Just some of the horrible things you'll find around Edinburgh....

1 New Town

It was built to cope with overcrowding in 1767, but the New Town didn't stay nice or new for very long.

2 Nor Loch

Witches were tested here. They were tied up and thrown in the water: if they floated they were a witch and were burnt at the stake and if they sank they were innocent – probably dead innocent!

3 Watchtower

This guarded the graveyard against the wicked resurrection men who used to steal dead bodies. They sold the corpses to a Doctor Knox who used them to show other doctors how to cut up their patients. Ouch!

4 Heriots School

The boys at Heriots used to be woken in the morning by a drummer boy. One cold winter morning the boys were so angry at being woken they threw the drum down the stairs. The drummer boy was unfortunately still attached to the drum!

5 Greyfriars Bobby

This was a little dog who lay on his master's grave for 14 years after his death. Why, you may wonder, did he stay on the grave for so long? Was it because he liked bones or because his master was buried with Bobby's lead around his wrist?!

6 Netherbow Gate

This is where traitors' heads were displayed on spikes after execution. Edinburgh was always one step a-head of other capital cities!

7 Salisbury Crags

Once upon a time this was a sideways -squirting volcano. Don't worry though, it's been extinct for years.

8 Palace of Holyrood House

This is the place where Lord Darnley, the husband of Mary Queen of Scots, dragged away his wife's Italian lute-playing secretary, David Rizzio, and stabbed him 56 times. He obviously didn't appreciate his lute-playing!

9 Royal High School

A very posh-looking school. Back in the old days all the boys' holidays were cancelled. They were furious and barricaded themselves in, but when a teacher came to complain they shot him dead.

10 Gallows Site

The site of public executions. Considered a good day out in the olden days, people flocked in their thousands to watch. Everybody had a good time... with one obvious exception!

11 George IV statue

One of the more chubby monarchs, when Georgy Porgy came to Edinburgh he wore a very short kilt. Thankfully he wore a pair of pink silk tights underneath to cover up his Royal nobbliness.



Tours depart from Waverley Bridge:

April-October 0930 - 1730 (1900 July and August)

November - March 0930 - 1600

For exact tour times please check the current City Sightseeing Edinburgh leaflet, or visit www.edinburghtour.com or call 0131 220 0770.







