

Discovering Scotland

October 3 – 10, 2017

a tour arranged for

First Presbyterian Church, Tyler, TX

Group Leader: Rev. Stuart Baskin



Iona Abbey

Some Tour Highlights:

Edinburgh & St Giles Cathedral
Cairngorm Mountain Railway
St. John's Kirk of Perth

Isle of Iona
Glasgow City Tour
St. Andrews

Great Glen and Inverness
Culloden Battlefield
Braveheart Territory

Accommodations:

Oban Bay Hotel and Spa, Oban
Palace Hotel, Inverness

Royal George Hotel, Perth
Novotel, Edinburgh City Center
Or equivalent 3 or 4 star hotels

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

Group Size	Earlybird Rate (full deposit by January 29, 2017)	Regular Rate (full deposit after January 29, 2017)	<i>Single supplement - \$580, subject to availability (to be paid at same time as deposit)</i>
24	2795	2895	<i>Flights are not included</i>
32	2745	2895	<i>Price subject to exchange rate fluctuations and changes in rate of government taxes.</i>
40	2695	2895	

Your Tour Price Includes:

- Travel by luxury coach
- Ferries and tolls
- Professional guides
- Porterage
- VAT(sales tax) at 20%
- Entrance fees as per itinerary
- Entertainment as per itinerary
- Services of our tour manager
- Tipping for waitstaff etc
- 7 Hotel nights
- 7 Breakfasts
- 2 Lunches
- 4 Regular Dinners
- Celebration Dinner

Not included:

Flights to/from Scotland Laundry Beverages Personal items Driver tip Airport transfers

Registration and Payment Details: To reserve your place –

At the *Earlybird* rate

- Deposit of \$795 by January 29, 2017 (when single supplements must also be paid in full)

At the *Regular* rate

- Deposit of \$895 paid at date of booking (when single supplements must also be paid in full)
- Then balances to be paid by everyone
 - One half of balance by April 2, 2017
 - Remaining balance by July 9, 2017

Registrations made after April 2, 2017 – payment in full required at time of booking - subject to additional charge and availability

Payment by check to: First Presbyterian Church, 230 W. Rusk St., Tyler, TX 75701.

Mark for attention: Rev. Stuart Baskin. Check memo line: Scotland 2017

This group will be confirmed if we receive deposits for at least 24 full rate participants no later than January 29, 2017. Reservations made on first come, first served basis.

Cancellation:

<i>Time prior to departure:</i>	<i>Cancellation Fees:</i>
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

Insurance: We strongly recommend that you obtain adequate insurance coverage.

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

- A service of welcome
- Evening devotions before dinner on most days
- Morning prayers on the coach
- Sunday service with a Church of Scotland congregation

Arrival in Scotland and Tour Departure:

The tour will begin in Edinburgh on October 3, 2017. We will advise exact time and place for pick up. We recommend you arrive in Edinburgh the day before if possible. This allows you to have a good night's rest and minimizes the risk of missing the tour departure due to flight delays. We can arrange a pre-tour hotel night for group members if they wish.

How Active is the Tour?

We don't take long country hikes. Most hotels we use have elevators and portorage for luggage. But, among other things, you do need to be able to –

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

Contact Us:

Rev. Jim Wallace Tel – from USA - 011 44 757 6071743 Email – office@scotustours.com

Scotus Tours Ltd., 21 Durley Dene Crescent, Bridge of Earn, Perthshire, PH2 9RD, Scotland, UK

Our Itinerary

Day 1: Tuesday, October 3 – Welcome to Scotland! Our tour manager will meet you in Edinburgh this morning. We drive to Glasgow and have a brief tour of this fine city, taking in Glasgow Cathedral and pausing for a service of welcome – a short act of worship in the Celtic tradition. We also visit the Kelvingrove Art Gallery and Museum (includes Salvador Dali's "Christ of St. John of the Cross"). We head out of the city before the evening traffic, taking a scenic drive by Loch Lomond – you will quickly see why they call it the "Bonnie, bonnie banks". And we arrive at our hotel in Oban on Scotland's picturesque west coast in time for dinner. *Meals included – lunch, dinner Overnight: Oban*

Day 2: Wednesday, October 4 – Iona...a Thin Place We catch the morning ferry to the Isle of Mull. We journey across Mull to Fionnphort where we make a further short ferry ride to Iona – a very special island where, in the year 563, St. Columba founded a monastery and brought Christianity to Scotland. In the language of Celtic spirituality Iona is described as a "thin place" – where the separation of heaven and earth seems minimal. We'll visit the Abbey and may be able to share in worship with members of the Iona Community. We return to Oban for the night. *Meals included – breakfast, dinner Overnight – Oban*

Day 3: Thursday, October 5 – The Great Glen and Inverness Our journey takes us north to 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. Group lunch provided. Then on through the Great Glen and by Loch Ness where we watch out for monstrous events. Tonight we are in Inverness – "the capital of the Highlands". Stroll out along the riverbank and find a nice place for dinner. *Meals included – breakfast, lunch Overnight: Inverness*

Day 4: Friday, October 6 – I will lift mine eyes unto the hills... Our day begins with a visit to the Culloden Battlefield Center where we can learn about Bonnie Prince Charlie and the Jacobites. Driving south we ride the Cairngorm Mountain Railway – an ingenious funicular which takes us all the way to the top. We can enjoy lunch there amid spectacular views. Our next stop is Perth - "The Fair City". We have a guided tour in St John's Kirk of Perth – it was here that John Knox preached the sermon which set light to the Reformation in Scotland. Dinner this evening begins with a haggis ceremony, complete with bagpipes and the poetry of Robbie Burns. Taste a little haggis if you wish. *Meals included – breakfast, dinner Overnight: Perth*

Day 5: Saturday, October 7 - Braveheart Territory and the "Auld Grey Toon" A short coach ride brings us to Stirling – a city steeped in history. We hear about two of Scotland's greatest heroes, William Wallace and Robert the Bruce. Stirling Castle, sitting on a volcanic crag which has been fortified since ancient times, provides a memorable visit. After lunch we'll begin a walking tour of St. Andrews. This charming little town boasts Scotland's oldest university where many of the Kirk's ministers have been educated. It is also a very significant site for the history of the Reformation. Golfers can look longingly at the Old Course. We'll try to include a little free time to stroll or browse the stores. *Meals included – breakfast, dinner Overnight - Perth*

Day 6: Sunday, October 8 - 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 truly beautiful city full of history and full of life. We arrive in time for morning worship, perhaps at St. Giles' Cathedral. We'll have an orientation to Scotland's capital. Our guide will walk us among the medieval streets and will also explain much about modern living in this vibrant city. You can choose dinner in one of Edinburgh's many eating places this evening. *Meals included – breakfast Overnight – Edinburgh City Center*

Day 7: Monday, October 9 - A Little More Edinburgh This morning we see Greyfriars Kirk and hear about the Covenanters. And we enjoy a guided tour of St. Giles' Cathedral, sometimes called the "mother church of Presbyterianism". The afternoon is free for people to explore Edinburgh further (or just relax) on their own. Tonight we will share worship and close with a celebration dinner. *Meals included – breakfast, celebration dinner Overnight – Edinburgh City Center*

Day 8: Tuesday, October 10 – Departures 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.

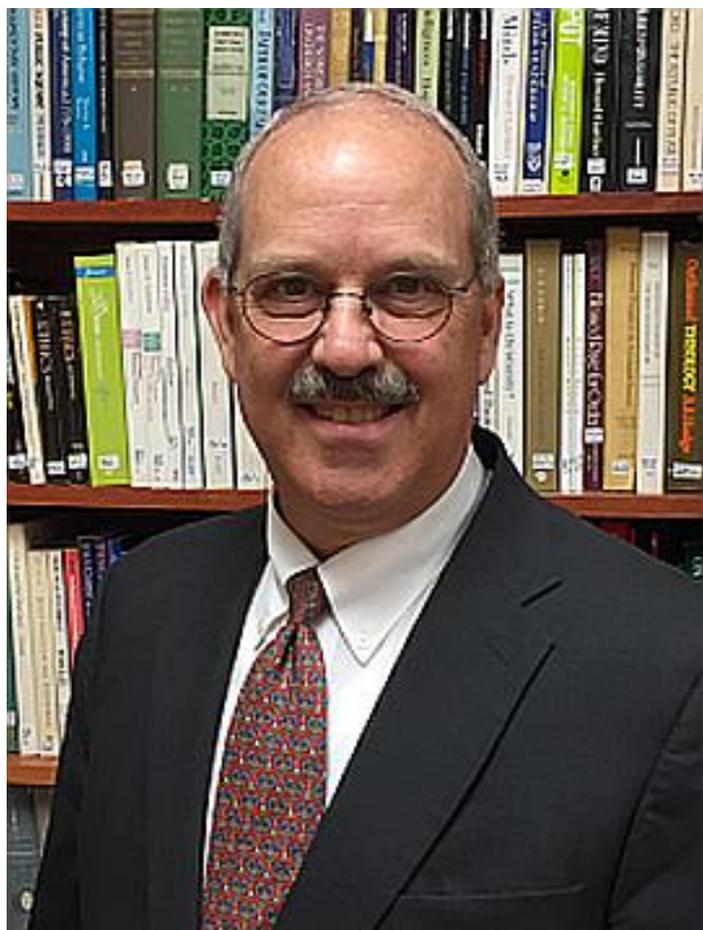
I hope you can join our tour. Please feel free to contact me if there is anything else you need to ask.

Sincerely,

Jim Wallace



Jim Wallace on tour at Loch Lomond



Geography is everything. In my various travels around the world (4 continents and counting) I have learned that the *physical geography* of a place has a profound impact on the *spiritual development* of a people.

I invite you to join me as we tour the land that is the spiritual home for us Presbyterians. You'll see the place where Christianity first came into Scotland to the island of Iona when the Irish abbot Columba came to Scotland in 563 CE, and you will experience the Christian community that continues important ministry there.

You will tour the city of Edinburgh and the "mother ship" of Presbyterianism, St. Giles Cathedral. You will visit Perth, where John Knox preached the sermon that ignited the Scottish Reformation in 1559.

You'll not only see these places and a host of others, you will also engage in a journey of self-discovery as you experience the culture, geography, and magic that is Scotland. And in the process you will learn the origins of some of the values dear to us American Presbyterians.

I can't wait. Come with me!

Stuart Baskin