Semester in Scotland

University of Edinburgh
About this book

This book was made possible through contributions from Clay Hopes (Industrial Engineering), who attended the University of Edinburgh, Spring 2008, and Trevor Nelson, Director of the Iowa State University Study Abroad Center.
Regents' Semester in Scotland

Regents' Semester in Scotland is located in Edinburgh - the Scottish capital - a city of 450,000 that is rich in history yet very modern with a cultural life that is out of proportion to its size. The University of Edinburgh, the academic home of our program, is one of the most respected universities in the UK and in the world - known for the quality of its research and teaching.

"Watched over by the imposing Castle - the symbol of the city - Edinburgh combines medieval relics, Georgian grandeur and a powerful layer of modern life with contemporary avant-garde. In Edinburgh, medieval palaces rub shoulders with the best of modern architecture, Gothic churches with amazing museums and galleries. The throbbing night-life center of the Scottish north, Edinburgh - "the Athens of the North" is also a feast for the mind and the senses, playing host to great restaurants shops and an unequaled program of city festivals throughout the year."

Wikipedia, March 2008

A rich and rigorous academic and cultural experience awaits students interested in this program and if you feel the need to leave the city, the islands and highlands of Scotland promise adventures of a different sort. Home to an international airport and transportation hub, other parts of the UK and Europe are within easy reach.
Explore the rich heritage of Scotland, the historic, the grand, the cultural, and the wild.
EDINBURGH
The medieval section of Edinburgh is dominated at one end by the Castle (above) and at the other by the Palace of Holyroodhouse (opposite), the official residence of the Queen. These two landmarks are linked by the Royal Mile (pages 6 - 9).
CASTLE VIEWS
The Castle provides a wonderful vantage point to view the city. To the North and beyond Princes Street Gardens is New Town (opposite), an area of elegant Georgian buildings, the result of an architectural competition held in 1766.
The Scottish Parliament, located across the street from the Palace of Holyroodhouse, was opened in 2004. Highly controversial, the building went considerably over budget but won prizes and praise from architects, critics, and academics.
Festivals are ubiquitous - Int'l Science Festival, Int'l Film Festival, Art Festival, Jazz & Blues Festival, Military Tattoo, Festival of Spirituality and Peace, Fringe Festival, International Festival, and Hogmanay.
THE UNIVERSITY

Founded in 1583, the University of Edinburgh has attracted international students for over four centuries.

It is one of the world's most prestigious institutions. Ranked 5th in the UK, 5th in Europe and 23rd in the world (Times Higher Education Supplement 2007).
With 27,000 students, the university offers a wide array of subjects.
Study abroad students have a variety of housing options. Pollock Hall (pictured here) provides traditional housing - single occupancy rooms with full meal plan. Students can also select self-catering options and off-campus accommodation.
BEYOND EDINBURGH
As magnificent a town as Edinburgh is, there are many reasons to venture out of the city and explore the rest of the country. Sterling, less than one hour away, is famous for its castle and for the William Wallace monument (opposite).
Scotland is renowned for its lochs (lakes), its highlands, its castles and its mythical monsters. Stop by Loch Ness and who knows what you might discover or who you might run into.
Highlands and islands of Scotland
Semester in Scotland
An Academic Adventure