

Scotland (the land of *bagpipes*, *haggis* and *kilts*!)

Capital: **Edinburgh**, Largest city: **Glasgow**

Languages: **English**, **Scottish Gaelic**

Religions: **Church of Scotland**: 32%, **Catholic**: 16%,
None: 37%, **Other**: 15%

Area: **78,000** km², Population (2024): **5.5M**



Traditional clothes

The traditional clothes of Scotland is often characterized by “**tartan**” patterns in some form (called “**plaid**” in the USA). Each clan (family) has its own tartan design.

Men's clothes include a “kilt” of his clan tartan, a belt, a “sporrán”, high socks, garters, kilt pins and clan badges (indicating family and heritage).

Women's clothes are also based on the clan tartan, either that of her birth clan or, if married, that of her spouse's clan.



Traditionally, women and girls do not wear kilts but may wear long tartan skirts, with a blouse. A tartan sash may also be worn, usually pinned with a brooch or clan badge.

Famous Scottish people (also called ‘Scots’):

Sean Connery
Ewan McGregor
Billy Connolly
Sam Heughan

Example of Scottish Gaelic: <https://www.storlann.co.uk/>

Scottish Food

Bacon

Mutton or lamb

Forfar bridie (Scottish pasties)

Haggis – sheep's heart, liver and lungs with herbs, served in a sheep's stomach

Howtowdie - boiled chicken served with spinach and poached eggs

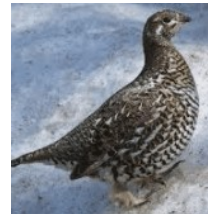
Kilmeny Kail – young rabbit

Roast Aberdeen Angus beef

Roast grouse

Scotch pie (mutton pie)

Stovies - left-over food (usually potatoes, onions, vegetables, sausages, and meat)



Scottish Music

The “bagpipes” are a wind instrument using reeds fed from a reservoir of air in the form of a bag. The “Scottish Great Highland Bagpipes” are the best known. Bagpipes have been played for more than a millennium around many parts of Europe, North Africa, and Asia. The Great Highland Bagpipes have played an important part in Scottish music for many centuries.

Examples:

Scotland the Brave: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZH5b3e8ivvM>

Mull of Kintyre: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6SEVPR5Ssck>

Scottish Traditions

1) Clans

A Scottish clan (from Gaelic “clan” which means "children") is a family group. Clans give a sense of identity to their members, and have an official structure recognized by the courts. Each clan has its own tartan pattern which members often use in their clothes.



2) Highland Games

These games are held in the spring and summer as a way of celebrating Scottish and Celtic culture, especially that of the Scottish Highlands. Certain aspects of the games are emblematic of Scotland, such as the bagpipes, the kilt, and the heavy events*. While centered on competitions in piping and drumming, dancing, and heavy athletics, the games also include entertainment and exhibits related to other aspects of Scottish and Celtic culture.



* Some Heavy Events:

Caber toss: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xb0FU8rSisU>
Stone put: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0wX-z0e0ggA>
Hammer throw: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NsQVVICY_Ss
Weight throw: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pkITTFtINSk>



3) Edinburgh Military Tattoo

This is an annual show of bagpipe music and marching in the grounds of Edinburgh Castle.

Example: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oBYVmnMFMtA>

4) Ceilidh

This is a traditional Scottish dance. It is often danced at weddings. Traditional folk music is usually played.

Example: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=62sim5knB-s>

5) Languages

Scottish Gaelic dates back thousands of years and many words are still used today. For example:

kin – family
kith - friends
loch – lake
glen – valley
bonnie – pretty
wee – small, cute
lass – young lady
lad – man
laddie – young man
ken – to know

<i>Do ye ken me ma?</i>	Do you know my mother?
<i>The Loch Ness monster.</i>	The monster of Lake Ness.
<i>She's a bonnie wee lass.</i>	She's a cute pretty girl.