

GLASGOW: SCOTTISH CITY OF MUSIC AT A GLANCE



While occasionally overlooked by visitors, the Scottish city of Glasgow is a cultural gem. The UNESCO City of Music features an impressive cultural scene and a unique character which make even a brief visit worthwhile.

Glasgow and its popularity as well as importance has somewhat oscillated during the past centuries; however, there is absolutely no doubt the city is truly remarkable and its tourist potential is vast. The city is very energetic, with pulsating nightlife, and a music scene which easily overshadows many of its better-known European counterparts.

Locals pride themselves on Glasgow's excellent cultural reputation and creative efforts which brought awards such as the 1990 title 'City of Culture', 1999 'City of Architecture and Design' or 2003 'Capital of Sport'. Most recently, the city joined Bologna and Seville as a UNESCO City of Music. Musical choices there are truly outstanding; on average, there are 130 music events organized each week covering a wide range of genres.

Glasgow makes a very good first impression with its friendly atmosphere as well as a selection of many architectural gems. The prosperous era during the 19th century and early 20th century produced many spectacular Victorian and Edwardian buildings, which sadly contrast with high-rise tower blocs and concrete housing added in the era of economic decline of 1960's and 1970s'.

Local best known architect, Charles Rennie Mackintosh is a reputed art nouveau artist whose most celebrated creation is the beautiful Glasgow School of Art.

The Clyde Auditorium, often called Armadillo, is a modern concert hall and an exhibition and conference centre, whose shape resembles a hull of a ship. A fine example of Gothic architecture is the Glasgow Cathedral; the Mitchell Library and the Gallery of Modern Art are well worth visiting, too.

Outdoor enthusiasts can enjoy a trip to the Pollok Country Park, often recommended as a Glasgow must.

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