

CLASSICALLY SCOTLAND & IRELAND TOUR

2027

A Small Coach Escorted Tour · Limited to 14 Passengers

DAY 1 EDINBURGH

Today you arrive at Edinburgh Airport and make your own way to your hotel via taxi. The rest of the day is free to explore on your own. **Overnight Apex Hotel, Edinburgh.**

DAY 2 EDINBURGH ON OWN

You may decide to go sightseeing on the Hop On Hop Off Bus. Travel down the Royal Mile past St Giles' Cathedral, the historic City Church of Edinburgh with its famed crown spire. Also known as the High Kirk of Edinburgh, it is the Mother Church of Presbyterianism and contains the Chapel of the Order of the Thistle (Scotland's chivalric company of knights, headed by the King). Continue past the Scottish Parliament building to the Palace of Holyroodhouse, the official residence of the King in Scotland. The palace was home to Mary Queen of Scots for six years and houses beautiful tapestries and paintings. Then compare the old and the new with a trip around the New Town through Charlotte Square to the Georgian House, to experience the elegance of 18th-century living. Designed in 1791 by Robert Adam, Scotland's foremost 18th-century architect, Charlotte Square was one of the most fashionable and desirable residential addresses in the New Town. Alternatively, you may wish to visit Ocean Terminal and view the Royal Yacht Britannia, where presidents, kings and queens were entertained. It was, first and foremost, the home away from home of the Royal Family when entertaining abroad. **Overnight Apex Hotel, Edinburgh.**

DAY 3 EDINBURGH – INVERNESS

Your driver will collect you at your hotel and you will travel to Stirling, once known as the 'Key to Scotland' because of its commanding position in the center of the country, and to Stirling Castle. For centuries this was the most important castle in Scotland, and the views from the top make it easy to see why. Stirling Castle played an important role in the life of Mary Queen of Scots, who spent her childhood there; her coronation took place in the Chapel Royal in 1543. From the ramparts you can see the Wallace Monument, perched high on the Abbey Craig near where Wallace camped before his heroic victory at the Battle of Stirling Bridge in 1297. It was built in 1869 to commemorate Scotland's hero. Continue north through the Highlands to Inverness. **Dinner and overnight Kingsmills Hotel, Inverness.**

DAY 4
INVERNESS

This morning you will travel the short distance to Clansman Harbour for a one-hour Jacobite Cruise. Enjoy stunning views of the surrounding mountains from the loch and sail the deepest part using the Jacobite sonar, then alight at Urquhart Castle, where you will have the chance to explore for an hour before cruising back up the loch to Clansman Harbour. Urquhart Castle was the site of many battles, including those led by the Clan MacDonald. It stands on a rocky promontory on the north shore with stunning views of the glen and a chance to spot the famous Loch Ness Monster. It has a turbulent history: seized by the English in 1296, sacked in 1545 by the MacDonald Lord of the Isles, and left to decay after 1689. Returning to land, travel to the little town of Beauly and the tranquil ruins of Beauly Priory, founded around 1230 AD by monks of the Valliscaulian order. They came from their mother house in Burgundy, France, and settled beside the Beauly River where it enters the Beauly Firth, at the invitation of the lord, Sir John Bisset. Their successors lived here for the next 300 years, until the Protestant Reformation of 1560. Round off today with a visit to Culloden Battlefield, where the last hand-to-hand battle was fought on British soil. The visitor center and interactive exhibition give the site a whole new meaning, and the battlefield itself has been restored as closely as possible to how it looked when the two sides marched onto it on that fateful day. **Overnight Kingsmills Hotel, Inverness.**

DAY 5
INVERNESS – FORT
WILLIAM

Your journey begins in Inverness, the capital of the Highlands, and follows the Great Glen southwest along the banks of the Caledonian Canal, passing through charming villages such as Dochgarroch and Invermoriston, both offering chances to stretch your legs and enjoy Highland scenery. The road runs alongside Loch Ness with sweeping views across the water. Continue to Fort Augustus, at the southern end of Loch Ness, a lively spot to watch boats navigating the canal locks and to enjoy a quick meal or tea. From here the road winds past Loch Oich and Loch Lochy, framed by steep hills and dense forests, making this one of the most scenic stretches in the Highlands. At Spean Bridge, stop at the famous Commando Memorial for panoramic views of Ben Nevis and the surrounding peaks. Finally, arrive in Fort William, known as the “Outdoor Capital of the UK.” Nestled at the foot of Ben Nevis, the UK’s highest mountain, Fort William is a perfect base to relax after the drive or wander the High Street. **Overnight The Ben Nevis Hotel, Fort William.**

DAY 6
FORT WILLIAM – GLASGOW

Travel to the most scenically beautiful of all Highland glens, Glencoe, stopping at the Visitor Centre to view some of the most spectacular mountain scenery anywhere. This area is steeped in history, and at the Visitor Centre you will hear about the infamous 1692 massacre of the MacDonalds and see the new exhibition. Continue to the village of Killin, at the western end of Loch Tay, where the famous white waters of the Falls of Dochart can be viewed from the village bridge. Admire the misty spray rising in the air as the river crashes into the rocks and flows around the island of Inchbuie, the traditional and ancient burial place of Clan MacNab. Travel via the Trossachs and Loch Lomond to Glasgow. **Overnight Apex Hotel, Glasgow.**

DAY 7
GLASGOW – DUBLIN

Make your way via taxi to nearby Glasgow Airport for your short flight to Dublin (flight not included). Upon arrival at Dublin Airport and after clearing customs, make your way via taxi (additional cost; the taxi stand is directly outside) to your hotel, the Radisson Blu Royal Hotel. You will have the rest of the afternoon free to explore Dublin with your Hop On Hop Off Bus Pass. Stops may include (but are not limited to) St. Patrick’s Cathedral, the G.P.O., Trinity College (Book of Kells), the Guinness Storehouse, Jameson Distillery, St. Stephen’s Green and many more. **Overnight Radisson Blu Royal Hotel, Dublin.**

DAY 8

DUBLIN – CORK

We enjoy a traditional Irish breakfast this morning. After breakfast we meet our Driver Guide in the lobby of the hotel and travel south, stopping at the Rock of Cashel, the dramatic ancient seat of the kings of Munster. We then continue to Cobh, a charming waterfront town from which many people departed Ireland during the Great Famine. At the Cobh Heritage Centre, learn about the story of Irish emigration, hear about the ill-fated Titanic (Cobh was its final port of call) and the Lusitania, and immerse yourself in Irish history. **Dinner and overnight Imperial Hotel, Cork.**

DAY 9

CORK – KILLARNEY

We enjoy a traditional Irish breakfast this morning. We start our journey with a visit to Blarney Castle, home of the Blarney Stone. Visitors come here, of course, to kiss the stone, which is said to give the gift of the gab. We then make our way to Killarney. **Overnight Killarney International Hotel.**

DAY 10KILLARNEY – DINGLE –
KILLARNEY

After breakfast we depart Killarney for the Dingle Peninsula. The journey begins with some of the most magnificent scenery in all of Ireland. We continue to Slea Head. Along the way, we will see beehive-style huts, originally inhabited by 12th-century monks, which overlook the rugged Blasket Islands. There is no other landscape in western Europe with the density and variety of archaeological monuments found on the Dingle Peninsula. Back in Killarney, we enjoy a Jaunting Car ride through Killarney National Park. **Dinner and overnight Killarney International Hotel.**

DAY 11

KILLARNEY – GALWAY

Today after breakfast we head north to the Cliffs of Moher, which are stupefyingly impressive and staggeringly beautiful. On a clear day you'll channel Barbra Streisand, because you can see forever: the Aran Islands stand etched on the waters of Galway Bay, and beyond lie the hills of Connemara. On the way to the Cliffs, we travel through the little village of Liscannor and pass the beautiful seaside village and golfers' mecca of Lahinch, just across the bay. As you leave the Cliffs, we may take a tour of Ireland's stony place, the Burren, on our way to Galway. **Dinner and overnight Radisson Red Hotel, Galway.**

DAY 12

CONNEMARA TOUR

After breakfast we depart and tour the vast Connemara region. Connemara (Conmaicne Mara – the tribe of Cormac by the sea) has white sandy beaches, dark bogs and tall jagged mountains that make it one of the most scenic and unspoiled areas in the country. Wild and rugged, in some places Gaelic remains the only spoken language. We travel first to Clifden (An Clochán). Founded in the early 19th century by John D'Arcy, it retains much of its Georgian architecture. Placed at the head of a broad Atlantic bay and nestled below the Twelve Bens, the town is blessed by its beautiful setting. Known as the capital of Connemara, Clifden is a lively location full of shops, pubs, restaurants and cafés. From here, travel the Sky Road, an exhilarating circular drive west of Clifden. Return to Galway. **Overnight Radisson Red Hotel, Galway.**

DAY 13

GALWAY – DUBLIN

After a hearty Irish breakfast, we leave Galway and make our way to Dublin, stopping along the way at Clonmacnoise. With a nearby ruined castle for company, the setting is quite sublime at Clonmacnoise, one of Ireland's holiest and most significant monastic sites. We continue to Dublin, where many of the city's most important sights and museums are found, as is Dublin's best-loved city park, St. Stephen's Green. **Overnight Radisson Blu Royal Hotel, Dublin.**

DAY 14

DUBLIN AIRPORT

Make your way via taxi to Dublin Airport for your flight home.

YOUR DISTINGUISHED SMALL GROUP TOUR INCLUDES

DRIVER GUIDES	- Professional, certified Scottish Driver Guide with deluxe vehicle from Day 3 (Edinburgh) until arrival in Glasgow on Day 6 - Professional, certified Irish Driver Guide with deluxe vehicle from Day 8 (Dublin) until arrival in Dublin on Day 13
ACCOMMODATIONS	13 nights as follows, or similar: Edinburgh – Apex Hotel – 2 nights, 4-star apexhotels.co.uk Inverness – Kingsmills Hotel – 2 nights, 4-star kingsmillshotel.com Fort William – The Ben Nevis Hotel – 1 night, 4-star strathmorehotels-thebennevis.com Glasgow – Apex Hotel – 1 night, 4-star apexhotels.co.uk Dublin – Radisson Blu Royal Hotel – 1 night, 4-star radissonhotels.com Cork – The Imperial Hotel – 1 night, 4-star imperialhotelcork.com Killarney – Killarney International Hotel – 2 nights, 4-star killarneyinternational.com Galway – Radisson Red Hotel – 2 nights, 4-star radissonhotels.com Dublin – Radisson Blu Royal Hotel – 1 night, 4-star radissonhotels.com
MEALS	- Full breakfast daily (except day of arrival) 4 dinners: Inverness, Cork, Killarney and Galway
ADMISSIONS	- Stirling Castle - One-hour Jacobite Cruise - Culloden Battlefield - Eilean Donan Castle - Hop On Hop Off Dublin Bus Pass - Rock of Cashel - Blarney Castle - Killarney Jaunting Car ride - Cliffs of Moher
ALSO INCLUDED	- Fully escorted sightseeing as per itinerary - All Driver's expenses (except tip to the driver) - Hotel taxes
NOT INCLUDED	- Tip to your Driver Guide - Any items of a personal nature - Dinners and suggested optional sightseeing that are not mentioned as included in the itinerary

TOUR DATES & RATES

Classically Scotland & Ireland 2027 · A Small Coach Escorted Tour

DATES	RATES PER PERSON SHARING	SINGLE SUPPLEMENT
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DATES	RATES PER PERSON SHARING	SINGLE SUPPLEMENT
March 15–28, 2027	\$6,725.00	\$2,395.00
April 5–18, 2027	\$7,775.00	\$2,995.00
September 13–26, 2027	\$7,955.00	\$3,225.00
October 4–17, 2027	\$7,775.00	\$2,995.00
November 1–14, 2027	\$6,725.00	\$2,395.00

Can also be taken as two separate tours: Classically Scotland (Days 1–7) and Classically Ireland (Days 7–14). See the individual tour pages for those departure dates and rates.