

## **Brendan Vacations: Highland Trail inspired by Outlander 2019**

### **Day 1 - Arrive Edinburgh (3 Nights)**

A captivating tale of Redcoats and rugged Highlanders is revealed on this Outlander-inspired jaunt through the dramatic landscapes of Scotland. We begin our journey in the enchanting capital of Edinburgh with some free time to ramble through its medieval streets before joining our fellow travellers and Travel Director for a hearty Scottish Welcome Reception. Welcome Reception

Accommodations: Novotel Centre

Meals: Welcome Reception

### **Day 2 - Edinburgh Sightseeing and Free Time**

Soak up the mystical atmosphere of Auld Reekie this morning as you join a Local Specialist for an intriguing sightseeing tour of the city, including a visit to Edinburgh Castle perched atop Castle Rock. Tread in the footsteps of Jamie and his beloved sassenach, embarking on an Outlander walking tour through Old Town's winding cobblestone lanes. Spend the rest of the day at leisure seeking out more locations of Outlander fame like the Palace of Holyroodhouse. Full Breakfast

Meals: Full Breakfast

### **Day 3 - Outlander Film Location Excursion**

We visit the 15th-century walls of Blackness Castle on the shores of the scenic Firth of Forth - the backdrop for the infamous Fort William prison in Outlander season 1. Then, cross the Forth to the fictional village of Cranesmuir, real-life Culross, delving into tales of witchcraft and spells. Here we'll see Claire's herb garden and Geillis Duncan's home in the remarkably well-preserved 16th-century town centre Full Breakfast

Meals: Full Breakfast

### **Day 4 - Edinburgh – Falkland Village – St. Andrews – Dundee**

Traversing the lush green Lowlands to the Kingdom of Fife, we arrive in Falkland. The former royal burgh was the Outlander film location for 1940s Inverness and the springboard to Claire's spellbinding story. Stop in at Covenanter Hotel, which doubled as Mrs Baird's B&B in the series, before heading to the home of golf, St. Andrews. Our final stop for today is Dundee, where we'll see the impressive Tay Rail Bridge and view the RRS Discovery, the last traditional wooden three-masted ship built in Britain, which served as Robert Falcon Scott's Antarctic exploration vessel. Full Breakfast

Accommodations: Apex City Quay

Meals: Full Breakfast

### **Day 5 - Dundee – Highland Folk Museum – Scottish Highlands**

Celebrate rural Scottish heritage at the Highland Folk Museum, with its recreated 18th-century township, once used as a location in the filming of Outlander season 1. 'Dive Into Culture' and gain insights into rural life in Scotland from the 18th century to the mid-20th century, admiring the extensive collection of artefacts. We continue through the rugged landscapes of the Scottish Highlands to our hotel. Full Breakfast

Accommodations: Carrbridge/Highlander

Meals: Full Breakfast

### **Day 6 - Scottish Highlands – Culloden – Inverness – Thurso (2 Nights)**

Our first stop today is the bloody battlefield of Culloden where Bonnie Prince Charlie's Jacobite army was defeated in 1746. The windswept moors on which this final battle took place played a significant role in the Outlander series as the catalyst which forced Claire and Jamie to part ways.

We relive the brief, but brutal battle at the contemporary Visitor Centre before continuing through Inverness en route to Thurso, the most northerly town in mainland Scotland, our home for the next two nights. Full Breakfast, Dinner  
Accommodations: Pentland  
Meals: Full Breakfast, Dinner

### **Day 7 - Orkney Islands Excursion**

From the coastal village of John O'Groats, we catch the ferry that crosses the Pentland Firth and arrive at South Ronaldsay, one of the Orkney Islands. The legend of Orkney's mythical Selkies, which shift their aquatic form on land to walk as humans, is revealed in Outlander and explored today as we roam these mystical islands bound for the remains of the Neolithic Skara Brae village, which were lost for millennia. Wander freely amongst the standing stones of the Ring of Brodgar, before a final photo stop at Kirkwall cathedral and the ferry ride back to the mainland. Full Breakfast, Dinner  
Meals: Full Breakfast, Dinner

### **Day 8 - Thurso – Ullapool – Isle of Skye**

We travel south to soak up the seafaring heritage of Ullapool, a fishing town on Loch Broom and home to Thomas Telford's famous herring port. We traverse the rugged countryside and see the spellbinding spot where three lochs meet and are guarded by the island fortress of Eilean Donan Castle. Continuing to the picturesque Isle of Skye, we hear about Bonnie Prince Charlie's daring escape "over the sea to Skye" aided by Jacobite heroine, Flora MacDonald. This evening we enjoy dinner at our hotel. Full Breakfast, Dinner  
Accommodations: Kings Arms  
Meals: Full Breakfast, Dinner

### **Day 9 - Isle of Skye – Ballachulish (2 Nights)**

We leave the craggy landscape of Skye behind, boarding a ferry back to the mainland to Maillag. Our journey continues to Fort William via the magnificent Glenfinnan Viaduct. Admire exquisite views of Britain's highest mountain, Ben Nevis, before travelling to the idyllic holiday retreat that is Ballachulish, where we'll spend the next two nights. Full Breakfast  
Accommodations: Ballachulish/MacDonald Loch Rannoch  
Meals: Full Breakfast

### **Day 10 - Glencoe and Blair Athol Distillery Excursion**

We journey through the volcanic ruins and precipitous mountains of Glencoe to see the "Glen of the Weeping". Later, we 'Dive Into Culture' and learn about the local whisky industry at a famous distillery, including a tasting of Scotland's much-loved golden nectar. Full Breakfast, Dinner  
Meals: Full Breakfast, Dinner

### **Day 11 - Ballachulish – Doune Castle – Stirling Castle – Bannockburn – Glasgow (2 Nights)**

The soulful beauty of the "Glen of the Weeping" is as tragic as its history. The site of the massacre of the MacDonald clan over 500 years ago is our first stop en route to Doune Castle, which served as the film location for Castle Leoch in Outlander. We see the site where Clan Mackenzie welcomed and hosted Claire upon her arrival in 18th-century Scotland, then head to Stirling and its magnificent castle, a symbol of Scottish national pride and once home to Scottish royals including Mary, Queen of Scots. Explore its halls, chapels and bedrooms, see the famous "Stirling Heads" and admire the poignant Wallace Monument and battlefield of Stirling Bridge from its 16th-century walls. View the site of the Battle of Bannockburn, before arriving in Glasgow for an evening at leisure. Full Breakfast  
Accommodations: Holiday Inn Theatreland

Meals: Full Breakfast

**Day 12 - Glasgow Orientation – Linlithgow Palace Excursion**

This morning we enjoy an orientation tour of the city, including a visit to the masterfully crafted St. Mungo's Cathedral, the Outlander film location for "L'Hopital des Anges" in Paris. It was here that Claire persuaded Mother Hildegard to let her put her medical knowledge to good use. We visit Linlithgow Palace, which doubled as the prison entrance and corridors of Wentworth Prison where Jamie was imprisoned in season 1. Our encounter with Highland stories not yet at its end, we join the Wood family at their 15th-century farm on the shores of Loch Ard, where we'll 'Connect With Locals' over a home-cooked Farewell Be My Guest Lunch amidst intriguing tales of Rob Roy. Full Breakfast, Lunch

Meals: Full Breakfast, Lunch

**Day 13 - Depart Glasgow**

As the chapter closes on our Outlander-inspired journey through the wilds of Scotland and centuries of fascinating heritage, we say farewell to our newfound friends and prepare to return to reality.

Transfers are available. Conditions apply. Full Breakfast

Meals: Full Breakfast