THE 4 WHISKEY TRAVEL PERSONALITIES... And What They Need to Know Before Booking



The
Collector

You don't just enjoy whiskey... you chase it. Rare bottles, distillery exclusives, and one-off single barrels are your thing. You track release calendars and plan trips around what's pouring and where. If it takes a five-hour drive or a last-minute flight to get your hands on something special, you're in.

You want early access, private tastings, and the kind of behind-the-scenes tours most people don't even know exist. Travel is a tool... a way to sip what few others can.

What you care about:

- Premium tastings and exclusive releases
- Boutique lodging, often near top-tier distilleries
- Private drivers or high-end transport
- Being the first to sip something new

The Explorer

You're in it for the journey. Scenic drives, ferry rides, remote distilleries with stories behind every sip... that's what excites you. You care less about the label and more about the people who made it, the place where it was born, and the road that got you there.

You love whiskey, but your trip isn't just about drinking. It's about discovering, walking into places off the map, and coming home with stories that go beyond Instagram.

What you care about:

- Character-rich, authentic destinations
- Remote spots with a local
- Scenic routes and a sense of discovery
- Travel that's immersive, not rushed

The Sipper

Your ideal whiskey getaway is relaxed, curated, and low stress. You're not proving you can detect tasting notes of leather and peat. You want a beautiful setting, a balanced pour, and time to enjoy without a schedule.

Whiskey is part of the trip, not the whole story. You're here for comfort, charm, and maybe a little pampering.

What you care about:

- Stylish lodging with personality
- Gentle itineraries and beautiful backdrops
- Food-forward experiences with great drinks
- Travel that feels indulgent

The Newcomer

You're whiskey-curious... not whiskey-confident. Maybe you've done a tour or two, maybe you're still not sure how to pronounce "Islay." Either way, you're ready to learn, taste, and enjoy...without the pressure to know everything.

You want a welcoming experience with fun, friendly guides who don't talk down to you. Maybe you leave a convert. Maybe you just leave happy.

What you care about:

- Friendly, beginner-focused
- Tasting experiences with food
- Trips that blend whiskey with other interests
- A learning vibe that's not intimidating

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The Collector	The Explorer	The Sipper	The Newcomer
Sample Itinerary	Sample Itinerary	Sample Itinerary	Sample Itinerary
 Speyside, Scotland Day 1: Arrive Inverness, private driver to hotel Day 2: VIP Macallan experience Day 3: Glenfiddich blending session, Balvenie warehouse tour Day 4: Return with scenic stops and bottle shopping 	 Western Ireland Whiskey Trail Day 1: Arrive Galway, local whiskey pubs Day 2: Drive to Dingle, visit Dingle Distillery Day 3: Explore Ring of Kerry, discover small-batch stops Day 4: Return to Dublin, visit Teeling or Roe & Co. 	 Napa + Sonoma, CA Day 1: Arrive in Calistoga, check into a luxe inn Day 2: Sonoma Distilling Co. + spa Day 3: Easy day of wine and whiskey pairing Day 4: Brunch, relax, scenic drive home or to the airport 	 Louisville, KY Day 1: Angel's Envy or Old Forester tour Day 2: Visit the Bourbon Trail Welcome Center, cocktail class Day 3: Day trip to Bardstown or Frankfort Day 4: Food tour or distillery brunch
Best Time To Go	Best Time To Go	Best Time To Go	Best Time To Go
May through September for open access and better weather. Book early.	Late spring through early fall. Avoid deep winter when rural sites may close.	Spring or fall the weather's great and crowds are lighter	Spring or fall for mild weather and smaller crowds
Pro Tips	Pro Tips	Pro Tips	Pro Tips
 Hire a driver so you can fully enjoy tastings Ask about bottle limits and shipping options Tour in the morning palates are fresher Book air travel through major hubs to shop at duty-free bottle shops 	 Hire a driver for safety and leave space for detours Seek out lesser-known distilleries the experiences are richer Add in cultural stops and food markets Pack extra suitcase for bottles and souvenirs 	 Focus on one or two standout experiences per day Prioritize accommodations that offer tastings or concierge access Schedule downtime you'll actually enjoy your trip 	 Choose guided tours that mix in stories and tastings Look for distilleries with bars or food service Don't be afraid to ask questions – good guides love curious guests
Avoid	Avoid	Avoid	Avoid
 Walk-ins most premium tastings require advance booking Overpacking your itinerary Ignoring import or carry-on regulations for bottles 	 Overscheduling spontaneous finds are often the best Assuming all distilleries are open year-round Tourist traps and bottles you can get back home 	 Trying to squeeze in too many tastings Going somewhere just because it's famous Booking without checking food options nearby Peak summer it's hot! 	 Booking intense full-day experiences too soon Letting intimidation ruin the fun Skipping water and pacing – even pros hydrate

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Ready to Start Planning Your Whiskey Adventure?

Whiskey travel isn't just about tastings. It's about place, story, and experience. Whether you're following the smoky trails of Islay, exploring new-wave distilleries in Ireland, or sipping bourbon under big Southern skies, these trips are about more than what's in your glass. They're about the journey that gets you there.

Regardless of which whiskey personality you fit into, there's a trip that matches your taste and travel style. I'm here to help you find it. Whether you're after rare pours, scenic sips, or a relaxed introduction to the world of whiskey, we'll design it together.

Hi, I'm Stephanie Austin – founder of Extended Escapes and your go-to expert for whiskey-inspired travel.

I help busy professionals like you plan custom getaways that go beyond the typical vacation. Whether you're dreaming of sipping your way through Scotland, exploring small-batch distilleries in Ireland, or tasting your way across bourbon country, I'll handle the details so you can focus on the fun.



What You Can Expect From Me:

- ✓ Honest guidance (no sugarcoating or sales fluff)
- ✓ Custom-crafted itineraries that leave room for real enjoyment
- ✓ A partner who takes care of the hard stuff so you can actually relax

If this guide sparked ideas for your next escape, let's talk. My consults are complimentary... and they're the first step to a well-planned, well-poured adventure.

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