

# Things to do while staying @ the Albyn

We have created information on things to do while you are staying with us, have a look through it and you can ask us if you need any help to reserve anything, we will happily do it for you.

Edinburgh is a tourist dream, it is the only city in the world which has the biggest concentration of world heritage sites.

We always say to our guests that to fully appreciate Edinburgh, you must walk it and look, as it is all in front of you, but we always recommend one attraction and that is Mary Kings Close as it is the best way to understand why our city is the way it is and get a glimpse of the past.

Voila! Of course I will repeat all this and more when you come and we can chat about what you would find more interesting to see and we can guide you.....

**First things first**, to know everything about Edinburgh, there is a mobile/android app that you can download for free, have a look at it on your app store, it is part of Welcome to Scotland and is called the **Edinburgh App**.

**In Edinburgh**, your visit is mostly about walking and soaking up the beauty of the architecture and the Old City, also it is definitely worth visiting the Mary King's Close, which is the city under the city, it is entertaining as well as historical, it is a real part of our heritage in Edinburgh, have a look and you can book direct on the site as they will ask for card details which I am not allowed to pass on (for data protection) [www.realmarykingsclose.com](http://www.realmarykingsclose.com) as well something to do I think is the double Decker city tour bus, which takes you around the city in 2 hours and then you can use the ticket as a hop on hop off to take around the city. At night, you can go and find a pub with live music, which makes a night very special or book a night at the comedy club [www.thestand.co.uk/Edinburgh.aspx](http://www.thestand.co.uk/Edinburgh.aspx). For a lot more about Edinburgh go to [www.visitscotland.com](http://www.visitscotland.com) and have a look at all this beautiful city has to offer.

For day trips with a mini bus we work with a few companies, our favourite is Grayline, the tours are very good and they come and pick you up from the end of our street, have a look at the site [www.graylinescotland.com](http://www.graylinescotland.com) and let me know if you wish me to reserve anything for you; there are also a few more companies that we work with, they are all equally great; Highland Explorer Tours [www.highlandexplorertours.com](http://www.highlandexplorertours.com), Heart Of Scotland tours [www.heartofscotlandtours.co.uk](http://www.heartofscotlandtours.co.uk), Highland Experience Tours [www.highlandexperience.com](http://www.highlandexperience.com) and Rabbie's tours [www.rabbies.com](http://www.rabbies.com)

**If you have a car** or wish to rent one, David has prepared a few ideas, three plans really, each is designed from here:

1) Glamis Castle and the Kingdom of Fife.

Drive to Glamis castle childhood home of the Queen Mother ([www.glamis-castle.co.uk](http://www.glamis-castle.co.uk)) then drive over the Tay bridge to St Andrews and then down the coast to Crail and then on to Anstruther ([www.anstrutherfishbar.co.uk](http://www.anstrutherfishbar.co.uk)) for the best fish and chips in the world! And then back to Edinburgh.

2) Blair Atholl and Pitlochry.

Drive to Blair castle ([www.blair-castle.co.uk](http://www.blair-castle.co.uk)) and then down to Pitlochry ([www.pitlochry.org](http://www.pitlochry.org)) lots to do Loch Faskally, Salmons Leap and Killiecrankie etc. and then back to Edinburgh.

3) The Scottish Borders.

Drive to the Border towns of Melrose and Galashiels to visit the towns and the old abbey maybe have a bite to eat in Melrose ([www.burtshotel.co.uk](http://www.burtshotel.co.uk)) if you have time you can drive to Kelso to visit Floors castle ([www.roxburgh.net](http://www.roxburgh.net)) or visit Manderston to see the world's only solid silver staircase and intact servants quarters to show you how it all worked in Edwardian times ([www.manderston.co.uk](http://www.manderston.co.uk)) and then back to Edinburgh to relax.

### **Restaurants:**

[www.threebirds.co.uk](http://www.threebirds.co.uk)

Great reviews from customers (and us too ;o), very nice food and bistro atmosphere, 2 minutes away.

[www.cafegrande.co.uk](http://www.cafegrande.co.uk)

Voted one of the best restaurant in Edinburgh without the price tag, bistro type place, just plain great food and relaxed atmosphere!

2 minutes walk from us, Sunday live Jazz nights.

### The Apartment

7-13 Barclay Pl, Edinburgh, Midlothian EH10 4HW 0131 228 6456

5 minutes walk from us on the way to the centre, nice place, good food.

[henricksbar.com](http://henricksbar.com)

It is a pub type place but nice food relaxed and lovely décor, just 5 minutes or so walk on the way to the centre.

[www.thailemongrass.net](http://www.thailemongrass.net)

Thai food, lovely and good service, 5 minutes walk on the way to the centre, a tad pricey.

[www.mckirdyssteakhouse.co.uk](http://www.mckirdyssteakhouse.co.uk)

Really great steakhouse 15 minutes walk away or 5 minutes in a Taxi.

[www.papiliorestaurant.com](http://www.papiliorestaurant.com)

Nice friendly Italian, we take the kids there for a bowl of Gnocchi.

### **Osteria Del Tempo Perso**

Traditional regional Italian with a sister restaurant in Lazio. <http://www.heraldscotland.com/life-style/restaurant-reviews/osteria-del-tempo-perso-208-bruntsfield-place-edinburgh.1397358005>

### In the Old Town

Vittoria on the bridge is very good, it is an Italian restaurant and the food is good  
<http://www.list.co.uk/place/102855-vittoria/> for telephone website and reviews.

The Mitre is one of my favourite pubs on the Royal Mile, the look is quite traditional  
<http://www.nicholsonspubs.co.uk/themitrebarroyalmileedinburgh/>

[www.dubhpraisrestaurant.com](http://www.dubhpraisrestaurant.com)

Dhu Prais traditional Scottish restaurant on the Royal Mile

[www.maisonbleuerestaurant.com](http://www.maisonbleuerestaurant.com)

A French Mediterranean restaurant in Victoria street, just 5 minutes from the Royal Mile, 36/38  
Victoria St, Edinburgh EH1 2JW 0131 226 1900

### **Extra special restaurants**

[www.ondinerestaurant.co.uk](http://www.ondinerestaurant.co.uk)

Ondine, fish restaurant, 2 George the 4th Bridge, 01312261888

[www.grainstore-restaurant.co.uk](http://www.grainstore-restaurant.co.uk)

Grain store, Scottish traditional restaurant, 30 Victoria Street, 01312257635

[www.thewitchery.com](http://www.thewitchery.com)

The Royal Mile Edinburgh EH1 2NF, 0131 225 5613

Voila! I hope this helps.

Take care and see you soon!!

Lydie