



Scotland

September 20-27, 2014

\$3149

Non-stop US Air from Philadelphia
\$300 deposit required; balance due July 1st

Day 1: Welcome to Scotland

Arrival at Edinburgh Airport. Make your way to your hotel in Edinburgh.

Edinburgh is the breathtakingly beautiful capital of Scotland, an exciting place to visit at any time of year. It offers superb sightseeing, historic buildings to explore, quiet galleries and museums to intrigue you, interesting attractions to discover, serious shopping, a vast choice of excellent Restaurants, Bistros and Pubs! Today enjoy a panoramic city tour of Edinburgh. Edinburgh, the inspiring capital of Scotland, is a historic, cosmopolitan and cultured city. The setting is wonderfully striking; the city is perched on a series of extinct volcanoes and rocky crags which rise from the generally flat landscape of the Lothians, with the sheltered shoreline of the Firth of Forth to the north. Edinburgh Castle dominates the city-centre skyline and from its ramparts you can look down on medieval lanes and elegant, sweeping terraces that hold over a thousand years of history, mystery and tradition. Yet you will also see a modern, dynamic capital where inter-national festivals attract the world's leading performers, galleries display cutting-edge art, and bars, restaurants and clubs create a lively, cosmopolitan atmosphere with a distinctly Scottish twist.

Visit Palace of Holyrood

Her Majesty The Queen's official residence in Scotland, stands at the end of Edinburgh's Royal Mile against the spectacular backdrop of Arthur's Seat. At the Palace of Holyroodhouse visitors can explore the 14 historic and State Apartments and the ruins of Holyrood Abbey with a complimentary audio tour. Best known as the home of Mary, Queen of Scots, today the State Apartments are used regularly by The Queen for State ceremonies and official entertaining. The Queen's Gallery at the Palace of Holyroodhouse hosts a program of changing exhibitions from the Royal Collection. Enjoy dinner in a local restaurant Overnight, bed and breakfast at your hotel in Edinburgh area.

Day 2: Discover Historic Edinburgh

Visit Edinburgh Castle

The most famous of Scottish castles has a complex building history. The oldest part, St Margaret's Chapel, dates from the 12th century; the Great Hall was erected by James IV around

1510; the Half Moon Battery by the Regent Morton in the late 16th century; and the Scottish National War Memorial after the First World War. The castle houses the Honours (Crown Jewels) of Scotland, the Stone of Destiny, the famous 15th century gun Mons Meg, the One O' Clock Gun and the National War Museum of Scotland.

Afternoon Visit St. Andrew's Castle

The ruins of the castle of the Archbishops of St Andrews, dating in part from the 13th century. Notable features include 'bottle-dungeon' and mine and counter-mine tunneled during the siege that followed the murder of Cardinal Beaton in 1546. These siege works are the finest of their kind in Europe. A fascinating exhibition in the visitor centre brings the history of the castle and cathedral to life.

Visit St. Andrew's Cathedral

The remains of the largest cathedral in Scotland, and of the associated domestic ranges of the priory. The precinct walls are particularly well preserved. The Cathedral Museum houses an outstanding collection of early and later medieval sculpture and other relics found on the site, including the magnificent St Andrews Sarcophagus of Pictish date. St Rule's Tower, in the precinct, is part of the first church of the Augustinian canons at St Andrews built in the early 12th century. There are splendid views from the top.

Overnight, bed and breakfast at your hotel in Edinburgh area.

Day 3: Edinburgh to Inverness

Depart today for Inverness.

First stop will be a visit to Edradour Distillery.

Scotland's smallest distillery and the last original "farm" Distillery in Perthshire. Farm Distilleries use raw agricultural products to make and distill liquors. You'll be welcomed with a "wee dram" of Edradour where you will receive an introduction of the history of Edradour and the whisky maker's art. Then you will take a tour around the distillery to see the traditional methods of whisky making, where you'll see Edradour being hand-crafted today as it was in Victorian times. Edradour is hand made today as it was over 150 years ago by just three men who are devoted to the time-honoured methods of whisky making. Equipment used at the distillery has remained unchanged since the day the distillery opened and is only just capable of producing commercial quantities. Only 12 casks of whisky are produced a week, making Edradour single malt a rare pleasure for a fortunate few.

Visit Blair Castle

Blair Castle is the ancient seat of the Dukes and Earls of Atholl. The castle enjoys one of Scotland's finest settings in the heart of Highland Perthshire. Visit the castle and enjoy a tour of 30

rooms and the fascinating collections they contain. One of the first private homes to open to the public in Scotland, Blair welcomes more visitors than any other. Discover the castle, its extensive collections and beautiful gardens. Like many Scottish castles, Blair Castle has a long and illustrious history, throughout which it has accumulated many fascinating historical artefacts, including antique furniture, art, period dress and arms and armor. Blair Castle is one of the most accessible Scottish castles, with a variety of tours available for individuals, families and groups, including special themed castle tours which show off specific elements of the castle and its history. Overnight, dinner, bed and breakfast at your hotel in Inverness/Aviemore area.

Day 4: Mysterious Loch Ness

After breakfast depart for mysterious Loch Ness.

Enjoy a Jacobite Cruise on Loch Ness

Loch Ness in the Highlands of Scotland is one of the most popular destinations in UK. Over 20 miles long, a mile wide and 700 feet at its deepest, Loch Ness is the largest lake in Scotland by volume. The surrounding area is filled with historic attractions, natural wonders and cozy places to stay. The Loch Ness Monster is just one of the many myths and legends to be discovered in this particularly beautiful part of Scotland. Disembark at Urquhart Castle and visit the castle, magnificently situated on the banks of Loch Ness. This medieval fortress was once one of Scotland's largest castles. Built in the 1230s, seized by the English in 1296, sacked by the MacDonald Lords of the Isles in 1545 and left to fall into decay after 1689. Continue off to Fort William and check into hotel. Enjoy the evening to explore Fort William by yourself. Overnight, bed and breakfast at your hotel in Fort William area.

Day 5: The Isle of Skye

Today we have an excursion to the Isle of Skye. Enjoy a photo stop at Eilean Donan Castle before crossing the bridge to get to the island. For many people this archetypal Scottish Castle is one of the most photographed castles in Scotland. Ruined during one of the Jacobite risings in the early 18th century, it was restored to all its glory and is now spectacular feature is undoubtedly its magnificent natural setting, at the meeting point of three lochs connected to the land by a causeway. Continue on to the Island of Skye, situated off the West coast of Scotland, is the largest and best known of the Inner Hebrides. Sometimes referred to in Gaelic poetry and song as The Misty Isle, Skye is renowned for its natural beauty, history and wildlife. In the south of the island, visit the Clan Donald Skye Visitor Centre where you discover the history of the Highlands and Islands through the story of Clan Donald, its most powerful clan, at the award-winning museum. From here drive to the southern part of the island to Armadale where you will get the ferry to Mallaig. Return to Fort William. Overnight, bed and breakfast at your hotel in Fort William area.

Day 6: Fort William to Glasgow

After breakfast depart for Glasgow.

En route to Glasgow, drive through Glencoe which became famous because of the massacre in 1692, when the resident McDonalds were murdered by the Campbell soldiers. Continue along the shores of lovely Loch Lomond. Enjoy a stop at Luss and appreciate the beautiful view on the small islands in the middle of the Loch. Continue to Glasgow and check into hotel. Optional visit to the Kelvingrove Museum and Gallery which has over 8,000 objects on display over three floors. From masterpieces by Rembrandt and Titian to a world-class collection of Impressionist paintings, a unique display of fearsome weapons and stunning suits of armor, Dali's iconic Christ of St. John of the Cross, Sir Roger the elephant, to hundreds of creatures of the land, sea and air – these are just a few of the fascinating objects that you can enjoy during a very worthwhile visit. Entrance is free. Farewell dinner in local restaurant. Overnight, bed and breakfast at your hotel in Glasgow area.

Day 7: Farewell

Time allowing; explore Glasgow, fast becoming one of Europe's most lively and cosmopolitan city. There are many interesting places to discover in Glasgow, a must see is the splendor of Scotland's best known architect Charles Rennie Mackintosh, whose style adorns many unique attractions throughout Scotland's largest and greatest city.

Transfer to airport for departure.

Name (*as it appears on passport*): _____

Date of birth: (REQUIRED) _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone Number(s) H _____

W _____ Cell _____

Email: _____

Roommate: _____

Insurance is available; call Loretta Rossino for a quote.

Send form together with deposit and copy of your passport to:

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