

Scotland

Castles, Clans & Highlands

Scheduled departure May 13 - 24, 2026







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Day 1: Wednesday, May 13, 2026 • Departure

Our journey begins as we board our international flight bound for Edinburgh, Scotland. **Inflight meals**

Note: We may fly to Glasgow and transfer the hour to Edinburgh

Day 2: Thursday, May 14, 2026 • Edinburgh

Upon arrival in Edinburgh, we meet our guide and transfer to Rosslyn Chapel. After our visit we head to Edinburgh and enjoy a panoramic tour of this beautiful city, often referred to as the "Athens of the North." Highlights include the Walter Scott Monument, the elegant Prince's Street, and much more. We have an inside tour of Edinburgh Castle with its foreboding ramparts and walls, amazing city views, Crown jewels, and the siege gun, Mon's Meg. We check into our hotel and enjoy an early welcome dinner. **D**

Day 3: Friday, May 15, 2026 • Edinburgh

After breakfast we depart on a tour of the Royal Yacht Britania, a 300-foot vessel formerly commissioned to Queen Elizabeth II. Next, we embark on a cruise on the Firth of Forth, where we skim past the three bridges and hear about historic castles and lands. We have free time this afternoon for you to explore your favorite sights on your own, whether that is free admission to the National Galleries, a stroll through Holyrood Palace, or shopping the boutiques of Mile End. **B**

Day 4: Saturday, May 16, 2026 • Edinburgh

Today we journey into the picturesque home of one of Scotland's literary greats as we visit Abbotsford House – Home of Sir Walter Scott. We explore the elegant rooms, overflowing with antique books, armor, and curios, plus peaceful gardens with views of the River Tweed. We have time for lunch on our own at Abbotsford's café then continue on. Our next stop is Galashiels to journey through Scotlish history and see The Great Tapestry of Scotland





where we view the tapestry hand-stitched by over 1,000 volunteers. We walk through centuries of stories, with time to browse the exhibit, take photos, and have time to grab a cup of tea. We return to Edinburgh for dinner this evening at a local restaurant. **B**, **D**

Day 5: Sunday, May 17, 2026 • Edinburgh

Today is another unforgettable day of Scottish history and Highland scenery. We experience royal strongholds to glassy lochs and wooded glens, storytelling, and more. Our first stop is Stirling Castle was the childhood home of Mary, Queen of Scots and the site of royal plots, sieges, and coronations. We explore the Great Hall, the Royal Palace, and the castle walls with sweeping views over the Bannockburn battlefield and the Wallace Monument in the distance. We enter Trossachs National Park, where rugged hills meet sparkling lochs and forested glens. We travel through Duke's Pass – a winding scenic road and stop for a photo opportunity at a quiet viewpoint overlooking one of the region's hidden lochs. Then we take a short boat ride on the Bonnie Banks before returning to Edinburgh. **B**

Day 6: Monday, May 18, 2026 • Inverness

Today we depart Edinburgh and drive north stopping in Perth, the unofficial capital of Scotland. We stop at Scone Palace, the crowning place of Scottish kings, where Macbeth, Robert the Bruce and Charles II were once crowned on the stone of Scone (aka Stone of Destiny). The highlight of today is undoubtedly the unique Blair Atholl Castle, the ancestral home of the Clan Murray. Nineteen generations of Stuarts and Murrays have called this castle home and we hear tales of Mary, Queen of Scots, Scotland's Civil War, smugglers and even Queen Victoria's famous stay which helped create an army. We visit a local distillery for a tour and tasting of Scottish spirits. **B,D**



Day 7: Tuesday, May 19, 2026 • Inverness

After breakfast, a local guide joins us as we encounter the history and hidden gems of this charming riverside city. We have a photo stop at Inverness Castle (exterior) and see the Old High Church. We visit the Inverness Cathedral then take in stunning views of the River Ness Walk and have time to explore the Victorian Market. All the while we learn about local legends & Jacobite stories as we explore the city. After time for lunch on our own, we visit the Culloden Battlefield, the site of the last pitched battle on British soil in 1746. Tonight, we enjoy dinner at a local restaurant. **B,D**

Day 8: Wednesday, May 20, 2026 • Inverness

We start early this morning for a journey to and through "Scotland's fjords" - where glaciers have carved their way through the highland mountains, creating spectacular lakes, valleys, and rocky islands, to the Isle of Skye. We visit sights like Bride's Veil Falls, Portree, Kilt Rock and Mealt Falls Viewpoint, an observation point offering panoramic views of waterfalls, cliffs, and the sea. After a full day of rugged sightseeing, we return to our hotel sharing stories and pictures of our day. B, D

Day 9: Thursday, May 21, 2026 • Fort William Area

Today we drive to Loch Ness to board a small vessel and do our own searching for Nessie, the friendly, but elusive, resident monster. At Fort William, we take the Nevis Range Mountain Gondola (weather permitting) to the top of Ben Nevis. At 4406 feet, it is the highest mountain in the British Isles, and the vistas are breathtaking. We check into our hotel and have free time in the afternoon. B,D

Day 10: Friday, May 22, 2026 • Fort William Area

This morning, we take the legendary steam train ride through the scenic countryside. The Jacobite Train passes through amazing landscapes, over the 21-arched Glenfinnan Viaduct (made famous by the Harry Potter movies), and on into the coastal town of Mallaig. There is time for lunch (perhaps fish and chips?) in the busy fishing port and then we reboard the train for the return to Fort William, following the same route. **B**

Day 11: Saturday, May 23, 2026 • Glasgow

We drive through Trossachs National Park, long considered the "Mecca" of travelers to Scotland. With their birch and pine forests, they represent the very essence of the Highlands. We have picture stops along the "bonny banks" of Loch Lomond. Upon reaching Glasgow, a local guide shows us sites such as the Glasgow Cathedral, the Botanic Gardens, George Square and the City Chambers, the University of Glasgow, plus much more. We enjoy a farewell dinner this evening. B, D

Day 12: Sunday, May 24, 2026 • Return to USA

Regretfully, it's time to say "mar sin leat" as we depart the land of Mary, Queen of Scots and Bonnie Prince Charlie and head to the airport for our return flights home. We return with enchanting memories of timeless lands, fascinating scenery and fun-loving new friends met along the way. Welcome home! B

> **Abbreviations for Meals B**=Breakfast **L**=Lunch **D**=Dinner

Please be aware: this tour includes considerable standing and walking and some hiking. We recommend that tour participants be able to walk a mile or more at a moderate pace, navigate some uneven terrain, cobblestone streets, steps and hills. Caution is recommended for those with walking or breathing difficulties. If a guest requires mobility assistance, they must be accompanied by an able companion who is totally responsible for providing the guest's necessary assistance. Ed-Ventures does not provide personal attendant services.

Tour Code: PDST26

Tour Prices: \$6,249

Single supplement: \$1,300

Prices are per person, land only, double occupancy with a minimum of 12 participants

Your Tour Includes:

- Land Transportation via deluxe air-conditioned vehicle as per passenger number
- Train tickets—standard class on Jacobite train
- Accommodations (double occupancy) in 3 and moderate 4 star hotels
- Meals per the itinerary
- **Admission** to all activities indicated in the itinerary except those listed as optional
- Services of professional tour manager
- Local step-on guides for city tours and major
- Luggage handling of one piece per person where available
- All taxes and tips for provided services on land tour, excluding tour manager and coach driver

Your Tour Does Not Include:

- Roundtrip Airfare and related taxes, fees and fuel charges
- Meals other than indicated above
- **Beverages**, except with breakfast
- End of tour gratuity for coach driver and tour manager
- Items of a personal nature such as passport fees. (Passport must be valid for 6 months beyond return
- Optional insurance for health, baggage and cancellation. (This insurance is available and recommended.)

Payment Schedule:

A deposit of \$700 per person is due with reservation. Final payment is due 100 days prior to departure date (February 2, 2026) may add after this date subject to air and land availability. Generally airlines do not increase the price of a ticket after it has been contracted. However, prior to the issuance of a ticket, airlines may (and regularly do) impose fuel, tax, or security surcharges. In the event a surcharge is imposed after Ed-Ventures has received a final payment, Ed-Ventures will send an additional invoice for the surcharge amount. Early registration is encouraged.

Currency:

Currency exchange rates fluctuate constantly. In the event of a significant drop in the value of the dollar, we reserve the right to add a currency surcharge to the price of the tour.

Refund/Cancellation Policy:

All cancellations must be in writing. The date of postmark will determine the amount of refund due. Refunds are based on the number of days prior to departure date. Credit card fees and insurance premiums are non-refundable. From the time of deposit to 100 days before departure a \$100 administrative fee plus any airfare penalties will be assessed. From 99-31 days, a \$500 cancellation penalty plus lost airfare deposits and any unrecoverable deposits to ground suppliers will be assessed. Airline tickets once purchased are nonrefundable. Anyone canceling 30 days or less prior to departure will receive **no** refund.

> Purchase of health, baggage, and trip cancellation/ interruption insurance is strongly recommended.

Terms and Conditions

We reserve the right to cancel this trip due to lack of subscription. In the event of cancellation of the trip in its entirety, a full refund of all deposits will be made to passengers enrolled at the time of cancellation. Tour price is based on the value of the dollar and the cost of airfare and is subject to change without notice. Extensions are usually available, but must be requested when booking the tour. Any changes in airfare booking may result in a processing fee. It may be possible, that due to unforeseen events, conditions, or changes in airline schedules, the land portion of the trip may be extended or shortened. Any savings realized by such occurrences will be refunded, however any extra expenses incurred must be borne by the client. Trip cancellation insurance is available. This low-cost protection can save you money if you are forced to cancel or alter your trip for a medical reason only. You will be mailed trip cancellation insurance information with the brochure or upon receipt of your deposit.

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Due to COVID-19 Pandemic, we reserve the right to adjust the tour in order to follow the guidelines and policies set by the CDC and the local governments.

The airline(s) concerned are not held responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time passengers are not on their planes or conveyances. The passenger's contract in use by the airlines concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of this tour and/or passenger. Any and/or all transportation companies herein mentioned shall not have nor incur any responsibility to any traveler aside from their liability as common carriers. Air and land costs are subject to change without notice. Air transportation is via special, non refundable airfare. Any additional airfare assessments made by the airlines for any changes whatsoever shall be the responsibility of the client. Other rules may also apply. Services of any A.R.C. or I.A.T.A. carrier may be used in conjunction with this tour. If there is a change in air prices and/or currency exchange rates, we reserve the right to adjust prices.

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I agree that Ed-Ventures may use such photographs or videos of me with or without my name for any lawful purpose, including publicity, illustration, advertising, and Web content.



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