

Scotland.

«Nemo me impune lacessit»

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Geographical Position

Scotland is the country occupying the northern third of the island Great Britain. It is separated from England mainly by high Cheviot Hills and the river Tweed. To the west from Scotland there is Northern Ireland. The southern coast of Scotland is inverted to Irish Sea. Borders of Scotland remain constant almost 500 years.



General Facts

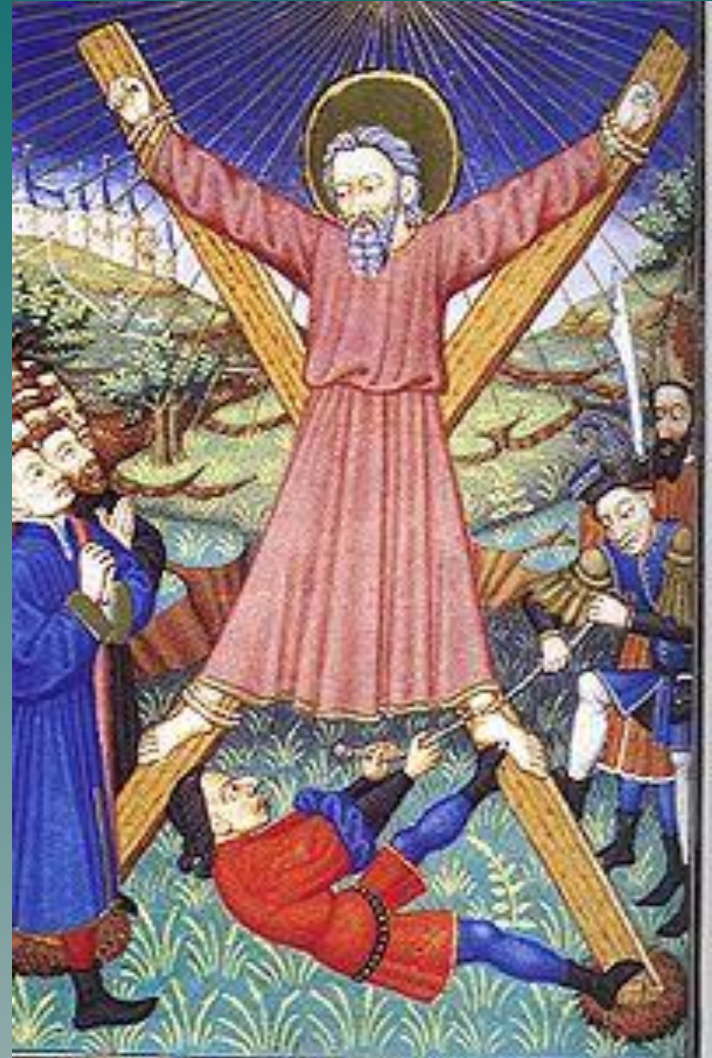
Scotland was founded in 843.

- ◆ **The capital of the country - Edinburgh**
- ◆ **Official languages - English, Scottish Gaelic and English Scottish**
- ◆ **Large cities – Glasgow, Aberdeen.**
- ◆ **The State System – Constitutional Monarchy.**
- ◆ **The Head of the State – The Queen Elisabeth II.**
- ◆ **The Prime- Minister - Gordon Brown.**
- ◆ **The First Minister –Alex Salmond.**
- ◆ **Its territory - 78 782 square km.**
- ◆ **Its population - 5 100 000 people**
- ◆ **Its Currency - pound, Scottish pound.**

In 1996 r. Scotland was divided into 32 regions on decision of the British Government.

Apostle Andrew

- ◆ **Apostle Andrew is considered to be the patron of Scotland, according to a legend. Images of apostle serve as symbols of Scotland .**



Flag.

The Flag of Scotland represents a dark blue panel with white (in heraldry silver) slanting Andrew's cross. The width of the strips forming a cross, should make $1/5$ from height



The Coat of Arms

- ◆ The historical arms of Scotland is a gold red field with dark blue arms (claws and language), a heraldic lion surrounded by double red line with grown lilies



The Anthem

«Flower of Scotland»



Flower of Scotland is a popular Scottish song, used frequently at special occasions and sporting events. Although Scotland has no official national anthem, *Flower of Scotland* is one of a number of songs which unofficially fulfill this role, along with *Highland Cathedral* and the older *Scotland the Brave*. It was written by Roy Williamson of the folk group.

«Flower of Scotland».

- O Flower of Scotland
- When will we see
- Your like again,
- That fought and died for
- Your wee bit Hill and Glen
- And stood against him
- Proud Edward's Army,
- And sent him homeward
- Tae think again.
- The Hills are bare now
- And Autumn leaves lie thick and still
- O'er land that is lost now
- Which those so dearly held
- That stood against him
- Proud Edward's Army
- And sent him homeward
- Tae think again.
- Those days are past now
- And in the past they must remain

“Scotland The Brave”

*Hark when the night is falling
Hear! hear the pipes are calling,
Loudly and proudly calling,
Down thro' the glen.*

*There where the hills are
sleeping,
Now feel the blood a-leaping,
High as the spirits
of the old Highland men.*

Chorus

*Towering in gallant fame,
Scotland my mountain hame,
High may your proud
standard gloriously wave,
Land of my high endeavour,
Land of the shining rivers,
Land of my heart for ever,
Scotland the brave.*

*High in the misty Highlands,
Out by the purple islands,*

*Brave are the hearts that beat
Beneath Scottish skies.
Wild are the winds to meet you,
Staunch are the friends that
greet you,
Kind as the love that shines
from fair maidens' eyes.*

Chorus

*Far off in sunlit places,
Sad are the Scottish faces,
Yearning to feel the kiss
Of sweet Scottish rain.
Where tropic skies are beaming,
Love sets the heart a-dreaming,
Longing and dreaming for the
homeland again.*

Chorus



The Flower of the Thistle

- ◆ The flower of the thistle is the traditional symbol of Scotland. It is represented, in particular on bank notes. According to the legend, in XIII century coastal settlements of Scots suffered from Vikings' attacks. Once it was possible to avoid an unexpected night attack due to that Vikings came barefoot into the thickets of the Scottish thistle and gave out themselves



The Unicorn

- ◆ **The Unicorn traditionally entered into many historical Scottish arms. The unicorn is a mythical essence symbolizing chastity. It is the symbol of cleanliness and purity.**



Tartan.

Tartan is a fabric with an ornament from horizontal and vertical stripes. National clothes of Scotland and in particular kilts are sewed from a fabric with such ornament. In Russia its name is "shotlandka" . There are now 4000 variants of tartan.



Bagpipe.

A bagpipe is a national musical instrument, an informal symbol of Scotland.



The Scottish dances.

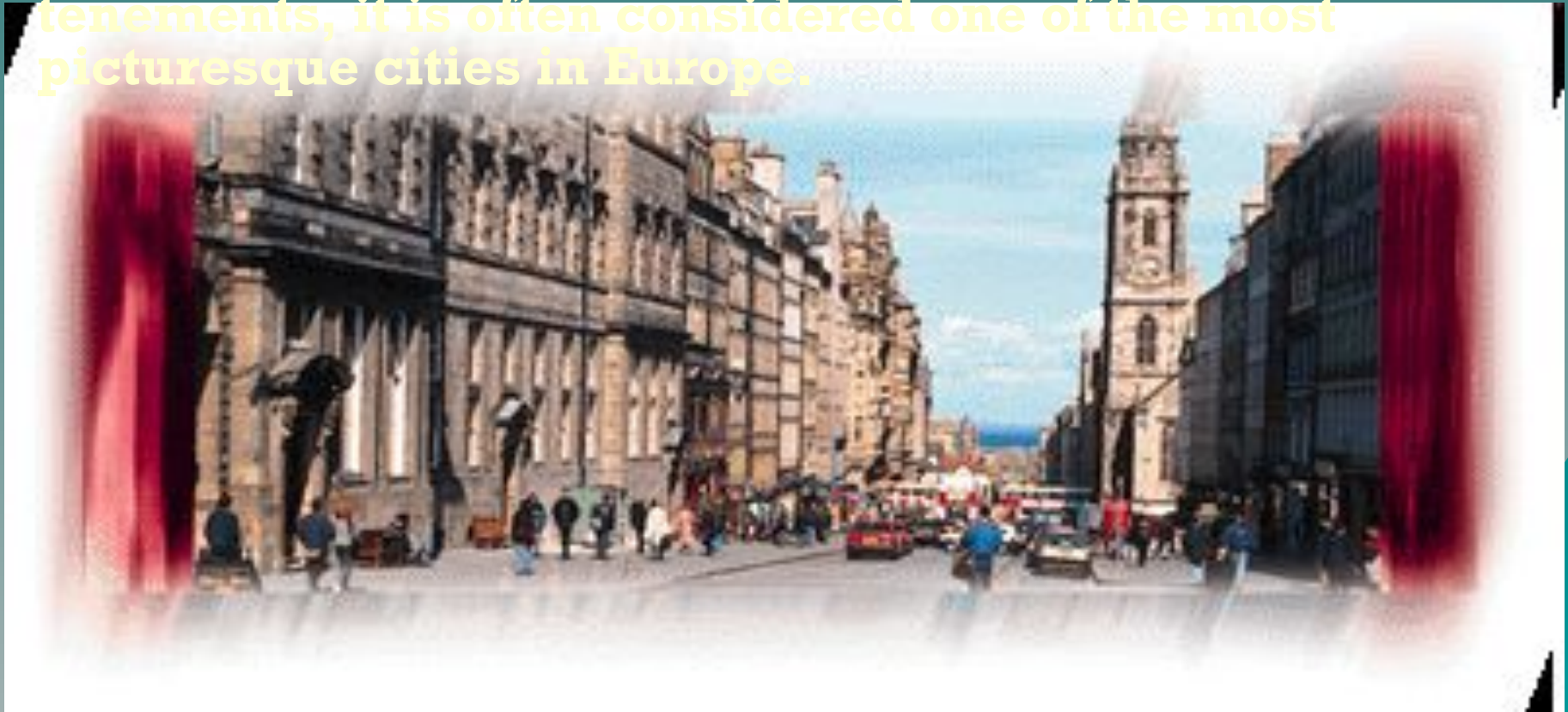


The Scottish dances is the collective name of the dances connected to the Scottish culture. The most known kinds of the Scottish dances are

- ◆ **the Scottish ball dances**
- ◆ **Céilidh - the simple dances executed on national parties.**
- ◆ **Highland - solo dances,**
- ◆ **Ladies' Step - solo female dances.**
- ◆ **Cape Breton Step**

Edinburgh.

- ◆ It is the capital of the country . It is the seventh largest city in the United Kingdom and the second largest Scottish city after Glasgow. Located in the south-east of Scotland Edinburgh lies on the east coast of the Central Belt, along the Firth of Forth, near the North Sea. Owing to its rugged setting and vast collection of Medieval and Georgian architecture, including numerous stone tenements, it is often considered one of the most picturesque cities in Europe.



Edinburgh Castle



Princess Street



Princes Street is the main shopping street in Edinburgh.



The Museum of Edinburgh

The Museum of Edinburgh is a home to important collections relating to the history of Edinburgh from prehistoric times to the present day. If you know the story of ' Greyfriars Bobby ', you will be thrilled to see his collar and feeding bowl, and the original plaster model for the bronze statue in Candlemaker Row.

One of the museum's great treasures is the National Covenant, signed by Scotland's presbyterian leadership in 1638.



The Scott's Monument



On the death of Sir Walter Scott in 1832, the great and good of the city came together to agree on a fitting monument to this outstanding Scottish literary figure.

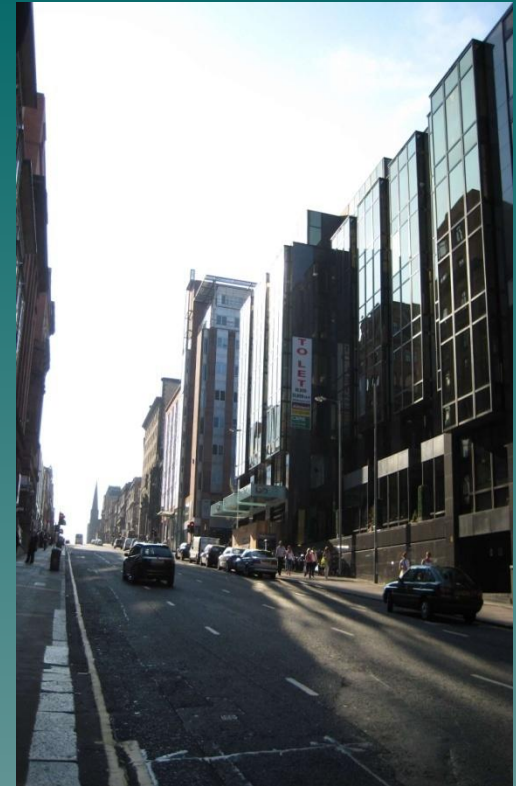
In 1836, an architectural competition was launched inviting designs for an appropriate memorial. Two years later, the trustees approved the design submitted by George Meikle Kemp, and construction began in 1840, after permission was obtained from Parliament to build in Princes Street Gardens.

Edinburgh Zoo



Glasgow.

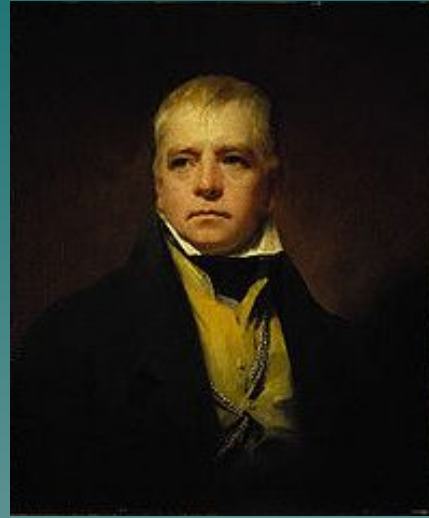
Glasgow is the largest city in Scotland and the third most populous in the United Kingdom. The city is situated on the River Clyde in the country's west central lowlands. A person from Glasgow is known as a Glaswegian, which is also the name of the local dialect.



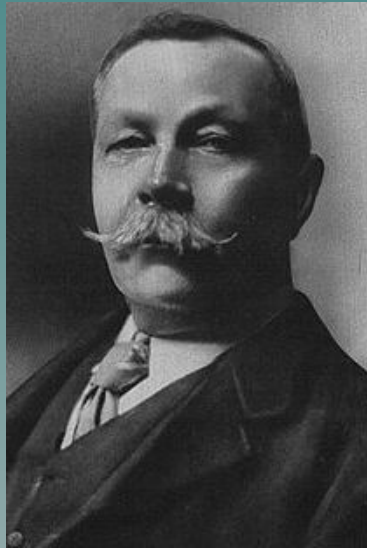
Scottish Literature



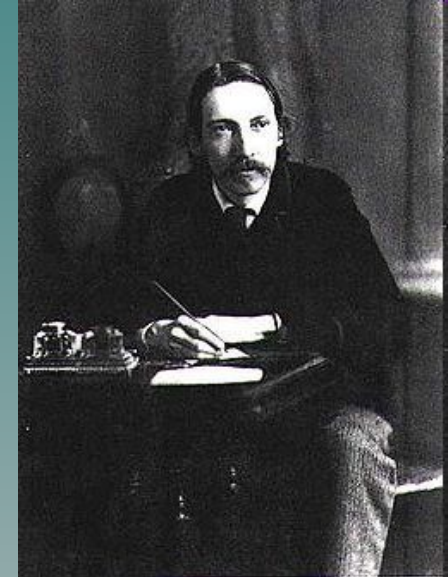
Robert Burns



Sir Walter Scott



Sir Arthur Conan Doyle



Robert Lewis Stevenson

Loch – Ness Monster

