

Unit title: Travel and Tourism: Scotland (National 4)

Unit code: H2Y4 74

Superclass: NK

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Unit purpose

This unit has been designed as a mandatory unit of the National 4 Travel and Tourism Course but can also be taken as a free-standing unit. It is suitable for learners who have no previous experience.

The general aim of this unit is to enable learners to develop their knowledge of travel and tourism in Scotland, and of the skills required to meet the needs of customers.

Outcomes

Learners who complete this unit will be able to:

- 1 Carry out an investigation of travel and tourism in Scotland.
- 2 Meet customer holiday needs.

Credit points and level

1 National unit credit at SCQF level 4: (SCQF 6 credit points at SCQF level 4)

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Recommended entry to the unit

Entry to this unit is at the discretion of the centre.

Core Skills

Opportunities to develop aspects of Core Skills are highlighted in the support notes for this unit specification.

There is no automatic certification of Core Skills or Core Skill components in this unit.

Context for delivery

If this unit is delivered as part of a Course, it is recommended that it should be taught and assessed within the subject area of the Course to which it contributes.

The Assessment Support Pack (ASP) for this unit provides assessment and marking guidelines that exemplify the national standard for achievement. Centres wishing to develop their own assessments should refer to the ASP to ensure a comparable standard. A list of existing ASPs is available to download from SQA's website (<http://www.sqa.org.uk/sqa/46233.2769.html>)

Equality and inclusion

This unit specification has been designed to ensure that there are no unnecessary barriers to learning or assessment. The individual needs of learners should be taken into account when planning learning experiences, selecting assessment methods or considering alternative evidence.

Further advice can be found on our website www.sqa.org.uk/assessmentarrangements

National unit specification: Statement of standards

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Acceptable performance in this unit will be the satisfactory achievement of the standards set out in this part of the unit specification. All sections of the statement of standards are mandatory and cannot be altered without reference to SQA.

Outcome 1

Carry out an investigation of travel and tourism in Scotland.

Performance criteria

- (a) Gather information on travel and tourism in Scotland.
- (b) Describe a range of holiday destinations and tourist attractions.
- (c) Identify current travel and tourism trends.
- (d) Describe the positive and negative impacts of travel and tourism.

Outcome 2

Meet customer holiday needs.

Performance criteria

- (a) Recommend a suitable destination.
- (b) Provide information about the destination.
- (c) Recommend accommodation, activities, attractions and amenities.
- (d) Produce a travel itinerary.

Evidence requirements for this unit

Evidence is required to demonstrate that learners have achieved all outcomes and performance criteria.

Assessors should use their professional judgement, subject knowledge and experience, and understanding of their learners, to determine the most appropriate ways to generate evidence and the conditions and contexts in which they are used.

The learner will receive minimum support throughout the unit whilst generating the evidence required to achieve the national standard through each of the outcomes for this unit. This means that the teacher/lecturer should issue advice to learners to enable progress.

Evidence should be gathered at appropriate points throughout the unit under open-book conditions, ie learners should have access to their notes, books, the internet etc. Evidence could be retained in a folio.

Outcome 1 — performance and/or oral evidence

Performance evidence indicating that straightforward information was gathered from suitable sources.

Written and/or orally recorded evidence to include:

- ◆ straightforward descriptions of a minimum of two holiday destinations in Scotland
- ◆ straightforward descriptions of a minimum of two tourist attractions in each of the chosen destinations in Scotland
- ◆ a brief indication of current travel and tourism trends in Scotland
- ◆ a straightforward description of the positive and negative impacts of travel and tourism

Outcome 2 — written and/or oral evidence

Written and/or orally recorded evidence of a destination which meets the needs of a customer and:

- ◆ identifies a suitable destination
- ◆ provides straightforward information in relation to the destination
- ◆ provides a straightforward description of accommodation, activities, attractions and amenities
- ◆ provides a basic itinerary

Development of skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work

It is expected that learners will develop broad, generic skills through this unit. Employability is a key aspect of Skills for Work and is present throughout the unit. In addition, there are a number of other skills that learners will be expected to improve on and develop as they undertake this unit, these can be drawn from the main skills areas listed below. These must be built into the unit where there are appropriate opportunities.

1 Literacy

- 1.1 Reading
- 1.2 Writing
- 1.3 Listening and talking

2 Numeracy

- 2.1 Number processes
- 2.2 Money, time and measurement
- 2.3 Information handling

4 Employability, enterprise and citizenship

- 4.1 Employability
- 4.2 Information and communication technology (ICT)
- 4.3 Working with others

5 Thinking Skills

- 5.3 Applying
- 5.4 Analysing and evaluating

Amplification of these is given in SQA's *Skills Framework: Skills for Learning, Skills for Life and Skills for Work*. The level of these skills should be at the same SCQF level as the unit and be consistent with the SCQF level descriptor. Further information on building in skills for learning, skills for life and skills for work is given in unit support notes.

National unit support notes

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Unit support notes are offered as guidance and are not mandatory.

While the exact time allocated to this unit is at the discretion of the centre, the notional design length is 40 hours.

Guidance on the content and context for this unit

The main purpose of this unit is to provide learners with a basic understanding of travel and tourism in Scotland and improve the learner's skills in preparation for working within this industry.

Outcome 1

Focuses on the learner developing knowledge of holiday destinations and attractions in Scotland. Learners will develop skills in gathering this information throughout the unit and be able to recognise current trends in travel and tourism along with the positive and negative impacts. To ensure learners are able to identify current trends, it is advised that trends should be no more than three years old. There are several sources where this information can be found, for example Visit Scotland Trends and Insights.

Learners may find it useful to be able to classify tourist resorts into broad areas — scenic, activity/special interest, tourist town/city and coastal/island. The range and variety of attractions which might be present in these destinations could be investigated. The learners may be able to recognise sustainable and responsible development in tourism. This could be looked at within the contexts of benefits or advantages and problems or disadvantages in the development of travel and tourism.

Destinations could include but is not limited to:

Scenic areas:

- ◆ Cairngorms, Loch Lomond and the Trossachs, North West Highlands

Activity/special interest:

- ◆ St Andrews, Scottish Borders, Fort William

Towns/cities:

- ◆ Glasgow, Edinburgh, Aberdeen, Dundee, Stirling and Inverness

Coastal/island:

- ◆ Inner and Outer Hebrides, Orkney and Shetland Islands, Firth of Clyde, Angus, Fife and East Lothian

The advantages and disadvantages of various modes of travel, such as rail, road, ferry and air, for a customer's journey to the chosen destinations could be explored.

Many tourist facilities are gaining awards for sustainable/responsible tourism. It could be useful for learners to gain knowledge of these through research. The development of tourism can have a dramatic effect on tourist destinations and result in many positive and negative consequences. It might be useful for the learners to investigate a variety of these.

Outcome 2

Learners will be able to build on the skills and knowledge developed in outcome 1 by responding to the needs of a customer. Learners will be asked to demonstrate that the knowledge and skills developed through outcome 1 can enable them to:

- ◆ recommend a suitable destination for a customer
- ◆ provide information and advice about the destination
- ◆ recommend accommodation
- ◆ recommend activities
- ◆ recommend attractions
- ◆ recommend amenities
- ◆ produce a travel itinerary

Other skills which will be addressed within a variety of contexts but not directly assessed within this unit will include Citizenship and Health and Wellbeing.

Guidance on approaches to delivery of this unit

Where this unit is delivered as part of the National 4 Travel and Tourism Skills for Work Course it is recommended that delivery is integrated with other units in the Course to allow for opportunities to develop and assess a wide range of skills for life, skills for learning and skills for work.

Outcome 1 of this unit involves the investigation of travel and tourism within Scotland. This initial investigation of tourist destinations is intended to provide the learner with an overview of the industry within a Scottish context. It is therefore recommended that learners undertake outcome 1 before progressing onto outcome 2. However, an approach which allows both outcomes to be tackled together in stages is entirely possible.

Enquiry exercises would be useful to help the learner investigate tourist destinations and could incorporate a range of learning and teaching approaches:

- ◆ teacher/tutor presentations
- ◆ independent learning activities, eg experience of personal holidays, trips and excursions
- ◆ group work
- ◆ discussions
- ◆ use of DVD/CD ROMs
- ◆ use of print and broadcast media such as documentaries, magazines, reality TV series
- ◆ use of internet
- ◆ visits to tourist attractions
- ◆ visits to travel agents
- ◆ visits to bus and rail stations, ferry ports, airports, etc

- ◆ visits to Tourist Information offices
- ◆ visiting speakers from local tourist services/attractions

Learners could be encouraged to research holiday destinations in Scotland through a variety of media and fieldtrips. These may include use of websites, brochures, tourist leaflets and guidebooks. The use of maps to interpret and show tourist information would also be useful along with a variety of timetables. Maps/atlasses and the use of timetables, will allow learners to develop skills in route-planning. The use of a variety of timetables — ferry, train, bus — will support both outcome 1 and 2. Similarly, the impact of tourism has been widely documented in articles and documentaries.

For outcome 2, practical exercises might be useful for the learner to practice and develop skills in meeting customer needs for particular tourist destinations. Learning activities such as role-play may provide the learners the opportunity to develop further employability skills such as planning, communication and presentation skills.

Centres could incorporate diverse areas of travel and tourism to investigate and allow the learners to participate in choosing the areas for investigation. Concentrating on local travel and tourism providers will help place learning in context but should not limit the learners experience if certain aspects of travel and tourism are not available in the local area.

In addition, practical activities and appropriate tasks could place an importance on the development of further employability skills. Learners should be given the opportunity to build upon practices of:

- ◆ effective communication skills
- ◆ working as part of a team
- ◆ investigation skills using a variety of research methods
- ◆ planning and preparation of tasks and presentations
- ◆ presentation skills
- ◆ self-review and evaluation skills

There should be no barriers to learners with specific needs within the classroom or wider learning contexts.

Guidance on approaches to assessment of this unit

Evidence can be generated using different types of assessment. The following are suggestions only. There may be other methods that would be more suitable to learners.

Centres are reminded that prior verification of centre-devised assessments would help to ensure that the national standard is being met. Where learners experience a range of assessment methods, this helps them to develop different skills that should be transferable to work or further and higher education.

Evidence of learners' work can be produced in a variety of ways and could include but are not limited to the following:

- ◆ independent or group activities which will demonstrate the learner's ability to gather, process and present information
- ◆ role-play or work shadowing or work experience could help the learner to develop and to demonstrate good working practices and skills

Evidence may be produced in a variety of formats including, but not limited to:

- ◆ e-portfolio
- ◆ written descriptions
- ◆ powerPoint presentation
- ◆ personal blog or wiki
- ◆ poster/display
- ◆ video or podcast
- ◆ talk

Outcome 2 of the unit could be assessed along with other units of the Course:

- ◆ *Travel and Tourism: Employability* (National 4)
- ◆ *Travel and Tourism: UK and Worldwide* (National 4)
- ◆ *Travel and Tourism: Customer Service* (National 4)

Opportunities for e-assessment

E-assessment may be appropriate for some assessments in this unit. By e-assessment we mean assessment which is supported by Information and Communication Technology (ICT), such as e-testing or the use of e-portfolios or social software. Centres which wish to use e-assessment must ensure that the national standard is applied to all learner evidence and that conditions of assessment as specified in the Evidence Requirements are met, regardless of the mode of gathering evidence. The most up-to-date guidance on the use of e-assessment to support SQA's qualifications is available at www.sqa.org.uk/e-assessment

Opportunities for developing Core Skills

There may be opportunities to gather evidence towards core skills, although there is no automatic certification of core skills or core skills components in this unit.

Communication

The delivery and assessment of this unit may offer opportunities to develop this Core Skill. Communication skills could be further developed through the learners' research into his/her chosen destination information. This can be demonstrated in all outcomes where learners are required to demonstrate skills and knowledge to enable them to meet the needs of the customer.

Numeracy

The delivery and assessment of this unit may offer opportunities to develop this Core Skill. Numeracy skills could be further developed in the handling of maps, timetables and basic calculations (eg speed/distance/time).

Information Communication Technology

The delivery and assessment of this unit may offer opportunities to develop this Core Skill. Accessing Information involves carrying out straightforward searches, or one sustained search, for information using appropriate ICT. This can be demonstrated in all outcomes where learners will be required to investigate different destinations to meet the needs of customers.

Problem Solving

The delivery and assessment of this unit may offer opportunities to develop the Core Skill. Problem solving is about using analysis and reasoning to make decisions and to create and suggest ideas, courses of action and strategies. This can be demonstrated in all outcomes where learners have to respond to customer needs by identifying suitable destinations. Learners could further develop their understanding of the importance and impact of customer service, exploring and understanding customer needs and requirements and apply knowledge by matching available information, products and services to meet the identified needs of customers.

General information for learners

Unit title: Travel and Tourism: Scotland (National 4)

This section will help you decide whether this is the unit for you by explaining what the unit is about, what you should know or be able to do before you start, what you will need to do during the unit and opportunities for further learning and employment.

The main purpose of this unit is to provide you with a basic understanding of travel and tourism in Scotland and improve your knowledge of holiday destinations in preparation for working within this industry.

There are two learning outcomes in this unit:

◆ Outcome 1

You will carry out an investigation of travel and tourism in Scotland. You will develop knowledge of holiday destinations in Scotland. You will be asked to gather information and describe a range of different holiday destinations. As well as this, you will look at current trends in the travel and tourism industry along with the positive and negative impacts that travel and tourism can bring to a destination.

◆ Outcome 2

You will be asked to respond to customer needs by recommending a suitable destination and providing appropriate tourist information relating to this destination (for example, suitable accommodation, activities, attractions and amenities). You will produce a basic travel itinerary based on this recommendation to meet the needs of the customer.

You may have the opportunity to progress to:

- ◆ other travel and tourism units and/or qualifications
- ◆ employment
- ◆ further education or training

Administrative information

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History of changes to National Unit Specification

Version	Description of change	Date
3	Minor changes to performance criteria two in order to maintain consistency with reference to the number of customers	September 2017
2	Unit moved into a new template. No change to unit content. Minor clarification in performance criteria and evidence requirements with reference to number of destinations and itineraries.	May 2017

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Note: readers are advised to check SQA's website: www.sqa.org.uk to ensure they are using the most up-to-date version of the unit Specification.

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