

Graham & Zig's Castles, Clans & Coastlines

The Soul of Scotland: From Burns to Bruce

October 1– 6, 2026 | \$2,195 per person (sharing)

Castles on cliffs. Abbeys in ruins. Whisky by the sea. And a journey guided by heritage, history, and a bit of Highland mischief. *This isn't just a tour — it's Scotland done properly.*

Why This Low-Priced Journey Stands Apart

- Trace Graham's family roots along Scotland's west coast
 - Stand where **Robert Burns** once stood
 - Discover the story of **Robert the Bruce**
 - Ferry to the Isle of Arran — “Scotland in Miniature”
 - Tour a working island whisky distillery
 - Explore Scotland's most iconic castles and abbeys
 - Three nights in historic Edinburgh
 - Small-group format for a richer, more personal experience
-

Day 1 — Coastlines & Poetry: *Glasgow to Ayrshire* Thursday, October 1



Arrive in Glasgow and meet your professional Scottish driver-guide. At 10:00 AM, we head west along the awe-inspiring Scottish coastline. First stop: the dramatic cliff-top masterpiece of **Culzean Castle** — grand, elegant, and quintessentially, Scottish.

Then a short trairpse to **Robbie Burns**' birthplace museum and cottage. The “Bard of Scotland” opulent verses come alive when you stand where he stood; *Old Lang Syne et al.*

By afternoon, we arrive the coastal “Toon of Irvine” — Graham's hometown — for a personal introduction to his roots. **Group-Dinner included**

Overnight at Irvine's premier Hotel: The Riverside Lodge

Day 2 — Isle of Arran: Scotland in Miniature: *Hebridean Island Adventure*
Friday, October 2 — Irvine



After breakfast, we ferry from Ardrossan to the Isle of Arran — mountains, sea cliffs, castles, and ancient mysteries packed into one stunning island.

Highlights include: The romantic shoreline ruins of **Kildonan Castle**; a guided whisky-tasting at **Lagg Distiller**; a walk-about the prehistoric standing stones of Machrie Moor. Return to the mainland late afternoon, sea air in your lungs and a dram or two in your spirit. **Group-Dinner included-** Overnight: Riverside Lodge Hotel, Irvine

Day 3 — Stirling & Scotland's Capital: *Highlands to Edinburgh*
Saturday, October 3



This morning after breakfast, we travel north-central into the Highlands – and the **Royal Burgh of Stirling**. Majestically seated at the highest point, is the incomparable, Stirling Castle — the strategic heart of medieval Scotland.

There we will tour Mary Queen of Scots’ magnificent Castle; one of Scotland’s grandest royal fortresses.

Then onward to Scotland’s capital, Edinburgh. Elegant, historic, and endlessly walkable. The afternoon is yours to wander the Royal Mile, browse shops, and a jar oor’ twa at Deacon Brodie’s.- Overnight: at the old-town elegant YOTEL in Edinburgh’s center (3 nights)

Day 4 — Abbeys of the Borders: *History & Legends*

Sunday, October 4



After a hearty Scottish breakfast, we journey into the mountainous/ rolling “Borders” countryside and visit the hauntingly beautiful ruins of: **Jedburgh Abbey** and **Melrose Abbey**.

These sacred sites are deeply tied to **Robert the Bruce** and Scotland’s turbulent past. Back in Edinburgh, enjoy free time — or, for the ambitious, hike up “Arthur’s Seat” with Zig before rewarding yourself with a pint oor’ twa at the Tollhouse Pub.- Overnight: YOTEL Edinburgh-

Day 5 — Royal Scotland: *Kings, Crowns & Castles*
Monday, October 5



After breakfast, we journey into historic Fife at **Dunfermline Palace and Abbey**, resting place of Scottish kings, and birthplace of Andrew Carnegie.

Return to Edinburgh to explore commanding **Edinburgh Castle**, home of the Scottish Crown Jewels and the beating heart of the nation's story. The afternoon is yours — shop, sightsee, and savour our last group-pint(ss)!

Overnight: YOTEL Edinburgh

Day 6 — Slàinte Mhath: *Departure – we're noo' d'awa' ta bide-awa!*
Tuesday, October 6

Transfer to Edinburgh Airport with stories worth retelling and memories that will last far longer than your luggage allowance.

What's Included

- Professional Scottish driver-guide throughout
- Deluxe motorcoach transportation
- Group airport transfer (Oct 6)
- 5 nights' four-star accommodations
- Irvine — Riverside Lodge Hotel (2 nights)
- Edinburgh — YOTEL Edinburgh (3 nights)
- Two included group-dinners
- Full Scottish breakfast daily (except arrival day)
- All listed admissions, including castles, abbeys, ferry, and distillery
- Historic Environment Scotland Pass

FEE:

Very modest \$2,195 pp. (sharing) Single Supplement: \$699

A **non-refundable deposit of \$250 per person** is required to confirm your reservation.

Payment Schedule

- Second payment of **\$550 per person due May 1, 2026**
- Final payment due **July 1, 2026**
(Payment reminders will be sent prior to each due date.)

Minimum: 20 participants

What's Not Included

Airfare • Travel insurance • Unspecified meals • Personal expenses • Optional activities • Gratuities

Reserve Your Place

Hammond Tours

34 Wedgewood Lane

Voorheesville, NY 12186

 518-765-2056 | 1-866-486-8772

 operations@hammondtraveltours.com

 www.hammondtraveltours.com

Cancellation Policy

If written cancellation is received:

- **More than 120 days prior to departure:** \$250 per person
- **119–60 days prior:** \$800 per person
- **59 days or less:** 100% cancellation penalty

We strongly recommend purchasing Travel Cancellation & Interruption Insurance.

For coverage options, please visit www.travelguard.com

Insurance may cover cancellation due to death, serious illness, or other covered medical circumstances affecting the traveler or immediate family member (with proper documentation). Personal circumstances not listed in the policy are not covered.

Hammond Tours and Graham & Zig are not responsible for loss, damages, or injuries that may occur while on tour.