

Scottish Government and the City of Edinburgh Council – MS Victoria – accommodation information

MS Victoria will no longer be used as accommodation from 11 July 2023. To ensure we disembark all guests timely and safely we need to disembark the ship in advance of 11 July and expect all guest to have left the ship by 4 July.

You cannot wait until the ship leaves to find alternative accommodation.

Accommodation options

The matching team on board will work with you to find accommodation that meets your needs.

There are different options such as renting a property, social housing, hosted accommodation or further temporary accommodation.

Long-term accommodation options in Edinburgh and some big cities across Scotland are very limited.

There is high demand for rental properties and long waiting lists for social housing. This means availability is low and rents are expensive. You may wish to consider accommodation across Scotland where there is more availability, such as taking up an offer of hosted accommodation.

Welcome accommodation

The best outcome for you is to find onward accommodation, either with a host or renting a property. We strongly recommend you carefully consider all accommodation options put to you by the matching team.

If this is not possible, everyone on-board will be offered alternative welcome accommodation. This may be in hotels. We can only offer welcome accommodation where it is available through our accommodation provider contract. This may mean accommodation is offered to you outside of Edinburgh.

Renting a property

Properties are available across Scotland and you can choose where to live. There is very high demand for properties in Edinburgh and you may wish to consider areas of Scotland where there is more choice and lower costs. For more information on private rental, please visit:

[Housing options - Scotland for Ukrainians: a guide for displaced people - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/resources/consultations-policies/housing/housing-options-scotland-for-ukrainians-a-guide-for-displaced-people/)

[Shelter Legal Scotland - Paying for rented accommodation - Shelter Scotland](https://www.shelter.org.uk/Scotland/Paying-for-rented-accommodation)

You can find details of rent deposit schemes and other financial support available in some Local Authorities on this website: [Help to Rent Database \(crisis.org.uk\)](https://www.crisis.org.uk/help-to-rent-database/)

Information on renting

You have the right to rent your own property in Scotland. Properties are available across Scotland and you can choose where to live. Jobs, schools and other services are available throughout the country. You can search for properties to suit your needs.

There is high demand for properties in Edinburgh. For this reason, you may wish to consider a different part of Scotland. In some smaller towns it can be easier to find schools and cheaper accommodation.

Some properties can include furniture or you can arrange your own. You may have to undergo a credit check and pay a deposit.

Your safety is important to us. The matching team can give you information and advice about checks you should make when looking at privately rented accommodation.

Renting Privately

If you think renting privately is for you, you may find it useful to contact the [Scottish Refugee Council](#), [Shelter Scotland](#), [Citizens Advice Scotland](#) or a [letting agent](#). They can help with advice regarding where to look, what is available in your preferred area, deposits and rental payments.

Searching for properties

You can search for available properties on these websites:

- [Rightmove](#)
- [On The Market](#)
- [Zoopla](#)
- [Your Move](#)
- [Open Rent](#)
- [CityLets](#)

You will need to make sure your landlord is registered with the local council where the property is located. You can check this using the [Landlord Registration Scotland website](#). If your landlord is not registered, they are renting the property out illegally.

Financial Assistance

If you are not working or on low income you may be able to get help from benefits to be able to meet costs.

Universal Credit has a housing element contained within it. Any housing benefit will be limited to the [housing allowance](#). You may be able to apply for a [Discretionary Payment](#). To help with the cost of living crisis, [emergency measures](#) have been brought in to help people who rent their homes. This includes temporary restrictions on rent increases and the enforcement of evictions in certain circumstances.

For additional support please visit [Scottish Refugee Council](#), [Shelter Scotland](#) or the [Citizen's Advice Scotland](#).

You can find details of rent deposit schemes and other financial support available in some Local Authorities on this website: [Help to Rent Database \(crisis.org.uk\)](#)

Information on renting

Tenancy Deposit

When you move into a rented property, most private landlords or letting agents will ask you for a deposit.

A deposit is a sum of money which acts as a guarantee against damage to the property, cleaning bills if you have left the property in poor condition, any unpaid bills or rent that you are responsible for. You cannot be asked to pay more than two months' rent for a deposit.

If you have paid a landlord a deposit, they must pay it into an approved tenancy deposit scheme. They must give you further information about this within 30 working days of the start of your tenancy. This information should include, for example, the amount paid and the date it was paid, the address of the property, confirmation that the landlord is registered, and contact details for the scheme.

If your landlord has not paid your deposit into the scheme within this 30-day timescale, you can take them to the First-tier Tribunal for Scotland (Housing and Property Chamber). There they could be told to pay you up to three times the value of the deposit.

If there are no issues when you move out, the tenancy deposit scheme will pay your deposit back to you in full. If you pay a deposit and the tenancy does not go ahead, the deposit must be refunded to you in full.

It is against the law for a landlord or letting agent to charge a fee or premium, or enter into a loan arrangement with you, as a condition of granting, renewing or continuing your tenancy. They can only charge you rent and a refundable deposit, and the deposit must not be more than two months' rent.

UK guarantor

Sometimes private landlords and letting agents will ask you to provide a guarantor to secure a tenancy. A guarantor is a person who agrees to pay your rent if you don't pay it.

Where a person can't provide a suitable guarantor, landlords may ask tenants to pay rent in advance as an alternative. The maximum amount of rent which a landlord can ask you to pay in advance is six months' rent.

Help with a tenancy deposit and rent guarantee schemes

If you are having problems saving enough money for a deposit, rent-deposit or guarantee schemes may be able to help you. These schemes provide a financial guarantee to the landlord on your behalf. They work in a number of different ways. In some schemes you repay the deposit over time and it is given back to you when you leave.

In others you won't need to pay the deposit back, but you may have to pay money to the scheme if the landlord does not return the full deposit to the scheme because of damage or unpaid rent or bills. The local council in the area you wish to live in will be able to give you details of rent deposit or guarantee schemes in their area.

Information on renting: your rights

Tenancy agreement

When you enter a tenancy agreement you are making a legal commitment. If you rent from a private landlord, you will be given a private residential tenancy agreement often known as a PRT. Under the PRT and wider housing law, private tenants have important rights that you should know about

Your tenancy is open-ended, which means it doesn't have a fixed length or a set date it will end. Your landlord cannot include an expected end date or minimum period in your tenancy agreement. If you are a joint tenant, all tenants are responsible for the rent, together and separately. This will apply for as long as the tenancy continues.

To end a joint tenancy, all the joint tenants must agree to end it and give the landlord written notice that they want to leave. You can transfer your interest in the tenancy to someone else, if you have your landlord's permission.

The Scottish Government has published information on tenants rights, which has been translated to Ukrainian: [Private tenants rights: summary - gov.scot \(www.gov.scot\)](https://www.gov.scot/resources/documents/2022/06/220622-private-tenants-rights-summary-ukrainian.pdf)

Renting from a private landlord

The private residential tenancy: know your rights

Repairs

- You can apply to the First-tier Tribunal for Scotland (Housing and Property Chamber) if your home doesn't reach a minimum standard of repair (known as the repairing standard).

Ending a tenancy

- Your landlord cannot end your tenancy without good reason. They can only end it by giving you 'notice to leave' for one or more of 18 reasons (grounds), or while the emergency measures are in force, for an additional 3 reasons.
- If your landlord asks you to leave, they must give you:
 - 28 days' notice** (if you have lived in the property for less than six months or the landlord is using one of the six 'behaviour' grounds); or
 - 84 days' notice** (if you have lived in the property for more than six months and the landlord is not using the 'behaviour' grounds).
- If you disagree with the reason given in the notice to leave given to you by your landlord, you do not need to leave your property until such times as your landlord has obtained an eviction order from the First-tier Tribunal (Housing and Property Chamber).
- If you think that your tenancy was ended unlawfully (for example, the landlord served you with a notice to leave on the grounds that they intended to sell the property, but then they let it to another tenant), you can apply to the First-tier Tribunal for Scotland (Housing and Property Chamber) for a wrongful termination order. The Tribunal can award you up to six months' rent.
- If you want to leave the tenancy, you must give your landlord 28 days' notice in writing. In your notice you will need to state the day you want the tenancy to end (this is normally the day after the notice period has ended).

For more information on any of these rights, please visit the Scottish Government's website for further information on [Renting from a private landlord - mygov.scot](https://www.mygov.scot)

Property locations, types and example costs

	1 Bedroom Properties Per calendar month	2 Bedroom Properties Per calendar month	3 Bedroom Properties Per calendar month	4 Bedroom Properties Per calendar month	1 Bedroom Shared Properties Per calendar month
Aberdeen City and Aberdeenshire	£469	£663	£931	£1,371	£361
Ayrshires	£405	£493	£606	£903	£400
Dundee and Angus	£439	£648	£884	£1,317	£359
East Dunbarton	£580	£780	£1,138	£1,638	£420
Fife	£492	£649	£839	£1,345	£392
Greater Glasgow	£648	£858	£1,093	£1,773	£428
Highlands and Islands	£524	£643	£770	£1,015	£417
Lothian (including Edinburgh)	£807	£1,006	£1,382	£2,044	£493
Perth and Kinross	£457	£626	£857	£1,210	£385
West Lothian	£539	£673	£876	£1,258	£387

MAP OF SCOTLAND



- 1 EAST RENFREWSHIRE / Giffnock
- 2 RENFREWSHIRE / Paisley
- 3 WEST DUNBARTONSHIRE / Dumbarton
- 4 EAST DUNBARTONSHIRE / Kirkintilloch

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