

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910821552003321
Autore	Crawford Robert <1959->
Titolo	On Glasgow and Edinburgh [[electronic resource] /] / Robert Crawford
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Cambridge, Mass., : Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 2013
ISBN	0-674-06727-4
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (345 pages ) : illustrations (black and white), maps (black and white)
Disciplina	941.3/4
Soggetti	HISTORY / Europe / Great Britain / General Glasgow (Scotland) History Edinburgh (Scotland) History
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references and index.
Nota di contenuto	Edinburgh. -- The Royal Mile: from the castle to a song -- The Royal Mile: from story to Parliament -- Princes Street Gardens and the New Town -- Hill, Hwa-Wu, and port -- Medicine, museums, blood -- Glasgow. -- City hearts -- Poverty and wealth -- Sauchiehall Street, masterpieces, tenements, and books -- Art, learning, arsenic, and architecture -- Water -- Coda: the Falkirk Wheel.
Sommario/riassunto	Edinburgh and Glasgow enjoy a famously scratchy relationship. Resembling other intercity rivalries throughout the world, from Madrid and Barcelona, to Moscow and St. Petersburg, to Beijing and Shanghai, Scotland's sparring metropolises just happen to be much smaller and closer together-like twin stars orbiting a common axis. Yet their size belies their world-historical importance as cultural and commercial capitals of the British Empire, and the mere forty miles between their city centers does not diminish their stubbornly individual nature. Robert Crawford dares to bring both cities to life between the covers of one book. His story of the fluctuating fortunes of each city is animated by the one-upping that has been entrenched since the eighteenth century, when Edinburgh lost parliamentary sovereignty and took on its proud wistfulness, while Glasgow came into its industrial promise and defiance. Using landmarks and individuals as gateways to their character and past, this tale of two cities mixes novelty and familiarity just as Scotland's capital and its largest city do. Crawford gives us

Adam Smith and Walter Scott, the Scottish Enlightenment and the School of Art, but also tiny apartments, a poetry library, Spanish Civil War volunteers, and the nineteenth-century entrepreneur Maria Theresa Short. We see Glasgow's best-known street through the eyes of a Victorian child, and Edinburgh University as it appeared to Charles Darwin. Crawford's literary detailed account affirms what people from Glasgow or Edinburgh have long doubted-that it is possible to love both cities at the same time.

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