

Discovering Scotland

Thursday, June 19 – Friday, June 27, 2025

A guided tour

Hosted and Led by *Scotus Tours*



Iona Abbey

Some Tour Highlights

Edinburgh – *Scotland's beautiful capital* Isle of Iona – *Christian beginnings*

St John's Kirk of Perth – *Knox and the Reformation* St Andrews – *place of pilgrimage*

Wallace Monument Haggis Ceremony Culloden Battlefield

Stirling Castle The Great Glen and Loch Ness Distillery Visit

Prices

Land only - per person sharing twin/double

Earlybird Rate - \$4195 (deposit by July 31, 2024)

Regular Rate - \$4295 (deposit after July 31, 2024)

Single Supplement - \$970

Your Tour Price Includes

Coach Travel Ferries and tolls Tour Manager Professional Guides

Entrance Fees Porterage Tipping (waitstaff) VAT (UK sales tax)

8 Hotel Nights 8 Breakfasts 6 Dinners (incl. welcome and closing celebration)

Not included: Flights; airport transfers; beverages; personal items; driver/guide tip (discretionary)

Arrival in Scotland and Tour Departure:

This is a "land only" tour and begins on Thursday, June 19, 2025. 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 late afternoon when we hold a welcome meeting and dinner. You may, of course, arrive a day or two early or choose to stay on after the tour.

Registration, Discount and Payment Details:

To reserve your place –

1. Please use the form at scotustours.com (click *Our Brochures* then *Book Now*)
2. We will email an invoice for payment of the deposit

At the Earlybird rate

- Deposit - \$995 by July 31, 2024 (single supplements must also be paid in full)

At the Regular rate

- Deposit - \$1095 at date of booking (single supplements must also be paid in full)

Then installments to be paid by everyone

- One half of balance by November 13, 2024
- Remaining balance by March 5, 2025

All payments will be made by bank transfer.

Reservations made on first come, first served basis. Prices subject to exchange rate fluctuations and changes in rate of government taxes.

Covid-19: Anyone joining the tour must be fully vaccinated and agrees to comply fully with government regulations and any requirements put in place by Scotus Tours to reduce the risk of infection.

Exchanges and Cancellation:

Up to the date of the final payment (March 5, 2025) like-for-like exchanges may be made. If someone who has registered is unable to go they can find someone else to take their place. Such exchanges must be for the same room type – e.g. a couple who had booked a double room could only substitute another 2 people who want a double room. Every such exchange will incur a fee of \$250 per person. After March 5, 2025 exchanges will no longer be possible.

If **we** cancel the tour at any point prior to the tour departure date, we shall refund 100% of your tour fees.

If **you** cancel your place on this tour for any reason, the following will apply:

<i>Time prior to departure:</i>	<i>Cancellation Fees:</i>
Up to 91 days.....	deposit
61 - 90 days.....	50% of tour cost
31 - 60 days.....	75% of tour cost
30 days or less.....	100% of tour cost

No exceptions will be made to the above.

How Active is the Tour?

We don't take long country hikes. We try to use hotels which have elevators and portorage for luggage where possible. But you must be in good enough health to travel. Among other things you must be able to –

Stand or walk with our guides, inside and outdoors, sometimes in inclement weather; use coach steps several times each day; manage your own luggage; climb stairs in some hotels; walk city streets (Some locations may have steep hills and steps).

Our Itinerary

Day 1: Thursday, June 19 - *Welcome to Scotland!* Group members will make their own flight arrangements. Arrive Edinburgh this morning. Spend the day as you wish and check in to your hotel. Meet your tour manager late afternoon. We'll pause for a service of welcome, a short act of worship in the Celtic tradition, followed by dinner. *Meals included – welcome dinner Overnight: Edinburgh City Center*

Day 2: Friday, June 20 – *The Fair City and the Auld Grey Toon: Perth and St Andrews* We leave Edinburgh for now, crossing the Firth of Forth. We'll visit St John's Kirk of Perth. John Knox preached here in 1559, setting light to the Scottish Reformation. We drive on to the charming town of St Andrews. Famous for golf today, it has also been a place of pilgrimage and is an important site for Reformation history. One of our excellent guides will lead a walking tour. Then on to our hotel in Dundee. *Meals included – breakfast, dinner Overnight – Dundee*

Day 3: Saturday, June 21 – *Stirling: a historic city* Our morning begins with a guided visit to Stirling Castle. Sitting on a volcanic crag which has been fortified since ancient times, the Castle has a long and rich history. By contrast, we'll make a short visit to the Kelpies: a magnificent and very modern art installation not far from here. In the afternoon we'll be back in the Stirling area to visit the Wallace Monument and learn about one of Scotland's great heroes. Dinner tonight begins with a haggis ceremony complete with bagpipes and the poetry of Robert Burns. And, of course, you can taste a little. *Meals included – breakfast, dinner Overnight – Dundee*

Day 4: Sunday, June 22 – *Into the Highlands* We'll join in morning worship with a local congregation. Then we drive north into the majesty of the Highlands. We'll pass by the Cairngorm Mountains. We'll also spend some time at the Culloden Battlefield where we can learn about Bonnie Prince Charlie and the Jacobites. Our hotel is by the river in the delightful city of Inverness. *Meals included – breakfast Overnight: Inverness*

Day 5: Monday, June 23 – *From the Highlands...to the Islands* Our scenic route takes us down the west side of Loch Ness and through the Great Glen. We pass by Glen Coe, location of an infamous event in Scotland's history. A distillery visit is also on our agenda. At the port of Oban, we catch the ferry to Mull, arriving at our hotel, overlooking lovely Tobermory Bay, in time for dinner.

Meals included – breakfast, dinner Overnight: Tobermory, Isle of Mull

Day 6: Tuesday, June 24 – *A Thin Place: the Isle of Iona* We drive across the single track road to Fionnphort. Another short ferry ride brings us to Iona, a special island. St Columba arrived here in the year 563, establishing the Christian faith in this land. In Celtic spirituality Iona is sometimes described as a "thin place" - where the veil between heaven and earth seems almost transparent. We visit the Abbey, learn some of the island's history and hear about the Iona Community. *Meals included – breakfast, dinner Overnight: Tobermory, Isle of Mull*

Day 7: Wednesday, June 25 – *Back to the Mainland* We take the morning ferry from Mull to Oban then drive south by the *bonnie banks* of Loch Lomond. We pass through the city of Glasgow where great ships were built on the river Clyde. We return to Edinburgh where the evening is free for everyone to choose dinner in one of the capital's many restaurants. *Meals included – breakfast Overnight – Edinburgh City Center*

Day 8: Thursday, June 26 – *A Little More Edinburgh* We'll enjoy a walking tour in the Old Town this morning, finishing in time to attend the short noon prayer service in St Giles' Cathedral. The afternoon is free for you to explore - perhaps you'll visit Edinburgh Castle or Holyrood Palace. Tonight we will share worship and close with a celebration dinner. *Meals included – breakfast, celebration dinner Overnight – Edinburgh City Center*

Day 9: Friday, June 27 – *Departures* Haste ye back! *Meals included – breakfast*

The above 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 unforgettable.

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'm a native Scot and minister of the Church of Scotland. I've also served in the PC(USA). 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.



Jim

Rev. Jim Wallace
On tour at Loch Lomond

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
- evening devotions in some locations
- Sunday service (Church of Scotland)
- closing worship

Contact Us:

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Accommodations: in good 3 or 4 star hotels

Insurance: We strongly recommend that you obtain adequate insurance coverage



Edinburgh Skyline

Discovering Scotland

June 19 – June 27, 2025

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