

Bonnie Scotland

Day 1 ARRIVE IN GLASGOW, SCOTLAND. Welcome to Glasgow! Check into your hotel. The rest of the day is free for you to relax in Scotland's largest city. At 6 pm, meet your Tour Director and traveling companions for a welcome dinner at your hotel. (D)

Day 2 GLASGOW. LOCH LOMOND & STIRLING EXCURSION. Beautiful Loch Lomond is your first destination today, and a [LF] CRUISE past pretty islands brings you from Luss to the picturesque village of Balmaha. Then, enjoy a guided tour of a WHISKY DISTILLERY, where you hear about the ancient art of converting barley, water, and yeast into a heart-warming liquor. Next, visit STIRLING CASTLE, a great symbol of Scottish independence and favored residence of Scotland's kings and queens. Back in vibrant Glasgow, an orientation drive takes in the fine 12th-century cathedral, imposing university buildings, and elegant Georgian squares built by wealthy tobacco barons. (B)

Day 3 GLASGOW–FORT WILLIAM–GLENFINNAN–ISLE OF SKYE. A day of striking scenery. Follow dramatic mountain ranges and idyllic lochs as you proceed via the awe-inspiring expanse of Rannoch Moor, scenic Glen Coe, Fort William, and the “Road to the Isles” to Glenfinnan. Take photographs of the viaduct featured in the Harry Potter films. At Mallaig, board your FERRY for the crossing to the Isle of Skye, the largest island of the Inner Hebrides and famous for its dramatic landscapes. Before dinner tonight, why not join an optional excursion to the spectacular Eilean Donan Castle, followed by a drink at a local pub? (B,D)

Day 4 ISLE OF SKYE–CULLODEN MOOR–TOMINTOUL–ABERDEEN. Return to the mainland this morning and trace the shores of Loch Ness on your way to the CULLODEN VISITOR CENTRE, where you hear the story of the crushing Hanoverian victory over Bonnie Prince Charlie's Scottish clans. Then, enjoy more spectacular Highland scenery as you drive into the Cairngorms National Park to stop at Tomintoul, the highest village in the Scottish Highlands, before arriving at your overnight destination—Aberdeen. (B,D)

Day 5 ABERDEEN–ST. ANDREWS–EDINBURGH. In contrast to the valleys and rolling hills of the past days, today you'll travel along the shores of the North Sea and through rich, fertile, and wide-open farmland to Perth for a special visit to SCONE PALACE, the stately home of the Earl and Countess of Mansfield. During your welcome over [LF] COFFEE and SHORTBREAD, hear about the crowning of Scottish kings, including Macbeth and Robert the Bruce, then join your guide on a private tour of the Murray family home. Plenty of time later to explore the palace grounds. On to St. Andrews, whose Royal and Ancient Golf Club, founded in 1754, has given us the rules of golfing. A fun inclusion is the opportunity to hit a few balls at the [LF] ST. ANDREWS GOLF PRACTICE CENTRE. Cross the mighty Forth Road Bridge to Edinburgh and tonight, don't miss our optional Scottish evening with Highland dancers, bagpipers, and the Ceremony of the Haggis. (B)

Day 6 EDINBURGH. Morning city sightseeing with a Local Guide introduces you to the 200-year-old “New Town” and the famous scientists, inventors, and novelists who lived there. In the “Old Town,” visit EDINBURGH CASTLE to admire Scotland's Crown Jewels. The afternoon is free to enjoy the Scottish capital at your own pace. Later, a unique experience: board the former [LF] Royal Yacht Britannia, once the perfect royal residence for glittering state visits and family holidays. Tour five decks and see how the Royal Family and crew of 240 lived and worked on board. Dinner rounds off this exceptional evening. For departure numbers 0728 through 0818, tickets are included for tonight's performance of the world-renowned MILITARY TATTOO, a vast spectacle of massed Scottish pipe bands that takes place in an arena on the esplanade of Edinburgh

Castle. (B,D)

Day 7 EDINBURGH. Your vacation ends with breakfast this morning. (B)