

The Witchery The Independent 4th September





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The 13 best hotels in Edinburgh for castle views and Old Town getaways

Where to stay for a break in the Scottish capital, whether you're immersing yourself in history, wandering the Royal Mile or exploring the enchanting suburbs

Suzy Pope • 11 hours ago • Comments







Like Jekyll and Hyde, central Edinburgh has two sides. The Georgian New Town is a realm of leafy boulevards, towering townhouses and charming mews streets, while the medieval Old Town hides myriad closes and snickelways where dark deeds were conducted at nightfall. Edinburgh Castle looms above the city on a craggy outcrop and at the other end of the Royal Mile, stately Holyrood Palace sits in the shadow of an extinct volcano.

There's plenty to explore in the suburbs too. Stockbridge has a village vibe with its buzzing brunch spots and cosy wine bars and once-industrial Leith sees warehouses turned fine-dining restaurants and chi chi coffee shops. But once you've had your fill of history, culture and the whine of bagpipes drifting up the Royal Mile, where do you lay your head?

Across the city, hotels play to Edinburgh's dramatic history. Boutique hotels offer romantic stays amid the spires of the Old Town, historic townhouses turned regal rooms embrace the city's well-to-do side, and brand new architectural marvels house luxurious modern accommodation. We've rounded up the best places to stay across the Scottish capital.





6. The Witchery by the Castle



The historic Witchery hotel sits right next to Edinburgh Castle (David Cheskin)

Footsteps from Edinburgh Castle, the Witchery restaurant and hotel resides in a building dating back to 1595. A bewitching night garden twinkling with fairy lights greets you on arrival and, for dinner, it's a descent down ancient stone steps to a dining room of medieval splendour illuminated by candelabra. Each of the decadent eight bedrooms continues the medieval theme with rich oak panelling, four-poster beds with thick curtains and walls draped with tapestries.

Address: 352 Castlehill, Edinburgh EH1 2NF

Rooms available from

£850 per night

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