



PALACE TOURS
Travel Like Royalty

PALACE TOURS

The Belmond: Royal Scotsman – Taste of the highlands

2 Nights • Luxury Experience

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Overview

Embrace the spirit of adventure on this journey up Scotland's undulating east coast and across into the highlands

Your Itinerary

DAY 1

BOAT OF GARTEN / EDINBURGH

Departing Edinburgh in the early afternoon, journey north through the former Kingdom of Fife, then up into the dramatic scenery of the Highlands. In the evening an informal dinner is served, followed by entertainment in the Observation Car.

Overnight in Boat of Garten.



DAY 2

BOAT OF GARTEN / DUNDEE

After breakfast, you travel by coach to Rothiemurchus Estate in the heart of the Cairngorms National Park. Rothiemurchus offers a magical setting in which to try a spot of clay-pigeon shooting or fishing or a tour of the estate. Rejoin the train for lunch and travel to Culloden Battlefield for a private tour. Enjoy an evening visit to Strathisla Distillery, one of the oldest working distilleries and home to one of Scotland's most famous whiskies.

Back on board enjoy some spectacular panoramas on the way south through Aberdeenshire and Angus. A formal dinner is served on the way to Dundee.

DAY 3

DUNDEE / EDINBURGH

Enjoy a leisurely breakfast as you leave Dundee behind and return to Edinburgh.



Tips & Travel Guide

A Day Aboard

Days follow an unhurried rhythm: a full Scottish breakfast, a two-course lunch and afternoon tea on scenic runs, then a three-course dinner with cheeseboard, coffee and petits fours. Dinners alternate between informal evenings (smart casual) and formal or gala nights, when a dark suit, tuxedo or kilt is customary for gentlemen and a cocktail dress or tartan for ladies. All meals, all drinks - including an extensive whisky selection - excursions and nightly entertainment in the Observation Car are included in the fare. Most evenings the train stables in a quiet country station, so you sleep to stillness rather than motion.

Know Before You Go

Boarding: journeys depart from Edinburgh Waverley station. Check-in is at The Balmoral Hotel beside the station; deposit your luggage with the concierge between 11:00 and 12:15 and it will be transferred to the train for you.

Luggage: cabins are compact - one suitcase and one carry-on per guest is recommended. Under-bed storage measures roughly 71 x 23 cm; larger cases can be stored at The Balmoral for the duration of the journey.

Packing: bring a warm waterproof jacket and sturdy shoes for Highland excursions, comfortable clothing for the train, and formal wear for gala evenings. UK electricity is 220/240V - pack an adaptor.

Wi-Fi: available in the Observation Car, though coverage drops in the remoter stretches of the Highlands.

Mobility & health: excursions involve coach transfers, uneven ground and some walking; optional guided hikes require a reasonable level of fitness. There are no medical facilities on board. If you or a companion need special assistance, contact us before booking and we will advise on the best-suited departures.

Children & pets: children may travel at the Train Manager's discretion (infants under two travel free); the atmosphere is geared to adults, and families are advised to book interconnecting cabins or a Grand Suite. Pets are not permitted, with the exception of assistance dogs.

Dietary requirements: vegetarian, vegan and allergy-aware menus are available when requested at the time of booking.

Smoking: not permitted anywhere on board, including electronic cigarettes.

Documents & insurance: overseas visitors need a passport valid for at least six months beyond the journey; check UK visa requirements for your nationality. Comprehensive travel insurance is strongly recommended. Fares do not include gratuities or insurance.

Departure Dates & Rates

DEPARTURE DATE	CLASS / CABIN	SINGLE	DOUBLE (PP)
Apr 19, 2027	Grand Suite	£28,000	£14,000
	Double Cabin (Matrimonial Bed)	£14,900	£7,450
May 5, 2027	Grand Suite	£28,000	£14,000
	Double Cabin (Matrimonial Bed)	£14,900	£7,450
	Twin Cabin (2 Twin Beds)	£14,900	£7,450
May 19, 2027	Grand Suite	£29,400	£14,700
	Double Cabin (Matrimonial Bed)	£14,900	£7,450
	Twin Cabin (2 Twin Beds)	£14,900	£7,450
Jul 21, 2027	Grand Suite	£28,000	£14,000
	Double Cabin (Matrimonial Bed)	£14,900	£7,450
Aug 25, 2027	Grand Suite	£28,000	£14,000
	Double Cabin (Matrimonial Bed)	£14,900	£7,450
	Twin Cabin (2 Twin Beds)	£14,900	£7,450
Sep 8, 2027	Grand Suite	£28,000	£14,000
	Double Cabin (Matrimonial Bed)	£14,200	£7,100
	Twin Cabin (2 Twin Beds)	£14,200	£7,100

Rates shown in British Pound GBP (GBP). Approximate USD equivalents available upon request.

Rates shown are per person. Single rate applies to single occupancy; Double rate applies per person in double occupancy.



Look for Coupons and Special Rates on our website.



Visit <https://www.palacetours.com/tour/belmond-royal-scotsman-book-taste-of-highlands> for the latest information.

Terms & Conditions

Booking Conditions

Deposit: 25% of the total fare confirms your booking. **Balance:** due 120 days before departure; bookings made within 120 days of departure are payable in full at booking.

Cancellation Policy

Cancellations must be made in writing and take effect when acknowledged. Charges apply as a percentage of the total fare for the person(s) cancelling:

- 120 days or more before departure: 25%
- 119–90 days before departure: 50%
- 89–30 days before departure: 70%
- 29 days or less before departure, or no-show: 100%

Date changes follow the same charge schedule as cancellations. A booking may be transferred to another guest up to 14 days before departure (an amendment fee plus any supplier costs apply); name changes require at least 7 days' written notice. No refunds are made for unused services or no-shows.

Important

Comprehensive travel insurance covering cancellation is strongly recommended. Schedule per Belmond's Trains & Cruises booking conditions (world excluding EEA/UK, last updated 11 February 2026). Palace Tours' terms and conditions also apply.

Frequently Asked Questions

What is the route of the Royal Scotsman Taste of the Highlands journey?

This 3-day, 2-night journey leaves Edinburgh and travels north through the former Kingdom of Fife into the Highlands to Boat of Garten. The next day includes Rothiemurchus, Culloden and Strathisla, then the train runs south through Aberdeenshire and Angus to Dundee before returning to Edinburgh.

Which dates are available for Taste of the Highlands?

Departures are on sale from 30 September 2026 through 8 September 2027, giving plenty of choice across spring, summer and autumn. The departure list on this page shows each date with the fare for every cabin type.

Where does Taste of the Highlands start and end?

The journey starts and ends in Edinburgh, departing Edinburgh Waverley station in the early afternoon. Check-in is at The Balmoral Hotel beside the station, and on day 3 breakfast is served as the train returns from Dundee to Edinburgh.

Which cabins can I book on Taste of the Highlands?

Three cabin types are offered: the Double Cabin with a matrimonial bed, the Twin Cabin with two twin beds, and the Grand Suite, the most spacious option. Fares for each cabin type are shown alongside every departure on this page.

What is included in the Taste of the Highlands fare?

The fare includes two nights on board, 24-hour steward service, all meals (full Scottish breakfast, lunch and a dinner with cheeseboard, coffee, tea and petits fours), all beverages, the visits to Rothiemurchus Estate, Culloden Battlefield and Strathisla, and traditional entertainment on board.

What is not included in the Taste of the Highlands price?

Travel insurance, domestic or international airfare, transfers before or after the train journey, gratuities for the crew, and personal items or souvenirs are excluded. We can add an Edinburgh hotel night before or after the journey on request.

How much does Taste of the Highlands cost?

The train uses dynamic pricing, so fares vary by date and cabin. The exact fare for each departure is shown on this page. Starting your booking online holds a cabin without a financial commitment, and our team can then check for current offers.

What deposit is required and when is the balance due for Taste of the Highlands?

A deposit of 25 percent secures your cabin, and the remaining balance is due 125 days before departure. For autumn

What is Boat of Garten and the Strathspey Railway?

Boat of Garten is a Highland village on the private Strathspey Railway in the Cairngorms, where the train stables on the first night. After arriving you enjoy an informal dinner on board followed by entertainment in the Observation Car.

What activities are offered at Rothiemurchus Estate?

On the morning of day 2 a coach takes you to Rothiemurchus Estate in the heart of the Cairngorms National Park, where you choose between clay-pigeon shooting, fishing or a tour of the estate. You then rejoin the train for lunch.

Why is Culloden Battlefield included in the journey?

Culloden is the site of the 1746 battle that ended the Jacobite rising, one of the defining moments of Scottish history. Guests enjoy a private tour of the battlefield on the afternoon of day 2.

What is the Strathisla visit on Taste of the Highlands?

In the early evening of day 2 you visit Strathisla, one of the oldest working estates of its kind in Scotland, with its historic buildings and traditional craft. It is a short, relaxed visit before you return to the train for the formal dinner.

Is there a formal dinner on Taste of the Highlands?

Yes. The first evening is informal (smart casual) and the second is formal, served on the scenic run south to Dundee. For the formal dinner, a dark suit, tuxedo or kilt is customary for gentlemen and a cocktail dress or tartan for ladies.

What scenery will I see on Taste of the Highlands?

Day 1 climbs from Fife into the dramatic scenery of the Highlands and the Cairngorms. On day 2 the train makes a spectacular run south through Aberdeenshire and Angus to Dundee, often during dinner, before the final morning's journey back to Edinburgh.

Is Taste of the Highlands a good first Royal Scotsman journey?

Yes, it is the train's classic short journey, offering a full day of Highland excursions, one informal and one formal dinner, and the complete on-board experience in just two nights. It is also easy to combine with time in Edinburgh or elsewhere in Scotland.

Does the train move during the night on Taste of the Highlands?

The train stables overnight at quiet stations, at Boat of Garten on the first night and at Dundee on the second, so you sleep to stillness rather than motion. Travelling is done by day and in the evening, when the views are best.

What is a typical day aboard Taste of the Highlands?

Days follow an unhurried rhythm: a full Scottish breakfast, a morning excursion, lunch on board as the scenery passes, an afternoon or evening visit, then a multi-course dinner and live entertainment in the Observation Car.

Can a solo traveller book Taste of the Highlands?

Yes, a cabin can be booked for sole use at a single occupancy fare, which is higher than the per person sharing price. Contact us to confirm single availability for your chosen departure.

Can children travel on Taste of the Highlands?

Child pricing bands are set by age at departure (under 5, and 5 to 10), but the journey is geared to adults, with a formal dinner and full touring days. Please contact us before booking with children so we can confirm acceptance and fares.

How do I ask a question or book the Royal Scotsman Taste of the Highlands?

Every departure on this page is bookable directly, with the fare shown for each cabin type. For questions, email travel@palacetours.com, call 786-408-0610, or message us on WhatsApp at <https://wa.me/17864080610>, answered by a travel specialist or our AI assistant.

Ready to Book Your Journey?

Contact Palace Tours for personalized rates and departure dates

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