



Glasgow & Southern Scotland

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Best Places to Eat

- » The Ubiquitous Chip (p799)
- » Stravaigin (p799)
- » The Brodick Bar (p814)
- » Coltman's (p811)

Best Places to Stay

- » Brunswick Hotel (p795)
- » Malmaison (p795)
- » Corsewall Lighthouse Hotel (p823)
- » Kildonan Hotel (p815)
- » Knockinaam Lodge (p823)
- » Hotel du Vin (p797)

Why Go?

For many, southern Scotland is what you drive through on the way to big cities Glasgow or Edinburgh, or even points further north. Big mistake. But it means plenty of peaceful corners here. The south's proximity to England brought strife, but the ruins of Borders castles and the abbeys they protected make wonderfully atmospheric historic sites. The hillier west enjoys extensive forest cover; hills cascade down to sandy coasts blessed with Scotland's sunniest weather. Visible offshore, Arran is an island jewel offering top cycling and walking.

The region's premier attraction, however, is urban. Glasgow, Scotland's biggest city, is a fascinatingly vital place. Glaswegians are proud of their working-class background, black humour and leftist traditions, and their city combines art, architecture, great food and nightlife, style, edgy urbanity and the people's legendary friendliness in a captivating blend that will leave you wanting more.

When to Go

June sees music festivals in Glasgow, and spectacular gardens in bloom at the region's numerous castles and stately homes.

Glasgow is super-friendly at any time, but in the August sunshine there's no happier city in Britain.

In autumn, hit Galloway's forests to see red deer, high on stag testosterone, battle it out in the rutting season.



Glasgow & Southern Scotland Highlights

1 Gazing at Glasgow's fabulous wealth of paintings in the **Burrell Collection** (p792), the **Kelvingrove** (p792) and the **Hunterian Art Gallery** (p792)

2 Hiking or cycling between the noble ruins of the **Border Abbeys** (p808)

3 Catching a **Celtic** (p804) or **Rangers** (p804) match at their massive football stadiums

4 Deciding just which one of Glasgow's excellent West End **restaurants** (p799) you are going to dine at next

5 Discovering the work of **Charles Rennie Mackintosh**