# Edinburgh



**Edinburgh** ['ɛdɪnbərə] **has been the capital of Scotland since 1437 and is the seat of the Scottish Parliament. Its nickname is „Athens of the North". It has a population of 448,624. The city is one of Europe's most important tourist destinations, attracting around 13 million visitors a year, and is the second most visited tourist destination in the United Kingdom, after London.**

If you come to Edinburgh by train from the south, the first thing you see when you leave Waverley Station is Edinburgh Castle. It stands high over the city. Soldiers in kilts take visitors round and tell them the castle's story. From the castle, you see over most of the city. Go at one o'clock and you can hear the famous one o'clock gun. It makes a very loud noise!

Edinburgh is a good city to visit on foot. Visit the „Old Town". Go down the Royal Mile to Holyroodhouse where the King lives when he comes to Edinburgh.

Look then at the shops on Princes Street in the „New Town". The shops and department stores are on one side of the road. On the other side there are public gardens. Princes Street is one of the most expensive places in Europe.

Some shops sell the famous Scottish tartans and you can see the name of the family which goes with each tartan. If you have a Scottish family name, you can buy and wear the family tartan. And if you haven't got a Scottish name, you can buy and wear any tartan you like!

In summer some famous festivals and interesting events take place in the gardens between Princes Street and Edinburgh Castle.

***Underline in each line a word which is typical for Scotland:***

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| dress | skirt | **kilt** | jeans | trousers |
| tartan | pattern | colour | cloth | arms |
| cotton | wool | plastic | wood | glass |
| family | friends | relatives | clan | party |
| trumpet | bagpipes | guitar | piano | saxophone |
| MacKenzie | Schulze | Dupont | Gonzales | Lorenzini |
| Didier | Domenico | Juan | Uwe | Sean |
| noodles | porridge | cabbage | tortilla | cheese |
| wine | whisky | beer | sherry | cider |
| Forrest Gump | Heidi | Barbarella | Braveheart | Rambo |

***TRUE or FALSE?***

Edinburg is the capital of the United Kingdom. *FALSE*
Princes Street is a good place for shopping, but expensive.
High over the city stands Waverly Railway Station.
A nice tourist attraction is Edinburgh Castle.
Most tourists who come to Edinburgh are from Greece.
Edinburgh is famous for its summer festivals.
It's not allowed to wear a different tartan than your family's tartan.