



The Best Tours  
*We'll take you there...*



SCOTLAND TOUR

## HIGHLANDS, ISLE OF SKYE and EDINBURGH

**12-NIGHTS, 23 JUNE – 5 JULY 2025**

### **Highlights of the tour:**

*Scotland is steeped in history and stunning scenery - perfect for many movie locations – and is well known for its pioneering engineers and artists.*

*The Highlands is a location of many ancient castles and battlefields filled with history and drama, battles not only between clans but against the “auld” enemy – the “Sassenachs” or the English! Over the sea to the Isle of Skye, the largest of the western isles and ancestral home to the MacDonald and MacLeod clans, with dramatic mountains and breathtaking coastal views. Edinburgh, of course, is always buzzing. The Royal Mile has Edinburgh Castle at the top, and Holyrood Palace one mile away, at the bottom of the hill and loads of good shopping in between. It's also home to the retired HMY Britannia, the royal yacht of Queen Elizabeth II.*

**Tour Price: \$4,300.00 per person sharing**

**\$5,500.00 single person in a double room**

*International flights not included.*

### **Included in the cost of the tour:**

- Pick up and drop off at Edinburgh Airport.
- 12-nights on a bed and breakfast basis in 4-star accommodation.
- All land transport whilst on the tour.
- Entry to all tour sites as specified in the itinerary.
- 6 x Lunches.
- 5 x Dinners.

### **Optional Extra : (enquire separately)**

✓ Additional days before or after the tour can be arranged.

*This is an intimate tour limited to 14 guests only (a minimum of 8 guests). For more information and your registration form, please feel free to e-mail or call. Your deposit and completed booking form will secure your place on the trip, without disappointment*

MasterCard, Visa, Venmo and PayPal accepted

A 3% discount offered for Check and ACH payments

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**Sunday, 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2025**  
**Flight departure from the US to Edinburgh, United Kingdom**

### **DAY 1 Arriving into Edinburgh on Monday, 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2025**

The Best Tours will meet you at the airport and transport you to your Edinburgh city hotel. The day is at your leisure with an option of an afternoon visit to Rosslyn Chapel (as featured in Dan Brown's book and movie "The Da Vinci Code").



Apex Waterloo Place, Edinburgh (2 nights)

### **DAY 2 Edinburgh**

Visits to :

- The Royal Yacht Britannia, the floating palace of the Late Queen Elizabeth II, now sadly decommissioned, but still a fascinating glimpse of life aboard this magnificent vessel. Coffee, tea and scones can be enjoyed on board the ship.
- Palace of Holyroodhouse, the official residence in Scotland of King Charles III. The King's Gallery is also available to view at your own pace.

The remainder of the day is at your leisure.

### **DAY 3, 4 & 5 – The Scottish Highlands**

Leaving Edinburgh and making our way north into the Highlands, you'll visit :

- The Falkirk Wheel. This amazing piece of engineering is a giant wheel that lifts boats, including the one you'll be in, from a lower canal to another, more than 100 feet above.
- There is engineering in art too at the "Kelpies" – an artistic evolution of engineering. These statues were erected in metal to honor the hard work done by the local Clydesdale horses during the industrial revolution of Scotland and are the world's largest equine statues.
- Queens' View – a magnificent view of Loch Tummel, enroute to your hotel.

The following two days in the Highlands will include

- A visit to Blair Castle – a favorite of Queen Victoria's. Explore the gardens, do some local shopping in Pitlochry and taste a dram of whiskey to end the day!
- En-route to Menzies Castle, we'll stop at Craigh Na Dun to take in the most breathtaking scenery of Loch Tummel and Loch Rannoch, where the opening scenes from "Outlander" were filmed. We continue on to the Caithness Crystal Glass visitors center and then on to the magnificent castle and gardens of Drummond.



Dunalastair Hotel, Kinloch Rannoch (3 nights)

### **DAY 6 – Road, Rail and Ferry to the Isle of Skye**

Unlike Bonnie Prince Charlie we do not need to walk the "Road to the Isles" but it will be an early morning drive to Ft William, at the foot of Ben Nevis, the highest mountain in the UK. There we board the Jacobite Express Steam Train for a scenic journey across the Glenfinnan Viaduct (as featured in the Harry Potter movies as the gateway to Hogwarts) to the coastal town of Mallaig. A short ferry ride gets us over to Ardsvar on the Isle of Skye with a visit to Armadale Castle, home to the MacDonalDs of Sleat and now a romantic ruin, sitting on 40 acres with amazing views of the Sound of Sleat.



The Inn at Àird a' Bhàsaid (2 nights)



### **DAY 7 - The Isle Of Skye**

Today is spent exploring Skye, visiting, Dunvegan Castle, the seat of the MacLeod clan. Lunch is at an 18<sup>th</sup> Century inn on the shores of Loch Bay. Weather permitting, the afternoon offers an opportunity for more walking to Neist Point Lighthouse for those who wish to do a bit more rugged exploring, or a visit to Tallisker Distillery – or both!

### **DAY 8 & 9 - Inverness**

This morning we travel across the "Skye Bridge" towards Inverness via Plockton for a morning seal cruise and the Eilean Donan, one of the most photographed castles in all of Scotland. A late afternoon arrival in Inverness with the evening at your leisure.

Your second day in Inverness will be the day someone will see Nessie while cruising Loch Ness to Urquhart Castle! You have a choice of spending the afternoon at your leisure in Inverness, or being transported back in time to the 1745 Jacobite rebellion and the fateful battle of Culloden. For those who have seen the 'Outlander' series you will have some idea of the great tragedy of the battle.



Glen Morrison Hotel, Inverness (2 nights)

### **DAY 10 - To Sterling and Edinburgh**

We head south towards Edinburgh you'll visit Stirling Castle which is steeped in the historical roles played out in the region by William Wallace in the late 1290's and Robert the Bruce, King of Scotland in the early 1300's. A visit to the Bannockburn battlefields and an opportunity to participate in a virtual battle between the Scots and the English in 1314, always lends excitement to the visit.



Apex Waterloo Place, Edinburgh (3 nights)

### **DAY 11 & 12 , Edinburgh**

Over the next 2 days we have a number of attractions scheduled, whilst being as flexible as possible to individual preferences. These include

- *Movie Day – an immersion into the Outlander film sites of Hopetoun House, Midhope Castle, Culross Palace and Blackness Castle.*
- *Edinburgh Castle and time to just explore Edinburgh, the Royal Mile, Lawn Market in the Old City and Princess Street and the Georgian Squares in the New Town.*

### **DAY 13 - Departing Edinburgh on Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> July 2025**

After breakfast, you will be transported to Edinburgh Airport to catch your international flight back to the USA