



### Let's keep Scotland special.

Now and for generations to come. Whether Scotland is your home or your destination, it's all of ours to care for.

So let's all make just a few simple commitments that will help make sure Scotland remains beautiful and unique for everyone to enjoy.

Join us to **#RespectProtectEnjoy** Scotland.

Here at Mercat Tours we are committed to minimising our impact on the environment. By joining our walking tours, you are already reducing your own tourism carbon footprint – congratulations and thank you!

This is only part of your journey, there's so much more you can do and see in Edinburgh's beautiful, historic surroundings that won't cost the earth. We have some handy hints on how you can get the most from your stay in our World Heritage City.

- ✓ You're in the heart of Edinburgh's Old Town, a mere stroll away from the delights of the Royal Mile and New Town. Immerse yourself and explore the centuries of tradition, history and literature for free!
- ✓ Traditional woollen crafts, historic tartan made locally and the best piping shops in town can be found within minutes of our Mercat Cross. Exploring the pubs on the wynds and closes off the Mile can unearth such gems as the Jolly Judge and the award-winning Halfway House, where the ale and whisky is as local and heart-warming as the company.
- ✓ The freshest, regionally-sourced produce is served with panache in Old Town eateries such as David Bann's vegetarian restaurant and sustainable seafood connoisseurs Ondine.
- ✓ For a real flavour of local food and crafts, visit the wonderful Farmers' Market every Saturday morning on Castle Terrace. Support local farmers, reduce your food miles and get the best quality fare right on the Castle's doorstep.
- ✓ At the Royal Mile's conclusion, take the time to appreciate the unexpected space and natural beauty of Holyrood Park. This stunning geological feature in the heart of the city offers breath-taking views and provides a valuable habitat for rare orchids, grey partridge, otters and much more.
- ✓ For those venturing further afield, there are a number of Local Nature Reserves, parks and greenspace areas very close to the city centre; Duddingston Loch, Prince's Street Gardens and Calton Hill are a stone's throw from bustling streets, while the Royal Botanic Gardens and Inverleith Park are a short bus ride north through the New Town.
- ✓ If you would like to get to grips with Edinburgh's nooks and crannies (and hills!) by bike, please ask for a list of Bike Hire Companies in the city at reception or check our website [www.mercattours.com](http://www.mercattours.com)
- ✓ Please dispose of your waste responsibly and help us keep our beautiful city *Edinburgh* NOT *Edinburgh!*

How can we make Mercat a more sustainable company? Tell us what you think! Please get in touch, we'd love to hear your green suggestions.