

9 Days in Scotland with Pride



July 8 to July 16, 2027 | 9 Days

Edinburgh to Glasgow with optional Glasgow Pride extension

A [California Gay Adventures](#) trip

Planned and Hosted by Pride Adventures 🌈

Operated on the Ground by G Adventures

Trip Style: National Geographic Journeys

Trip Host: Chris Smith

Group Size: Minimum 8 Travelers, Maximum 16 Travelers including host

Welcome to Scotland 🌐

Welcome to Scotland with Pride Adventures.

This journey is designed to immerse you in the **breathtaking landscapes, rich history, and vibrant culture** of Scotland, while also creating space for connection, laughter, and shared experiences along the

way. From the historic streets of Edinburgh to the dramatic Highlands, scenic lochs, and the energy of Glasgow, each stop offers something unique and unforgettable.

This LGBTQ+ group adventure is thoughtfully planned and hosted by Pride Adventures and operated on the ground by our trusted partner G Adventures. Together, we combine a well designed itinerary with the **connection and community** that make these trips so special.

Whether you are traveling solo, with a partner, or with friends, you will quickly find yourself part of a **welcoming and connected group**.

Trip Overview ✨

Over nine days, we travel through the heart of Scotland, beginning in **Edinburgh** and ending in **Glasgow**, with unforgettable moments in **Pitlochry, the Scottish Highlands, Fort William, Loch Ness, the Isle of Skye, Glencoe, and Loch Lomond**.

This journey blends **history, culture, and natural beauty** into an experience that allows you to see a wide range of Scotland without feeling rushed. You will explore castles, wander historic cities, experience Highland landscapes, and take in some of the most iconic scenery in the world.

Traveling as a small group allows for a more **personal, flexible, and immersive experience** throughout the journey.

What Makes This a National Geographic Journey 🌍

This trip is part of the **National Geographic Journeys collection**, offering a more elevated and immersive travel experience.

You can expect **enhanced storytelling, strong local insight, comfortable accommodations, and a thoughtful balance of guided experiences and free time**.

This is travel designed not just to see a place, but to truly experience it.

What to Expect ☀️

Activity Level: Light to Moderate

Walking: Cobblestone streets, uneven terrain, and some hills

Pace: Active days balanced with time to explore and relax

Most days focus on **cultural discovery and scenic exploration**, rather than physical challenge.

Weather: Expect **mild temperatures, long daylight hours, and occasional rain.** Layering is key.

Group Size and Travel Style

This Pride Adventures departure is intentionally small, with a **minimum of 8 and maximum of 16 travelers.**

You will be accompanied by both a **G Adventures Chief Experience Officer** and your **Pride Adventures host**, creating a well supported and social experience from start to finish.

Pride Adventures Experience

This is where your experience goes beyond booking a trip directly.

When you travel with Pride Adventures, you are joining a **curated group experience designed with intention.**

What we include:

- **Welcome Dinner and Farewell Dinner**
- **All basic tips included** for CEO, guides, and drivers
- A dedicated **Pride Adventures host**
- A curated group of **like minded LGBTQ+ travelers**
- Support in **coordinating optional activities**
- Additional **enhancements beyond the standard itinerary**
- A more **connected, community driven experience**

The result is a trip that feels more personal, more social, and more memorable than traveling independently.

Accommodations

Accommodations are selected for **comfort, location, and local character.**

Hotels listed reflect properties currently shown in the G Adventures dossier, though accommodations may change based on availability. Final hotel details will be shared approximately **60 days prior to departure.**

Edinburgh: Voco Edinburgh Haymarket, or similar

Pitlochry: Atholl Villa Guest House, or similar

Fort William: The Inch Hotel, or similar

Glasgow: Radisson Blu Hotel Glasgow, or similar

Accessibility Note: Some properties and historic areas may include **stairs, uneven paths, and limited elevator access.**

Transportation and Travel Flow

This journey includes **private vehicle transportation and scenic drives** between destinations.

Travel days are designed to be **comfortable and visually stunning**, allowing you to experience multiple regions without feeling rushed.

Your CEO will manage all logistics so you can **relax and enjoy the journey.**

Itinerary Overview

This overview gives a general flow of each day. Your CEO and Pride Adventures host will provide **daily timing, recommendations, and coordination**, ensuring a smooth and engaging experience throughout the journey.

Day 1 | Thursday, July 8 | Arrival in Edinburgh

Arrive in **Edinburgh**, Scotland's historic and visually stunning capital, and settle into your hotel.

In the evening, we come together as a group for a **Welcome Meeting around 6pm**, followed by our **Welcome Dinner**, where you will meet your fellow travelers, your CEO, and your host. This is a relaxed and social introduction to the journey ahead.

Stay: Voco Edinburgh Haymarket, or similar
Included Meals: Welcome Dinner

Day 2 | Friday, July 9 | Explore Edinburgh

Today we explore the rich history and character of **Edinburgh** together as a group.

We will walk the iconic **Royal Mile**, connecting Edinburgh Castle to the Palace of Holyroodhouse, while your CEO brings the city's stories to life through history, architecture, and local insight. A visit to **Edinburgh Castle** offers sweeping views over the city and a deeper understanding of Scotland's past.

Throughout the day, we will explore key landmarks, hidden corners, and local spots, with your CEO guiding the experience and helping us discover what makes Edinburgh so unique.

Stay: Voco Edinburgh Haymarket, or similar
Included Meals: Breakfast

Day 3 | Saturday, July 10 | Edinburgh to Pitlochry

We depart Edinburgh and begin our journey north, moving from Scotland's capital into the gateway of the Highlands.

Along the way, we visit **Stirling Castle**, one of Scotland's most important historic landmarks and a powerful symbol of Scottish independence and national pride. We also visit the **Scottish Crannog Centre**, where we learn about ancient loch dwelling communities and the lives of people who lived in this region thousands of years ago.

By evening, we arrive in **Pitlochry**, a charming Highland town known for its Victorian heritage, natural beauty, and welcoming village atmosphere.

Stay: Atholl Villa Guest House, or similar
Included Meals: Breakfast

Day 4 | Sunday, July 11 | Pitlochry and Highland Culture

Today we spend time exploring **Pitlochry** and the surrounding Highland landscape together.

We begin with a guided walk that introduces us to the town's history, local stories, and scenic setting. We then visit **Blair Athol Distillery**, where we learn about Scotland's whisky traditions and enjoy a tasting experience. Later, we take in the beautiful views around **Queen's View**, one of the region's most beloved scenic spots.

This day brings together storytelling, local culture, Highland scenery, and time to enjoy the character of one of Scotland's most charming towns.

Stay: Atholl Villa Guest House, or similar
Included Meals: Breakfast

Day 5 | Monday, July 12 | Pitlochry to Fort William

Today we travel deeper into the Highlands toward **Fort William**, surrounded by some of Scotland's most dramatic landscapes.

Along the way, we visit a **sheepdog farm**, offering a memorable look at rural Highland life and the working traditions that continue to shape this region. We continue through scenic countryside with stops that may include **Aviemore, Culloden Moor, Loch Ness viewpoints, and Highland landmarks** along the route.

By evening, we arrive in **Fort William**, a town set near Ben Nevis and known as one of Scotland's great outdoor gateways.

Stay: The Inch Hotel, or similar

Included Meals: Breakfast

Day 6 | Tuesday, July 13 | Isle of Skye Day Trip

Today is one of the most scenic days of the journey as we set out for a full day experience on the **Isle of Skye**.

We will travel through unforgettable Highland scenery, stopping first at **Eilean Donan Castle**, one of the most photographed castles in Scotland. From there, we cross onto the Isle of Skye, known for its rugged coastline, dramatic mountain views, colorful villages, and deep Gaelic heritage.

Throughout the day, your CEO will help bring the landscapes and stories of Skye to life as we explore some of the island's most memorable places before returning to Fort William in the evening.

Stay: The Inch Hotel, or similar

Included Meals: Breakfast, Dinner

Day 7 | Wednesday, July 14 | Fort William to Glencoe to Glasgow

We begin our journey south, traveling through one of Scotland's most breathtaking regions, **Glencoe**.

Known for its dramatic peaks, sweeping valleys, and powerful history, Glencoe is one of the most photographed areas in Scotland. We will stop to take in the scenery and learn about the significance of the landscape.

We continue toward **Loch Lomond**, where we enjoy a scenic boat cruise surrounded by islands, green hills, and mountain views. Later, we arrive in **Glasgow**, a vibrant and creative city known for its culture, architecture, music, and energy.

Stay: Radisson Blu Hotel Glasgow, or similar

Included Meals: Breakfast

Day 8 | Thursday, July 15 | Glasgow and Farewell Dinner

Today we explore **Glasgow** together, discovering its unique blend of historic architecture, modern culture, and artistic spirit.

As a group, we experience the city through a **Glasgow street art tour**, uncovering murals, local stories, and the creative energy that has shaped the city's personality. Glasgow is also known for its museums, music scene, Victorian and Art Nouveau architecture, and lively neighborhoods.

In the evening, we come together one final time for our **Farewell Dinner**, celebrating the journey, the experiences, and the connections made along the way.

Stay: Radisson Blu Hotel Glasgow, or similar

Included Meals: Breakfast, Farewell Dinner

Day 9 | Friday, July 16 | Departure or Pride Extension

Enjoy breakfast before departing at any time or continuing on with the **Glasgow Pride extension**.

For those extending, the experience continues with a vibrant and celebratory weekend ahead.

Stay: Not included unless booked as part of your extension

Included Meals: Breakfast

Optional Days 10 to 11 | Saturday, July 17 to Sunday, July 18 | Glasgow Pride Parade and Celebration

Celebrate **Glasgow Pride** with the group during a weekend filled with energy, community, and celebration.

We will plan to attend the **Pride Parade**, experience the **festival and live entertainment**, and explore the city's LGBTQ+ scene together.

Throughout the weekend, we will coordinate group activities, meals, and outings, while still allowing flexibility to explore different events and experiences that interest you most.

This extension adds a **fun, meaningful, and celebratory conclusion** to your Scotland journey.

Stay: Not included unless booked as part of your extension

Included Meals: None unless otherwise confirmed

Included Experiences and Highlights ✨

Throughout the journey, you will experience a blend of **cultural highlights, scenic landscapes, and meaningful moments**.

Highlights include **Edinburgh Castle and the Royal Mile, Stirling Castle, the Scottish Crannog Centre, Pitlochry, Blair Athol Distillery, a sheepdog farm visit, Loch Ness, the Isle of Skye, Glencoe, Loch Lomond, and time in Glasgow**, along with Pride Adventures group experiences.

Free Time, Optional Activities, and Group Experiences 🌿

This journey is designed to balance guided experiences with time to explore.

During free time, you are absolutely welcome to **explore independently, relax, or plan your own activities** if that is your travel style.

At the same time, you do not need to plan anything on your own unless you want to. Your **CEO and Pride Adventures host will coordinate experiences, offer suggestions, and help organize group activities**, making it easy to stay engaged and connected throughout the trip.

Many travelers choose a mix of both independent exploration and shared group time, and we create space for both.

Meals and Dining 🍴

This journey includes a mix of shared meals and time to explore Scotland's food scene.

Included Meals:

- 8 breakfasts
- 1 dinner
- 1 Welcome Dinner
- 1 Farewell Dinner

Other meals are open, giving you the flexibility to **explore local restaurants, dine with new friends, or enjoy time on your own**. Your host will also **coordinate a group meal each evening** for those who would like to join.

Arrival, Joining, and Departure Information

Arrival Airport: Edinburgh Airport (EDI)

Departure Airport: Glasgow Airport (GLA)

Arrival Day: Thursday, July 8, 2027

Departure Day: Friday, July 16, 2027

Please plan to arrive by **mid afternoon**, allowing time to check in, relax, and get settled before our **6:00pm Welcome Meeting and Welcome Dinner**.

On departure day, if you are not joining the **Glasgow Pride extension**, you may depart at **any time**.

Pre and Post Trip Options

Arriving early or staying after the trip is a great way to extend your experience in Scotland.

Pride Adventures can assist with booking pre and post trip hotel stays, typically at the same starting or ending hotels used on the itinerary for added convenience.

If you would like to arrive a few days early in Edinburgh or stay longer in Glasgow, simply let us know how many nights you would like to add, and we will help coordinate the details for you.

This is also a great opportunity to explore more at your own pace or connect with fellow travelers before or after the main journey.

Luggage and Packing

Packing for Scotland requires a bit of planning due to its **variable weather and layered climate**. Even in summer, conditions can shift throughout the day.

Here are some recommended items to bring:

Clothing:

- Lightweight layers for changing temperatures
- A warm mid layer such as a fleece or sweater
- A **waterproof jacket** or rain shell
- Comfortable walking pants or jeans
- Casual evening wear for dinners and city time

Footwear:

- Comfortable **walking shoes or sneakers** with good support
- Optional waterproof shoes if you prefer

Accessories:

- Small daypack for daily outings
- Reusable water bottle
- Sunglasses and sunscreen
- Compact umbrella or rain cover

Additional Tips:

- Laundry services may be available at some hotels or nearby
- Luggage space on vehicles is limited, so **a medium sized suitcase or duffel is recommended**
- You will be responsible for handling your own luggage at hotels

Packing smart and keeping things versatile will help ensure you are comfortable throughout the journey.

Travel Insurance

Travel insurance is required for this trip and must include a minimum of **\$200,000 USD in combined medical and repatriation coverage**.

You are welcome to purchase travel insurance through any provider you prefer.

For convenience, **Trawick Travel Insurance is available through the WeTravel platform**, making it easy to purchase during checkout or by logging back into your account later.

Pride Adventures also works with **TravelEx** and can send you a manual quote if you would like to compare options.

If you already have a preferred provider, that is absolutely fine. Please send your **policy details and coverage information** to:

tripsupport@prideadventures.com

If you would like help reviewing options or getting a quote, just let us know.

Money, Emergency Funds, and Tipping

The local currency is the **British Pound**.

Most places accept credit cards, but it is helpful to have some cash available for smaller purchases.

We recommend budgeting approximately **£150 to £250 GBP** for meals not included and incidental expenses, depending on your dining preferences. Carrying the equivalent of **\$200 USD for emergencies** is also recommended.

Basic tips for your CEO, drivers, and guides are already included as part of your Pride Adventures experience.

Safety and Travel Expectations

Scotland is considered a very safe and welcoming destination for travelers, including LGBTQ+ travelers.

Public attitudes are generally inclusive, especially in cities like Edinburgh and Glasgow, which have visible and vibrant LGBTQ+ communities.

As with any destination, it is important to remain aware of your surroundings, particularly in busy tourist areas where pickpocketing can occur. We recommend keeping valuables secure and exploring with others in the evenings when possible.

If at any time you feel uncomfortable or unsure, your host and CEO are there to support you.

Responsible Travel and Planeterra

Pride Adventures is committed to responsible travel and supporting the communities we visit.

We proudly support **Planeterra**, a non profit organization with **over 300 community tourism projects worldwide**, focused on creating positive impact through travel. Many G Adventures itineraries include visits to Planeterra supported initiatives that directly benefit local communities.

In addition, **Pride Adventures donates on behalf of every traveler** who joins our trips.

Did you know? One tree is planted for **every single day you travel** with G Adventures and Pride Adventures through the **Trees for Days** program.

Together, these efforts help support local communities, protect cultural heritage, and contribute to a more sustainable future for travel.

Traveler Connections

To help you feel prepared and connected before and during the trip:

Once the trip is confirmed with a minimum of **8 travelers**, we will open our private **Pre Departure Lounge** and send you an invitation. This is where we will share detailed trip information, discussions, notices, updates, and helpful reminders leading up to departure.

The lounge is also where you can connect with other travelers in advance, introduce yourself, ask questions, coordinate plans, and start building community before we arrive in Scotland.

A live **pre trip Zoom call** will be held approximately 30 days before departure, where we will review key details, answer questions, and give everyone a chance to meet.

A private **WhatsApp group** will also be created prior to departure for easy communication and updates during the trip.

By the time you arrive, you will already feel like part of the group.

Emergency Contacts

Chris Smith

chris@prideadventures.com

310 854 2556

Trip Support

tripsupport@prideadventures.com

661 545 5199

Optional Extension | Glasgow Pride Experience

Extend your journey with an unforgettable celebration at Glasgow Pride.

Glasgow Pride is one of Scotland's largest and most vibrant LGBTQ+ events, bringing together thousands of people for a weekend of celebration, visibility, and community.

If you join the extension, you can expect to:

- Attend the **Glasgow Pride Parade** alongside locals and visitors from around the world
- Experience the **Pride Festival**, featuring live entertainment, performances, and community spaces
- Enjoy time exploring Glasgow's **LGBTQ+ nightlife and social scene**
- Share additional meals, experiences, and celebrations with your group

We will coordinate plans as a group, making it easy to participate together while still giving you the flexibility to explore what interests you most.

This extension adds a powerful and joyful conclusion to your Scotland experience, blending travel, community, and celebration in a meaningful way.

Final Notes ✨

This Trip Guide provides a comprehensive overview of your journey and Pride Adventures enhancements. The G Adventures dossier remains the official operational reference.

We cannot wait to experience Scotland with you.

Travel with Pride 🌈