Scotland: Highlands and Islands
August 9-20, 2021

12 days for $5,796 total price from Houston
($5,295 air & land inclusive plus $501 airline taxes and fees)

This tour is provided by Odysseys Unlimited, six-time honoree Travel & Leisure’s World’s Best Tour Operators award.
Howdy, Ags!

Join fellow Traveling Aggies on an exclusive 12-day small group tour to Scotland. Discover Scotland’s enduring appeal, traveling from city to country and loch to glen, all while encountering stunning natural beauty and historic treasures.

Starting in Glasgow, see the city’s unique architecture and take a private tour of Pollok House, ancestral home of the Maxwell clan. Then set off for the scenic Scottish Highlands, stopping by the banks of Loch Lomond, Great Britain’s largest lake. Visit beautiful Glencoe and take a full-day excursion to the Isle of Skye, known for its strong Gaelic influence. At Loch Ness, the lake best known for its alleged monster, enjoy a boat ride, then explore Urquhart Castle’s evocative ruins. Your final destination is stately Edinburgh, where exploration includes the 18th-century Georgian “New Town,” the medieval “Old Town” and the Royal Mile. Tour Holyrood and enjoy ample free time for exploring independently. As a tour highlight, enjoy an evening performance of the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo.

With room for only 24 guests on this exclusive Traveling Aggies departure, we expect our limited space will fill up quickly. With a fully refundable deposit up until 95 days prior to departure, we urge you to book risk-free today!

Gig ’em!

Jennifer Bohac ’87, Ph.D.
Director of Travel – Outreach and Engagement
The Association of Former Students

Marisa Liles
Director of Travel – Operations and Customer Service
The Association of Former Students

TRAVELING AGGIES RESERVATION FORM: SCOTLAND: HIGHLANDS AND ISLANDS

Enclosed is my/our deposit for $_____ ($500 per person) for ____ person(s) on Scotland: Highlands and Islands departing August 9, 2021. I/We understand the final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure. Payment may be made by American Express, Discover, MasterCard, VISA, or by personal check. Please make check payable to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc., and send, with completed reservation form, to: The Association of Former Students, 505 George Bush Drive, College Station, Texas 77840-2918. Or you may call the Traveling Aggies at 979-845-7514 or toll-free at 800-633-7514, or fax your reservation form to 979-845-9263. You may also call Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. toll-free at 888-370-6765.

Full Passport Name ________________________________ Date of Birth ______________

Badge Name ________________________________ Class Year ______________

Gender_______

Full Passport Name ________________________________ Date of Birth ______________

Badge Name ________________________________ Class Year ______________

Address __________________________________________ E-mail(s) __________________

City __________________ State __________________ ZIP _____________

Home Phone (______) ____________________________ Cell Phone (______)________________

Please book my/our air from __________________________ I/We request a Business Class upgrade  

I will share a room with __________________________ I request a single room (limited availability)  

Please Note: The undersigned has read the schedule of activities for Scotland: Highlands and Islands, August 9-20, 2021, and agrees that their signature below represents their acceptance of the General Terms and Conditions.

Signature(s) __________________________________________ Date __________________

Method of Payment  

☐ Check  ☐ American Express  ☐ Discover  ☐ MasterCard  ☐ VISA

Account # __________________________________________ Exp. Date __________________

Name of Cardholder _____________________________________________________________________________________

Signature ______________________________________________________________________________________________

Final invoicing will be sent by our tour operator, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. The balance of the program price must be paid to Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. Final payment is due at least 95 days prior to departure, and is payable by check or credit card.
Scotland: Highlands and Islands

12 days for $5,796 total price from Houston
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“My heart’s in the Highlands,” said Robert Burns – as will you, as we travel from city to country, mainland to island, on this sweet journey. From loch to loch and glen to glen, we encounter stunning natural beauty and welcoming clans, while city life serves up the colorful past – and cosmopolitan present.

Day 1: Depart U.S. for Glasgow, Scotland

Day 2: Arrive Glasgow  We arrive in Scotland’s largest city and transfer to our hotel. As guests’ arrival times may vary greatly, we have no group activities planned during the day. Late this afternoon we gather with our tour director for a briefing on the journey ahead. Then we enjoy a welcome dinner at either the acclaimed National Piping Centre or the well-appointed Corinthian Club.

Day 3: Glasgow  This morning’s tour highlights “Glasgow Style,” the city’s distinct architecture of the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Though Glasgow has a rich medieval history, very few structures from that time survive; it is the Victorian-era buildings of red or blond sandstone with long lines that define the city’s historic built environment. Among the standout buildings we see: Glasgow Central Station, the Royal Exchange, and Glasgow City Chambers. We also visit Sir John W. Simpson’s immensely popular Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum, housing an excellent collection of arms and armaments, and European artwork, including Salvador Dali’s “Christ of St. John on the Cross.” Following our city tour we visit Pollok House, ancestral home of the Maxwell clan and now a museum with the United Kingdom’s greatest collection of Spanish art. We take a privately guided tour of the Edwardian country house after we enjoy lunch here. We return to our hotel mid-afternoon; the remainder of the day is at leisure.

Day 4: Glasgow/Loch Lomond/Glencoe/Fort William  We leave Glasgow this morning by motorcoach, bound for the scenic Highlands, Scotland’s sparsely populated historic northern region. We stop by the bonnie banks of Loch Lomond, Great Britain’s largest lake and part of Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park. We tour the island-dotted loch by coach before continuing on to Glencoe, one of Scotland’s most beautiful spots with deep valleys flanked by steep-sided mountains, rushing rivers, and dramatic waterfalls. Then we travel on to Fort William, the Highlands’ second largest settlement, arriving late afternoon. B,L,D

Small Group Tour Highlights

Well-paced journey through Scotland  •  Glasgow touring  •  Glasgow’s unique architecture  •  Private guided tour of Pollok House  •  Beautiful Scottish Highlands scenery, including Loch Lomond & The Trossachs National Park, Glencoe, Loch Ness  •  Evocative ruins of Urquhart Castle  •  Isle of Skye excursion  •  Historic Culloden Moor  •  Medieval St. Andrews  •  Edinburgh touring, including Edinburgh Castle and Holyrood  •  Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo  •  Pleasing mix of guided touring and time for independent exploration

Day Itinerary  Hotel  Rating
1  Depart U.S. for Glasgow
2-3 Glasgow  Grand Central Hotel  First Class
4-5 Fort William  Nevis Bank Hotel  Not rated
6-7 Brora  Royal Marine Hotel  First Class
8  St. Andrews  Old Course Hotel  Deluxe
9-11 Edinburgh  Tigerlily Edinburgh  Sup. First Class
12  Depart Edinburgh for U.S.

Ratings are based on the Hotel & Travel Index, the travel industry standard reference. Unrated hotels may be too small, too new, or too remote to be listed.

Cover photo: Eilean Donan Castle, which we visit on Day 5, stands as one of Scotland’s most beautiful fortresses.
Day 5: Fort William/Isle of Skye  We embark on a full-day excursion to the Isle of Skye, the largest of Scotland's Inner Hebrides known for its vivid history, strong Gaelic influence, and stunning scenery. En route, we make a photo stop at Glenfinnan Monument honoring “Bonnie Prince Charlie” for his leadership in the Jacobite Rising of 1745. Then we board a ferry for Armadale on the southern tip of the Isle of Skye, where our touring begins with a visit to Armadale Castle and Gardens, where we have lunch. Next we set out on a scenic drive through the imposing Cuillin Hills (or “Black Cuillin”). Returning to the mainland via the Skye Bridge, we stop to visit iconic Eilean Donan Castle then dine tonight at our hotel. 

Day 6: Fort William/Loch Ness/Brora  We depart today for the Northern Highlands, stopping en route at fabled Loch Ness. We enjoy a boat ride on the 23-mile-long lake best known for the unearthly creature alleged to live in its deep waters. We also visit the ruins of lakeside Urquhart Castle, one of Scotland's most popular attractions. Dating to at least the 13th century, the castle sits surrounded by water on three sides, giving it a once-formidable advantage in battle. Then we travel on to the historic Culloden Moor battle site. After time on our own to tour the museum here, we tour the hallowed grounds, site of the last battle of the Jacobite Rising in 1746. Early this evening we arrive in Brora, a quaint Highlands village and our home for the next two nights.

Day 7: Brora/Highlands  Our exploration of the Highlands continues on today’s excursion along the Pictish Trail, sites connected with the late Iron Age/early Medieval Celtic people who once lived here. We visit striking Dunrobin Castle & Gardens, where we see a falconry demonstration, then embark on a tour and tasting at a small local distillery that has been producing hand-crafted single malt whisky for generations. We continue our drive along the scenic coastal road flanked by small farms with sheep, cows, and Shetland ponies before returning to our hotel, where we enjoy dinner together tonight.

Day 8: Brora/Kincraig/Pitlochry/St. Andrews  Today’s first stop is Kincraig, where we watch a sheepdog demonstration with working border collies, known for their herding abilities. We travel on to the holiday town of Pitlochry in the heart of Scotland, where we enjoy some free time before continuing on to legendary St. Andrews late this afternoon; dinner tonight is on our own in this charming town.

Day 9: St. Andrews/Edinburgh  Home of Scotland's oldest university (St. Andrews) and renowned as the home of golf, where the game has been played for some 600 years, delightful – and compact – St. Andrews measures just one mile across. This morning we embark on a walking tour of the medieval seaside town, followed by lunch together then free time to explore on our own. Later this afternoon we continue on our way to Edinburgh. Dinner tonight is on our own in the Scottish capital, which boasts a robust culinary scene.

Day 10: Edinburgh  Our morning tour of this stately city built on seven hills features both the 18th-century Georgian “New Town” and the medieval “Old Town” – together, the districts form a UNESCO site. In the Old Town, we pay an inside visit to Edinburgh Castle, symbolic heart of the country. We also travel the Royal Mile, the warren of medieval streets that form the thoroughfare stretching from the castle to Holyrood Palace, official residence of the Queen when in Scotland. This afternoon is at leisure to discover
Edinburgh as we wish; museums, galleries, and shops abound. Tonight we enjoy an evening performance of the Royal Edinburgh Military Tattoo.

Day 11: Edinburgh
This morning we again encounter the Royal Mile, with its mix of attractions, shops, and restaurants. We tour Holyrood, as it is called, and see where British royalty schemed and slept as we tour the State Apartments. The remainder of the day is free for independent exploration. Tonight we celebrate our Scotland sojourn over a farewell dinner at a local restaurant.

Day 12: Depart for U.S.
We transfer this morning to the Edinburgh airport for our return flights to the U.S.

Your Tour Price Includes
• Round-trip air transportation from listed cities
• 10 nights’ accommodations in Deluxe, Superior First Class, First Class, and unrated hotels
• 19 meals: 10 breakfasts, 3 lunches, 6 dinners
• Extensive sightseeing as described, including all entrance fees
• Services of an Odysseys Unlimited Tour Director
• Private motorcoach transportation throughout your trip
• Luggage handling for one bag per person
• Gratuities for local guides, dining room servers, airport and hotel porters, and all drivers

Tour Price

Day 11: Edinburgh
Scene from the Royal Military Tattoo

Scene from the Royal Military Tattoo

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Please note that seat assignments on your international flight is usually done at airport check-in. Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. is unable to guarantee any seat assignments. Due to the nature of four operator tickets, other restrictions apply, including, but not limited to, frequent flyer mileage accrual, stopovers, alternate travel dates, upgrades, and airline taxes and fees. If you prefer to make your own travel arrangements, Land Only is available on most tours.

Since international and domestic air schedules are subject to change at any time, we recommend that if you choose to make your own airline reservations, you do not purchase nonrefundable tickets or those with high penalties for changes. If you choose to make your own air arrangements, Odysseys Unlimited, Inc. shall not have any liability for any loss resulting from cancellation of this tour or changes in this tour.

COVID-19 Health and Safety Protocols: The well-being of our guests and staff members on tour will continue to be our highest priorities. To maintain a healthy environment for travel, we will be establishing and adhering to a detailed set of health and safety protocols for all facets of your tour. We are committed to following the guidelines of the State Department, CDC, WHO, and authorities of respective countries regarding travel to a particular destination. Detailed protocols for this tour, based on conditions at the time, will be provided approximately 30 days prior to departure.