

Perched on Scotland's eastern shoreline, St Andrews, hugging the beach, culminates in its proud castle and statuesque cathedral ruins. A place of pilgrimage for centuries, named after Saint Andrew, it is a town filled with history and tradition amid isolated beauty. A fascinating little place, and a gateway to Scotland, its position makes it a wonderful location to visit over and over again.

Many of the winding Victorian streets are dotted with delightful old university buildings, as St Andrews is home to one of the UK's oldest and most prestigious universities, which brings with it an atmosphere of learning and sophistication. Many of Britain's most illustrious are attracted to studying here, with Prince William having spent his three years as a student here. These streets are also home to many restaurants and cafés, as well as quaint shops selling quality wares.

There is no doubt that the city is most famous for being the location of the Royal and Ancient Golf Club and the accompanying Old Course. The course is the oldest in the world, and has played host to some of the most memorable British Opens in living memory. The R&A, devolved from the Royal and Ancient Golf Club in 2004, is the world's standard for the rules and regulations, as well as the attitude and etiquette, of golf. The golf courses sit tight along the links shoreline and create a beautiful view against the backdrop of elegant and traditional buildings that line the links, some dating back to the thirteenth century.



The area boasts a fine array of golf courses outside the town too, with Carnoustie, Crail, Elie and Kingsbarns all boasting great reputations, and under half an hour's drive away. There are few, if any, places in the world that can claim to possess such a range of golf courses of the highest calibre in such a small area. Muirfield and Gleneagles are two of many championship courses that are easily accessible from St Andrews.

The names Crail and Elie aren't only home to golf courses but are part of a lovely series of fishing villages that stretch along the coast. Their pretty harbours and quiet streets make a fine days visit. And this is just the beginning. St Andrews is a centre that gives you incredible access to the stunning landscapes Scotland is famous for. The wild Highlands await, offering glens filled with great stalking and hunting, and winding rivers and deep lochs with endless fishing opportunities. The many pleasures and incredible access this town offers make it Scotland's jewel – a refreshing centre of sport, education and life's quiet joys. □

Scotland's oldest university, grand cathedral ruins, starkly beautiful beaches, a fine Scottish welcome and Prince William – St Andrews offers much more besides the greatest golf course in the world.

THE HOME  
of golf

