

# Visiting the UK? Key Differences Between England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales

Do you know which countries are part of the United Kingdom? The exact answer is England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales. Besides having a bit different accents and dialects, these regions also have distinguishing culture, cuisine, geography, and trademarks ([you will know a Scotsman when you see one](#) kind of thing). So, if you consider visiting the UK, let's see what to put on your travel list.

## Pick a Date and Have Fun

A thing to consider when planning your trip to the UK is the events you can go to, natural beauties you can enjoy, and cities you can visit to feel the genuine spirit of the country's culture. We've made a list of the most famous ones.

## St Patrick's Day in Ireland

It's not only the humour Irish people are known for, but also their happiness! Therefore, no list would be complete without mentioning St Patrick's Day, also celebrated beyond Ireland's borders. Held on March 17th, it is a festival of joy and positive energy covered in the colour green and three-leaf clovers, an unofficial symbol of Ireland.

Also, knowing that Irish people are famous for something called "*the luck of an Irish*" and their love for testing that luck on various gambling games, if you feel infected by their positive energy during St Paddy's day, you can always check out online gambling portals like IrishLuck, that offer a [list of betting sites in Ireland, reviewed and rated by professionals](#). And make sure to have a lucky clover amulet with you.

## **Notting Hill Carnival in England**

Besides its astonishing beauty and history, London has something really special. Since 1966, the city has been hosting the Notting Hill Carnival, the largest street festival in Europe with more than 50,000 performers and thousands of visitors. It is a summer event held in August, celebrating the West Indian community combined with English traditions. Both residents and visitors love it – it is a unique mixture of two really different cultures. The music and colours will seduce you, and it is a fun experience for all.

## **The Fringe Festival in Scotland**

The beauty of the festival is the variety of shows it offers. There's something for all, and that's the reason the Fringe Festival, the world's largest arts festival, is so famous. It takes place in Edinburgh, Scotland. Every August, the city becomes a go-to place, and it is pretty popular among visitors. What is unique about this event is that anyone can participate and show their art, meaning you will really see everything.

But, remember, it's usually hard to get tickets for popular shows, so booking on time is a must-do. And the same goes for accommodations and plane tickets. The best thing is, some shows are free, so it is an event for [everyone's travel budget](#).

## **Air Show in Wales**

Besides its beautiful nature, rustic castles, and unique cities, Wales is also known for its one-of-a-kind aircraft colour show held every July (due to Covid-19 pandemics, these events have, unfortunately, been cancelled for the past two years). And what would you say about watching an aircraft choreography in the sky covered in colours? The Air Show in Wales is a perfect family-friendly free event that will show you some of the most exciting plane stunts' skills.

## **'And Now for Something Completely Different': Culinary Scene**

Aside from cultural and historical heritage, the two elements that make each country unique are its residents and food. So, make sure your list of things to do in the UK includes trying traditional dishes.

### **Once in Ireland, Try Yellowman**

Have you already arrived in Ireland? Then, we have four words for you – *Ulster Fry* and *Yellowman*. While *Yellowman* is a toffee-like sweet, [\*Ulster Fry is a traditional Irish breakfast\*](#). It's like English breakfast but upgraded. Aside from ingredients that go into English breakfast, the Irish version also includes soda bread and potato bread.

### **It's Not All About Fish & Chips in England, But You Must Try It**

So, yes, if you ask anyone from England what dish you should not miss once you arrive in their stunning country, they would probably tell you *fish & chips*. And, yes, the meal is simple, it comprises deep-fried fish and chips. It is a popular takeaway food, and you can enrich it by adding vinegar and salt. Imagine adding a glass of beer to this combination – simply delicious.

Moreover, once in England, you must treat yourself to a *full English breakfast*. It is a rich meal comprising eggs, bacon, hash browns, tomato, baked beans, mushrooms, sausage, and toast. It sounds a lot, we know, but luckily, most restaurants and pubs offer lighter versions or allow you to make your own.

### **When We Say Scotland, We Mean Haggis**

Introducing Scotland's national dish – *Haggis*. The meal is made from sheep's lungs, heart, and liver, enriched with onion, oatmeal, salt, spices, and suet, and wrapped in a

stomach casing (traditionally) or artificial case.

However, if you are looking for a rich and filling meal, *Scotch Pie* is an ideal option. It is a savoury pie usually made from mutton and hot crust pastry, but you can also find it filled with some other meat.

And when we talk about sweets, you can't leave Scotland before trying *shortbread*. It goes great with a [cup of coffee or tea](#)—a delicious way to complete a meal.

### **Enrich Your Culinary Experience With Welsh Dishes**

The thing you'll remember Wales by is food. There are so many things you can try, but we suggest trying their traditional soup called *Cawl*. It is delicious on cold winter days.

*Laverbread* is another Welsh speciality. Despite its name, it is not bread. Instead, the key ingredient is seaweed mixed with pepper, salt, lemon juice, and oil. It is usually served with breakfast.

### **Enjoy Your Visit**

Regardless of your choice, each country has plenty to offer, though the ideal scenario is to visit each. Nature, people, culture will knock you off your feet, but, as you can see, the UK is also a paradise for food and festival lovers. Enjoy your visit.

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