# CHECKLIST, RESERVATIONS, AND TRAVEL TIPS

### **CLICK HERE** AND REGISTER NOW TO MEET THE CLAN COMMANDER CANDIDATES IN AN ONLINE FORUM FEBRUARY 25, 2025.

### **CLICK HERE** AND REGISTER NOW FOR THE LOGAN FAMILY CONVENTION, IN PERSON OR ONLINE APRIL 25, 2025.

### PASSPORT

If you don't have a passport yet, apply now.

U.S. citizens, <u>click here</u>.

Canadian citizens, click here.

Australian citizens, click here.

New Zealand citizens, <u>click here</u>.

If you do have one, check the expiration date. It must not expire within 6 months of travel to the UK. If you need to renew your passport, do it now.

Apply for visa *(if applicable).* Check <u>gov.uk</u> for visa requirements for your nationality.

Travel to the UK on or after 8 January 2025 requires an <u>electronic</u> <u>travel authorisation (ETA)</u>. You'll be able to apply beginning 27 November 2024.

<u>Click here</u> to check the UK government website for requirements for visiting the UK.



### WHAT YOU'LL NEED AT THE UK BORDER

You must provide a valid passport or travel document. Your passport should be valid for the whole of your stay in the UK.

You may also be asked to prove that:

- you're visiting for tourism
- you're able to support yourself and your dependents during your trip (or have funding from someone else to support you)
- you've arranged accommodation for your stay
- you're able to pay for your return or onward journey (or have funding from someone else)
- you'll leave the UK at the end of your visit

#### **BOOK YOUR FLIGHTS** (if you will be traveling by airline)

If you have not already purchased airline tickets, a ticket price comparison site, such as Google Flights may provide some information. You can also track the prices and get notifications when they change. Other resources include booking sites such as Booking.com, Expedia.net, and Travelocity.com. (This is not an endorsement for any).

### **BOOK YOUR ACCOMMODATIONS**

Will you be staying at <u>The Dalmahoy Hotel & Country Club</u>? Secure your hotel reservation as soon as possible. The Dalmahoy is Logan Family Convention headquarters. It is approximately 10 minutes from Edinburgh Airport. Act now to take advantage of the blocked room rate. Once those rooms are gone, if availability has changed, we will not be able to add to the block.

To make reservations, contact the hotel at 011 44 131 333 1845 or email <u>reservations@dalmahoy.co.uk</u> (expect about a 24-hour delay before hearing back).

- Room Rates -- £150 single occupancy; £165 double occupancy per night
- These rates are available for stays from April 23 to April 26, 2025



- Full breakfast buffet is included (you can also order a made-to-order breakfast)
- Complimentary parking
- Complimentary Wi-Fi
- Use of leisure club facilities
- Special rates for golfing
- Two restaurants on site the elegant Pentland Restaurant and the laid-back Brasserie
- Two bar/lounge areas for relaxing

The leisure club facilities include an 18-meter indoor swimming pool, steam room, sauna and state-of-the-art gym. Classes are also available, which include dance fusion, Barre, Pilates, Yoga, and plenty of other choices (all subject to change). Physiotherapy and Massage Therapy appointments are available but must be booked ahead of time.

You can book a wonderful Afternoon Tea during your stay.

The Dalmahoy is one of the top golfing destinations in Scotland. There are two challenging and exciting courses for the golfers to play.

Hotel reservations must be made by January 24, 2025 (subject to availability). The hotel rooms are advance-purchase and must be paid at the time of the booking. It is suggested that you obtain travel insurance to cover any interruptions in your plans.

Questions about the hotel and your stay can be directed to Tricia Logan-Locke by emailing her at <u>secretary@clanlogansociety.org.</u>

### TRAVEL INSURANCE

There are many companies that offer travel insurance. <u>NerdWallet</u> is one of many sites that compiles lists of companies that offer what you're searching for. We do not endorse any particular travel insurer, nor do we necessarily endorse any listmakers. Be aware that most listmakers can be influenced by companies paying to be included in their "top results." Do your homework to select the best insurance company and coverage for your needs. If you will be traveling more than just this trip, consider year-long insurance.



### **GETTING AROUND IN EDINBURGH**

Bus? Tram? Taxi? If you're planning on moving around the city a bit, for information on public transportation, visit **Introducing Edinburgh**.

When getting around Edinburgh, never think in miles; always think in time. It's a good idea to add 15-30 minutes to travel time if going by car.

### **GETTING AROUND SCOTLAND**

Want to plan other excursions in Scotland before or after the Logan Family Convention? Visit **ScotRail**, **Flixbus**, or **VisitScotland.com** for more information. There are also plenty of reservation sites, such as **Rome2Rio**, good for researching and planning as well as making reservations.

### CALCULATE AND ORGANIZE YOUR TRIP BUDGET

Don't be caught by surprise. Set aside funds and stick to your budget.

## SELECT ONE OF OUR FAMILY TOUR PACKAGES OR MAKE YOUR OWN ITENERARY

If you plan to join your Logan family for one of the tour packages, watch the <u>**ClanLoganSociety.org**</u> website and your inbox for details to come.

If you'll be adventuring on your own, start researching and booking tours, experiences and activities, entrance tickets, and restaurant reservations for popular places and for peak times. Although April is not the height of the tourist season, it will be getting busy. Plan your tours and hotels well ahead of time along with dinner reservations.

In the world of travel agents, there is a Logan and fellow Clan Logan International Society member who can help with your independent plans. Contact Kathie Snyders through her website, <u>A Happy Place</u> <u>Travel</u>.



### CASH, CARDS, AND DIGITAL WALLETS

Contact your bank to find out if you can use your card abroad, whether there's a contactless payment feature, and any international currency fees.

Apply for travel-friendly, no or low-fee credit and/or debit card.

Order British Pounds from bank (optional).

Set up a digital wallet and link your bank accounts. For example: ApplePay, GoogleWallet.

#### PHONES AND CHARGERS

Call your phone provider to ask about using your phone in the UK.

Buy power adapters for dual-voltage electronics. Buy electrical plug converters. In Scotland, power plugs and outlets are type G. The standard voltage is 230V at a frequency of 50Hz. If you are coming from another country, you may need an adaptor. Consider packing two or three. You may also need a voltage converter. Be careful when charging devices because of the difference in frequency.

Order SIM card for your phone (if needed).

There are also apps compatible for various types of phones. These can be considerably less expensive than international calling plans. One such company is <u>airalo</u>, which offers text messaging and WiFi. <u>Airalo</u> would work well with those wanting to use <u>WhatsApp</u>, since it provides WiFi. Search the web for similar options.

#### CLOTHING

Buy weather-appropriate clothes for trip *(if needed)*. Plan to dress in layers. If your face, ears, hands, or feet get cold easily, pack appropriate gear to keep yourself warm and comfortable.

### 2 WEEKS OUT

Check for transport strikes on your travel dates (search upcoming Scotland or Edinburgh strike dates).



Download Google Maps or Citymapper app to see transport options from airport to hotel.

Book airport transfer (for bus tickets and pre-booked taxis).

Double-check your plans and book any remaining restaurant and activity reservations *(if applicable).* 

Tell bank and credit card companies your travel dates.

Order more prescribed medicine to cover travel dates.

Download apps: maps, a currency converter, your bank's app, taxi app (Uber, Gett, or Freenow), translator app, if applicable.

Make copies of your cards and passport and keep them in separate, safe places. Leave a copy of your travel itinerary and passport with a trusted adult family member or friend in your home country.

Save photos of cards and passport to a cloud account like Dropbox or on your device.

Buy any toiletries not normally provided by hotels.

### **1 WEEK OUT**

Plan your departure day – when to leave and what route to take to the airport.

If you will be arriving at the airport early, or if you will have a layover between flights, consider booking airport lounges if you have an airline or other membership.

For your arrival, consider how long you will have been traveling and make plans if you're likely to need a nap or a meal right away.

### 2 DAYS OUT

Check weather forecast and adjust packing accordingly.

Turn on "Find my phone".

Take note of hotel address (for border control).

Add luggage tags to all bags. Consider buying an electronic tracker, such as Apple's <u>AirTag</u>, or <u>Tile</u>, to at least one of your bags.

Download books, shows, etc., for plane (or train) journeys.



Cell phone plans / WhatsApp. Check with your cell phone carrier for available plans you can use in Scotland. WhatsApp is a free service that requires a WiFi connection and works like a phone; you can text and call using WhatsApp.

Packing tips. Late April in Scotland may be a bit chilly for some. Check forecasts closer to your departure date and pack accordingly. Remember that layers serve us best in cold weather, and the more physically active we are, the more body heat we generate.

The Average Weather in Edinburgh in April

AccuWeather Edinburgh

Where and When Weather Forecast for Edinburgh

For long haul airline flights, it is important to consider your health. If you will be on a long flight, wear compression socks. Stay well hydrated. You may have to visit the toilet more often, but that's the way our bodies are supposed to work!

Medications. Pack medications in a carry-on bag or purse that you will have with you at all times. Bring printed information about your doctor or medical provider in case of emergency.

Pets and other loved ones. If you're a caretaker, get a reliable person you know well to take over your responsibilities while you are away. Be sure to leave them with all your travel plans, how to reach you in case of emergency, and any important instructions. Plan for pet boarding or pet sitters.

### FLYING IN AND OUT OF EDINBURGH AIRPORT

The official taxi company for Edinburgh Airport is Capital Cars, and the taxi rank can be found in the East Terminus, a short walk from arrivals. Exit via the plaza, where the large "Edinburgh" sign is, and follow the signs for taxi.

To save time, book your taxi online. If preferred, you can book a taxi when you arrive at the rank.

A booking is required to ensure compliance with the City of Edinburgh Council's private hire licensing rules. Making a booking is secure and



has the added benefit that it's easy to trace the driver if personal items are accidentally left in your taxi. Use this link to book: https://eb3-beta.autocab.net/#/32096

Remember, the Dalmahoy is approximately 10 minutes from the airport. Return taxi booking to the airport can be made through the hotel concierge.

### FLYING IN AND OUT OF GLASGOW AIRPORT

The cost of a taxi from Glasgow to the Dalmahoy will be expensive. It takes over an hour trip to travel the 50 miles from Glasgow Airport to the Dalmahoy. Other options would be to take the taxi to the train station or book a private hire vehicle.

However, getting a taxi from Glasgow Airport is incredibly convenient. The fleet of 180 taxis, easily recognizable by their iconic white colour, are readily available at the prestigious pick-up location just outside the terminal building. No pre-booking is required; you can access taxis directly from outside the terminal.

#### **QUESTIONS?**

Just ask!

