

SCOTLAND ~ CASTLE TRAIL

Self guided tour 2026

55 ml / 89 km | 5 days / 4 nights



Holidays can sometimes be short and you may not have time to cycle on a full seven day tour or you may just need to escape the city and enjoy the peace of a long weekend in the country. There are many ways to explore Scotland and cycling is one of the best. Enjoy this leisurely 4 night tour of castles and palaces on our 'Miniature Castle Trail' tour of Highland Perthshire. At Perth, Scone Palace has rare porcelain, needlework, fine furniture, clocks and the unique Vernis Martin Collection and at Dunkeld beside the River Tay is the ancient Cathedral. Blair Castle with its thirty two rooms of beautiful furniture, fine paintings, china, embroidery and armour is only seven miles from your overnight stop at the Victorian Highland Resort of Pitlochry.

TOUR ITINERARY

Day 1 Arrive Perth

perhaps time to stroll to the shops, walk by the River Tay or climb Kinnoull Hill for a magnificent view of Perth and the Tay Valley. 19.00hrs cycle provision and route briefing at your accommodation in Perth.



Day 2 PERTH - DUNKELD 27ml (43km)

Cycle 2 miles from Perth to visit Scone Palace and from there north through the rolling farmland of Perthshire to the historic Cathedral town of Dunkeld. Situated on the banks of the River Tay it has a peaceful character and charmingly restored eighteenth century houses forming a small Square. Cathedral Street leads from there to the partly restored Cathedral construction of which began in 1318.

Day 3 DUNKELD - PITLOCHRY 14ml (23km)

Leave Dunkeld along the riverside path to the Cathedral imagining the many years of history that it has seen. Follow the river on a peaceful route away from traffic for 3km before using the main road bridge to reach the minor road to Logierait. Another bridge to cross and a climb before the quiet elevated road gives wonderful views of the fast flowing Rivers Tay and Tummel. Past the Dunfallandy Stone and into the busy Victorian town of Pitlochry. One of the town's best-known attractions is Pitlochry Dam and Fish Ladder. Created in the 1950s the Dam has an underwater viewing chamber, which allows visitors to watch salmon navigating the specially constructed fish ladder, which bypasses the dam.

Day 4 REST DAY PITLOCHRY 14ml(23km)

A chance to visit the large Blair Atholl Distillery or Scotland's smallest Distillery - Edradour. 7 miles north of Pitlochry is Blair Castle with its 32 fully furnished rooms fine furniture, paintings and armour.

Day 5 DEPART PITLOCHRY

Tour finishes after breakfast in Pitlochery

Level 2/3

Moderate cycling. Some days flat, some days with moderate hills.

2026 SELF GUIDED DATES

Available to start daily from 1st April to 31st October

Minimum 2 people

2026 TOUR PRICES

£650.00 per person sharing

£815.00 Single room occupancy

Note: Bikes are not included in the tour price:

Bike hire +£110

E-Bike hire +£215

WHAT THE TOUR PRICE INCLUDES

- B&B accommodation in twin/double or single rooms with shower/toilet facilities in 3 or 4 star graded guesthouses or private houses inspected by us.
- Tour information including maps and detailed route description and gpx files
- Luggage transportation (weight limit of 20kg per person and one bag/suitcase per person)
- Emergency support

Excluded:

- Entrance fees for castles/visitor attractions
- Lunches and dinners
- Bike hire

ACCOMMODATION

We have selected B&B accommodation in twin/double or single rooms with shower/toilet facilities in 3 or 4 star graded guesthouses for 5 nights (or private houses inspected by us) and 2 nights in hotels in Pitlochry

Extra night in Perth:

£95 per person sharing / £135 single room

BIKE & FITNESS

Bike hire is not included in the tour price.

Hybrid bike hire: £110

E-bike hire: £215

Bikes are equipped with suspension forks, hydraulic disc brakes, mudguards, rear pannier frame, stand and bell. Hire equipment includes rear pannier bags (one 32 litre set per person), helmet, pump, tool kit, lock, map holder, cycle computer, water bottle, reflective vest, lights.

WHAT TO BRING

The principal of "layering" is recommended with several light garments preferable to one heavy one.

- Your outermost garments should be windproof and waterproof, preferably made from "breathable" fabric.
- T-shirts and shorts or padded cycling shorts are fine for warm days.
- Strong trainers (sneakers) are suitable for cycling and also comfortable for walking.
- Cycling gloves to protect your hands.
- A pair of sunglasses for protection against the bright sun and insects.
- It is wise to use a good insect repellent especially in the middle of summer. The Scottish Midge is a tiny flying insect, which can be troublesome, especially in the evening when the wind drops.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Climate

Scotland's weather varies from day-to-day and sometimes from hour to hour! The temperature range in summer is 13-24C (55-75F). Rain can fall any day or not at all. Usually it will only last for part of the day and the sky will clear perhaps with an occasional shower lingering on. The west coast is generally milder and wetter than the east. May and June are often drier than July and August. Remember that what appears an easy journey may be affected by the prevailing wind.

Meals

A full Scottish breakfast is provided and this will set you up for the day. On most days it is advisable to purchase your lunch before setting out in the morning as there may be no shops or eating places on the way. Some guesthouses offer a packed lunch at a cost of approximately £5.00.

TRAVEL & TRANSPORT

To Perth

Perth is an easy train journey from Edinburgh (1h20), Glasgow (1h10) or Inverness (2h05), all of which have airports. Edinburgh and Glasgow airports are the best option if travelling from outside the UK.

Use the journey planner online at www.travelinescotland.com to plan journeys by public transport in Scotland. Private transfers from Edinburgh or Glasgow can easily be arranged.

From Pitlochry

Pitlochry has a mainline train station connecting through to Perth, Edinburgh and Glasgow. Train times and tickets can be booked via Scot Rail.

IT IS ESSENTIAL TO CHECK THE BUS AND TRAIN TIMES SHORTLY BEFORE YOUR HOLIDAY EITHER ON THE TRANSPORT COMPANY WEB SITE OR WITH OUR OFFICE. WE TRY TO ENSURE THE INFORMATION IS CORRECT BUT CANNOT BE RESPONSIBLE FOR ANY ERRORS OR OMISSIONS.

