

# Discovering Scotland

Wednesday, June 12 – Thursday, June 20, 2019

a guided tour exploring our sacred heritage

Hosted and Led by *Scotus Tours*



Iona Abbey

## Some Tour Highlights:

City of Edinburgh

Cairngorm Mountain Railway

St. John's Kirk of Perth

Isle of Iona

Haggis Ceremony

St. Andrews

Distillery Visit

Culloden Battlefield

Loch Lomond

**Accommodations:** Good three or four star hotels

## Land Only Rates (per person sharing Twin/Double):

Earlybird rate - \$3595 deposit by August 29, 2018

Regular rate - \$3795 deposit after August 29, 2018

Single supplement - \$670

## Your Tour Price Includes:

- Coach travel
- Ferries and tolls
- Professional guides
- Porterage
- VAT (UK sales tax 20%)

- Entrance fees per itinerary
- Entertainment per itinerary
- Services of our tour manager
- Tipping for waitstaff etc

- 8 Hotel nights
- 8 Breakfasts
- 6 Dinners  
*[includes welcome and closing celebration dinner]*

## Not included:

Flights to/from Scotland  
Airport transfers

Laundry  
Snacks & beverages

Personal items  
Driver tip (at your discretion)

**Arrival in Scotland and Tour Departure:** This is a “land only” tour and begins on Wednesday, June 12, 2019. Travel arrangements prior to that are at your own discretion. Flights into Edinburgh from the US mostly arrive in the morning. There is no program on Day 1 until early evening when we meet for a welcome dinner. You may, of course, arrive a day or two early or choose to stay on after the tour.

**How Active is the Tour?** We don't take long country hikes. We try to use hotels which have elevators and portage for luggage where possible. But, among other things, you must be able to –

- Stand or walk with our guides, inside and outdoors, sometimes in inclement weather
- Manage coach steps several times a day      - Occasionally manage your own luggage
- Climb stairs in some hotels      - Walk city streets (Edinburgh has some steep hills and steps)

**Times of Worship:** This is a tour for a church group. We aim to include time for –

- A service of welcome
- Morning prayers on the coach
- Closing worship
- Evening devotions before dinner where possible
- Sunday service with a Church of Scotland congregation

**Registration and Payment Details:**

Please use the form on our website at [scotustours.com](http://scotustours.com) (click *Open Tours* then *Book Now*)

We will email an invoice for payment of the initial deposit online

Subsequent payments will be made by bank transfer

At the Earlybird rate

- Part 1 deposit of \$195 by August 29, 2018
- One half of balance (which includes Part 2 deposit of \$800) by December 12, 2019
- Any single supplement to be paid in full by December 12, 2019
- Remaining balance by April 3, 2019

*Please note: Earlybird booking provides a discount of \$200. It also allows the deposit to be made in two payments. The total Earlybird deposit is \$995.*

At the Regular rate

- Deposit of \$1195 paid at date of booking (when single supplements must also be paid in full)
- One half of balance by December 12, 2019
- Remaining balance by April 3, 2019

Registrations made after December 12, 2019 – payment in full required at time of booking - subject to additional charge and availability

*Reservations made on first come, first served basis.*

**Insurance:**

We strongly recommend that you obtain adequate insurance coverage

**Cancellation:**

Refunds will be made only in line with this policy – no exceptions

*Time prior to departure:*

Up to 91 days.....	deposit
75 - 90 days.....	50% of tour cost
61 – 74 days.....	60% of tour cost
15 - 60 days.....	75% of tour cost
Less than 15 days.....	100% of tour cost

*Cancellation Fees:*

**Contact Us:**

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[scotustours.com](http://scotustours.com)

## Our Itinerary

**Day 1 – Wednesday, June 12 - Welcome to Scotland!** Group members will make their own flight arrangements. Arrive Edinburgh this morning. Spend the day as you wish in Edinburgh and check in to your hotel. Meet your tour manager for an early evening welcome dinner. *Meals included – welcome dinner Overnight: Edinburgh City Center*

**Day 2: Thursday, June 13 – Let’s go!** We drive to Glasgow, visiting Glasgow Cathedral and pausing for a service of welcome – a short act of worship in the Celtic tradition. Our scenic route then takes us by Loch Lomond’s “Bonnie, bonnie banks” to the little west coast port of Oban where we catch the ferry to the Isle of Mull. We arrive at our hotel (overlooking lovely Tobermory Bay) in time for dinner. *(Itinerary subject to ferry times)*  
*Meals included – breakfast, dinner Overnight: Tobermory, Isle of Mull*

**Day 3: Friday, June 14 – Iona...a *Thin Place*** The single track road takes us to Fionnphort. Another short ferry ride brings us to this very special island. St Columba arrived here in the year 563, establishing the Christian faith in this land. In the language of Celtic spirituality Iona is sometimes described as a *thin place* – as if the veil between earth and heaven were almost transparent. We visit the Abbey, learn about Columba and the Iona Community before returning to Tobermory. *Meals included – breakfast, dinner Overnight: Tobermory, Isle of Mull*

**Day 4: Saturday, June 15 – The Great Glen and Inverness** Returning to the mainland, our route takes us north past Glen Coe – a beautiful place which witnessed an infamous event in Scotland’s history. Near Fort William we see “Neptune’s Staircase”, an ingenious series of locks on the Caledonian Canal. A distillery visit is also on our program. Then on through the Great Glen and by Loch Ness where we watch out for monstrous events. We arrive at our hotel in the center of Inverness – “the capital of the Highlands”. Stroll out along the riverbank this evening and find a nice place for dinner. *Meals included – breakfast Overnight: Inverness*

**Day 5: Sunday, June 16 – I will lift mine eyes unto the hills...** We share morning worship with a Church of Scotland congregation. Then at the Culloden Battlefield Center we can learn about Bonnie Prince Charlie and the Jacobites. We ride the Cairngorm Mountain Railway – an ingenious funicular, taking us all the way to the top. Our destination is Perth - "The Fair City". Dinner this evening begins with a haggis ceremony, complete with bagpipes and the poetry of Rabbin Burns. And you can taste a little. *Meals included – breakfast, dinner Overnight: Perth*

**Day 6: Monday, June 17 – St Andrews - *The Auld Grey Toon*** Our day begins with a guided tour in St John’s Kirk – here John Knox preached, setting light to the Reformation in Scotland. We then turn to the east coast and the charming little town of St. Andrews. One of our excellent professional guides will lead a walking tour. St Andrews boasts Scotland’s oldest university where many of the Kirk’s ministers have been educated. It is a significant site for the history of the Reformation. We see the castle and cathedral ruins. There will also be free time to browse in the stores or maybe walk along the West Sands. Golfers can look longingly at the Old Course. We return to Perth via the Tay Bridge and city of Dundee. *Meals included – breakfast, dinner Overnight – Perth*

**Day 7: Tuesday, June 18 - Edinburgh – *The Athens of the North*** From the cobbled streets of its Old Town to the Georgian grandeur of the New Town, Edinburgh is a beautiful city full of history and full of life. Our guide will walk us back in time but will also explain much about modern living in this vibrant city. We see Greyfriars Kirk and hear about the Covenanters. And we end our day at the very modern buildings of the Scottish Parliament. The evening is free for you to choose dinner in one of Edinburgh’s many eating places. *Meals included – breakfast Overnight – Edinburgh City Center*

**Day 8: Wednesday, June 19 - A Little More Edinburgh** We’ll leave most of today free for you to explore Edinburgh further. Perhaps you’ll visit the Castle, go souvenir shopping or simply relax. Tonight we share worship together and close with a celebration dinner. *Meals included – breakfast, celebration dinner Overnight – Edinburgh City Center*

**Day 9: Thursday, June 20 – Departures after breakfast** Haste ye back! *Meals included – breakfast*

*The above program is a fair representation of the proposed tour but is subject to change at the discretion of Scotus Tours*

*Dear Fellow Traveler,*

*People are always telling me they would love to visit Scotland. Whether it is the majestic scenery of the highlands which attracts them; or our castles, churches and cities steeped in history; or maybe our proud tradition of hospitality – all these and more combine to make a trip to Scotland an unforgettable experience.*

*For people of faith Scotland also has much to offer. Christianity came to these shores no later than the sixth century. And the impact of the Reformation has extended far around the world.*

*I am delighted to be offering this tour. As a native Scot and a minister of the Church of Scotland who has also served as a pastor in the PC(USA), I am uniquely placed to provide this service to an American congregation. I want you to enjoy an outstanding trip; to see the real Scotland; to discover, in particular, our sacred heritage. And I run Scotus Tours to make that possible.*

*I hope you can join our tour. Please feel free to contact me if there is anything else you need to ask.*

*Jim Wallace*



*Jim Wallace on tour at Loch Lomond*



*Edinburgh Skyline*

## Discovering Scotland

June 12 - 20, 2019

A Guided Tour  
Exploring Scotland's Sacred Heritage

*Walk....through centuries of history  
Delight....in breathtaking scenery  
Explore....a heritage of faith  
Enjoy....warm Scottish hospitality*

Quality Accommodations  
Excellent Meals  
Personal Attention