Firth of Clyde reaches out to the open sea.

Cawder Golf Club, located in Bishopbriggs, just 15 minutes from the city centre, has two outstanding Braid-designed courses, namely The Cawder and The Keir, and an A-listed clubhouse. Both courses are home to a wide variety of wildlife, including deer and buzzards, and the greens are renowned for their speed and true running.

Pollok Golf Club is situated in the spectacular setting of Pollok Country Park, which also houses the world-renowned Burrell Collection and beautiful Pollok House on Glasgow's south side, just a short drive from the city centre. Laid out by Dr Alister McKenzie, who also designed Augusta National, a round at the par-71 parkland course costs £50 weekdays and £60 weekends, but beware the 70 bunkers!

Crow Wood formed in 1925, is yet another Braid-designed parkland track offering a relatively inexpensive round of golf just 10 minutes from the city centre heading east.

Stretching just a few miles beyond the city boundary sits **Mar Hall Golf & Spa Resort.** Once the home of the Earl of Mar, the scenic course has undoubtedly one of the most stunning settings in the area. Designed by Dave Thomas, this attractive stay & play venue, which is also open to visiting green fee players, is located directly along the banks of the River Clyde, with the towering Erskine Bridge at one end of the course. The course with a scattering of 250 year old chestnut and beech trees has a 'links' feel and each of its nine-hole loops has three riverside holes.

Designed by the great Seve Ballesteros and Dave Thomas, the 18-hole golf course at the **Westerwood Hotel & Golf Resort** is one of

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	<p>Scotland's best kept secrets. Overlooking the Campsie and Kilsyth Hills, this spectacular course meanders through silver birches and wild heather offering a challenge to golfers of all abilities.</p> <p>Just a short drive or train journey from the heart of Glasgow is the Ayrshire coast and its many splendid courses including world-renowned Turnberry, Royal Troon and Prestwick on one of Scotland's most picturesque coastlines.</p> <p>The three clubs have, between them, hosted the Open Championship nearly 40 times and are a must-visit for the game's historians, given that they form as famous a golfing terrain as any in the world.</p> <p>Turnberry is a mere 80kms from Glasgow while Royal Troon and Prestwick are less than an hour's drive away.</p> <p>Royal Troon is a private members club with limited access but Turnberry and Prestwick welcome visitors with a respectable handicap. It was at Turnberry in 1977 that Tom Watson and Jack Nicklaus fought out their iconic Duel in the Sun when the breathtakingly beautiful links with stunning views hosted the first of its four Opens.</p> <p>The views are breathtaking and include the rocky outcrop of Ailsa Craig, the imposing 220 acre island that lies 10 miles from the mainland. Colloquially known as "Paddy's Milestone" because of its location between the Firth of Clyde and the Irish Sea, the island was formed from the volcanic plug of an extinct volcano.</p> <p>Prestwick, one of the most natural links courses, was the birthplace of the world's oldest major championship, hosting the first 12 Open Championships from 1860.</p> <p>Loch Lomond is only 35 minutes from the centre of Glasgow and is the city's scenic playground. The Carrick at the stunning Cameron House Hotel is a par-71 heathland course that weaves through an area of outstanding natural beauty, straddling the imposing Scottish Lowlands and the majestic Highlands. Yet, it's possible to sample the Carrick experience from as little as £29.</p> <p>Loch Lomond Golf Club, approximately 60Kms from Glasgow and exclusively a members club, was the venue for the Scottish Open for 15 years from 1996. Loch Lomond is one of the true jewels in Scotland's golfing crown and undoubtedly figures on the wish-list of those who "collect" famous golf clubs!</p> <p>And if you are planning to sample all 94 of Greater Glasgow's courses before venturing further afield, allow yourself a couple of months to enjoy the golfing experience of a lifetime.</p> <p>It is worth also noting that the host of the 2014 Ryder Cup Gleneagles - with its three championship golf courses - is open to visitors year round and is easily and quickly accessible by train and car from the centre of Glasgow.</p>
Fishing	Scotland is best known in fishing circles for its Atlantic Salmon; fly

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	<p>fishing for these elusive and beautiful fish was a life-long passion of my father, especially on the River Tweed. Here are some suggestions:</p> <p>The Borders & Galloway Regions: Sea fishing is pure heaven in the Solway Firth, especially near Port William and Portpatrick villages, in the vicinity of Loch Ryan, and also along the shore of the Isle of Whithorn. The elusive salmon is best pursued along the River Tweed, and the lesser-known hill lochs are ideal for trout fishermen. Local tourist offices distribute two helpful guides: A Comprehensive Guide to Scottish Borders Angling and Castabout Anglers Guide to Dumfries and Galloway.</p> <p>Argyll & the Southern Hebrides: This much-visited area in western Scotland is split in two by the long peninsula of Kintyre. The topography is decidedly northern Atlantic, distinguished by open sea and loch, and the Firth of Clyde separates the region from the Inner Hebrides. Along with about 50 prime freshwater-angling sites, Argyll and the Southern Hebrides contain some two dozen villages with fantastic sea fishing.</p> <p>Tayside: The northeast section of Scotland is filled not only with major rivers -- the Don, Dee, Ythan, and Deverson -- but with smaller ones, too, such as the Ugie, all ideal for salmon fishing. Besides the rivers, numerous estuaries and lochs make this one of the country's best areas for game fishing. Local tourist offices keep abreast of the details about boat rentals and permit prices, and some country hotels offer fishing packages.</p> <p>Sutherland & Northern Highlands: Sutherland's myriad lochs provide endless possibilities for anglers. Trout fishing is the big lure, and local tourist offices will tell you all about boats and permits. Not only is the fishing superb, but your hotel cook may also prepare your catch for you.</p>
<p>Horse riding</p>	<p>Horseback riding through the Highlands & Argyll... There's nothing like an equestrian excursion through the Highlands' fragrant heather and over its lichen-covered rocks. One of Scotland's biggest stables is the Highland Riding Centre, Drumnadrochit www.borlum.co.uk. For scenic rides across the moors, Highlands, and headlands of the Argyll, try the Ardfern Riding Centre, Loch Gilphead (tel. 01852/500-632).</p>
<p>Hiking</p>	<p>Scotland's Great Trails are distinctively waymarked, easily accessible and allow you to discover Scotland's beautiful natural landscapes. From mountains, lochs and forests to coastal paths and riverside walks as well as historical sites and Scotland's fantastic wildlife, there are plenty of stunning natural sights to behold. Take the family and tick off a bite-sized chunk of one of the routes, do a bit each weekend or tackle the whole route in one go.</p>

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	<p>If you wish to see some of Scotland’s best dramatic mountain and loch scenery, the Great Glen Way, Southern Upland Way, the Three Lochs Way and the West Highland Way traverse some of the most beautiful places in Scotland.</p> <p>Follow some of Scotland’s iconic rivers from source to sea, on routes such as the Speyside Way which runs from Spey Bay in the Moray Firth, upriver to Aviemore, in the heart of the Cairngorms National Park. Follow some other great river trails like the Annandale Way, the Clyde Walkway or the River Ayr Way.</p> <p>Explore some of Scotland’s long coastline. Embark on the 117 miles of the spectacular Fife Coastal Path. You will discover fascinating wildlife, sandy beaches and quaint fishing villages. The Ayrshire Coastal Path, John Muir Way, Kintyre Way, Moray Coast Trail and West Island Way or new addition, the Berwickshire Coastal Path, also offer stunning coastal scenery.</p> <p>Uncover Scotland’s rich and fascinating history on an historical trail. Follow in the footsteps of St Cuthbert on the St Cuthbert’s Way or discover ancient abbeys on the Borders Abbeys Way, perfect for exploring the beautiful countryside of the Scottish Borders. Or why not follow in the footsteps of marauding medieval cattle thieves on the Cateran Trail or Scotland's most famous outlaw Rob Roy on the Rob Roy Way?</p> <p>If you are interested in transport and travel, discover canal towpaths, The Falkirk Wheel and old railway lines on some of the fantastic canal and railway routes, such as the Forth and Clyde Canal Towpath, the Dava Way and the Formartine and Buchan Way.</p> <p>The Munros: The highest mountains in Scotland are known as Munros, named after Sir Hugh T. Munro who in 1891 surveyed all the country’s mountains above 3000 feet (914 meters) and produced his Tables which catalogued 236 peaks that he deemed to be individual mountains with 'sufficient separation' between each other. Over the years and with advances in surveying, there have been several revisions to Munro's original listing, the latest being in 1997. Currently, there are 284 Munros.</p> <p>Frommer’s Best Walking Trips in Scotland covers 57 walks all over Scotland, together with information on where to eat and stay.</p>
<p>Cycling</p>	<p>Emirates Arena and Sir Chris Hoy Velodrome</p> <p>The state-of-the-art Emirates Arena opened in Glasgow in October 2012 as one of the most versatile and innovative purpose built structures of its type in Europe. It was the showcase venue of Glasgow’s hosting of the 2014 Commonwealth Games and is already home to a world-class sporting events programme. The Sir Chris Hoy</p>

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	<p>Velodrome was designed by Ralph Schuermann, the internationally renowned designer of the 2008 Olympic Games Velodrome in Beijing. If you are feeling adventurous you can book an introductory cycling session on the 250m Velodrome track. www.emiratesarena.co.uk</p> <p>Ciclismo Classico has a Bike Across Scotland tour package. What better way to see Scotland's breathtaking scenery than riding along its beautiful seaside coasts and lochs, through its verdant hills, dramatic Munros and bucolic villages? There are two options for eight-day rides, departing from Inverness in the Highlands covering 400kms before ending in the coastal village of Gairloch.</p> <p>Package highlights include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eight-days of cycling • Accommodations at three- and four-star country inns • Rides through majestic countryside, along lochs, islands, forests, and dramatic mountains, including the highest pass in the UK! • Opportunities to view local wildlife, ranging from dolphins to osprey • A tour of the 13th century Urquhart Castle along the banks of Loch Ness • A taste of Scotland with locally-sourced and seasonal dining experiences • A whisky tasting at one of Scotland's oldest distilleries in Glen Ord
<p>Sailing & Watersports</p>	<p>Wherever you travel in Scotland, you're never far from the water. Windsurfing, canoeing, water-skiing, and sailing are just some of the activities available at a number of sailing centres and holiday parks. You'll find it easy to rent boats and equipment at any of the major resorts along Scotland's famous lakes.</p>
<p>CULTURE</p>	<p>The SSE Hydro Glasgow's skyline now includes an iconic new structure, The SSE Hydro. With a total capacity of 12,000, The SSE Hydro will play host to around 140 events every year (from national and international music mega stars to global entertainment and sporting events). It's the biggest of its kind in the country and has rocketed into 2nd place in the Pollstar "Top 100 Worldwide Arena Venues" rankings. www.thessehydro.com</p>
<p>Arts</p>	<p>Scotland has a long and lively literary culture, which consists of the romantic poems of Robert Burns, the classic adventures of Robert Louis Stevenson and the fantasies of JM Barrie, as well as the literary work of many more authors.</p> <p>And when it comes to art, Glasgow seems to be especially blessed. The 2015 Turner prize will be presented in Glasgow: specifically, in the southside arts centre, Tramway. It will be only the fourth time that the prize has migrated outside London and its traditional home of Tate</p>

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	<p>Britain. But for some reason - perhaps a tribute to that incredibly vibrant arts scene in the city - an incredible number of Glaswegian artists have been nominated for this prestigious arts prize.</p> <p>The City of Glasgow boasts one of the finest art collections in Europe. The Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum is a good place to start your pilgrimage. The displays are extensive and wide-ranging, including: Dutch Old Masters and French Impressionists ; Scottish Art including galleries dedicated to the Glasgow Boys and Scottish Colourists and Salvador Dali's Christ of St John of the Cross. And because you cannot escape his influence anywhere in Glasgow – of course you will find exhibits devoted to Charles Rennie Mackintosh and the Glasgow Style.</p> <p>In the heart of Pollok Country Park, The Burrell Collection is housed in an award-winning building and offers a unique collection of art in a beautiful woodland setting. Displays range from work by major artists including Rodin, Degas and Cézanne, to important examples of late medieval art, Chinese and Islamic art, Ancient Civilizations and much more. The Burrell regularly hosts temporary exhibitions, and runs an extensive programme of events and activities for both adults and families with children.</p> <p>The Glasgow Gallery of Modern Art is found in an iconic building in the heart of Glasgow, which it shares with the city centre library, GoMA plays an important part in the city's rich heritage. For over 100 years the building was a centre for business and commercial exchange where information and goods were traded. GoMA continues that philosophy of exchange by being a centre for people to gather, discuss and learn, inspired by the art it collects and shows.</p> <p>The award-winning St Mungo Museum is a haven of tranquillity in a bustling city. This museum is named after Glasgow's patron saint. The building was built in 1989 in Scottish baronial style by Ian Begg. It was designed to reflect the architecture of the Bishops' Castle, the site of which is occupied by the museum. Its galleries are full of displays, artefacts and stunning works of art. They explore the importance of religion in peoples' lives across the world and across time.</p>
<p>Music</p>	<p>Glasgow is a city of music. A UNESCO City of music no less – and the second Scottish city to join the UNESCO Creative Cities Network, Glasgow is one of only 5 international Cities of Music including Seville, Bolonga, Ghent and Botoga. Glasgow is the home base of the Royal Scottish National Orchestra and did you know that the Musical Director of the RSNO is Peter Oundjian, who is also Musical Director of the Toronto Symphony?</p>

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	<p>But Glasgow’s musical roots are as broad as they are deep. This is the city that gave us (amongst many others) Lulu, Lonnie Donnegan and Marmalade in the 60’s, Plus many others including Simple Minds, The Vaselines, Wet Wet Wet, Franz Ferdinand, Belle & Sebastian, Chvrches and Texas up to recent times.</p> <p>Glasgow’s legendary music scene stretches across the whole spectrum from contemporary and classical to Celtic and Country. Its venues are equally varied and the city hosts an average 130 music events each week, more than any other Scottish city. Musical Ambassadors for Glasgow include Alex Kapranos, the lead singer and the guitarist of the Glasgow band Franz Ferdinand and Billy Connolly CBE - before he became a performer, Billy was as a welder in the Glasgow shipyards, giving it up to be a folk singer with his group, the Humblebums.</p>
<p>Films</p>	<p>Scotland has long been immortalised on the silver screen. But the only way to really appreciate the magic is to see it for yourself!</p> <p>The spectacular hills, landscapes, castles and wildlife have inspired film makers the world over, as with the team at Disney Pixar for their animated movie Brave.</p> <p>The dramatic hills of Glen Nevis and Glen Coe were the setting for Braveheart, the portrayal of one of the Scotland’s most iconic figures, William Wallace. The majestic Eilean Donan Castle is also recognisable for its appearance in Highlander, starring Christopher Lambert and Sean Connery, and the James Bond movie, The World Is Not Enough.</p> <p>The breathtaking train chase scene from Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets features the Hogwarts Express crossing the historic Glenfinnan Viaduct. Experience the same magical journey with a trip on The Jacobite steam train between Fort William and Mallaig. Many Harry Potter scenes were shot in Scotland, and in Glen Coe you can enjoy Hagrid’s views of the Torren Lochan.</p> <p>Scotland’s sparkling coastline can be seen in Chariots of Fire, filmed on the West Sands beach at St Andrews. More recently, Oscar-winning biopic The Queen was filmed at the Balmoral Estate in Royal Deeside while The Da Vinci Code showcased Rosslyn Chapel, just outside of Edinburgh.</p> <p>Scotland’s capital city is the backdrop for the animation film The Illusionist, which brings 1950s Edinburgh to life, while the adaptation of David Nicholls’ best-selling novel One Day, starring Anne Hathaway and Jim Sturgess, features iconic locations such as Calton Hill.</p> <p>Film enthusiasts also shouldn’t miss the Glasgow Film Festival in February and the Edinburgh International Film Festival in June.</p> <p>Outlander Outlander is an original series adapted from Diana Gabaldon’s</p>

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	<p>bestselling books. The series has experienced huge success in North America. Outlander follows the story of Claire Randall, a married combat nurse from 1945 who is mysteriously swept back in time to 1743, where she is immediately thrown into an unknown world where her life is threatened. www.starz.com/originals/outlander</p> <p>The 11th annual Glasgow Film Festival will take place in 2015 from 18th February to 1st March www.glasgowfilm.org/festival.</p>
<p>Museums</p>	<p>Glasgow has over 20 museums that allow the visitor to learn about the history of Glasgow and the story of its people. And the great news is that most of these are free to visit! Also the buildings that house Glasgow’s museums and art galleries are often worth a visit in themselves – from the iconic modern Riverside Museum on the banks of the River Clyde to the oldest house in Glasgow that dates back to 1471.</p> <p>Take in the Art Nouveau flair of Charles Rennie Mackintosh in the building that now houses the Scotland Street Museum. Or the Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum which was built in the late 1890’s in grand Spanish Baroque style. A major art gallery as well as a museum, the Kelvingrove is a monument to the insatiable curiosity of mankind. Amongst its most popular museum exhibits are Sir Roger the Asian elephant who died in 1900, a spitfire plane from World War 2, Kelvingrove’s very own beehive and the remains of a medieval satchel. Kelvingrove is situated in a beautiful park that was originally created in 1852 by noted English gardener Sir Joseph Paxton, Head Gardener at Chatsworth House, whose other works included The Crystal Palace in London.</p> <p>Riverside Museum is not just housed in an award winning building – this multi-award winning museum was voted European Museum of the year in 2013. The Riverside Museum is home to over 3,000 objects that detail Glasgow’s rich past from its days as maritime powerhouse to a glimpse into daily Glasgow life in the early to mid-20th Century.</p> <p>Riverside Museum is recognised as Glasgow’s museum of transport - amongst the objects on display are everything from skateboards to locomotives, motorbikes to prams, velocipedes to vintage cars and old trams to fire engines. There are also 250 model ships, remembering Glasgow's heyday as a shipbuilding powerhouse. Visitors can get a real feel for vintage public transport by accessing four locomotive footplates, three trams, two subway cars, one train carriage and a bus!</p> <p>At Riverside Museum you can also see the world's second oldest</p>

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	<p>Rolls-Royce - a very rare survivor - gifted to the Royal Scottish Automobile Club and currently on loan to Riverside. And a recent addition is one of the largest locomotives on display anywhere in Britain - a huge export South African locomotive designed and made in Glasgow. This museum is on the site of the former Inglis Shipyard, which also enables The Tall Ship Glenlee, to berth alongside the museum. She is a three mast former Victorian cargo carrier that hosts interesting nautical exhibitions.</p> <p>One really fun aspect of the Riverside Museum is the three interactive streets with access to "shops" dating from 1895 right through to the 1980s. These 'shops' include an Edwardian photography studio, a 1930s' Italian Café and a 1960s' garage.</p> <p>The People's Palace, set in historic Glasgow Green, tells the story of the people and city of Glasgow from 1750 to the end of the 20th century. Visitors explore the city's social history through a wealth of historic artefacts, paintings, prints and photographs, film and interactive computer displays. It gives a wonderful insight into how Glaswegians lived, worked and played in years gone by.</p> <p>Provand's Lordship is the oldest house in Glasgow and it was built in 1471 as part of a hospital in the cathedral precinct. It is one of only four surviving medieval buildings in Glasgow. Beautifully preserved, the "auld hoose" is furnished with a fine selection of 17th-century Scottish furniture donated by Sir William Burrell, and a series of historic royal portraits. Room settings give a flavour of interiors around 1500 and 1700, so you can immerse yourself in medieval Glasgow.</p> <p>The Mackintosh House is a meticulous re-assemblage of the principal interiors from the Mackintoshes' Glasgow home. The couple lived at 78 Southpark Avenue (originally 6 Florentine Terrace) from 1906 to 1914. Substantial alterations were made in 1906 as Mackintosh remodelled the proportions and natural lighting of the Victorian end-of-terrace house. The principal interiors were decorated in his distinctive style, remarkable then, and now, for the disciplined austerity of the furnishings and decoration.</p>
<p>Architecture</p>	<p>The Magic of Mackintosh Barcelona has Gaudí, Chicago has Frank Lloyd Wright – Glasgow has the Art Nouveau magic of Charles Rennie Mackintosh. Mackintosh (1868 – 1928) was born in Glasgow and went on to be one of the most creative figures of the 20th century and a leading figure in the European Art Nouveau movement. An architect, designer and artist, he left a legacy of magnificent work and is revered as the</p>

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founding father of the 'Glasgow Style'.

This distinctive and eclectic style was developed and championed by Mackintosh and a group of local creatives who went by the moniker of 'The Glasgow Four'. Along with Mackintosh 'The Four' comprised of James Herbert McNair, Margaret Macdonald, whom Mackintosh would later marry, and her sister Frances Macdonald.

The influence of Mackintosh continues to be felt and his work is celebrated by fans all over the world. One such fan is actor Brad Pitt, a design and architecture enthusiast, he has visited a number of Mackintosh attractions while in Glasgow and also cited the influence of Mackintosh's 'Glasgow Rose' in his first furniture collection which was unveiled late in 2012.

Glasgow houses the pre-eminent collection of Mackintosh buildings, drawings and designs and today visitors to the city can explore the magic of Mackintosh at attractions throughout the city including:

The Glasgow School of Art,

167 Renfrew St, Glasgow G3 6RQ, www.gsa.ac.uk

The internationally lauded Glasgow School of Art is considered Mackintosh's masterpiece and was voted by the Royal Institute of British Architects as the finest building designed by a British architect in the last 175 years.

The Glasgow School of Art (GSA) has produced a number of award winning artists including Turner Prize winners Douglas Gordon and Martin Creed. Other notable alumni include Dr Who's Peter Capaldi, Harry Potter favourite Robbie Coltrane, Alex Kapranos of Franz Ferdinand and legendary fashion designer and musician Pam Hogg. In May 2014 a fire damaged the west wing of the Mackintosh building and as such there is currently no visitor access to the interior of the Mackintosh building whilst restoration gets underway. However, there is still plenty for visitors to do and see at The Glasgow School of Art, including GSA's brand new 'Window on Mackintosh' visitor centre and shop in the recently completed, state of the art Reid building, with dynamic tours of the local area and the wider city departing daily.

www.gsa.ac.uk/visit-gsa/tours

The Hunterian Art Gallery and Mackintosh House, 82 Hillhead Street, University of Glasgow, G12 8QQ, www.gla.ac.uk/hunterian

The Hunterian Art Gallery houses one of the most important collections of the work of Mackintosh and his artist-wife, Margaret Macdonald Mackintosh.

The Mackintosh House is a meticulous reassemblage of the principal interiors from the Mackintoshes' Glasgow home. The principal interiors were decorated in his distinctive style, remarkable then, and now, for

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	<p>the disciplined austerity of the furnishings and decoration. The house was demolished in the early 1960s but the original fixtures were preserved and reassembled, complete with the contents, as an integral part of the Hunterian Art Gallery.</p> <p>The Hunterian Art Gallery is currently displaying the Mackintosh Architecture exhibition. It is the first substantial exhibition devoted to Mackintosh's architecture, with over 80 architectural drawings, many never exhibited before, rarely seen archival material, and specially commissioned films and models.</p> <p>Mackintosh and the Glasgow Style Gallery at Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum, Argyle St, Glasgow G3 8AG, www.glasgowlife.org.uk/museums</p> <p>Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum is home to the Mackintosh and the Glasgow Style Gallery, the largest permanent display of work in the world by the key names in the Glasgow Style movement. The City owns an incredible collection of objects from this internationally important period of design and the decorative arts, and the gallery showcases the techniques used – from exquisite stained glass, enamels and metalwork to ceramics, gesso, furniture and tearoom interiors.</p> <p>The Willow Tea Rooms, 217 Sauchiehall St, Glasgow G2 3EX, www.willowtearooms.co.uk</p> <p>The original Willow Tea Rooms in Sauchiehall Street was designed by Charles Rennie Mackintosh for Kate Cranston in 1903. An avid enthusiast of attention to detail, Mackintosh not only designed the exterior and interior but also designed the cutlery and waitresses dresses.</p> <p>The Room de Luxe is one of the most precious interiors which Mackintosh ever designed. The room today still has the original pair of stained glass doors along with the leaded mirror frieze with purple panneling below and windows with panels of leaded mirror, the furniture is silver with high back chairs with nine inserts of purple glass.</p>
<p>Festivals</p>	<p>Merchant City Festival returns on 25 July until 2 August 2015. There will be nine days filled with free events in Glasgow's cultural quarter including street arts, dance, live music, markets, fashion and design, comedy, family events, tours, heritage walks, talks, food and drink and much more. They will be announcing their full programme over the next few months so check out the website for a preview of what's to come: www.merchantcityfestival.com</p> <p>The Turner Prize: The 2015 Turner prize will be presented in Glasgow: specifically, in the southside arts centre, Tramway. An incredible number of Glaswegian artists have been nominated. It will be the fourth</p>

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time that the prize has migrated outside London and its traditional home, Tate Britain.

Piping Live! (August 10 - 16)

Make sure you are part of a week-long piping event that makes Glasgow the centre of the world stage for piping brilliance. It's exciting and challenging, traditional and contemporary and very much alive.

www.pipinglive.co.uk

World Pipe Band Championship (August 14 - 15)

The biggest event in any piping fan's calendar is certainly the annual World Pipe Band Championships, affectionately known as The Worlds. The event has had a long association with Glasgow, and for many years has been bringing top flight international piping competition and a wonderfully entertaining event to the city.

www.theworlds.co.uk

Glasgow Doors Open Day (September)

Glasgow Doors Open Day is an annual, city wide event. Buildings open their doors and allow access to the public. As part of Doors Open Day there are also walks, tours, talks and special events, to learn about Glasgow's unique building heritage. All events are free.

www.glasgowdoorsopenday.com/

Creative Mackintosh Festival (October)

The Creative Mackintosh Festival – an annual festival celebrating the life and works of Glasgow architect, artist and designer Charles Rennie Mackintosh takes place in Mackintosh venues and other Glasgow locations and includes exhibitions, tours, talks and drama performances.

www.glasgowmackintosh.com

MOBO Awards (October)

One of the most televised music shows in the world, the MOBO Awards are set to make a return to Glasgow's SSE Hydro in 2015. Founded in 1996, the MOBO Organisation was established by Kanya King MBE to recognise the outstanding achievements of artists who perform music in genres ranging from Gospel, Jazz, RnB, Soul, Reggae to Hip Hop.

<http://www.mobo.com/>

Bank of Scotland Great Scottish Run (October 3 - 4)

Giving people of all ages and abilities the chance to participate, the Bank of Scotland Great Scottish Run combines a half marathon and 10k senior races on Sunday 5 October, with a full programme of mini, junior and toddler races on Saturday 4 October in and around George Square

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and the city centre. www.greatscottishrun.com

Turner Prize (October 1 2015 – January 17 2016)

The Turner Prize will be presented at Tramway in Glasgow in 2015. This will be the first time the exhibition and award will be presented in Scotland. The Turner Prize was first shown outside London at Tate Liverpool in 2007. Since 2011 the Turner Prize has been shown at a gallery outside London in alternate years. Many artists who have won, or been nominated for, the Turner Prize, have hailed from, trained in, or worked out of Glasgow. The coveted prize will be awarded at a ceremony on the 7th December. www.tate.org.uk

Sonica Festival (October 29 – November 8)

Sonica is a programme dedicated to world-class sonic arts, presenting emerging British talent alongside exceptional international artists in collaboration with renowned co-producers and venues. Curated by Cathie Boyd, Patrick Dickie and Graham McKenzie and produced by Cryptic in Glasgow, Sonica gives a UK platform to performances of exceptional and rarely seen work. <http://sonic-a.co.uk/sonica>

World Gymnastics Championships (October 23 – November 1)

The event will bring together more than 500 gymnasts from over 80 countries around the world, for ten days of exhilarating competition at The SSE Hydro. Tickets are now on sale - www.2015worldgymnastics.com/tickets/prices-and-seating.aspx

Glasgow Loves Christmas (Nov – Dec)

Nowhere captures the magic of the festive season quite like Glasgow. With fun and frolics for young and old, Christmas 2015 is sure to be bigger than ever! To find out more information please go to – www.glasgowloveschristmas.com

ATTRACTIONS	
Beaches	<p>With a coastline estimated at 13,115 km long, there is plenty of room for Scottish beaches! The east coast has plenty of unspoilt stretches of sands, with places like Dunbar, St Andrews, Montrose, Aberdeen, Fraserburgh, Lossiemouth, Nairn, and Dornoch just some of the towns and cities close to superb stretches of beach.</p> <p>The more rugged north and west coasts likewise have beautiful sands, often as smaller coves set amongst magnificent cliff scenery, while the dazzling white beaches of the Hebrides – look for the Gaelic word ‘traigh’ on maps – are an essential element of the island experience and a real highlight of a visit to, for example, Harris or Islay. The Big Strand on Islay, for example, is at least 12 km long.</p>

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	<p>Some beaches have an association with a particular leisure pursuit – Thurso (Dunnet Bay) for surfing, for instance; beaches on Tiree for wind surfing; St Andrews for kite-surfing – but all of these are practiced at a variety of Scottish beaches.</p> <p>Scotland’s beaches are also leisurely places for beachcombing – lobster buoys from Maine, coconuts from the Caribbean and pumice from Icelandic volcanoes may add a touch of the exotic!</p> <p>More than 60 of Scotland’s beaches hold Seaside Awards – but the Scottish beach, especially in the Highlands, can still be an off-the-beaten-track location, unspoilt and hardly visited.</p>
<p>Wildlife</p>	<p>Scotland's wildlife is typical of the north west of Europe, although several of the larger mammals such as the Lynx, Brown Bear, Wolf, Elk and Walrus were hunted to extinction in historic times. There are important populations of seals and internationally significant nesting grounds for a variety of seabirds such as Gannets. The Golden Eagle is something of a national icon.</p> <p>On the high mountain tops species including Ptarmigan, Mountain Hare and Stoat can be seen in their white colour phase during winter months. Remnants of the native Scots Pine forest exist and within these areas the Scottish Crossbill, the UK's only endemic bird species and vertebrate, can be found alongside Capercaillie, Wildcat, Red Squirrel and Pine Marten. In recent years various animals have been re-introduced, including the White-tailed Sea Eagle in 1975, the Red Kite in the 1980s, and more recently there have been experimental projects involving the Beaver and Wild Boar.</p>
<p>Parks</p>	<p>Glasgow’s 90+ parks and gardens offer residents and visitors a chance to relax in natural and tranquil surroundings and enjoy some peace and quiet away from the hustle and bustle of city life. Below is just a selection of what’s on offer.</p> <p>http://www.glasgow.gov.uk/en/Residents/Parks_Outdoors/Parks_gardens/</p> <p>Glasgow Green Glasgow Green is by far the city’s oldest park. The People’s Palace and Winter Gardens are situated within its grounds, with the latter displaying a variety of exotic palms and plants. Glasgow Green is also one of the city’s key spaces for outdoor events. The World Pipe Band Championships, Great Scottish Run and numerous concerts take place on the Green every year.</p> <p>Kelvingrove Park Kelvingrove Park is one of the city’s most popular green spaces. Along with the world famous Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum, the park also includes five bowling greens, four tennis courts, an</p>

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orienteeing course, herbaceous borders, outstanding riverside walks, a skateboard park and popular café, An Clachan. Kelvingrove Park is also home to a diverse range of wildlife and habitats. The River Kelvin, which passes through Kelvingrove Park, is an important "wildlife corridor" containing Brown Trout, Salmon and Sea Trout. Other wildlife to be found in the park includes the Grey Heron, Kingfisher, Mallard and Red Fox

Pollok Country Park

Pollok Park is not only Glasgow's largest park; it is also the only Country Park within the city. As well as being home to The Burrell Collection, Pollok House and numerous Highland Cows, the park boasts a wealth of outdoor activities including woodland walks, wildlife gardens and of course mountain biking at the purpose built Glasgow Mountain Bike Circuit. The Park also has a rich history, in the past it was part of the Old Pollok Estate and the ancestral home to the Maxwell Family.

Tollcross Park

This park is renowned for its unique Rose Garden and impressive Winter Gardens. It has many hidden gems including the Glen Nature Walk, the Courtyard Visitor Centre, which aims to educate and inform children about nature, and a Children's Farm which is home to a variety of farmyard favourites, including sheep, pigs and chickens.

Victoria Park

Victoria Park was named for Queen Victoria's golden jubilee in 1887 and is one of Glasgow's most scenic parks.

The park is home to the Ancient Fossil Grove which contains the remains of an ancient forest. Fossil Grove is one of the most famous in-situ Carboniferous forest examples in the world. The Fossil Grove contains 300 million year old tree stumps which were growing when Glasgow lay near the equator!

Local Nature Reserves & Nature Trails - Glasgow is also home to seven Local Nature Reserves, including:

Garscadden Wood

This is one of the oldest semi-natural woods in Glasgow, with a range of rare and interesting species including the Purple Hairstreak Butterfly. Red foxes and Song Thrushes can also be found on the reserve along with 200 species of plant.

Dawsholm Park

Dawsholm Park, located on high ground above the Forth and Clyde

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	<p>Canal, offers attractive views over the canal to the west of the city. The park covers 34 hectares and has become a firm favourite for bird watchers.</p> <p>Hogganfield Park This nature reserve is an ideal place to watch wildlife. 115 species of bird have been spotted at the park, including over thirty species of ducks, geese and other waterfowl. The wooded island also supports many small birds and a family of foxes.</p>
<p>Gardens</p>	<p>Botanic Gardens Located in the heart of the West End, the Botanic Gardens are internationally renowned. Kibble Palace lies in the grounds of the gardens and houses extensive tropical and temperate plant collections from around the world. Out with the glass houses there are a variety of fascinating flower and herb gardens – in fact a number of local chefs use ingredients foraged from the Botanic Gardens in their restaurants. The Botanic Gardens Tea Rooms have also opened offering visitors an idyllic space to enjoy a cup of tea. The Botanic Gardens has a busy events calendar packed full of exhibitions, concerts, theatre, arts and crafts fairs and guided walks. You can even partake in a spot of stargazing on specially organised Stars Over the Botanic evenings. http://www.glasgowbotanicgardens.com/</p>
<p>Historical Sites</p>	<p>Oldest House in Glasgow. Provand's Lordship, which was built in 1471 as part of a hospital in the cathedral precinct, is one of only four surviving medieval buildings in Glasgow. Beautifully preserved, the "auld hoose" is furnished with a fine selection of 17th-century Scottish furniture donated by Sir William Burrell, and a series of historic royal portraits. Room settings give a flavour of interiors around 1500 and 1700, so immerse yourself in medieval Glasgow with a visit to this fascinating building.</p>

<p>OTHER ACTIVITIES</p>	
<p>Shopping</p>	<p>Glasgow is the largest retail centre in the UK outside of London's west end. Shoppers can happily immerse themselves in a plethora of cool vintage shops, designer boutiques and a range of shopping malls. Adding to its impressive retail offering Glasgow has recently welcomed new shopping development the Buchanan Quarter to its city centre. www.glasgowstylemile.com</p> <p>The shopping experience in Glasgow is very varied. Though the city has the 'High Street' names, plus some very stylish and exclusive brands, rural areas have plenty of surprises. Here you'll discover potters and jewellers, knitwear designers, weavers, silversmiths and kiltmakers to</p>

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	<p>name but a few.</p> <p>Scottish textiles, especially the tartan variety, are popular and worth buying. Everything from a travelling rug to your own kilt outfit. Shops up and down the country, and especially in Edinburgh and Inverness, can tell which clan your family belongs to and make you a kilt in that particular tartan. For the full outfit, including kilt, sporran, jacket, shoes and skeann dhu dagger, expect to pay in the region of £600, or more if you want more elaborate accessories.</p> <p>There are mill shops making tweeds and cloths in many parts of Scotland. Most are in the Borders, though it is not necessarily cheaper to buy at source. Harris Tweed is also a good buy and you can watch your cloth being woven on the Hebridean islands of Harris and Lewis.</p> <p>Knitwear is also good value and sold throughout Scotland, though the cashmere industry in the Borders is suffering from high trade tariffs. Shetland is a good place to find high-quality wool products. Note that Aran jumpers are not from the island of Arran, but from Aran (with one 'r') in Ireland.</p> <p>Jewellery is another popular souvenir and there are many excellent craft shops throughout the Highlands and Islands making beautiful jewellery with Celtic designs.</p> <p>Glassware is also popular, particularly Edinburgh crystal and Caithness glass, as well as pottery.</p> <p>Food is another good souvenir and not just the ubiquitous shortbread sold in tartan tins. If you haven't far to travel home, smoked salmon, or any other smoked product, is good value. One of the best places for food products is the island of Arran, where you can buy their delicious local mustards and preserves, smoked fish and game, and cheeses. And, of course, there's whisky. Most distilleries will refund the cost of their guided tour in the form of a discount voucher on a bottle of their brand whisky.</p>
<p>Markets</p>	<p>The Barras Market in Glasgow is an historic marketplace with great character and an eclectic mix of covered and open stalls selling a huge range of goods.</p>
<p>Nightlife</p>	<p>Glasgow has one of the most active dance club scenes in the UK. Listed below are just a few selected venues. In local parlance, "venues" are distinct from the actual "clubs" - such as Optimo (electro-clash), Manga (drum and bass), or Pressure (house and techno) - which are associated with a specific style, DJ, or team of DJs. They can move around to different venues. It all makes perfect sense to those in the know.</p> <p>Glasgow also has the reputation as an unsurpassed spawning ground in Scotland for pop and rock groups, such as Franz Ferdinand or Belle and Sebastian. Barrowland, a former ballroom, has to be one of the best venues in all of Britain for seeing live contemporary music. Recently, the</p>

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	<p>company that runs the well-known Brixton Academy converted an old movie house into the Academy on the city's Southside, while in the city centre another former cinema, ABC, was redeveloped into a good music venue in 2005. Plus, two bars, King Tut's Wah Wah Hut (where the band Oasis was apparently "discovered") and Nice 'n' Sleazy, give Glasgow a pair of small venues with performance spaces that would rival those typical of Manhattan's East Village.</p>
<p>Hogmanay</p>	<p>There are many festivities happening across the country to celebrate Hogmanay. Choose from an array of ceilidhs, dinner dances, hoolies and balls.</p> <p>Join Glasgow's biggest party of the year as 25,000 revellers descend on George Square to see in the New Year;</p> <p>Stonehaven Fireball Festival: One of the few remaining mid-winter fire festivals on the Scottish East Coast. Local people celebrate the arrival of the New Year in this traditional way - swinging fireballs around as they walk up and down the old town High Street;</p> <p>The Hogmanay bonfire in the Borders town off Biggar (pop 2000), dates back to the pagan times when fire was worshipped and believed to ward off evil spirits for the New Year. It has continued at Biggar for hundreds of years and there is no other town in the world that celebrates the coming of the New Year like Biggar.</p> <p>Hogmanay Traditions: Traditionally, the Scots were a superstitious race at the best of times and for an event as significant as the dawning of a new year, customs, rituals and traditions inevitably arose around the country. Many of these have now disappeared but others have carried on down through the years and some have even become essential ingredients of today's celebrations.</p> <p>Cleaning the House The last day of the year was traditionally regarded as a time of preparation: business would be concluded to let the new year start afresh and houses were thoroughly cleaned (known as 'redding'). Fireplaces in particular had to be swept out and in a variation on reading tea-leaves, the ashes of the last fire of the old year were believed to show what lay ahead in the new year.</p> <p>First Footing One of the major Hogmanay customs was 'first footing'. Shortly after 'the bells' - the stroke of midnight when public clocks would chime to signal the start of the new year - neighbours would visit one another's houses to wish each other a good new year. This visiting was known as 'first footing', and the luckiest first-foot into any house was a tall, dark and handsome man - perhaps as a reward to the woman who traditionally had spent the previous day scrubbing her house (another</p>

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	<p>Hogmanay ritual). Women or red heads, however, were always considered bad luck as first-foots. First-foots brought symbolic gifts to 'handsel' the house: coal for the fire, to ensure that the house would be warm and safe, and shortbread or black bun (a type of fruit cake) to symbolise that the household would never go hungry that year.</p>
<p>CUISINE</p>	<p>Burns Supper: What is a Burns Supper? The format can be whatever the organiser wishes. As for the poems used, the Address to the Haggis is essential – verses 1, 2, 3 and 8. The other poems used reflect the kind of personnel attending the Supper. Some functions have guest orators who might offer Tam o' Shanter, Holy Willie's Prayer (with actions) or The Cottar's Saturday Night. Some Burns Clubs do indulge in guest orators as they feel Robert Burns' poems were meant to be read aloud if necessary but not acted. The menu may be as you please but traditionally, it is as follows: Soup such as Cock a Leekie or Scotch Broth; Haggis, Champit Tatties (mashed potatoes) and Neeps (mashed turnip). A main course of beef or steak. Bannocks an' Kebbuck – cheese – such as the hard cheeses of Mull, Galloway or Orkney, biscuits and oatcakes</p>
<p>Food</p>	<p>When you first look at a menu serving traditional Scottish grub you might get a little bit lost, what with the Arbroath Smokies, Champit Tatties, Cullen Skink, Cranachan, Roastit Bubbly Jock and much more unusual sounding food that will leave you somewhat confused. The names might be complex but the method of traditional Scottish cooking isn't, as Scottish food is simply hearty and tasty fare. Home-cooking and making use of good, local produce have always been important in Scotland and that's no different today as Scottish restaurants make the most of the ingredients they have around them. Scottish smoked salmon is just one example, which has a luxurious delicate taste. The country is also home to cheeses like the Lanark Blue, known as the 'Scottish Roquefort', while Scottish meat including everything from Aberdeen Angus beef to wild venison are bursting full of flavour. Many Scottish eateries will serve up these treats, using classic recipes and giving them a modern twist. When you're in Scotland you really should try the national dish, haggis, which caused Burns to write a special ode for it. Enjoying resurgence in restaurants across the country, including Café Gandolfi and Stravaigin in Glasgow, make sure you wash down your haggis with a wee dram!</p>
<p>Drink - Whisky</p>	<p>Scotland should be proud of its whisky, and it is. After 500 years of practice, uisge beatha (from the Gaelic, meaning 'water of life') was first mentioned in written record in 1494; the Scots have whisky distilling down to a fine art. The tastes change with the landscape as well. In the rolling pastoral Lowlands you'll find grassy and malt flavours, while</p>

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	<p>heathery whisky is the norm in the Highlands. It's different once again in the low hills of Speyside where a mellow sweetness is found, while the rough and salty smokiness of the Western Isles whisky perfectly matches the terrain.</p> <p>Scottish people love whisky so much that pubs are dedicated to the drink; head to Leslie's Bar in Edinburgh, or The Grill in Aberdeen, where more than 400 varieties of whiskies will keep you quiet for the evening. Fellow drinkers and friendly barmen will be only too happy to give you a guide of Scotland's national drink and one of its finest exports.</p> <p>Among the famous Highland malts are Glen Grant, Macallan, Glenfarclas, Knockando, Cardhu, Glenfiddich, Strathisla and Tamnavullin. Of course there are also island malts which have their own special appeal. These include Highland Park and Scapa on Orkney, Talisker from the misty Isle of Skye, Jura and the Islay malts which include Laphroig, Bowmore and Bruichladdich.</p> <p>Glengoyne Distillery: Glengoyne is very attractive and eminently visitable, being less than 20kms from the centre of Glasgow. The distillery itself is like a picture postcard of Scotland. Not only that, but its proximity to Loch Lomond, one of Scotlands most celebrated landmarks, gives it a familiarity for an international audience.</p> <p>Unlike most other single malts Glengoyne has been preserving the essence of its flavour for decades by using air-dried barley rather than barley dried using harsh peat smoke. The result is a more subtle, complex whisky in which all of the delicate flavours are freely allowed to express themselves.</p> <p>You can visit 'Scotland's Most Beautiful Distillery' year round to see the production process and learn how Glengoyne Single Highland Malt Whisky is made. www.glengoyne.com</p>
<p>Restaurants</p>	<p>From Dear Green Coffee Roasters and Nucoco Chocolate to Fantoosh Fish, Delizique, Cottonrake, Tapa and Brewhaha, Glasgow is home to a range of local producers and specialist delicatessens that offer a delicious taste of Glasgow.</p> <p>Here are some recommendations in Glasgow:</p> <p>étain The popular 'Epicurean Menu' offered by Terence Conran's only UK outpost outside of London is a tasting menu with each course matched</p>

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perfectly with a different wine. Epicureans will feel truly in heaven in Conran's sleek but subtle penthouse restaurant.

No.Sixteen

Tiny, unpretentious, and ever so slightly off the beaten track – although still pretty close to the throng of the bohemian West End – No.Sixteen is one of Glasgow's favorite restaurants. So good, that it has become one of Edinburgh's favorite restaurants too!

Ubiquitous Chip

Perhaps the most fabulously named restaurant in Glasgow, 'The Chip' as it is affectionately known is renowned for its strong Scottish flavors, and a refined coziness that Glaswegians have grown to love over its thirty-year tenure.

Uisge Beatha

A unique 'old-style' pub in the stylish West End, you'll find over 125 single malt whiskies to choose from, served by men in kilts!

Rab Ha's

A triumph of individuality over uniformity and of soul over empty style comprising boutique hotel, enticing restaurant and traditional Scottish bar, Rab Ha's is found within the Merchant City.

Babbity Bowser's

Housed in an original Tobacco Merchant's house attributed to Robert Adam in the Merchant City. Fraser and his team are a local institution and look forward to welcoming you to this bar, restaurant and small hotel. The restaurant offers a selection of freshly prepared Scottish meals or snacks, daily billboard specials and real ales with live music every Saturday night.

Café Gandolfi

The Tim Stead-designed wooden furniture in this Merchant City institution have become almost as much of a draw as Gandolfi's simple but incredibly enticing menu.

The Lansdowne

Through a leafy West End close, you will stumble across The Lansdowne, which is one of the neighborhood's favorites – with a stylish bar, and well-prepared but uncomplicated dishes.

Mother India

Glasgow isn't called the Curry Capital for nothing, and there are many first-class Indian restaurants – with Mother India being one of the most

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	<p>authentic, and one of the best – absolutely bursting with fresh ginger, spices and herbs.</p> <p>Liquid Ship Taking its name from a misspelled letter addressed to ‘Ubiquitous Chip’ (see above) – Liquid Ship is brought to the West End bar by the same family that owns the remarkable Chip. This ambient little bar is home to fantastic acoustic music, accompanied by a great selection of beers and wonderful tapas dishes.</p> <p>Brutti Ma Buoni Translating as ‘ugly but good,’ this unpretentiously hip bar and restaurant on the ground floor of the achingly trendy Brunswick Hotel in the Merchant City is always full of Glasgow’s cutting edge artists and trendsetters, and their new basement level is the perfect pre-club spot.</p>
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MORE INFO	
Connect with Glasgow	<p>Website: www.peoplemakeglasgow.ca Connect with Glasgow on facebook: https://www.facebook.com/PeopleMakeGlasgow Follow Glasgow on twitter: https://twitter.com/PeopleMakeGLA</p>

CURRENT DEALS	<p>WestJet has introductory one-way fares available from Toronto via Halifax to Glasgow starting at \$285. Flights depart Toronto at 6.10pm and arrive in Glasgow at 8am the next morning. Coming back they depart Glasgow at 9.30am and arrive Toronto at 2.30pm same day. These new daily non-stop seasonal flights will operate from May 29, 2015 to Oct. 23, 2015.</p>
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